

# JMLT HANDBOOK

JOURNEY MINISTRIES LEADERSHIP TEAM



**JOURNEY|MINISTRIES**  
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[www.journeymin.org](http://www.journeymin.org)

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# History of Journey Ministries



Journey was organized in 2004, when approximately 30 people were led to focus on those who feel far from God or disconnected from the church to find meaningful life in community.

Journey Ministries was formed in Davison, MI and continues to invite people to begin a personal journey with Jesus Christ, mentor people to Christ-like maturity and equip people for Christian service while we get up and go into the community and to all the world. While facing the challenges of providing ministry in a portable setting, God has blessed Journey Ministries, and continues to push us forward.

Journey is a church in the community, offering Mega Sports Camp to 200+ kids each summer at a local school, developing a thriving youth ministry in people's backyards and at the Journey Center, mentoring adults in home-based life groups, equipping children to become faithful followers of Jesus Christ, and gathering all generations together in worship at the local school. Our ministries are inviting people into the love of Christ. We are seeing lives changed, both physically and spiritually, of people within our community.





# Journey|Ministries

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"Invite people to begin a personal journey with Jesus Christ, mentor them to Christ-like maturity, and equip them for Christian service as we get up and go into all the world."





A brief overview of elders, deacons, and pastor who serve on the JMLT. For the qualifications of a JMLT member please see Journey's By-Laws section 6.04

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### **Deacon/Deaconess**

The office of deacon was developed to deal with a practical issue in the church: "So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables'" (Acts 6:2). The word translated "wait on" is the Greek word diakonein, which comes from a word meaning "attendant, waiter, or one who ministers to another." To "deacon" is to serve. The first deacons were a group of seven men in the Jerusalem church who were appointed to work in the daily food distribution. A deacon, therefore, is one who serves others in an official capacity in the church. At Journey Ministries we have men and women who serve others within the church by taking care of the 7 purposes for the JMLT as described on pages 5-6 of this handbook. According to the Word of God, the office of deacon is an honor and a blessing. "For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 3:13).

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### **Elder**

The elders of Journey Ministries should be men who are peacemakers, prayer warriors, teachers, leaders by example, decision makers, and hold the lead pastor accountable to ministry and family life. They are the preaching and teaching leaders of the church. It is a position to be sought but not taken lightly—read this warning: "Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, for you know that we who teach shall be judged with greater strictness" (James 3:1).

Acts 15:1-2, James 5:14, 1 Peter 5:1-4, Hebrews 13:17, Acts 6:2-4

At Journey Ministries the lead pastor will choose 3 men from the JMLT to be his elder.

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### **Pastor**

Concerning the role of senior pastor the Bible doesn't address that title specifically. It has come into existence as the church has grown and required additional staff. The title of senior pastor refers to the person who primarily leads the church and is responsible for working with the church board, along with the preaching, teaching, and counseling ministries that go with the role of pastor.

Every church, whether large or small, needs a pastor who will shepherd, lead, feed, and guide the people to spiritual growth and service for the Lord Jesus. A senior pastor often shepherds the pastoral team in addition to shepherding the congregation. As a result, a senior pastor should be held to an even higher standard of agreement to 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9 than other pastoral roles. At Journey Ministries The Senior Pastor, along with the members of the JMLT, will oversee the spiritual life of this church. The Senior Pastor will preach and teach the word of God, administer the ordinances and be in charge of all church services. The Pastor will also be a voting member of the JMLT and ex-officio member of all relevant committees.

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The governance of Journey Ministries, with Christ as our head and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, will be entrusted to the Journey Ministries Leadership Team, members of whom will serve as the leaders of this church.

# The Purpose of the JMLT

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More detail found in the Journey Ministries By-Laws.

## 01 Spiritual Support

While we understand the church to be an organization of people, it is first and foremost a spiritual entity. The very first thing the JMLT provides the pastor, the board, and the church is spiritual support. This purpose is of the highest value.

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## 02 Missional Fulfillment

The church board has an unbelievably high calling to protect the church's God given mission. They should be regularly asking the question, "As a church, does what we are doing drive to the fulfillment of the mission of the church, to reach spiritually lost people with the Gospel and disciple them to Christ-like maturity?"

