



An Oklahoma Baptist Youth Ministry Disciple-Making Resource



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plural noun: contents 1. the things that are held or included in something

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noun 1. a personal follower of Jesus 2. a follower or student of a teacher or leader

>>>DISCIPLEME

WELCOME!

Hello! Welcome to DiscipleMe! You made it! You have come to a place in your life where you have given your life to Christ, trusting Him for salvation and life, and are desiring to follow Him. That makes you a disciple! The goal of being a disciple is to become a committed disciple.

A committed disciple is:

a follower of Christ, committed to lead people to Jesus, grow in His truth, belong in Biblical community, and live on mission with the local church to make more disciples.

That is a worthwhile pursuit! We become more committed and deeper followers of Jesus through a process called discipleship.

Discipleship defined is:

The consistent, on-going, concentrated process through which a follower of Christ develops to make more disciples by leading people to Jesus, personally growing in the truth of God's Word and in spiritual discipline, and living in Biblical community with the church.

Basically, a disciple who disciples. We want this tool to help guide you in your pursuit to become a committed disciple.

WHAT IS DISCIPLEME?

DiscipleMe is a 12-week journey to propel you toward being a committed disciple who makes disciples.

The DiscipleMe material will help you:

- maintain spiritual discipline and devotion to the Lord.
- keep up with your spiritual work and growth.
- grow in your biblical and theological knowledge.
- use your time wisely.
- spot areas of improvement.
- connect in a mentoring relationship with a maturing believer.
- provide the opportunity to lead others to faith in Christ and help them grow in Christian maturity.
- ⁻ deal with life issues you may encounter.

The goal of DiscipleMe is not that you would just meet with a discipler (leader) and finish the content. The goal is that you would grow to the point you would *take the process modeled* to you and *repeat that with friends*. The command for a disciple is to reach others with the news of Jesus and help them grow to the point where they could do the same. Repeat and multiply. That is who we are to be as believers in Christ!

WHAT'S INVOLVED? WHAT'S REQUIRED?

Build your Group.

One leader/3-4 students

Identify who will be in your group. A DiscipleMe group consists of one discipler (leader) and 3 to 4 students.

Set your meeting time.

One semester/Once a week/One hour.

Set a consistent, weekly meeting time and place. Make it as consistent as possible for the coming weeks. *You can find a DiscipleMe Meeting Guide in Appendix A.*

Further commitments will be made for each future semester you wish to be involved. The goal is for you to complete one semester then begin serving as a discipler in future semesters, under the supervision of an adult discipler.

Meet.

- In preparation for you meeting:
- Spend daily time with the Lord.
- Read and complete your weekly study.

You may plan and chart your Bible reading using the Bible Reading Record in *Appendix C*.

- Complete your assigned weekly reading found in the weekly overview for each lesson.

- Memorize your weekly verse(s) found in the weekly overview for each session.

- Share your story with someone.

At your meeting.

- Engage in discussion about your weekly Bible study and your time with the Lord.

- Recite memory verse(s).
- Ask questions Use the provided DiscipleMe Meeting Guide in Appendix A or create your own.
- Pray together. Use the provided DiscipleMe Prayer Guide in Appendix B to help in your group prayer time.

ARE YOUR READY?

Making a commitment is the start of success. Will you commit to begin this journey toward being a disciple-maker? You do not have to be a "Super Christian." You only have to be ready to answer the call and be willing to grow. The goal is obedient pursuit of Christ. Before you even begin, take the first step toward completion.

I want my total life to be usable and pleasing to God. I am ready and willing to grow personally and spiritually. I agree to complete the assignments, meet with my disciple, and follow the Lord's leading in becoming a follower who makes more disciples.

(Signed) (date)



time /tīm/

noun

 a moment or definite portion of time allotted, used, or suitable for a purpose
 the favorable or appropriate time to do something; the right moment

SESSION 1 TIME WITH GOD

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>

	Meeting Ch	eck	list		
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.					
l have i	met with my DiscipleMe Grou	ıp.			
l have i	read the following scripture p	bassa	ages:		
	John 1:10-13		Luke 5:15-16		
	Romans 8:28-39		Matthew 26:36-44		
	1 John 1:5-10		Luke 6:12-16		
	Psalm 32				
l spent	time alone with the Lord:				
	Monday		Thursday		
	Tuesday		Friday		
	Wednesday		Saturday		
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.					
Devotion: Spending Time Alone with God "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he got up, went out, and made his way to a deserted place; and there he was praying." Mark 1:35 (CSB) Confession "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9 (CSB)					

TIME WITH GOD WHY A "QUIET TIME"?

