



FAIRHAVEN CHURCH | ESSENTIALS





find  
hope.



## “ the next ten years

### FAIRHAVEN FAMILY,

I am excited to share with you a fresh, inspiring vision and purpose that will guide us into our next season of ministry. Fairhaven has always been a place of hope, community, and spiritual growth, but as our world and culture change, we recognize the need to adapt and clarify our approach to remain effective in our mission of helping people find hope in Jesus.

Our renewed vision is about deepening our relationship with Jesus, embodying His teachings, and creating opportunities for God to use us to transform the lives of the people around us. It's about each of us taking intentional steps to grow in our faith, so we can become more like Jesus and put Him on display for the world to see.

We'll do this by pursuing six essential practices that will bring this vision to life. Our goal is to lead thousands more people to embrace and embody the hope of Jesus, and I believe if we commit to this purpose together, we will experience God more deeply, strengthen our church, and transform our communities.

I invite you to join me on this journey with great anticipation and wholehearted commitment. Let's fully embrace and embody the hope of Jesus in every aspect of our lives so that more and more people will find hope in Him.





# find hope.

ESSENTIALS

*WHAT BEGAN AS A SIMPLE SUMMARY OF OUR MISSION, "FIND HOPE" HAS BLOSSOMED INTO THE HEARTBEAT OF FAIRHAVEN CHURCH. THIS POWERFUL EXPRESSION IS THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR VISION, REVEALED IN THIS PURPOSE STATEMENT:*

**LEADING PEOPLE TO TAKE THEIR NEXT RIGHT STEP TO EMBRACE & EMBODY THE HOPE OF JESUS**

↶ our PURPOSE

Our commitment to helping people **find hope** in Jesus and take their next right steps of faith is unwavering, yet our approach is continuously evolving.

Inspired by the example of the early church described in Acts 2, we have identified **six essentials** for fully embodying the hope of Jesus. These essentials are timeless practices that not only cultivate hope and growth within us, but also empower us to emanate that hope for others to experience.

# WE BELIEVE EVERY CHRIST-FOLLOWER'S JOURNEY SHOULD INVOLVE BOTH EMBRACING AND EMBODYING THE HOPE OF JESUS.

**EMBRACE:** The first step in our spiritual journey is to embrace Jesus as our Lord and Savior. This means acknowledging our need for His forgiveness, making a decision to accept His grace and mercy, finding hope in His promise of eternal life, and committing to follow His teachings.

*find hope* **IN JESUS**  
EMBRACE



**FIND  
HOPE**

*find hope* **WITH JESUS**  
EMBODY



As we embrace and embody the hope of Jesus, we lead others to do the same.

**EMBODY:** Once we've embraced Jesus, our journey doesn't end there. We're called to embody the hope of Jesus, letting our relationship with Him transform our hearts and minds. By living out His teachings every day, we reflect His love and grace to the world around us. Embodying Jesus will deepen our faith and inspire others to start their own spiritual journeys.



If you've never done this, here is your opportunity.  
Pray: *Jesus, I need You. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. Please forgive me, come into my life, and help me follow You. Amen.*

## Acts 2

<sup>42</sup> And they **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> And awe came upon every soul, and many

 **SEEK GOD DAILY** PG.08

wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.<sup>44</sup> And all who believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>45</sup> **And they were** selling their possessions

 **LIVE GENEROUSLY** PG.16

and belongings and **distributing the proceeds** to all, as any had need.

 **SERVE OTHERS** PG.20

<sup>46</sup> And **day by day, attending** the temple together and **breaking bread in their** homes, they received

 **WORSHIP GOD** PG.28

 **BUILD DEEP RELATIONSHIPS** PG.12

their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. **And the Lord** added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

 **MAKE GOD KNOWN** PG.24



## Seek God Daily

*Pursue Him through everyday spiritual practices*



Consistent spiritual practices are vital for growing closer to God and experiencing spiritual growth. Giving God time every day with activities like Scripture reading and memorization, prayer, journaling, and confession helps us shed our old selves and adopt a new, Christlike character marked by the fruit of the Spirit.

These spiritual practices are not mere routines; they are genuine expressions of faith that bring freedom and intentionality to our lives. Committing to daily practices may require us to adjust our schedules and habits, but it promises a more intimate relationship with God and the spiritual growth we all long for.

✚ 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

***All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.***

*(Also read: Luke 9:23, 1 Timothy 4:7-8)*

### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS



Schedule time each day to spend with God



Find someone to do this with you and keep each other accountable



Make a plan for how you'll read and memorize Scripture



Take action in our app

***My next step in this essential is .....***



# Reflection

Read the Scripture passages and reflect on the questions to grow in this essential.