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## 03 Policy Guidance

Church board policies and overall church policies need to be in place in order for the church to have just that – order in all they do. Policies need to be broad, flexible, and provide guidance to the future and not reactions to the past.



# The Purpose of the JMLT

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More detail found in the Journey Ministries By-Laws.

## 04 Strategic Planning

God honors the efforts of strategic thinking, planning pastors, and JMLT members. The mission to reach spiritually lost people with the Gospel moves forward exponentially faster than it would otherwise.

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## 05 Intentional Communication

Pastors and church JMLT members have to talk, talk, talk and then listen, listen, listen. REALLY listen! The wise and discerning pastor will always want input from the church board. These men and women are gifts from the Lord to help the pastor wisely make the best application of strategic plans.

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## 06 Document Curation

This may not seem very spiritual, but well-run churches maintain very good records of all aspects of the church. Church board minutes, board actions and board/church policies are all curated for permanent record within the business office.

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## 07 Fiduciary Responsibility

The church board has to act on behalf and for the good of the church relative to the tithes, offerings, mission, building, and help fund gifts given to it.

**"Growing churches have pastors/church boards that are in unity in providing spiritual support. Church boards that spend their time fussy/squabbling over budgets, bylaws, buildings etc. do not grow."**

**-Leaders.Church, "7 Essential Purposes Of The Church Board"**



## **Journey Ministry By-Laws (continued):**

### **6.04 JMLT Member Qualifications**

To be a member of the JMLT, individuals will be a member of Journey Ministries (having successfully completed Journey 101), as well as an active member of Journey for at least one year, eighteen (18) years of age or older, not have any household member serving concurrently on the JMLT and be a mature Christian as outlined in the qualifications of spiritual leadership as found in Timothy 3:17, Titus 1:5-9, Romans 2:8 and 1 Peter 5:1-4 (Appendix C): committed to the body of Christ through faithful attendance, a volunteer for various kinds of work in the church, a reputation as a wise and spiritually mature person; one who can transmit sound doctrine, a student Immediate family members of Journey Ministries paid staff will not be eligible to serve on the JMLT. This will include: mother (stepmother), father (stepfather), sisters, brothers, sons and daughters. Further, the JMLT will retain the right to further determine if certain other family relationships could be a conflict-of-interest to performing JMLT roles and responsibilities. In addition, at no given time will members of the same family (as listed above) or household be allowed to serve on the JMLT during the same time period.

### **6.05 JMLT Member Dismissal**

If it becomes apparent that a particular JMLT member no longer meets the qualifications to be a member of the JMLT as defined under 6.04, they may resign or upon the unanimous recommendation of all of the other members of the JMLT, will be dismissed from the JMLT.

### **6.06 JMLT Meetings**

Regularly scheduled meetings of the JMLT may be held without notice of the date, time, place or purpose(s) of the meeting. Written notice of the date, time and place of special meetings of the JMLT will be given to each member of the JMLT at least two (2) days before the meeting.

### **6.07 Special Meetings**

Special meetings of the church members (congregation) may be called by the JMLT, or petitioned by congregation members with signatures of at least fifteen percent (15%) of the membership.

### **6.08 Quorum**

A quorum of the JMLT will be considered to be two-thirds (2/3) of the sitting members. A quorum will be required before any voting or decisions can be made on the JMLT.

## **Journey Ministry By-Laws (continued):**

### **6.09 Election of Officers**

The election of JMLT officers will occur at the first JMLT meeting in December of each year, with the term of office beginning on January 1st. Officers shall consist of: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. JMLT members will be eligible for a position of officer for no more than 4 years within 2 successive 3-year terms (4 of 6 years maximum).

### **6.10 Duties & Responsibilities of JMLT Members**

The JMLT, submitting to the headship of Christ, is to oversee all of the affairs of the church and are the final legal authority within the church. These responsibilities will include but are not limited to the raising, receiving and disbursing of funds, identifying staffing needs and writing job descriptions for any such positions, determining the need for, kinds and amounts of insurance, hiring and discharging of personnel, determining salaries and various mission expenditures and the management, upkeep and use of property. They will not acquire or dispose of real property or contract for any loans on behalf of the church, except upon the specific affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members at an advertised business meeting. The JMLT may from time to time delegate certain responsibilities. The delegation of said responsibility will not be considered a relinquishment of authority. The JMLT reserves the right to change any decision made by its designated representatives.