In order to grow as a follower of Christ, it is important to have daily time with God in which you seek Him through prayer and His Word. In this session, we will look at your time with God more closely. Let's look at the "Why?" and "How?" of daily time with God (having a quiet time). Let's countdown to a great time with God...

Why is it important to have daily time with God?

3 GREAT REASONS FOR DAILY TIME WITH GOD

REASON 3: TIME WITH GOD (QUIET TIME) MAINTAINS FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD.

Relationship and fellowship are two aspects of your walk with Christ. One never changes. The other can fluctuate according to the amount of time you spend seeking after the Lord and letting Him lead you.

Read John 1:12-13. When you commit your life to Jesus Christ, you begin a new relationship with God. You become part of the family of God.

Your relationship with God is unsinkable. It's permanent. (Also see Romans 8:31-39; Ephesians 1:13-14; Philippians 1:6; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 3:14, and DiscipleMe Session 4).

Your relationship with God enables you to have fellowship with God. Fellowship can sink, but it can also be brought back to the surface of the water as good as new. In other words, fellowship has ups and downs.

While your relationship with God is constant, your fellowship with Him will vary according to your response to His leadership in your life. It can be healthy and intimate or unhealthy and distant.

Draw a boat to show the state of your fellowship currently. Is it sinking or cruising?



Sinking

Read 1 John 1:9 and Psalm 32:5. Fellowship with God is restored through c_{----} and through once again being available to God's leadership.

Fellowship is maintained as you continue to make yourself available to God. A quiet time is one of the ways you make yourself available to God, daily seeking after Him and His will in your life. Jesus, even when pressed by important responsibilities, took time to fellowship with His Father in prayer.

Read Luke 5:15-16. How did Jesus make time for the Father in a busy life?

REASON 2: TIME WITH GOD BUILDS SPIRITUAL STRENGTH.

Read Matthew 26:36-44. Jesus prayed for strength the night before h_{-} c_____. We need strength from the Lord for living life.

List some special times or situations in which you need spiritual strength:

REASON 1: QUIET TIME HELPS YOU BE MORE SENSITIVE TO GOD'S LEADERSHIP.

Read Luke 6:12-13. Jesus prayed before he c____ d_____.

List some areas in which you need God's guidance and leadership.

Jesus spent time with His heavenly Father, seeking fellowship, strength, and guidance. If God's son needed to spend time with Him, how much more do you need to spend time with Him? Having a quiet time (daily time with God), you will become more like Christ as you follow His example and as you receive His power through prayer and His Word.

CHECKLIST FOR A GREAT TIME WITH GOD

LISTEN TO GOD

Read a passage in the Bible and ask God to speak to you about an example to follow, a lesson to learn, a command to obey, an error to avoid, a sin to forsake, a promise to claim, or a new thought for you about God.

TALK TO GOD

As you talk to God make sure your conversation covers five areas:

Adoration/Praise Confession Thanksgiving Supplication, bringing requests to God on behalf of yourself (petition) and others (intercession).

You may use the Daily Time with God worksheet and Weekly Prayer guide found in Appendix L. We'll look at Prayer in Session 7.

2 ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR GETTING STARTED.

STEP 1: COMMITMENT TO OBSERVE DAILY TIME WITH GOD.

Decide that time with God will be a priority in your life. What could you, or do you need to, give up to make time with God daily?

Will you commit to make daily time with God a priority?

COMMIT

Because I want to have a special fellowship with God on a daily basis, I will agree to spend meaningful time with God.

Name:

Date:

Pray: God, I ask you to plant a deep desire in my heart to show my devotion to and love for you by making time to meet with you on a daily basis. Help me to keep the commitment I have made. I claim the Biblical promise "For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose." (Philippians 2:13, CSB)

Share with your DiscipleMe group your plan to spend daily time with God.

STEP 2: DEVELOP A PLAN FOR OBSERVING A QUIET TIME.

SET THE SPECIFICS

When will you target to meet with God? What time will you need to go to bed to make that happen? Mark those times on the clock.





Quiet Time Target

Bed Time Target

 $\langle \rangle$

Where will you meet with God?

What will you do in your time with God?

Scripture and prayer are two key components of quality time with God. For help with planning your daily time with God, use the Daily time with God Worksheet and Weekly Prayer Guide found in Appendix L.

1 THING YOU MUST DO FOR YOUR QUIET TIME TO SUCCEED

Keep on Keeping on!

If you miss lunch, do you quit eating altogether? Of course not! If you miss your quiet time one day, start again the next day. If you have trouble getting up on time, analyze the problem. Are you going to bed too late? Should you change something about your daily schedule? Is there a better schedule for your time with God?

