

Life

With Tracy and Debra



LifeHouse

*A current movement of God's Spirit
isn't something new ... it's ancient!*

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Thrive (THrīve)

To grow or develop vigorously; to flourish.

How can we thrive in our relationship with Jesus?

The mission of Tracy and Debra is to help people thrive in their relationship with Jesus. Many believers feel discouraged in their walk with Christ, struggling with a sense of failure, shame and condemnation. Our goal is to inspire disciples, leaders, and churches toward a thriving relationship with Jesus and meaningfully connect them with their divine purpose in Christ's Kingdom movement.

Thriving in our relationship with Jesus begins by realizing that it is his desire for us to thrive! Jesus described his purpose for coming to earth by saying, "I came so that they would have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).



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When you pray ...

We are grateful for the open doors of ministry that God is providing. Please pray for the following:

- We are witnessing shocking events unfold in Israel. Let's pray for the advance of the Gospel amidst the brutality of war.
- Pray for God to bless our special equipment fund to update our computers and phones.
- Pray for safe travel as we visit family during Christmas.
- We launched a LifeHouse group in Minnesota in September and another group will launch in January 2024.
- Pray for God's blessing as we collaborate with other ministries to design a Leadership Equipping Pathway for House Church, Micro-Church and LifeHouse Leaders.

We invite you to visit our website TracyandDebra.com and discover more of our vision and the resources we offer to help disciples, leaders, and churches thrive in their walk with Jesus.



LifeHouse

The Church is returning to its ancient roots!

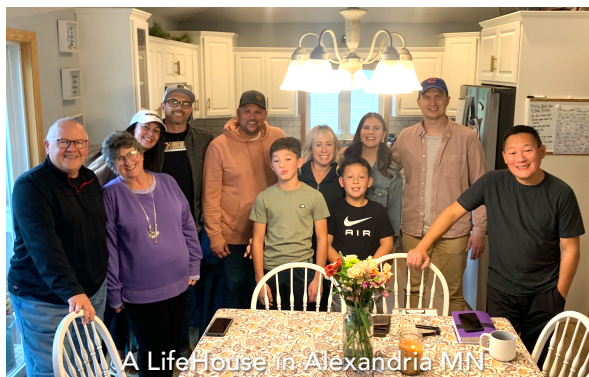
Enter the MicroChurch

Whether you call it a House Church, Cell Church, a MicroChurch, or a LifeHouse, the Church around the world is getting big by going small.

A ReDiscovery of Church

The most basic expression of the New Testament Church met in homes. "Aquila and Prisca, together with the **church** in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord" (1 Cor. 16:9). "Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the **church** in her house" (Col. 4:15).

We like to refer to these gatherings of believers as "LifeHouses" because the life of Jesus radiates from these homes, influencing their neighborhoods and cities. A LifeHouse can serve as a supplement to your regular church involvement or it can be your primary church home.



A LifeHouse in Alexandria MN

Our western worldview has predisposed us to think of smaller gatherings as not being as significant. Yet most Christians can bear witness that the greatest spiritual impact in their lives occurred in the context of a small group or through the influence of an individual. Most large churches today recognize the need for providing smaller, intimate settings for true discipleship to take place.

A Question of Sustainability

Driven largely by a desire for an experience of true Body Life and community, the House Church model also offers the most sustainable strategy for rapidly multiplying disciples and more churches. In his book, Letters to the Churches, Francis Chan observes that if winning the lost in our cities is the

goal then spending millions of dollars on property and buildings simply isn't sustainable. But, Chan writes, *"If it's possible for a church to fit in a home, then we have an infinite number of potential churches no matter where we go."*

All Expressions of Church Are Needed

The movement toward fresh expressions of church doesn't mean a diminished role for traditional church ministries. Rather, healthy established churches have a strategic opportunity to serve the growing microchurch movement as resource Hubs, helping the broader Body of Christ in their city to thrive. Want to know more? Go to our website www.TracyandDebra.com and click "Contact".



Debra & Tracy Weaver

We Are Building A Community of Ministry Partners To Impact Lives

Our calling is to serve Christ by helping disciples, leaders and churches thrive in their relationship with Jesus. We collaborate with ministries, networks and movements to accomplish Jesus' mission of seeking and saving the lost. Your generosity makes this ministry possible.

We would be honored by your prayer and financial support. You can make your tax-deductible donation by using this link: <https://apps.christianministryalliance.org/365> - Thank you



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A thriving relationship with Jesus is the result of aligning our hearts with God's truth, relating with Jesus as a person, and living in light of God's reality. In other words, there is truth for us to understand, there is a person for us to know, and there are life-giving behaviors for us to walk in. The combined effect of these things is a flourishing spiritual life that thrives!

