



God's DNA Lived Out

ON MISSION WITH HARVEST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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JUST AS EVERY PERSON HAS A UNIQUE DNA THAT IDENTIFIES HIM/HER FROM EVERY OTHER PERSON IN THE WORLD, EVERY CHURCH HAS A SPECIFIC DNA THAT IDENTIFIES IT FROM EVERY OTHER CHURCH.

BEGINNING WITH ITS FIRST SERVICE on September 13, 2009, the DNA of Harvest Christian Fellowship in Mechanicsville gave life to this new body. The explanation of the church's name shows its unique DNA as birthed by God:

➤ **Harvest** — A body of believers on mission with the Gospel— everywhere and to everyone (Matthew 9:37-38; Matthew 28:18-20)

➤ **Christian** — True believers living out the changed life in Christ right where they live (2 Corinthians 5:17)

➤ **Fellowship** — Living in unity and harmony by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:1-6)

Harvest Christian Fellowship is motivated by the foundational truth that the body of believers belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ and ought to represent Him alone. This fellowship exists so that Christ is truly seen, honored, glorified, and obeyed to the fullest.

As the church began to take shape, its leadership realized that, in order to be on mission for Christ, everything needed to be sifted through the grid of God's Word. Pastor Joel Bradberry and an eight-member team held numerous formative meetings to earnestly seek the Lord's direction and vision for where He wanted Harvest in His Kingdom work. With the heartbeat of God at the center of this body, the Lord's DNA naturally came to life.

Through the study of His Word, the church's passion to be on mission flourished. Integral to Harvest's DNA is a committed conviction to give corporately with other SBCV churches to maximize the spread of the Gospel to a lost and dying world. From the beginning, Harvest has dedicated 20% of its undesignated receipts to Cooperative Program (CP) giving, with a total of 45 – 50% of all undesignated gifts going to missions in some way, shape, or form. In addition to CP giving, the church members of Harvest Christian Fellowship are taking the Gospel to their Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth by being on mission in their local community and by sending teams to Druisk, Belarus (to a people group they have adopted for long-term outreach).

No one but God can give His DNA to His Church, His body—a living organism. Harvest Christian Fellowship exemplifies that living organism in obedience, responding to follow the Lord Jesus Christ in faithfulness (2 Corinthians 4:2). Just as God breathed life into Adam and he became a living soul, God has breathed life into Harvest Christian Fellowship.

Pictured above: Harvest Christian Fellowship on mission in southern Belarus. The place is a public school equivalent to our middle schools. Students and staff intently watch a drama presentation set to music and the lyrics of "Jesus Saves."