**1** Philippians 4:6-7 urges us to bring all our concerns to God. How do you practice Paul's instruction to pray about everything? How do you pray in ways that keep you conscious of Christ's presence within you?

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**2** In Matthew 4:4, Jesus reminds us of the daily nourishment that comes from God's Word. How and when have the Scriptures been the voice of God to you? How have they nourished your relationship with Jesus?

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**3** Jesus encouraged His disciples to slow down in Mark 6:31. Are you addicted to hurry, rush, and adrenaline? How have deadlines, timelines, and bottom lines affected your peace and pace of life?

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**4** Confession is a key part of connecting with God, and as 1 John 1:9 states, God will forgive you. How have your experiences shaped your ability to give and receive forgiveness? When have you tasted the joy of forgiveness? What was that like?

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**5** In Mark 2:27, we read that God created the Sabbath for us. How might taking a Sabbath enhance your enjoyment of God, life, and relationships? What would make a Sabbath refreshing for you?

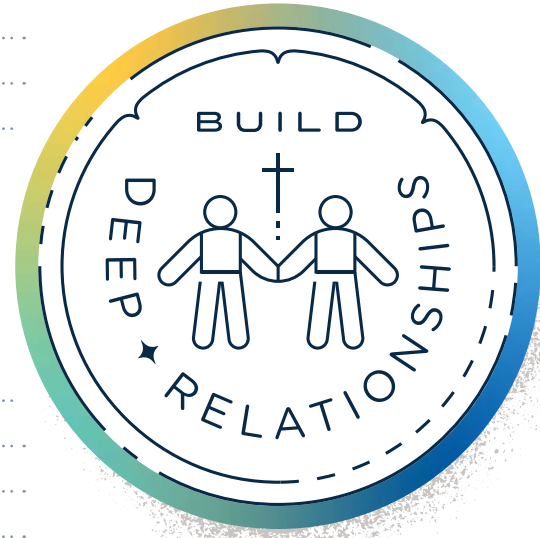
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## OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS

Thank you that you desire for me to grow in godliness and obedience, and that you have given me the means to partner with you through training my heart in godliness. Help me to begin growing in godliness and obedience through daily spiritual practices. Grant me courage and intentionality to use each day to become more like you. I know you will bless me in this because it will bring you glory. Your glory is my heart's desire as I seek you daily.

*In Your name, Amen.*



## Build Deep Relationships

*Develop Christ-Centered community for growth and support*



Within our church community, deep relationships are vital for spiritual growth and support.

These connections are gifts from God, offering strength and encouragement beyond what a worship service can provide.

Through heartfelt conversations, shared wisdom, and acts of service, we learn from and support one another. Such relationships often become the primary way we experience God's love and transformation, especially during life's most challenging seasons. Living in community, united by our faith in Christ, counters the pull toward isolation and reinforces our reliance on God and one another.

HEBREWS 10:24

***And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works***

*(Also read: Acts 2:42-47, 1 Thessalonians 5:11)*

### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS



Join a small group or serve team



Invite someone to join a group you already participate in



Meet with someone you know for mentorship



Take action in our app

***My next step in this essential is .....***





# Reflection

Read the Scripture passages and reflect on the questions to grow in this essential.

**1** In Acts 2:1 and 42-47, we read about the community of the early church. In what ways are you actively engaging in fellowship with other believers? How can you deepen those relationships?

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**2** Acts 4:32-37 describes a community of believers whose relationships were deepened through their generosity. How willing are you to share resources with those in need? What steps can you take to live more selflessly?

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**3** We find guidance for biblical community in Ephesians 4:2-6. How can you be more intentional about fostering unity and fellowship within your faith community?

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**4** As we read in Hebrews 10:22-25, deep relationships can encourage and inspire us. How might you be more intentional about “stirring up” others to love and good works? How can you encourage and inspire others to live out their faith?

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**5** In John 17:20-23, Jesus prays for believers to be one, as He and the Father are one. How can you strive for unity in your relationships? What does this look like in practical terms?

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## ALMIGHTY GOD AND FATHER

Thank you for this day. Help me to know today that I am never alone. You are always with me, and there are fellow Christ-followers who love and care about me. As I go through my days, will you bring people to my mind that I can pray for and encourage in some way? Give me eyes to see the people around me who need a loving word or a gesture of kindness. Help me sense the perfect union you have given me with those who also travel this road of faith.

*In Jesus' name, Amen.*



# Live Generously

*Give your resources joyfully and sacrificially*



Living a generous life extends beyond financial giving to include sharing our time,

talents, and other resources. This expression of faith reflects God's own generosity, shown

through His gift of Jesus for our redemption and His daily provision for our needs.

