



## INTRODUCTION

## Engage-Part 6: Partner With Us

As each new year begins, we often evaluate the past in order to make changes for a better future.

During this five-week series we will explore what we're all about, focus on our vision as a church, and how you can be a part of that. We can new year—together.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your perspective of the church's vision statement: To be an inviting church that leads people into a growing relationship with God and others? What do you think the statement means?
2. Of the five catalysts for spiritual growth, which one(s) do you need to work on the most: practical teaching, private disciplines, personal ministry, providential relationships or pivotal circumstances? How have you seen God use these some of these catalysts in your own life?
3. When it comes to the differences we have in doctrinal beliefs or church practices, why is it important to follow Augustine's perspective: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity (love)?"
4. Partnership at the Ridge involves participating in four activities: connecting, serving, giving and inviting. Which of these is the hardest for you to do? Explain your answer. Why do you think it is important to be involved in all of these activities?
5. How would you describe the difference between being a member and being a partner? What are some things that might keep people from partnering with the church?
6. Read Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 2:38-39 and Acts 8:26-36. What do you think the difference is between infant baptism and believer's baptism? Why do you think baptism by immersion is hard for people to do? If you were baptized, how was it significant to you?
7. Read Hebrews 12:2-3. What are some of the things that make it challenging to live out our faith in today's culture? What are some of the things that might entangle us? Why is it important we remember the example of those who have gone before us?
8. How might you apply this lesson to your life?

## APPLICATION

Throughout this series, we have identified our vision as a church, and how you can be a part of that. We explored the difference the church can make in our lives, discussed spiritual growth, focused on what we believe as a church, and shared what it means to be all in around The Ridge—through connecting, serving, giving, and inviting. Last Sunday, we celebrated baptisms, and spoke about the significance of baptism for those who have placed their faith in Christ.

Now, it's time to begin the partnership process. If you're already a partner with us, you simply need to reaffirm your commitment. If you're new to The Ridge or you're ready to take that step, we'd love to welcome you as a partner. If you're not ready to commit as a partner yet, that's ok. We hope you still feel like you are a part of The Ridge, because we love having you here. We understand that the church is made up of people from many different walks of life and spiritual backgrounds—we want to be here for you no matter where you stand in your own spiritual journey. We welcome everyone to attend the services and events at The Ridge.

How to become a partner:

- Become a Christian by placing your trust in Jesus
- Complete the Partnership Covenant form
- Complete the Getting to Know You form
- Speak with a church staff member to complete the process

The partnership booklet and forms can be viewed and completed at: [www.theridge.church/partnership](http://www.theridge.church/partnership)

## KEY VERSES

Hebrews 12:1-3  
Hebrews 11:32-35

Matthew 28:18-20  
Acts 2:38-39

Acts 8:26-36