# Welcome to New Hope Church

A Christ-centered community for all peoples, moving toward Jesus and taking others with us.



We'd love to get to know you. Fill out the New Here form.





# **NEXT STEPS**

- Join a Life Group
- Join a Bible Study or class
- Create a myNHC profile

Visit newhopechurchmn.org

# Connect at New Hope Church



newhopechurchmn.org

**GIVE ONLINE** 

**NEED PRAYER?** 

**NEWS & GIVING REPORT** 

# **Annual Gathering Voting Results**

At last week's Annual Gathering, we celebrated God's gracious care throughout this past year as well as voted in a new budget and leadership positions. To view the voting results, visit newhopechurchmn.org.

# **Neighborhood Day Camp Information Event**

Sunday, May 23, 3:30–5pm, Main Campus. Host a backyard outreach this summer. Children's supplies training, curriculum and resources—you lead the fun! Visit newhopechurchmn.org/families.

# **Connect on Social Media**

Facebook & Instagram—newhopechurchmn

# **Young Adult Night of Worship**

Friday, June 4, 7–8:30pm, Ministry Center and livestream. A place to be yourself, be in the presence of God and connect with others who want to do the same. Visit newhopechurchmn.org/youngadults.

# myNHC

Sign up for myNHC—our database for connecting with each other. Be sure your information is current to continue receiving communications.

# **Career Opportunities**

Use your gifts, talents and skills to bless NHC. We are currently looking for funeral coordiator/assistants. See career opportunities at newhopechurchmn.org/careers.

Get the most current information at

newhopechurchmn.org





# The Tower & War Luke 14:28-33

May 23, 2021

# CONNECT

1. Have you ever gotten into something, perhaps a home project or some other big financial obligation, only to determine it was going to require more of you—time, money, ability—than you expected? What were the tensions you felt? How did you resolve this dilemma? How much did it end up costing you in the long run, whether completed or not?

# **CELEBRATE**

- 2. Carefully read through Luke 14:25–33. What tensions arise for you as you read through the text? Why? Talk about this among your friends or family.
- 3. In light of biblical mandates to "honor your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:12), "love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her" (Ephesians 5:25), "do not . . . provoke your children, lest they become discouraged" (Colossians 3:21) and "love your neighbor as yourself" (James 2:8), what might Jesus be getting at when He says, "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own . . . he cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:26)? Why the dramatic rhetoric?
- 4. Take time to read Jesus' words in Luke 9:23–26. Then re-read Luke 14:27. What does it mean to take up the cross daily and follow Jesus? What high demands on our lives are embedded within these words? How does that play out in your own life or the lives of those around you?
- 5. Luke 14:28–33 tells of a man building a watchtower and of a king heading off to war. Both brief stories imply the necessity of knowing what one is getting into—counting the cost. In what way are Christians today either prepared or ill-prepared to pay the price for genuine faith? What has been your personal experience?
- 6. Consider Deuteronomy 31:8. How does this picture of God's heart empower you to not give up when following Jesus proves costly?

# **CONTRIBUTE**

- 7. The next time you have a spiritual conversation with someone in your life, how could you better prepare him or her to consider the cost of following Jesus? What cautions might you give, personal experiences might you share, and hope might you offer?
- 8. Take time with those around you to pray very specifically about running "with perseverance the race marked out for" those following Jesus (Hebrews 12:1).