



**BECOME A MEMBER**

# THE ACTION STORY



This journey of Action Church began over 50 years ago with one woman and one prayer. In rural Alabama, a woman named Nana prayed for one of her sons to become a pastor and bring the life-changing message of Jesus to the multitudes. It turned out her grandson was the answer to that prayer. But, nonetheless, through her faithful prayers the foundation of Action Church was laid.

In January of 2005 a 19 year-old young man was handed an invite card to church. Weeks later this young man decided to attend a church service at Church of the Highlands, in Birmingham, Alabama. It was during this service that this young man rededicated his life to Jesus and discovered the purpose that God had for his life. This young man was Justin Dailey. By 2008, Pastor Justin and Stefanie Dailey were married and packing up a U-haul to move to Bradenton, Florida to begin their first adventure in full-time ministry at Bayside Community Church. Five years after starting a school of ministry, Pastor Justin felt called to start a church.

Pastor Justin always dreamed of a church that would reach people, right where they were, and connect them to everything God has for their life. With the help of an initial A-team of 82 people, who shared this same dream, and the Association of Related Churches (ARC) Action Church began on January 26th, 2014. Close to 800 people attended that first Sunday at Winter Springs High School in Winter Springs, Florida. Since launching Action Church has seen tremendous growth. The life-giving message of the Gospel, the passion and joy of Sunday services, and the relationships built through small groups are all reasons why Action is effectively reaching people. We invite you to see for yourself how exciting church can be when the focus is simple and people are free to seek God with passion.

Nana was just one woman, in one simple, small town, that decided to be faithful and do her part. Her prayers and faith laid the foundation of a life-giving church that today thousands call home. Imagine what God can do with your obedience, your gifts, and your passions.

# OUR PRAYER FOR YOU



*"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people."*

EPHESIANS 1:17-18 (NIV)

*"I ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing Him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is He is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers."*

EPHESIANS 1:17-19 (MSG)

## Our spiritual journey consists of four steps:

### 1. Know God

*"[I pray]... that you may know Him better [personally]."*

EPHESIANS 1:17-18 (AMP)

*"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you.'"*

MATTHEW 7:21-23 (NIV)

### 2. Find Freedom

*"[I pray]... that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened [focused and clear]."*

EPHESIANS 1:17-18 (AMP)

*"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."*

JAMES 5:16 (NIV)

### 3. Discover Purpose

*"[I pray]... that you may know the hope to which He has called you."*

EPHESIANS 1:17-18

*"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."*

ROMANS 12:6 (NIV)

### 4. Make A Difference

*"[I pray]... that you may grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers [in his holy people]."*

EPHESIANS 1:17-18 (AMP)

*"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."*

JOHN 15:8, 11 (NIV)

*"God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another."*

1 PETER 4:10 (NLT)

## KNOW GOD



### Sunday Services

We consider reaching people who do not know God personally to be one of our greatest responsibilities, because Jesus came to seek and save that which was lost (Luke 19:10). Our Sunday services are for people at all stages in their spiritual journey but are primarily designed for those who do not yet have a genuine relationship with God.

# Our Sunday services focus on four values:

## 1. Celebration (Fun)

We believe church should be enjoyable.

*"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"*

PSALM 122:1 (NKJV)

## 2. Inspiration

We believe church should be a place where people experience God's presence.

*"But...when some unbelievers or ordinary people come in, they will be convinced of their sin by what they hear. They will be judged by all they hear, their secret thoughts will be brought into the open, and they will bow down and worship God, confessing, 'Truly God is here among you!'"*

1 CORINTHIANS 14:24-25 GNT

## 3. Preparation

We believe church should be a place where people learn how the Bible applies to their daily lives. Sundays need to be applicable to your Monday through Saturday.

