



BURLINGTON SANTA FE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

You Have a Home Here

Welcome, friend. We are so glad this little booklet found its way into your hands. The Burlington Santa Fe Church of Christ is a friendly, loving, Christ-centered family, ordinary people who have found faith, hope, and love in Jesus, and who love helping others find the same. You do not have to have everything figured out to belong here. Come as you are, and let God's Word do what only it can do. Inside these pages you will find the story of the Bible, the good news of Jesus, and a simple invitation: come and see. There is a place here with your name on it.

Be Light. Be Love. Belong.

"You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself."

MATTHEW 22:37-39

4393 US 27 · BRANFORD, FLORIDA · BSFCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM

The Whole Bible Story

The Bible is not a pile of disconnected rules and stories. From the first page to the last, it tells one story: the story of a God who made us, loves us, and has gone to great lengths to bring us home. Here it is, in a few short chapters.

1. Creation — God Made Us

God made everything, and He made it good. He made people in His own image, to know Him and walk with Him (Genesis 1:1, 27). Life began in a world with no sorrow and no death.

2. The Fall — We Broke It

That friendship broke when the first people chose their own way over God's way, and every one of us has done the same (Genesis 3; Romans 3:23). Sin brings guilt, shame, and death, and on our own we cannot fix it.

3. The Promise — God Would Send a Rescuer

But God did not walk away. Right there in the garden He promised a Rescuer, and He called Abraham, promising that through his family blessing would come to every family on earth (Genesis 3:15; 12:1–3). Everything after this point is God keeping His promise.

4. Israel — God Prepares the Way

Abraham's family grew into the nation of Israel. God rescued them from slavery in Egypt, gave them His law, and made His home among them. Yet through their prophets He kept pointing forward to a coming King and Savior (Exodus 20; Isaiah 53).

5. Jesus — The Promise Arrives

At exactly the right time, the Promise arrived in person. Jesus of Nazareth, God in flesh, taught, healed, and loved, then died on a cross for our sins, was buried, and rose again on the third day (John 1:14; 1 Corinthians 15:3–4). The whole story comes together in Him.

6. The Church — The Story Continues

The risen Jesus sent His followers into the world with the good news. On the day of Pentecost the church began, and it has carried that message ever since (Acts 2; Matthew 28:18–20).

7. The Hope Ahead — Home at Last

The story is not over. Jesus is coming again, God will wipe away every tear, and all things will be made new (Revelation 21:1–5). The last page of the Bible is not a funeral. It is a homecoming.

And the best part of this story? It has a place in it for you.

The Books of the Bible

Sixty-six books, written by about forty writers across some fifteen centuries, and yet they tell one story. Here is every book of the Bible, in order, with its main aim in a single line.

OLD TESTAMENT

THE LAW

Genesis · Creation, the fall, and God's promise to Abraham.
Exodus · God rescues Israel from Egypt and gives His law.
Leviticus · Holy living and worship before a holy God.
Numbers · Israel's wilderness journey toward the promise.
Deuteronomy · Moses' final words: remember and obey.

HISTORY

Joshua · Israel enters and settles the Promised Land.
Judges · A cycle of sin, sorrow, and God's rescue.
Ruth · Faithful love in a dark time; a King's family line.
1 Samuel · Samuel, Saul, and the rise of David.
2 Samuel · David's reign and God's covenant with him.
1 Kings · Solomon's glory and a kingdom divided.
2 Kings · Two kingdoms fall; God's word endures.
1 Chronicles · Israel's story retold around David and worship.
2 Chronicles · Judah's kings, the temple, and God's patience.
Ezra · God's people return and rebuild the temple.
Nehemiah · Rebuilding Jerusalem's walls and its hearts.
Esther · God's unseen hand protects His people.

POETRY & WISDOM

Job · Trusting God through suffering we cannot explain.
Psalms · Israel's songbook of praise, prayer, and tears.
Proverbs · God's wisdom for everyday life.
Ecclesiastes · Life "under the sun" points us to God.
Song of Solomon · A celebration of married love.

MAJOR PROPHETS

Isaiah · Judgment, comfort, and the coming Suffering Servant.
Jeremiah · A weeping prophet; warning and a new covenant.
Lamentations · Grief over fallen Jerusalem; hope in God's mercy.
Ezekiel · God's glory among the exiles; new hearts promised.
Daniel · Faithfulness in a foreign court; God rules kingdoms.