### **6.11 Duties and Responsibilities of JMLT Officers**

#### **6.1101 Chairperson**

The Chairperson will preside at all business meetings of the church and of the JMLT or may assign a designee. The assigned designee must be a member of the JMLT. They are responsible for the general supervision of the administrative affairs of the church as directed by the Constitution and the JMLT. They will have signature authority on all documents of the church as authorized by the JMLT, members or Bylaws and will perform all duties incidental to the Office of Chairperson.

#### **6.1102 Vice-Chairperson**

In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will preside at general church meetings, JMLT meetings and perform other regular duties of the Chairperson.



## **Journey Ministry By-Laws (continued):**

### **6.1103 Secretary**

The Secretary will record the minutes of the business and other JMLT meetings; receive and issue notice of all business meetings of members and the JMLT; maintain a current roster of the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, etc. of JMLT members and officers; maintain a record of attendance at the JMLT meetings and sign any documents, as authorized by the JMLT or the church constitution. The Secretary will share all relevant information with the church administrator and will have the authority to designate a JMLT member as a substitute in their absence.

### **6.1104 Treasurer**

The Treasurer will be the Chair of the Finance Team and responsible for organizing and coordinating all responsibilities of this Team. In addition, the Treasurer will be responsible for overseeing all policies, protocols and tasks related to all financial aspects of Journey Ministries. This will include, but not be limited to: all monetary collections; monetary distributions; relationship with accountant/accounting firms; and all other financially related tasks and responsibilities of Journey Ministries.

### **6.12 Liability & Insurance**

No member of the JMLT, serving in this voluntary position, will be personally liable to this church for monetary damages for a break in fiduciary duty; provided, however, that this provision will not eliminate or limit the liability of any of the following: - breach of duty or loyalty to the church/corporation - acts of intentional misconduct or knowing violation of the law - transaction from which the JMLT member derived an improper personal benefit or - act of omission that is determined to be grossly negligent.

### **6.13 Organization or Assignment of Church Committees**

The JMLT has the authority to authorize the organization or assignment of various ministry teams and ministry team chairs of Journey Ministries, for the purpose of furthering the work of the church. The JMLT will clearly outline and articulate the mission and authority of any such teams and will determine which team recommendations need to come to the JMLT for approval.

## Journey Ministry By-Laws (continued):

### 6.14 Corporate/Church Record Keeping

The Church Administrator will maintain all records related to the organization or corporation of Journey Ministries as assigned by the JMLT. This could include, but not be limited to financial and legal records, Constitution/Bylaws, marketing materials and all other related documents.

### 6.15 Disputes

In the event of an irreconcilable dispute, all those involved will be bound by the decision of the JMLT.

## ARTICLE VII - Senior Pastor

**7.01** The Senior Pastor of Journey Ministries, along with the members of the JMLT will oversee the spiritual life of this church. The Senior Pastor will preach and teach the word of God, administer the ordinances and be in charge of all church services. The Pastor will also be a voting member of the JMLT and ex-officio member of all relevant committees.

**7.02** A Senior Pastor will be called to full time service by an affirmative vote of 2/3 (two-thirds) of the JMLT, as well as 2/3 (two-thirds) of the church membership at a meeting called for that purpose. The Senior Pastor will automatically become a member of Journey Ministries on acceptance of the call.

**7.03** The Senior Pastor's term of office will be indefinite. A vote may be taken by the JMLT members at any time to terminate the Senior Pastor's services. This will then be subject to a 2/3's (two-thirds) majority vote of the JMLT and a majority vote of the church membership at a business meeting or a special meeting. In addition, the membership can petition for such a vote, as outlined in 6.07.



**All of this...  
because of this.**



## Growing Deeper in our love for God

Going deeper will cost us: our will, our wants, the way we want to handle things, our choices. God's Spirit calls to our spirit to go deeper. Each step we take for God will take us deeper with God. When we are deeply rooted and grounded in God, we will be able to face adversity, and with His guidance, we can handle whatever blessings God gives us.