"We have died to the Law, being released from its condemnation" (Romans 7:4-6; 8:1).

These are just two examples of the realities that Paul reveals in his epistles. In fact, the first three chapters of Ephesians are almost entirely written in the indicative mood. Paul impresses upon his readers the realities that God has

accomplished on their behalf because he knows that understanding these realities will transform our lives.

A thriving relationship with Jesus is fueled by understanding the realities and revealed in God's word.

Truth For Us To Understand

Fourteen times in the Apostle Paul's Epistles he asks the simple question, "Do you not know?" Paul passionately invites his readers to grasp what God has revealed about himself and what he has accomplished on our behalf.

Paul frequently writes in the indicative mood. The indicative mood describes things as a matter of fact. "That girl's hair is red." "That man is wearing a tuxedo." These are simple statements of fact ... the indicative mood. Paul's statements of fact, however, are focused on the realities that are true of every believer in Jesus because of what the God has accomplished for us.

Paul writes, "We have received the righteousness of God through faith" (Romans 3:22). "We have been raised with Christ and seated in the heavenlies" (Ephesians 2:5-7).



Two new members have been added to the Weaver Family since this picture was taken – Grandsons John and Caleb.

A Person For Us To Know

For many, Knowing Jesus seems like trying to know a distant historical figure like George Washington. Perhaps this describes you as well. Here is a great example of where truth, or reality, can inform our thinking and transform our experience. Consider these two realities: First, as a believer in Jesus, you are personally indwelt by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Allow these verses to stir your thinking:

Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me ... My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him" (John 14:23).

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A Special Christmas Project

A special fund has been created to help our ministry replace aging computers and cell phones – vital tools for all that we do. If you would like to give a special gift toward this project go to <https://apps.christianministryalliance.org/365> and select "Computers" as your "Gift Reason." Merry Christmas!





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The Apostle Paul writes, Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? (1 Cor. 3:16).

Jesus is more intimately close to you than your spouse or dearest friend. He, along with the Father and the Spirit, dwell within you.


Second, Jesus is actively involved in your life every day. Have you ever realized that you are being personally disciplined by the Son of God! Jesus is orchestrating every encounter, every hardship, and every experience to help make you more like him. He uses others in our lives in the process of shaping us, but he, Jesus, is always the primary one discipling us. Paul wrote, "For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work among you will complete it by the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6). Jesus, himself, in the Great Commission said, "behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

Our relationship with Jesus can thrive because he is intimately close and actively involved in our lives.

Life-Giving Behaviors For Us To Walk In

We've seen that thriving in our relationship with Jesus involves first, understanding the truth that God has revealed and second, relating with Jesus in an intimate and active way. So far we've been primarily talking about our awareness of biblical realities - the indicative mood - statements of fact.

The Apostle Paul, however, also writes in the Imperative, the mood of command. As I wrote earlier, the first three chapters of the book of Ephesians involves Paul declaring a series of truths that God has accomplished on our behalf. Chapter four then begins, "Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called" (Ephesians 4:1). Do you see what Paul is doing? After three chapters of remarkable truth, he then calls believers to live life based on those realities. Chapters four through six are filled with commands to obey based on the realities of chapters one through three. For Paul, truth informs and empowers behavior.

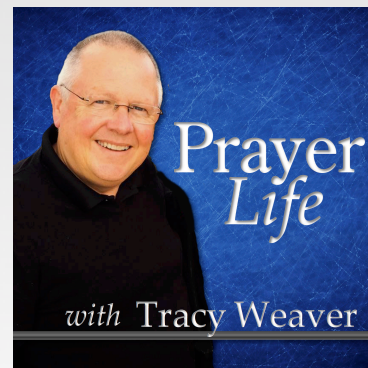
The reality of all that God has accomplished for us is intended to inspire our daily decisions of obedience. These life-giving behaviors of obedience based on God's truth, fuel a relationship with Jesus that thrives. 



Josh & Kelsi Timm

LifeHouse Leaders
Alexandria, Minnesota

"For nearly two decades, we've had the privilege of knowing the Weavers. Their unwavering commitment to nurturing and guiding individuals and couples in their spiritual journey is truly remarkable. The Weaver duo has inspired us by their own life example. They played a pivotal role in helping us establish a high school gathering in our home, fostering discipleship among other couples, and even helping us start a house church. Their dedication to cultivating leaders and their selfless spirit of service are genuinely refreshing. The Weavers are exceptional mentors and faithful followers of Jesus." – Josh & Kelsi Timm



Join Tracy each day of December for a daily 90-second Prayer Advent. Go to TracyandDebra.com and click on "PrayerLife".

