



# MOMENTUM

## *Why I Love My Church*

#npmomentum

Week 1  
*1 of 4*  
January 7, 2018

**Bottom Line:** The reason you need to know is that YOU are OUR church.

**Icebreaker:** Did you attend church when you were 5? If so, where? Who do you remember most from that time period at church? If not, what did you do on Sunday mornings?

**Key Verse:** *Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.* James 2:26

God has a goal: to build His kingdom on earth. We pray regularly for that to happen. The Lord's Prayer that many of us can say without even thinking says, "Your kingdom come, your will be done." But this is not something that occurs through God alone. We are part of His equation. We have a vital role to play. St. Augustine said, "You've got to pray like it all depends on God, and work like it all depends on you."

Momentum is defined as the strength or force that allows something to continue or to grow stronger or faster as time passes. That's what God wants for His church. Winning at anything starts with momentum. It doesn't randomly occur. It begins in consistent, focused intensity on God's purpose, and then God adds His supernatural presence and power, and it becomes unstoppable. That's why He said the gates of hell would be unable to defeat the church, but only when we are working the plan.

Momentum will take us faster, stronger, and farther than we dream, if we do it together. Together is **each of us** together **with God** working the strategy and plan Christ gave us. It will be the most satisfying and significant thing we ever do for ourselves. It will make the greatest impact we will ever have on the world. Together we are committed to build strong, extraordinary places where people encounter God, and then leave to change the world. Together.

There's no greater way to invest our lives than this. Let's do it. Together.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on the weekend message, what most spoke to your personal needs?

Dwight expressed his love for the church and listed 5 results in his life that the church had accomplished:

- It shaped his conscience.
- It clarified his purpose for life.
- It connected him with lifetime friendships.
- It enlarged his view of God's activity in the world.
- It taught him to be generous.

Which of these have you experienced? What would you add to the list?

When the church is working right, it is always transformative and compelling. What do you think it means for the church to be working right?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

Discuss:

- We all live in a little bubble . . . God is active all over the world.
- People with less stuff often have more joy than those with more stuff.
- It is difficult to teach an adult to be generous.

Agree or disagree? "Following Jesus will make your life better and make you better at life." If you agree, what's an example from your own life that is noticeable?

Agree or disagree? Why? "The local church is the organization that says and behaves as though every single person matters equally."

The mandate is to love others. Is it easier for you to love people INSIDE the church or OUTSIDE the church? Explain. "God often teaches us to love like Him by putting unlovely people in our lives."  
— Rick Warren

## NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

1. Have you attended DISCOVER My Church? If not, when will you?
2. Who does your group know who is new to NewPointe and might attend the class if you invite them? Pray for them, and an opportunity to suggest it.

## EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** The reason you need to know is that YOU are OUR church.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Day 1: James 2:26

Day 2: John 10:10

Day 3: Ephesians 5:25

Day 4: Matthew 16:18

Day 5: John 13:34

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***  
(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)