True biblical generosity is giving without expecting anything in return. Following Jesus' example, we prioritize generosity over wealth and comfort, which helps us guard against selfishness and deepen our trust in Him. By embracing a generous lifestyle, we grow in our understanding of God's boundless love and become more aligned with His heart.

***Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.***

*(Also read: Proverbs 11:24-25, Malachi 3:10, Acts 20:35)*

## POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS



Give a first-time financial gift, or increase your giving by 1%



Provide a meal for someone facing challenging circumstances



Participate in a community outreach like Christmas Gift



Take action in our app

***My next step in this essential is .....***



# Reflection

Read the Scripture passages and reflect on the questions to grow in this essential.

**1** We read in 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 how to be a “cheerful giver.” Do you give with a cheerful heart, or do you find yourself giving reluctantly or out of obligation? What steps can you take to cultivate joy in your giving?

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**2** In Galatians 6:10, we see a different kind of generosity. How can you be more intentional about seeking opportunities to do good, rather than waiting for them to come to you? How can you cultivate a proactive attitude of service?

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**3** We can also be generous with our words, as described in Ephesians 4:29. How often do you consciously think about the impact of your words before speaking? How can you ensure your speech builds others up?

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**4** Proverbs 11:24-25 describes how generosity enriches us. How have you experienced the truth of “whoever brings blessing will be enriched” in your life? In what ways has generosity led to unexpected blessings for you or others?

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**5** God calls us to be encouragers in 1 Thessalonians 5:11. How intentional are you about generously encouraging others? Are there specific people in your life who need extra encouragement right now?

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## OUR SAVIOR AND LORD JESUS

Thank you for freely giving me your bountiful love and grace so that I can live abundantly and see your goodness overflow into the lives of those around me. Please give me eyes to see and ears to hear how I might share your generosity with those you’ve placed in my path. Give me wisdom to see if I am holding something too tightly and the grace to place it in your hands through trust.

*In Your precious name, Amen.*



## Serve Others

*Use your time and talents  
to display God's love*



God has uniquely equipped each of us with gifts, talents, and passions to serve and bless the people around us. When we faithfully use these gifts, we embody the essence of the gospel, allowing Jesus to work through us to give others a clear picture of who He is and help them experience His love.

By following Jesus' example of sacrificial service, we learn to prioritize others' needs and recognize the immense value God places on every person. Although Christlike service requires great humility, it is a powerful way to make the gospel message tangible and bring hope to a broken world.

✚ EPHESIANS 2:10

***For we are his workmanship,  
created in Christ Jesus for good  
works, which God prepared  
beforehand, that we should  
walk in them.***

*(Also read: 1 Peter 4:10-11, Mark 10:45)*

### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS



Lend a hand to a friend or neighbor



Find an opportunity for your family or group to serve together



Serve at Fairhaven or with one of our partner organizations



Take action in our app

***My next step in this essential  
is .....***



# Reflection

Read the Scripture passages and reflect on the questions to grow in this essential.

**1** In 1 Peter 4:10, we are called to steward the gifts we've been given. Are you aware of the needs of those around you? How can you align your gifts to meet those needs, reflecting God's grace and love?

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**2** Jesus reminds us in Mark 10:45 that He came to serve others. Are you more focused on being served or on serving others in your relationships, workplace, and community? How can you shift your mindset?

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**3** Philippians 2:3-4 encourages us to serve with humility. What steps can you take to prioritize the well-being and interests of others in your daily interactions, whether at home, work, or in the community?

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**4** As we read in Matthew 25:35-36, serving others is serving Jesus. How does your lifestyle reflect this kind of compassion and service? Are there specific things you can do to serve others as if you were serving Christ Himself?

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**5** In Galatians 5:13, God calls us to use our freedom to serve others. How can you cultivate a heart of service that reflects the love of Christ, especially when serving others might require personal sacrifice or discomfort?

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HEAVENLY FATHER

Thank you for the opportunity to learn more about what it means to serve you and others. Lord, strengthen me to be a true servant, following Jesus' example. Open my eyes to the needs of those around me and give me the wisdom to discern how best to serve with humility and love. May I be a representative of your peace, joy, and kindness in a world that desperately needs your light.

*In Jesus' name, Amen.*



## Make God Known

*Share who He is and what He's done*



Each of us has a unique way that we've experienced God. Sharing our stories of finding

hope in Jesus with those who are far from God can help them do the same. At Fairhaven,

we encourage everyone to "Reach Two" by identifying two people in your life who need the hope of Jesus. Pray for them, serve them, invite them to

church, and share the hope you have with them.

Everything we do is an opportunity to make God known. The Bible says others will know God through our love and encourages us to do everything as unto Him. While we cannot make people know Jesus, we are called to do everything we can, trusting God with the results.