MINOR PROPHETS

Hosea · God's unfailing love for an unfaithful people.
Joel · The day of the LORD and the promised Spirit.
Amos · God's call for justice and righteousness.
Obadiah · Judgment on Edom's pride.
Jonah · God's mercy runs toward even His enemies.
Micah · Judgment, mercy, and a ruler born in Bethlehem.
Nahum · God judges Nineveh's wickedness.
Habakkuk · Trusting God when life does not make sense.
Zephaniah · The day of the LORD; God sings over His people.
Haggai · A call to rebuild God's house first.
Zechariah · Visions, courage, and the coming King.
Malachi · God's final Old Testament word: honor Him and wait.

NEW TESTAMENT

THE GOSPELS

Matthew · Jesus the promised King, fulfilling prophecy.
Mark · Jesus the suffering Servant, mighty in deed.
Luke · Jesus the Son of Man, Savior of all people.
John · Jesus the Son of God; believe and have life.

HISTORY

Acts · The church begins and the gospel spreads.

PAUL'S LETTERS

Romans · The gospel: righteousness by faith explained.
1 Corinthians · Order, love, and resurrection hope for a messy church.
2 Corinthians · Strength in weakness; Paul defends his ministry.
Galatians · Freedom in Christ, no return to bondage.
Ephesians · The church, God's masterpiece, one in Christ.
Philippians · Joy in Christ in every circumstance.
Colossians · Christ is supreme, and He is enough.
1 Thessalonians · Living in hope of the Lord's return.
2 Thessalonians · Standing firm while we await Christ.
1 Timothy · Order and godliness in God's household.
2 Timothy · Paul's last words: preach the word, endure.
Titus · Sound teaching produces godly living.
Philemon · Forgiveness and brotherhood in Christ.

GENERAL LETTERS

Hebrews · Jesus is better: our perfect high priest.
James · Faith that works: living what we believe.
1 Peter · Hope and holiness in a hostile world.
2 Peter · Grow in grace; beware false teachers.
1 John · Assurance: walking in the light and in love.
2 John · Walking in truth and in love.
3 John · Hospitality and faithfulness in the church.
Jude · Contend for the faith once delivered.

PROPHECY

Revelation · Jesus wins: the Lamb reigns, all made new.

One Story, Two Testaments

The Old Testament is God's promise: He creates, He chooses a people, and He points ahead to a coming Savior. The New Testament is the promise kept: the Savior comes, His church is born, and His people watch for His return.

Turn the page, and you can watch the whole story unfold as one journey.

The Story of the Bible: One Journey

Read the Bible from cover to cover and you are not reading a shelf of separate books. You are traveling one road, from a garden in Eden to a city of gold, and every stop along the way points to Jesus. Here is the journey at a glance.



*"Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path."*

PSALM 119:105

The Gospel Message

The word “gospel” simply means *good news*. It is not advice about what we must do for God; it is the announcement of what God has already done for us in Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul said it was the very heart of everything he preached (1 Corinthians 15:1–4).

Who Jesus Is

Jesus is the Son of God. He lived the sinless life we could not live, and in everything He said and did, He showed us the heart of the Father (John 1:14; Hebrews 4:15). He is far more than a good teacher or a fine example. He is the Savior of the world.

What Jesus Did

On the cross, Jesus died for our sins. The prophet Isaiah saw it coming centuries before: “He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities” (Isaiah 53:5). He took the punishment our sins deserved so that we could be forgiven and made right with God (Romans 5:8). His body was taken down and laid in a borrowed tomb.

The Empty Tomb

On the third day, God raised Jesus from the dead. He had said it Himself: “I am the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25). The tomb was empty, and He presented Himself alive to His followers by many proofs (Acts 1:3). Paul sums it up: Jesus was “delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification” (Romans 4:25). Through His resurrection, God has given us “a living hope” (1 Peter 1:3). The resurrection is God’s stamp of approval on everything Jesus claimed to be: death is defeated, forgiveness is real, and hope has a heartbeat.

Why It Matters for You

Because Jesus died and rose again, your past does not have to be your future. Sin can be forgiven. Guilt can be lifted. A brand-new life can begin (2 Corinthians 5:17). “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). The gospel is God’s answer to the deepest problem of every human heart, and His invitation is open to you today.

So, the question is: how do you respond to His invitation?

*The gospel is not good news about what we do.
It is good news about what God has done.*

God's Plan of Salvation

Long ago, a frightened jailer asked the most important question anyone can ask: what must he do to be saved (Acts 16:30)? The Bible answers that question clearly. Salvation is God's gift, and no one can earn it (Ephesians 2:8). But a gift must be received. Think of what follows as how a person comes to Christ and takes hold of what He has already done.