Don't expect every time you meet with God to be an emotional high. Some will be more meaningful than others. Find prayer partners (your DiscipleMe group) to encourage you. Support one another. Discuss ways to be more consistent in your daily time with God.



NOUN 1. The Christian scriptures, consisting of the 66 books of the Old & New Testaments 2. an authoritative book

word

1. a promise or assurance 2. a message; news or a commana

SESSION 2 THE BIBLE: GOD'S WORD TO US

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Meeting Checklist					
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.					
I have met with my DiscipleMe Gr	oup.				
I have read the following scripture	e passages:				
□ Hebrews 4:12-16	□ Romans 10:9-17				
□ Psalm 1:1-6, 119:105	□ Revelation 1:1-3				
□ 1 Peter 1:22-2:3	□ James 1:22-27				
□ 2 Timothy 3:14-17	□ Isaiah 40:8				
I spent time alone with the Lord:					
🛛 Monday	Thursday				
🗆 Tuesday	🗆 Friday				
Wednesday	🗆 Saturday				
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.					
God's Word: A Light to Guide "Your Word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path." Psalm 119:05 (CSB)					
God's Word: Living and Active: "For the Word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." Hebrews 4:12 (CSB)					

THE BIBLE

We have been reading from, learning from, talking about and understanding the Bible, but let's get to know it a little better. You may know this already, but it will be a good reminder and help tighten your grip on the Truth of God's Word! Let's get started!

When digging into scripture (the Bible), it is important to know how things are arranged. What makes up the Holy Bible and how is it organized? Let's look!

NUTS & BOLTS: THE STRUCTURE OF SCRIPTURE

The Bible is a collection of **66** books ranging in type of literature (genre), written over a period of **1500** years by over **40** authors from all walks of life, in **3** different languages, on **3** continents, under the *divine inspiration of God's Holy Spirit*, and reveals the good news of Jesus, the Son of God.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16. What does this verse say about scripture?

According to the verse, how is the Bible useful?

What does it prepare us for, as followers of God?

Read John 17:17. What does this verse say about God's Word?

The Bible is authoritative and reliable. It is *true* (Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:18), *lasting* (Isaiah 40:8), useful, and *inspired* (2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 1:20-21) Word of God. The Bible is divided into **2** testaments (testament means covenant), but has **1** common, unified theme from beginning to end (Genesis to The Revelation).

WHAT'S IN THERE ANYWAYS? *Types of Literature (Genres)*

Here is a rough breakdown of the types (genres) of literature found throughout the Bible:

Narrative Law History Poetry Wisdom Prophecy

Gospel Letter Apocalyptic

See Appendix G to see how the books fit into genres in relationship to one another.

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? THE BIG PICTURE OF GOD'S WORD

What's the one, common, united theme of the Bible? What's it all about? What is THE big picture of the Bible?

REDEMPTION

The Bible is the story of God's redemptive plan for humanity and what He is doing in the world, establishing His Kingdom of His own people to accomplish His will.

META-NARRATIVE

The Bible is a larger story of God's redemptive work in the world.

The "meta-narrative" (Whew! That's a fancy word! It means overarching or larger story) that drives all the way from Genesis to The Revelation can be simply outlined as follows:

Creation Fall Redemption Completion

3 stages could be added to this simple narrative outline of the Bible:

The provision of God for His people could be added after The Fall, as we see God providing for His people before instituting the New Covenant through Redemption in Jesus.

Incarnation could be added just before in recognition of Jesus' birth.

After redemption comes through Jesus, God then instructs the church to live out their faith in Christ and commissions the church to carry out His mission on earth. This would expand the outline as follows:

Creation Fall **Provision**

Incarnation Redemption Instruction/Commission Completion

These episodes within the larger story roughly correspond to the Old and New testaments like this:

Old Testament: Creation Fall Provision

New Testament: Incarnation Redemption/Commission Completion

What an amazing story of love and provision as God deals with His people throughout history! By understanding the overview of God's message through the Bible, we can understand where all the parts fit into the larger story of the Bible and what God is communicating to us, as His people, throughout scripture.

"The narrative gives us the biggest of the biggest picture." Dr. Al Mohler

How does knowing about the larger story of scripture help you understand and live according to God's Word?

LAND, HO! NAVIGATING THE SCRIPTURES

Scripture itself, within each book, is broken into chapters and verses. These were added throughout history to assist with accurate manual transmission of the text as well as more effective referencing. How do we make sense of those references? Here is how a simple chapter and verse reference will appear:

BOOK CHAPTER #: VERSE # Example: Colossians 1:15

If multiple verses are listed...