## Growing Deeper in our love for community

For far too long the church has been known for what it's against. We want to be known for what we're for. We are for Jesus. We're for people. We're for each other. We're for making things better. We are for love, kids, youth, growth, impact, belonging, hope, and purpose. We're for the community because God is for the community.

Mark 10:43 But among you, it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



# The Peach Tree Model



Ephesians 3: 16 "I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. 17 Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. **Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.** 18 And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. 19 May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. **Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God."**

The apostle Paul prayed the above prayer over his spiritual leaders in the church of Ephesus. At Journey Ministries we believe healthy things grow. For that growth to happen our roots must grow deeper into God's love to keep us strong and grow wider in our community to keep us healthy. When we are physically and spiritually healthy we will grow good fruit.

Paul prays that you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Jesus has this same thought and prayer in John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

Jesus has given us life! In order for us to grow deeper in God's love we should live life with;

Lavish Worship  
Intentional Community  
Faithful Service  
Effective Outreach

This is an individual life style that compliments a great Journey Ministries Leadership Team.





**What we believe is the foundation of everything we say and do at Journey. Each one of our beliefs is rooted in Scripture.**

### **God**

We believe there is one divine God who exists eternally. He exists and reveals himself to man in three distinct, equally divine persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These Three Persons have precisely the same nature and perfection and are worthy of our worship and obedience. God is the creator of all things and sovereign ruler over all things. The Father God is all-knowing, all-powerful, and present everywhere at all times. He is perfect truth, justice, love, mercy, and grace.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27, 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; Romans 1:20; 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Jesus Christ**

We believe that the second person of the Trinity is Jesus Christ, the divine Son of God. We believe Jesus is both fully God and fully man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and voluntarily being made into human likeness. We believe Jesus lived a perfect life and died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins in order to demonstrate his power over sin and to defeat death forever, according to the Scriptures. We believe that on the third day, Christ rose from the dead, appeared to many witnesses, and ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He serves as mediator and Advocate between God and man. He will come again, personally and visibly, to complete His saving work and to fulfill the eternal plan of God.

Matthew 1:22-23; Isaiah 7:14, 9:6 Luke 1:27, 34; John 1:1-5, 14:10-31; Romans 1:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14-15; Titus 2:13; John 1:14; Philippians 2:5-11

### **The Holy Spirit**

We believe the Third Person of God, The Holy Spirit, dwells in every Christ follower at the instant of salvation. When Jesus ascended to Heaven after His resurrection, He gifted his followers with the presence of His Spirit – the Holy Spirit. This indwelling presence gives spiritual life to believers and distinguishes them as children of God. The Spirit of Christ (The Holy Spirit) provides each believer with the power to understand, live, and serve into God's will; providing understanding of spiritual truths, and guidance toward doing what is right in God's eyes. By calling on (through prayer) and living in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, Christ followers strive to serve God's will and to lead lives marked by the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

John 16:7-14, 14:25-26; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 1:13, 3:16-19, 5:18; Galatians 5:25

### **The Trinity**

We believe that there is one God, the Creator of all things, eternally existing in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, commonly called the Trinity. These three Persons have precisely the same nature and perfection and are worthy of our worship and obedience. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are all equal, but the Son and Spirit willingly choose to submit to the will of the Father. We believe all three persons of the Trinity were present at creation and are all actively at work today.

Matthew 3:16-17; Colossians 1:15-20; John 8:58, 10:30; Philippians 2:6-11

### **The Bible**

We believe the scriptures, both Old and New Testaments of the Bible, to be the inspired Word of God, revealed to human authors through the divine direction of the Holy Spirit. Through the Bible, God reveals Himself and His Word to all mankind so that all are without excuse. The Bible is without error, complete in its present form and we should not add or subtract from it in any way. It is the supreme source of truth, the complete revelation of His will for our salvation, and the divine and final authority of all Christian faith and practice.