Hear the Word of God

Everything begins with hearing the message of Jesus. Faith grows as we hear God's Word with an open heart.

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." ROMANS 10:17

Believe in Jesus

Believing means trusting that Jesus is the Son of God who died and rose again for you, enough to follow Him (John 8:24).

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." JOHN 3:16

Repent of Your Sins

Repentance is a change of heart that leads to a change of life, turning away from the old way and turning toward God (Acts 17:30).

"Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out." ACTS 3:19

Confess Jesus as Lord

With a sincere heart, we openly own Jesus as Lord, the same glad confession the first Christians made (Matthew 10:32).

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." ROMANS 10:9

Be Baptized into Christ

In baptism (the Greek word is baptizō, and it means "immerse"), a believer is immersed in water, buried with Christ and raised to walk in new life. It is the moment God washes away sins and adds a person to His church (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3–4; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." ACTS 2:38

Live Faithfully

Then comes the daily walk: an active, trusting, obedient faith, growing, serving, worshiping, and holding fast to Jesus for life (Romans 4:5; Colossians 2:6–7).

"Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life." REVELATION 2:10

Here is a simple way to picture it. Imagine a friend who loves you buys you a wonderful gift, exactly what you needed most. He wraps it with care, writes your name on it, and it waits at his house, **bought and paid for in full**. The gift is yours, but you still have to go and receive it. **Driving to his house does not buy the gift**; your trip earns nothing at all. But nobody who refused to make the drive ever brought the gift home, either. If you never make the trip, or try to get it some other way instead, the gift stays unopened at his house: **bought for you, but never received**. That is how it is with salvation: God's gift was bought and paid for at the cross, and these steps are simply how you come and receive what He is holding out to you.

The Holy Spirit

Jesus did not leave His followers on their own. He promised the Holy Spirit, and He has been at work in God's people ever since.

Who the Holy Spirit Is

The Holy Spirit is not a force, a feeling, or an influence. He is a Person, and He is fully God, just as the Father and the Son are God. Jesus promised His apostles that the Father would send Him as the Helper: "the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things" (John 14:26). And through the teaching He gave them, recorded in Scripture, He still teaches God's people today.

How the Holy Spirit Works

The Spirit breathed out the Scriptures, as men "spoke from God... carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16). Through that message He convicts the world of sin (John 16:8) and guided the apostles "into all the truth" (John 16:13). He still works today through the Word He inspired; the Spirit and the Word are never at odds.

The Gift of the Spirit

When the crowd asked Peter what to do on the day of Pentecost, he promised "the gift of the Holy Spirit" to everyone who repents and is baptized (Acts 2:38). Paul says it this way: "the Spirit of God dwells in you," and the Spirit of Him "who raised Jesus from the dead... will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you" (Romans 8:9, 11). That is why our bodies are "a temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:19).

The Gift, Not the Power

Peter's promise in Acts 2:38 was not the supernatural power of Pentecost morning. Only twice did God pour out the Spirit that way: on the apostles, to launch the church (Acts 2:1–4), and on Cornelius's household, to show Gentiles were welcome too (Acts 10:44–48; 11:15–18). The gift given to every Christian is His presence dwelling in us, shaping us day by day through His Word.

The Fruit of the Spirit

The Spirit's work in us is not a flash of supernatural power. It is a harvest that grows slowly as we walk with God each day and let His Word shape our hearts: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22–23). The supernatural gifts of the first century have passed away (1 Corinthians 13:8–10); this fruit never does. "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25).

Growing in the Spirit

This growing is the process of sanctification: the Spirit setting us apart and growing us through the truth. Jesus prayed for His people, "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:17).

The Spirit Helps Us

And when we do not even know what to pray, we are not on our own: the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for "the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words" (Romans 8:26).

The Church According to Scripture

Drive through almost any town and you will find church after church, all with different names, teachings, and practices. But when Jesus promised, “I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18), He did not promise many different churches. He promised one, and He built it.

Built by Jesus, Not by Men

The church belongs to Christ; He purchased it with His own blood (Acts 20:28). It began in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost, when about three thousand people gladly responded to the first gospel sermon ever preached (Acts 2:41–47).

Christ Is the Head

Jesus is the head of the body, the church, and He alone holds all authority (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22–23). That is why the church simply follows the teaching of Scripture rather than the traditions and opinions of men.

One Body, One Faith

Paul’s picture of God’s family is a picture of ones: one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all (Ephesians 4:4–6). The first Christians were not divided into denominations. They were simply Christians (Acts 11:26).