✝ MATTHEW 28:19

***Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.***

*(Also read: 1 Peter 3:15, Colossians 4:5-6)*

### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS



Reach Two: Identify and invest in the people you want to reach



Invite someone to come to church with you



Share a story with someone about how you found hope in Jesus



Take action in our app

***My next step in this essential is .....***



# Reflection

Read the Scripture passages and reflect on the questions to grow in this essential.

**1** Romans 1:16 encourages us to be bold in making God known. Are you ever hesitant or “ashamed” to talk about Jesus? What fears or challenges might be holding you back, and how can you overcome them?

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**2** Our role in sharing the gospel is critical, as we read in Romans 10:13-14. Does your life reflect a commitment to helping others know God? How can you more intentionally share with those who have not yet heard or understood?

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**3** Jesus told His disciples to be “fishers of men” in Matthew 4:19-20. In what ways are you actively participating in this mission? How can you be more intentional about making disciples?

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**4** In Luke 19:10, Jesus says He came to save the lost. Is the urgency of His mission shaping your priorities and decisions? How can you better align your life with His purpose of reaching those far from God?

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**5** Matthew 28:19-20 is known as the Great Commission. Where in your life might God be calling you to step out of your comfort zone to fulfill this mission? Are there specific people or places He is prompting you to reach with the gospel?

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LORD JESUS

Thank you that your mission was to “seek and save the lost.” I pray that you would also give me a passion to fulfill that same mission in my life. Lord, give me a heart for those who don’t know You. Help me to share the same love you showed me with others in my life. Lord Jesus, I pray for those people in my life right now who don’t know your grace or hope. I pray that you would soften their hearts, that you would open their eyes, that you would reveal to them your glory through me. I pray for divine opportunities where I can be a witness for you.

*In Your powerful name, Amen.*



## Worship God

*Live a lifestyle of growing affection for Him*



Worshiping God means giving Him our deepest affections and highest praise, loving Him

with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

True worship is more than singing; it's about involving God in every aspect of our lives and prioritizing Him before everything else.

By offering everything we do – from work and school to parenting and relationships – as acts of devotion to God, we shift from living for ourselves to living for God's glory. This perspective transforms our purpose, helping us realize that even the smallest tasks, when done with intention, can be acts of worship that honor and glorify God.

† MATTHEW 22:37

**Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart and with  
all your soul and with  
all your mind.**

*(Also read: Romans 12:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:15)*

### POTENTIAL NEXT STEPS



Prioritize participation in worship services



Practice gratitude, regularly thanking God for His work in your life



Publicly profess your faith by getting baptized



Take action in our app

**My next step in this essential is .....**





# Reflection

Read the Scripture passages and reflect on the questions to grow in this essential.

**1** In Matthew 22:37-38, Jesus calls us to love God with our entire being. What does it mean to love God with your heart, soul, and mind? Are there areas where your love for God could be deeper or more consistent?

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**2** Jesus spoke about worshiping “in spirit and truth” in John 4:23-24. How do you know that you’re worshiping God in spirit and truth? What does that look like in everyday life?

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**3** Romans 12:1-2 describes how worshiping God should set us apart. What does it mean to present your body as a living sacrifice? How can you offer every part of your life – your actions, decisions, and routines – as a form of worship?

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**4** Music, as described in Psalm 47:5-7, is a powerful form of worship. What role does music and singing play in your relationship with God? How can you incorporate more heartfelt praise into your daily routine, whether through song, prayer, or other expressions?

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**5** Colossians 3:16 encourages us to let God’s Word shape our worship. How can you allow the message of Christ to “dwell richly” in your heart and stir you to worship? In what ways can you incorporate more of God’s Word in your daily life?

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HEAVENLY FATHER

Thank you for the privilege of exploring worship as a lifestyle. Help me to remember that worship is not just an event but a way of life, lived out in every moment. Guide me as I seek to honor you in all that I do. May your presence go with me, empowering me to reflect your love and light to the world around me.

*In Jesus’ name, Amen.*

# IT STARTS WITH YOU.

The six essentials are more than just a series - they're the building blocks of our vision to "lead people to take their next right step to embrace and embody the hope of Jesus." And it starts with **you**.



As we continuously pursue our next steps through these spiritual practices, we'll grow closer to God and create opportunities for others to see and experience the hope of Jesus through us. And when they experience this hope, our prayer is that they too will be led to embrace and embody Jesus on their own spiritual journey.

We believe God can use Fairhaven Church to create a perpetual cycle of hope, with the power to transform countless lives in ways we could never imagine.

*Will you commit to living out this vision in your daily life to help others find hope in Jesus?*

**yes**    **no**

**MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE IN BELIEVING, SO THAT BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT YOU MAY ABOUND IN HOPE.**

**✚ ROMANS 15:13**



Fairhaven

*find hope.*