*"So Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."*

EPHESIANS 4:11-12 (NIV)

## 4. Salvation

We believe church should be a place where people can accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

*"'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?"*

ROMANS 10:13-14 (NLT)

## How we share Christ with others:

*"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full."*

LUKE 14:23 (TLB)

Found people find people. As we continue to reach people far from God, every one of us has a part to play. These four principles will help us stay focused on the mission:

- 1. Accept the Personal Responsibility**
- 2. Build a Personal Relationship**
- 3. Share Your Personal Story**
- 4. Give a Personal Invitation**

Action Church exists to reach people where they are and connect them to everything God has for their life.

# ACTION MISSIONS



*"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

ACTS 1:8 (NIV)

In addition to our efforts during Sunday services, we are focused on reaching people in three key places designated by Jesus:

## In our city, our nation, and our world

### 1. "In Jerusalem" - Our Cities

*"Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God the Father, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight."*

JAMES 1:27 (MSG)

The primary way we reach our cities is through our Sunday services, Serve Saturdays, Block Parties and Outreach Small Groups.

### 2. "In Judea and Samaria" - Our Nation

*"As they traveled from town to town, they presented the simple guidelines the Jerusalem apostles and leaders had come up with. That turned out to be most helpful. Day after day the congregations became stronger in faith and larger in size."*

ACTS 16:4-5 (MSG)

The primary way we reach our nation is by starting new churches and strengthening existing churches through the Association of Related Churches (ARC). ARC is a church-planting organization that trains, coaches, and resources hundreds of new church plants across America and abroad every year. Learn more about ARC at [arcchurches.com](http://arcchurches.com)

### 3. "To the ends of the earth" - Our World

*"Jesus said to His followers, 'Go everywhere in the world, and tell the Good News to everyone.'"*

Mark 16:15 (NCV)

The primary way we reach our world is through strategic missions. At Action, we intentionally invest a portion of our resources into missions work all around the world, with a focus on unreached people groups, children, and church planting. Learn more by visiting [www.theactionchurch.com/missions](http://www.theactionchurch.com/missions)

## How you can participate:

### 1. Pray

Pray that we might reach people in each of these areas with the Good News of Jesus.

*"Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.'"*

MATTHEW 9:37-38 (NIV)

### 2. Give

Give your time and resources to reach people for Christ.

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be."*

MATTHEW 6:19-21 (NIV)

### 3. Go

Go to our cities, nation, and world to serve others and show people the love of God.

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!' He said, 'Go and tell this people...'"*

ISAIAH 6:8-9 (NIV)



# FIND FREEDOM



## Small Groups

*"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah."*

ACTS 5:42 (NIV)

We believe life change happens through relationships. Small Groups have one simple purpose: *to bring people together*. God created us to live in community with others, and it is only then that we can experience the full life He intends for us.

## Small Groups provide three things:

### 1. A place to connect with others.

*"Yes, whatever a person is like, I try to find common ground with him so he will let me tell him about Christ and let Christ save him."*

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22 (TLB)

We were not made to do life alone. God created us for community, and Small Groups provide a place for you to connect with others, share life, and grow in faith together.

### 2. A place to protect each other.

*"We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters."*

1 JOHN 3:16 (NLT)

When we do life together, our problems become smaller as God uses others to bring support and encouragement to our lives. Small Groups become a place where others don't just know your name but care about what is happening in your life and want to support you in your spiritual journey.

### 3. A place to grow together.

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."*

PROVERBS 27:17 (NIV)

We believe every person is created with God-given potential to make a difference in the world. Small Groups are a place you can grow with others to become more like Jesus and reach the potential God has put inside you.

## Action Church Small Groups Model

We base our Small Groups model on the early church as described in the Bible in the book of Acts. In Acts, you can read about how small group meetings in homes helped lay the foundation for tremendous growth in the first church in Jerusalem.

*"You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house."*

ACTS 20:20 (NIV)

Action Church is a church of Small Groups, not a church with Small Groups.

## Four things to know about Action Small Groups:

### 1. Our groups are "freemarket."

We want people to gather together based on things they enjoy and that are important to them. **Essentially, the things you are already doing in your life are the things that can make up your Small Group.** From sports groups to lunch groups, parenting groups to student groups, Bible study groups to creative arts groups, our groups are as varied as we are.