Our Aim

The churches of Christ are not a denomination. We are congregations of Christians who want to be the same church you read about in the New Testament, speaking where the Bible speaks, and letting Scripture alone guide our faith and practice. No creed but Christ. No book but the Bible.

*We are not trying to start something new.
We are trying to be something old: the church of the New Testament.*

Worship According to Scripture

Our worship is simple on purpose. We worship the way the first Christians did, offering God what He has asked for, from hearts that truly mean it, in spirit and truth (John 4:24). When you visit, here is what you will see.

Singing

When we sing, the whole congregation sings together, with voices only: “singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart” (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16).

Prayer

We pray together, thanking God, praising Him, and bringing our needs, and the needs of others, before His throne (Acts 2:42; 1 Timothy 2:1–2).

The Lord’s Supper

Every first day of the week, we remember the death of Jesus by partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine together, just as the early church did (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26).

Giving

Our members give freely and cheerfully to support the work of the church. As our guest, you are never expected to give. Your presence is the gift (1 Corinthians 16:1–2; 2 Corinthians 9:7).

Preaching & Teaching

God’s Word is opened, read, and explained plainly, because faith grows by hearing it (Acts 2:42; 2 Timothy 4:2).

Nothing is done to entertain or to impress. Everything we do in worship is done for God’s glory (1 Corinthians 10:31) and to build one another up (Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 10:24–25). And there is still room here for you (Luke 14:22–23).

Questions People Ask

People ask us good questions about what we do and why we do it. Here are honest answers to the ones we hear most.

Why do you baptize by immersion?

Start with the word itself. The Greek word is baptizō, and it literally means “immerse.” It does not mean sprinkle or pour. And the picture matches the word: Paul calls baptism a burial: “We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death” (Romans 6:4). In the New Testament, people were buried in the water and raised up, just as Jesus was buried and raised. We simply follow the picture Scripture gives.

Why the Lord’s Supper every Sunday?

Because the first church did. The disciples came together “on the first day of the week” to break bread (Acts 20:7), and remembering Jesus together every week keeps the cross at the center of our life together. We are glad to keep their pattern.

Why no instruments in worship?

Our aim is to worship as the New Testament directs, and its picture of music in the church is singing, voices making melody in the heart (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). The early church sang that way for centuries. You can read more on the Worship page of this booklet.

Are you a denomination?

No. We are simply Christians, members of the church Jesus built (Matthew 16:18), with no denominational headquarters, no human creed, and no name but His. The Bible’s picture is one body and one faith (Ephesians 4:4–6). See the Church page of this booklet for more.

Do I have to give money when I visit?

Never. Giving is the responsibility and the joy of our members (1 Corinthians 16:2). As our guest, you are never expected to give. Your presence is the gift.

What if I just want to sit and listen?

Then come and do exactly that. No one will single you out, ask you to speak, or put you on the spot. Find a seat, listen as long as you like, and slip out or stay and talk, as you wish. Jesus’ own invitation still stands: “Come and you will see” (John 1:39).

Can I study the Bible with someone personally?

Yes, and we would be honored. Just ask any of us after a service, or call or write, and we will set up a time that suits you. You can also take our free Bible Correspondence Course, one lesson at a time, with a real person walking through it with you. This booklet is Lesson One.

COME VISIT US

You'll Be Welcomed Here

When you walk in, expect a handshake, a smile, and people who are genuinely glad you came. Dress however you like. Sit wherever you like. No one will embarrass you, single you out, or pressure you in any way. Just a warm welcome and simple, Bible-centered worship.

Bring your Bible if you have one, your questions if you have plenty, and your family, too. We have Bible classes for all ages, from the youngest children to adults. We would love for you to come and see for yourself.

SUNDAYS

Bible Class 10:00 AM · Worship 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

Bible Class 7:00 PM

4393 US 27, Branford, FL 32008

386-935-1532 · bsfchurchofchrist@gmail.com

bsfchurchofchrist.com · Watch live Sundays on YouTube: @BSFCoC

MEET OUR PREACHER

Todd Johnston, M.Min., LMHC

Todd Johnston has been with Burlington Santa Fe since September 2025, serving as preacher and helping with the youth. Alongside his ministry, he owns The Lighthouse Counseling Center, where he serves our area as a licensed mental health counselor.

Todd Johnston — 731.879.0428

OUR ELDERS

Lee Hatch — 386.362.9785

Landis Suggs — 386.935.0184

Don Warner — 386.935.2560



Facebook



YouTube



The Lighthouse Counseling Center



Be Light. Be Love. Belong.