

# What Now?

Life After Easter



APRIL 27-29, 2019

NORTHLAND  
CHURCH

# What Now?

**A message from Executive Pastor Sean Cooper**

Read about Pastor Sean at [northlandchurch.net/seancooper](http://northlandchurch.net/seancooper).

## Luke's Six Exclamations

### **ACTS 6:7 (NIV)**

So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

### **ACTS 9:31 (NIV)**

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.

### **ACTS 12:24 (NIV)**

But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.

### **ACTS 16:5 (NIV)**

So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

### **ACTS 19:20 (NIV)**

In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

### **ACTS 28:31 (NIV)**

He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!



# Responding to God's ongoing invitation

This week we're responding to the God who both sees us and invites us to follow Him.

## WATCH THE VIDEO

[NorthlandChurch.net/Studies](http://NorthlandChurch.net/Studies)

Afterward have someone read the discussion questions in the "Hear God's Story" section and start the conversation.



## Share Your Story

Begin by praying together. This should be a brief, simple prayer in which you invite God to give you insight as you study. You can pray for specific requests at the end of your time together or stop momentarily to pray if a particular situation comes up during your discussion.

***Then begin your time together by discussing the following questions.***

- What is a time when you've had a really clear idea on the next steps to take in a relationship?
- What is a time when a relationship has made it clear about next steps you should take in a big life decision?

## Hear God's Story, and Create a New Story

### READ ACTS 2:42-47 (NLT) & MATTHEW 11:28-30 (NLT)

- What did the church do after the resurrection of Jesus, described in Acts 2:42-47?
- What did Jesus offer his people in Matthew 11?
- What was God doing in the church, according to Acts 2:42?
- What brought those people into that first fellowship? What practices did they engage in as new parts of the first church?
- What are some of the practices that God has called us, as the church, to engage in, following our own first steps of faith? Where is God calling you to engage as next steps in your faith?
- In Matthew 11, Jesus invites us to His yoke to find rest and salvation. In following Jesus, what are some times when you've experienced His leading?
- What is an area of life where you need to yield more to Jesus?

***Give each person an opportunity to share prayer requests.***

## Find Your Story in God's Story

If you feel God is nudging you to go deeper, take some time between now and our next discussion to dig into His Word. Explore the Bible passages related to this session's theme on your own, jotting your reflections in a journal or in this study guide. Want to go deeper? Select a few verses, and try paraphrasing them, writing them in your own words. If you'd like, share them with the group the next time you meet.

**Most marriages start with a wedding. A ceremony featuring friends and family and a celebration mark the beginning of the marriage and form a moment that lasts a lifetime in memory. But the marriage shouldn't end with the wedding or reception. In fact, the real joy and work of a marriage actually takes place *after* the wedding is over. In much the same way, our relationship with Jesus doesn't end at salvation. Instead, our first steps of faith mark just the beginning of a life of faith, hope and love.**

### READ ACTS 10:1-23 (NIV)

- Who was Cornelius? What are some of the reasons he obeyed the angel's instructions?
- Who was Peter? What are some of the reasons he disobeyed God's instructions in his dream?
- How did Peter respond to the calling of the Spirit in Acts 10:19? Why might he have responded differently there than he did in the dream?

### READ ACTS 10:24-48 (NIV)

- What did Peter learn through his obedience to God's call?
- How was this a different situation than he would've expected God to call him into? What are some places in your life where God has unexpectedly called you?
- What made it hard for Peter to obey God? What makes it hard for you to follow Him?
- What happened to Cornelius through Peter's obedience? What happened to Peter because of Cornelius' obedience? Whom could God transform through your obedience in following Him?

**This week's study is also available on Northland's apps or at [NorthlandChurch.net/Studies](https://NorthlandChurch.net/Studies).**

# What's Current

Get info and sign up at [NorthlandChurch.net](http://NorthlandChurch.net), or ask a connection team member for assistance.

## Becoming Fully Alive: Discovering Your Mission in Jesus

SATURDAY, MAY 4 | 8:30-11:30 A.M. | ROOMS 4206-07 | Register at [northlandchurch.net/becomingfullyalive](http://northlandchurch.net/becomingfullyalive)

## Teens & Technology Parenting Meeting

SATURDAY, MAY 4 | 6:30-8:30 P.M. | THE HUB | Register at [northlandchurch.net/teensandtech](http://northlandchurch.net/teensandtech)

## Spectacle! presented by Central Florida Community Arts

THURSDAY, MAY 9 AND FRIDAY, MAY 10 | 7:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY | Tickets at [northlandchurch.net/spectacle](http://northlandchurch.net/spectacle)

## Fully Alive 5K

SATURDAY, MAY 18 | 7:30 A.M. | MEET IN THE FRONT PARKING LOT | Register at [northlandchurch.net/fullyalive5k](http://northlandchurch.net/fullyalive5k)

## Tithes and Offerings



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Northland tradition to give an extra offering for Easter! God lavishes us with grace through the gift of His only Son, Jesus—it is right for us to respond with our tithes and offerings as an integral part of our worship.

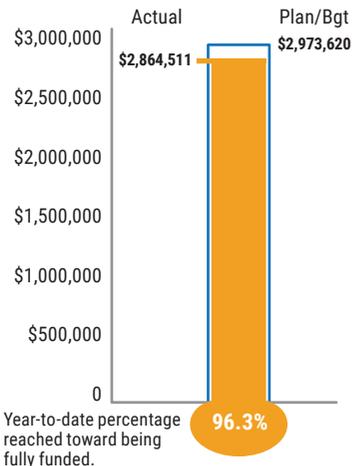
At Northland, we evaluate actual spending versus budgeted spending to ensure we honor our commitment to a balanced budget. We thank each and every one of you for your generosity. If you would like to partner with us financially, there are a number of ways you can give which are listed below.

Our 2019 goal for tithes and offerings is \$10 million, with our budget set at \$9.5 million. While actual and budgeted amounts fluctuate from week to week, the average weekly budgeted amount is \$182,693. As you can see on the chart to the right, we are currently at 96.3 percent of our budgeted expectation to date. This chart reflects actual giving compared with budgeted expectation.

We are honored that you are joining us in worship today! If you have questions or if you would like more information about our finances, please email [givetonorthland@northlandchurch.net](mailto:givetonorthland@northlandchurch.net). May God bless you as together we work to *Engage people to be fully alive in Jesus!*

### January 1 - April 23, 2019

Plan/Budget  
Actual Giving



## Ways to Give

Give by cash or check and drop it in any of our tithe boxes.



Give online at [NorthlandChurch.net](http://NorthlandChurch.net)/Give or use the Northland App.



Give via mobile text. Text "northland" followed by the amount to 77977 (e.g. northland 10).