### 2. There are three semesters every year.

Life flows in seasons, and we want to make it easy for you to be in the right Small Group for you in each season. This is why we have new groups that start and stop three times a year in what we refer to as "semesters."



### 3. **Everyone can join a group.**

Our hope is for every person at Action to be connected in meaningful community through a Small Group. With so many groups to choose from, we are confident there is a group that is a great fit for you. You can search groups by topic, location, day, and time in our online Small Groups directory at [theactionchurch.com/groups](http://theactionchurch.com/groups). Once you find a few groups that interest you, contact the leaders to learn more and make plans to check them out in person.

### 4. **Anyone can lead a group.**

We believe leading a group is simple because we all have something to offer others. Whether it's something you are passionate about, an experience you've had that can help others, or an area in which you are looking to grow, leading a group is a great way to bring people together in meaningful community.

To learn more about becoming a Small Group leader attend Small Group Leadership Training, the fourth Sunday of every month, at your location. Even if you're not sure if you're ready to lead a group, we invite you to come to a training.

# DISCOVER PURPOSE



## Action Steps

Action Steps exists to help you discover and develop your purpose and live the full life God created for you. Action Steps is made up of four steps, which guide you through next steps in your journey to know God, find freedom, discover purpose, and make a difference.

*"Let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity."*

HEBREWS 6:1 (NIV)

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

JOHN 10:10 (NIV)

## Action Steps

### STEP 1 - Become A Member

Explore the ministry of Action Church and find out how to connect with our church. STEP 1 takes place the first Sunday of every month.

### STEP 2 - Discover Your Design

Dive into the details of your personality, discover your gifts, and see how your design reveals your purpose in life and your best fit in ministry. STEP 2 takes place the second Sunday of every month.

### STEP 3 - Develop Your Leadership & Make A Difference

Find out what it means to be a leader at Action. At STEP 3 you will learn how to strengthen your character to fulfill your leadership potential, so that you can begin making a difference with your life. STEP 3 takes place the third Sunday of every month.

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE



## A-Team

All of us were created by God to make a difference in the world around us. God has a place for you where your unique abilities and passions can impact the lives of others. We believe your life will never make sense until you find, develop, and fulfill your purpose.

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

EPHESIANS 2:10 (NIV)

*"However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me."*

ACTS 20:24 (NIV)

*"Now God gives us many kinds of special abilities...and there are different kinds of service to God [ministry]...All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it."*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-5, 27 (TLB)

We believe there is no great divide between the "ministers" and the "congregation." Everyone has something they can do to impact the lives of others in the Kingdom of God.

## At Action Church we believe:

**Every Member Is A Minister**

**Every Person Is Gifted In Some Area**

**Every Task is important**

Discover what you were designed to do, and take steps to use your gifts to make a difference. You can start making a difference by joining the A-Team through completing Action Steps!

# ACTION CHURCH GOVERNMENT



As you consider investing your heart, time, family, and finances into the life of a church, it is important for you to feel confident in church leadership. Our goal in sharing the details of Action's government is that you will understand that our church is structured to support the values of integrity, accountability, and spiritual authority.

## **Our church government is made up of three groups of elders:**

### **Guided by Pastors**

The Pastoral Staff team is led by Pastor Justin. This team oversees the day-to-day ministry and operations of the church. These staff pastors serve the congregation and are responsible for the development of the spiritual life of the church. The Pastoral Leadership Team serves as Staff Elders.

### **Protected by Trustees**

Our Trustees are three-five members of the congregation appointed by the Lead Pastor to oversee the finances and direct the provision of the facilities needed by the church. They provide counsel to the Lead Pastor regarding the major financial commitments of the church. The Trustees serve as Non-Staff Elders.

### **Strengthened by Overseers**

The Overseers are three-five pastors of respected congregations and ministries who love Action Church and are willing to provide spiritual protection to the church. They may be called upon to help in accountability matters relating to the Senior Pastor if requested to do so by the Pastors or Trustees. The Overseers serve as Apostolic Elders.