2 Timothy 3:16, 1:13; Romans 1:20; Psalm 12:6; Proverbs 30:5-6; Deuteronomy 4:2; Revelation 22:18-19; Psalm 119:105

### **Salvation**

We believe that salvation comes only by grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation is a free gift available to all mankind, but we must accept it in order to avoid eternal separation from God and receive eternal life with Him in Heaven. Salvation can never be achieved through our own good works or attempts at righteousness. Jesus himself said that he is “the Way, the Truth and the Life” and no one can get to the Father except through Him. Only by confessing that Jesus is Lord and believing in your heart that God raised him from the dead, can anyone be saved. Eternal life begins the moment one trusts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. When a believer receives this gift of salvation, God promises to give them a new heart and a new life- making them a new creation and gifting them with the indwelling of His Holy Spirit.

John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Romans 3:23, 5:8, 6:23, 10:9; John 14:6; Ezekiel 36:26-27; 2 Corinthians 5:17; John 14:16-17

### **Eternal Security**

We believe that once a believer chooses to receive the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ, their salvation is secure. The believer’s eternal security is purchased by Christ’s sacrifice, promised by the Father, and sealed by the Holy Spirit. Salvation is held firmly by the grace and power of God’s hand, not by any human effort, therefore it cannot be lost. However, this does not give the Christ follower permission to continue in sin. A person who has truly been redeemed by Jesus Christ will not live a life characterized by continuous, willful sin, but rather lead a life renewed, transformed and marked by the power of the Holy Spirit.

John 10:29; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 10:10,14; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Romans 12:2



### **The Believer**

We believe that a person becomes a Christian when he or she chooses to believe in Jesus and profess Christ as Lord. Because of this relationship with Christ, every believer has direct access to God through prayer and Bible reading. The Bible teaches that every believer is called to a life of Christian service, regardless of vocation or title. We believe that the Holy Spirit gives every believer certain spiritual gifts. At Journey, we put these truths into practice by encouraging each person to find a way to serve using their God-given gifts can best be used to minister to others, edify the church, and bring glory to God.

1 Peter 2:9; Ephesians 2:18; 1 Timothy 2:5; Matthew 4:4; 1 Corinthians 2:15; John 14:15; Ephesians 4:11 - 12; 1 Corinthians 12:4-5, 12:11-13, 12:19, 12:31; Galatians 5:25

### **The Church**

We believe and recognize Christ as the head of our Church not any one person, committee, group, or religious organization. While we value cooperation and collaboration with other churches and Christian groups, we believe that every local church should be self-governing and independent from denominational and/or government control, and be able to determine their own strategy, structure and style, ministry, and worship within Biblical guidelines.

Matthew 16:16-18; Acts 2:42-47; Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 1:19b-23, 4:3-10; Colossians 3:14-15

### **Baptism**

We believe that baptism is one of the Scriptural ordinances of the local Church. Water baptism is used as an outward expression of a believer's individual decision to choose Jesus Christ as one's Lord and Savior and is a public declaration of his/her commitment to follow our Lord's commands. As Scripture commands, it is the next personal step of obedience after one chooses to follow Christ. At Journey, we practice baptism by immersion – the manner by which Jesus was baptized and by which the Bible models for us. We encourage that Baptism be administered only to those who have the maturity to understand its profound significance, which is resurrection into new life in Christ. Baptism should be administered to believers only as an identifying symbol of their belief in the death, burial, and resurrection to a new life in Christ Jesus. This form of baptism is a prerequisite for membership at Journey. If an individual has not already been baptized, immersion baptism will be required to become a member of the church.

Acts 8:36; Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:11-12; Acts 2:41-42; Matthew 3:13-17, 28:18-20; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22

### **The Lord's Supper/Communion**

We believe that, along with baptism, the Lord's Supper is one of the Scriptural ordinances of the local Church. We partake of communion as an outward expression of our obedience to our Lord's commands. The Lord's Supper consists of two elements: the bread and the cup. The bread symbolizes the broken body of Jesus, and the cup represents the blood He shed for us. As Believers, we are called to take the bread and cup in a worthy manner, after a time of self-examination, to remember and reflect on what Jesus did for us on the cross and our relationship with Him.

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:17-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

## **Human Beings**

On the last day of creation, before His day of rest, God created humans in the spiritual image of Himself. Genesis 1:27 says “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.” Because of this, humanity is different from all other created beings. People are the supreme object of God’s creation, having both a physical body and a soul/spirit. Because the very first man, Adam, rebelled against God in disobedience, he passed down to all mankind a sinful nature. This sin separated us from the perfect God. All people are sinful by nature. We are spiritually dead, separated from God, and in need of salvation.

