

## HOW WILL THE JOY CLASS FULFILL THE CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT?

### Individual Involvement for 2011:

1. Each member of the JOY Class will read through the entire Bible and/or become actively involved in a Bible memorization program.
2. Each member of the JOY Class will commit to involvement in an active and growing community of believers, specifically the JOY Class and Twin City Bible Church. Numerous ways of becoming involved will be listed in the definition of the mission statement which follows in this document.
3. Each member of the JOY Class will pray daily for this world, especially the rejection of God that is so prevalent, and pray daily for the specific requests circulated through the JOY Class of Twin City Bible Church.

### Loving God:

1. **Loving God through Expository Bible study during the Sunday school hour.** The primary purpose of a Sunday school class is to study the word of God. Building a body of knowledge of God and His Word is vital to worship. Maximum time will be devoted to Bible study. Announcements and prayer requests, while treated with great care and attention, should not detract from the time devoted to Bible study.

*For 2011, maximum time will be devoted to the Sunday morning Bible study time. Lessons will be planned by the quarter of the year. Outlines will be planned, written, and given in advance to guide the preparation for the lesson by the members of the Joy Class.*

2. **Loving God through the Promotion of daily Bible reading and daily family devotions.** Members of the JOY Class will be encouraged to engage in personal Bible study and family devotions. Recommendations for study materials will be a function of the class. A format and other recommendations for family and personal devotions will be provided also.

*For 2011, members of the JOY Class will be challenged to read through the entire Bible. This challenge will be placed before the class regularly. Testimonials will be accepted. A format for a time of devotion will be presented to the class membership.*

3. **Loving God through the Promotion of approved reading materials.** As suitable reading materials are discovered, recommendations will be made to the class. Before such recommendations are made to the class, approval will be sought from both church and Sunday school leadership.

*For 2011, additional outside reading will be promoted by recommending books for the members of the JOY Class to purchase and read. Building a personal library will be encouraged.*

4. **Loving God through special small group study series offered in homes on a voluntary basis.** One major aspect of worship is learning about God and His Word. Small group studies in homes will be encouraged as a way of reinforcing what the JOY Class is studying or what the people will be hearing from the pulpit ministry of the church.

For 2011, small group studies within homes will be approved and promoted. (Example: training in witnessing) Leadership will come from members of the class though the teacher may lead the first one as a means of promoting and encouraging this activity.

### **Connecting with Others:**

1. **Connecting by applying the principles of Titus 2, the responsibilities of older men and women to younger men and women, utilizing the gifts of JOY Class members.** The older to younger concept will be applied in two ways: chronological age and spiritual age. It may involve an older couple reaching out to a younger couple with encouragement and counsel; or, it may involve a man reaching out to another man or a woman reaching out to another woman. The purpose is to provide the counsel that is called for in Titus 2.

For 2011, the principles of Titus 2 will be initiated. At this time, the JOY Class roll includes twenty-six (26) widows and three (3) widowers. Older members of the JOY Class will be assigned, as acceptable to class members, to younger members of the JOY Class for purposes of exhortation and encouragement. This activity will be coordinated with the leadership of the church as the church fulfills its responsibilities under the principles of Titus 2 and other passages. Several members of the JOY Class can greatly benefit from exhortation and counsel provided by other members of the JOY Class. Activities will be conducted to reach both widows and widowers as well as other individuals who would benefit.

2. **Connecting through visitation within the class.** The JOY class will organize a visitation team to visit within the membership of the JOY Class, particularly to widows and widowers and to those who are sick and perhaps unable to leave the home.

For 2011, a visitation director will be appointed and a visitation team will be selected for visitation within the membership of the JOY Class. Records of visitations will be maintained.

3. **Connecting by sending cards and making telephone calls.** The JOY Class will continue the practice of sending cards for special occasions and making telephone calls of encouragement. Selected persons will be involved in this ministry.

For 2011, the practice of sending cards for birthdays and anniversaries will be continued. A telephone committee will be appointed to maintain contact with members of the class who are sporadic in attendance, for whatever reason. Again, records of telephoning will be maintained by the class.

4. **Connecting through Prayer** – Class members with prayer requests will be encouraged to offer the requests in writing each Sunday morning. Verbal requests will also be accepted at the opening of the class each Sunday. A special prayer team and a prayer chain will be organized to faithfully pray for the requests that are offered.

For 2011, members of the JOY Class will be encouraged to make prayer requests in writing, leaving those requests with the class president. At the same time, verbal requests will be accepted. A prayer team will be appointed to pray for written and oral requests during the week. In addition, a prayer chain for the class will be established to pray for emergency requests that may surface during the week.

5. **Connecting by Providing Meals** – The JOY Class will continue to share lunch following the Sunday services on a semi-regular basis. Special lunches may be planned for other times and other sites. These sessions will also be used to publicize the activities of the class, for planning, and also for fellowship. In addition, the class will also work to provide meals, limited to members of the JOY Class, as such needs might arise within the class membership. These activities will be continued for 2011.
6. **Connecting through Group Activities** – The JOY Class will continue to have an activities planner and coordinator. Activities will include such things as class trips to places of interest as chosen by members of the JOY Class.

*For 2011, group activities of the JOY Class will be maintained as in the past. Trips will be planned by an Activities Coordinator and meals will be planned to promote fellowship. Activities will be coordinated with the calendar of the church.*

7. **Connecting through a repair ministry** – As a ministry to widows and widowers within the JOY Class, a home repair ministry will be organized. The service will be limited to the class membership. One day per week will be designated for this ministry and the service will be available only as those with the needed skills are available to offer this ministry.

*For 2011, a repair ministry will be initiated. This ministry will be limited to members of the JOY Class who have special needs as defined in 1 Timothy 5 and in Titus 2. It will also be generally limited to one day per week and to projects that can be completed in one day, though exceptions will be made. Finally it will be limited by the availability of people to offer this ministry, by available funds, and by the responsibility of other family members to look after the needs of their elders.*

### **Reaching the World with the Message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ:**

1. **Reaching the world by promoting the Faith Promise giving program of Twin City Bible Church.** Members of the JOY Class will be encouraged to fully support and participate in the Faith Promise Giving program of the church.

*For 2011, the annual missions conference and the annual "faith promise" drive will be promoted within the JOY Class.*

2. **Reaching the world by adopting a missionary or missionary family that is already supported by the church.** Adoption will mean regularly communicating with the missionary with cards and letters, making special gifts and offerings to the missionary on special occasions, regularly praying for the missionary, and informing the church of special needs and conditions that may have come to the life of the missionary.

*For 2011, members of the JOY Class will be encouraged to adopt a missionary currently supported by Twin City Bible Church. Things that might be done for the adopted missionary family will be defined in a separate document.*

3. **Reaching the world through a Daytime Visitation Program.** Some members of the JOY Class have a special gift of visitation to families outside the church. Because of the age of the JOY Class membership, such visits will be made during the day, probably to older citizens within the community of Twin City Bible Church. The purpose of this ministry is to reach both the unsaved and the unchurched.

For 2011, and when the weather is suitable and safe for senior citizens to be out, a visitation team will work in the community of Twin City Bible Church and in other areas as requests for visits are received or offered by members of the class.