# CHURCH FINANCES



*"Every Sunday each of you make an offering and put it in safekeeping. Be as generous as you can. When I get there you'll have it ready, and I won't have to make a special appeal."*

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-4 (MSG)

At Action Church, we practice tithing for the support of Christ's body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard for giving.

*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."*

MALACHI 3:10 (NIV)

Giving is one of the central themes in the Bible. Jesus talked more about this subject than Heaven, Hell, or prayer. To understand what it means to be a Christ-follower, we must also understand what it means to be a giver.

## Tithe

The tithe, or "first fruits" of our labor/income belong to God. We find this principle all through God's Word. Tithing, giving God the first 10% of our income to the local church, is the primary, practical way we acknowledge that God is first. You can't say you trust God and not tithe, tithing is the most practical way we show God our trust.

*"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year."*

DEUTERONOMY 14:22-26 (NIV)

## Offerings

An offering is giving over and above the tithe. The Bible says that by giving generously, we are able to "take hold of the life that is truly life." You aren't really living unless you are freely giving.

# THE GIFT OF GIVING



The gift of giving is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people. It is a Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving of your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God.

Many people love to give to God and as they do, they want to feel confident in the organization through which they give. At Action, we want people to understand they are giving to God through the church, not to the church. As we openly share the honesty, integrity, and spiritual values that guide the financial practices of Action, we believe people can focus on what God is calling them to give and trust that He is leading our church to steward it well.

The giving of tithes and offerings is worship to Jesus and an expression of the relationship between the individual giver and the Lord. That is why we don't have people fill out pledge cards or make faith promises. Funds are not "income only," they are worship and are not considered to be a business transaction but an expression of gratitude toward God.



# BECOMING A MEMBER



## Action Church Membership Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and being in agreement with the values and ideas presented in Action Step One, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Action Church family. In doing so, I make the following commitment to God and my fellow church members:

### **I will protect the unity of my church by:**

Acting in love toward other members.

Refusing to gossip.

Following the leaders.

*"So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together."*

ROMANS 14:19 (PH)

*"Live in complete harmony with each other—each with the attitude of Christ toward each other."*

ROMANS 15:5 (TLB)

*"Have a sincere love for other believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart."*

1 PETER 1:22 (GNT)

*"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs."*

EPHESIANS 4:29 (NIV)

*"Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you."*

HEBREWS 13:17 (NIV)

### **I will share the responsibility of my church by:**

Praying for its growth and health.

Inviting the unchurched to attend.

Warmly welcoming those who visit.

*"To the church...we always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers."*

1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-2 (NIV)

*"Go out into the country...and urge anyone you find to come in, so that the house will be full."*

LUKE 14:23 (TLB)

*"So, warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified."*

ROMANS 15:7 (TLB)

### **I will serve the ministry of my church by:**

Discovering my gifts and talents.

Using my God-given gifts to make a difference in the lives of others.

Developing a servant's heart.

*"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you."*

1 PETER 4:10 (PH)

*"So Christ Himself gave...pastors and teachers, to equip His people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."*

EPHESIANS 4:11-12 (NIV)

*"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus... taking the form of a bondservant."*

PHILIPPIANS 2:4-5, 7 (NKJV)

**I will support the testimony of my church by:**

Attending church and Small Groups faithfully.

Living a Godly life.

Giving regularly.

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."*

ACTS 2:42 (NIV)

*"Let us not neglect our meeting together...but encourage one another."*

HEBREWS 10:25 (NLT)

To read through our full Statement of Faith, see Appendix.

# NEXT STEPS:



## 1. Become a member of Action Church.

Membership at Action is not about adding your name to a roster; it's about connecting with the people and the vision of the church. We would love for you to be a part.

## 2. Join a Small Group.

Browse our online Small Groups directory at [theactionchurch.com/groups](http://theactionchurch.com/groups). Once you find a few groups that interest you, contact the leaders to learn more and make plans to check them out in person.

## 3. Complete all three steps of Action Steps.

**STEP 1** | Become a Member

**STEP 2** | Discover Your Design

**STEP 3** | Develop Your Leadership & Make A Difference