Psalms 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2

## **Marriage**

God’s design for marriage is a unique covenant relationship between one man and one woman for life. From the very beginning of creation, God ordained this covenant with Adam and Eve. This union is the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. When God designed marriage, He said, “it is good” and it continues to be good as we follow His best design. Outside of this design – including divorce, adultery, homosexual relationships, and sexual promiscuity – we see brokenness, hurts, and the destruction of the family foundation as God originally intended. Here at Journey, we believe and are deeply thankful that our God is in the business of redemption, restoration, and recovery. We are all broken, sinful, and deeply in need of the forgiveness and healing available to us through Jesus. Regardless of your marital status or relational history, all will be welcomed to worship at Journey. A civil government’s sanction of a union will only be recognized as a legitimate marriage by this church only to the extent that it is consistent with the definition of marriage as found in this article.

Genesis 2:24-25; Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5:22-23; Ephesians 2:4-10

## **Human Sexuality**

God’s invention of sexuality was a gift given to His human creation for two purposes: to multiply the human race and to create an intimate bond between husband and wife. God designed sex to be a unifying action between a man and a woman within the context of marriage, and the single most intimate action two humans can experience together. Satan attempts to pervert and destroy God’s good plan by distorting a fallen humanity’s perception of God’s sacred gift of human sexuality. God has commanded abstinence from any form of sexual activity outside of marriage between one man and one woman. Any other expression is a perversion of God’s created order. God created human beings as male and female which hold distinct characteristics. These distinctions of male and female are both separate and sacred and should not be changed. When we seek to live within the healthy boundaries God instituted for our well-being, sexuality is nourished and sustained as a good gift.

Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 2:24; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-19; 1 Thessalonians 4:2-8;  
1 Timothy 1:10

## **Angels & Demons**

Before God created the world, he created spirit beings called angels. Angels are personal, powerful, and highly organized beings. Satan was an angel that was created holy, but through pride, evil, and selfish ambition, fell. There are angels who follow God's will and there are angels who follow Satan's rebellion. Good angels not only perform God's will but also provide special care for believers. Angels that followed Satan's rebellion became agents of evil (demons) in this world and work in opposition to God, His work, and His people. The name and authority of Jesus Christ has complete power to command and destroy any of these beings that stand in opposition to Him, and our God will have the ultimate victory in the end.

Hebrews 1:14; Psalm 148:2, 5; Job 38:4-7; Revelation 22:8,9; Psalm 103:20; Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:12-17; Matthew 25:41; Acts 5:3; Zechariah 3:1; James 4:7-8; Romans 16:19

## **Life after death:**

The Bible is absolutely clear that, ultimately, there are only two options for where you go when you die: heaven or hell. The Bible also makes it abundantly clear that you can determine where you go when you die.

We have all sinned (Romans 3:23). We have all done things that are wrong, evil, or immoral (Ecclesiastes 7:20). Our sin separates us from God, and, if left unresolved, our sin will result in us being eternally separated from God (Matthew 25:46; Romans 6:23a). This eternal separation from God is hell, described in the Bible as an eternal lake of fire (Revelation 20:14–15).

God became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ (John 1:1, 14; 8:58; 10:30). He lived a sinless life (1 Peter 3:22; 1 John 3:5) and willingly sacrificed His life on our behalf (1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Peter 1:18–19). His death paid the penalty for our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21). God now offers us salvation and forgiveness as a gift (Romans 6:23b) that we must receive by faith (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8–9). "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31). Trust in Jesus alone as your Savior, relying on His sacrifice alone as the payment for your sins, and, according to the Word of God, you are promised, a restored relationship with him, and eternal life in heaven.



# YOUR NEXT STEP



Do you agree with what you found in this handbook? Do you you meet the qualifications of being a spiritual leader at Journey Ministries? Will you up hold the governance of Journey Ministries, keep Christ as our head, be guided by the Holy Spirit, and serve as a spiritual leader of this church?

If yes, please fill out a JMLT application found at the Journey Center office or online at [JourneyMin.org](http://JourneyMin.org) under the "who we are" and "leadership" tabs.

The Journey Center 102 S. Main St. Davison, MI. 48423

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