BOOK CHAPTER#: VERSE#-VERSE# or BOOK CHAPTER#:VERSE#-VERSE#, VERSE# Example Colossians 1:15-16, 23

If multiple chapters (& verses) in same book or references from other books listed together...

BOOK CHAPTER#: VERSE #, CHAPTER#: VERSE#-VERSE# Example: Colossians 1:16, 2:4-7

BOOK CHAPTER#-CHAPTER#, CHAPTER#:VERSE#-CHAPTER#:VERSE#, VERSE# Ephesians 1-2, 4:1-5:3,6

YOU GET THE IDEA!

It may seems a bit confusing at first, but as you dig into scripture, you will become more familiar and more comfortable in your ability to navigate the Word of God, the Bible.

WHAT GOOD IS IT?

The Bible testifies as to the benefits of God's Word to those who live according to it. Let's look at some of those benefits.

Read the following verses. What is the picture of God's Word given in the verses? What benefit do you see coming with each?

Verses		Picture of God's Word	Benefit?
Psalm 119:105	-		
1 Peter 2:2	-		
Hebrews 4:12	-		
Jeremiah 23:29	-		
Matthew 4:4	-		
1 Peter 1:23	-		

What is a benefit you had received from God's Word?

How has it influenced you?

James 1:22-25



noun 1. a person who sees an event take place 2. evidence; proof

Verb 1. See (an event, typically a crime or accident) take place 2. have knowledge of (an event or change) from personal observation or experience

SESSION 3 WITNESS

	Meeting Ch	neck	list		
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.					
l have i	I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.				
I have read the following scripture passages:					
	Acts 1:8		Acts 10:42-43		
	Acts 2:29-33		Acts 13:47		
	Acts 4:33		Acts 20:24		
	Matthew 28:18-20				
I spent time alone with the Lord:					
	Monday		Thursday		
	Tuesday		Friday		
	Wednesday		Saturday		
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.					
Being a Witness: Telling Others My Story Acts 1:8 (CSB) "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and					

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>

Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

WITNESS

A *witness* is one who *sees an event happen and testifies or reports* that it occurred. So, what's next for you as a follower of Christ? It's *time to tell* someone! You can be a witness to what God has done in your life through your belief in Jesus! This is something you can do immediately!

Read Acts 1:8. What does Jesus say will happen when the Holy Spirit fills His followers?

Where does Jesus say we will be witnesses?

It means everywhere! There is not a limit to the places and opportunities to you being a witness and telling others what God has done in your life. Your role, as a witness, is immediate and certain as the Holy Spirit drives us to tell!

Over and over in the New Testament (as you can see in your readings for the week), God's people are being witnesses and giving testimony to the great gift God has given us in Jesus.

IT'S IN THE BIBLE

When the disciples are choosing a replacement disciple for Judas, we see the basic role of a disciple.

Read Acts 1:21-22. They wanted the new disciple to join them in...?

Read Acts 2:32. We also see an active witness as Peter preaches.

 \God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it."

When did you receive salvation? When did you place your trust in Christ? When did you witness the life-changing power of Jesus? Write about it below.

Time? Place? Who helped me?

EVANGE-WHAT?

Another word for being a witness or giving testimony is *evangelism*. It is the practice of sharing the Gospel (good news) about Jesus. This is

an important discipline in the life of a believer, telling those who need to hear about Jesus the "good news" of what God has done for us. So, what do you tell?

GOD'S STORY

God's story is the good news of Jesus and what He has done for us through His death, burial, and resurrection. We will discuss evangelism and the Gospel more in depth in future lessons.

YOUR STORY

Your story is a testimony of what Jesus has done in your life.

Here's a good way to start being able to tell your story. Be able to tell someone briefly about:

- what your life was like before trusting Christ,
- what cased you to/how did you place your faith in Christ,
- how your life as been since trusting Christ.

See Appendix D for the MY STORY worksheet.

GOALS

Set a goal of being able to tell your story in under 2 minutes. Share your testimony with the others in your DiscipleMe group. Write it down and get busy sharing!

Who can you tell this week about your decision to follow Christ and what he has done for you? List two or three friends or family members who don't believe in Jesus below:

PRAY

Pray for them. Pray that they might come to faith in Christ. Pray for an opportunity to share Christ with them. Share your story with them.

You have been changed by Christ! You have been rescued from sin and death!

Don't wast time! Tell someone your story today. Show them how they might have hope in and through the Gospel!

sal·va·tion /sal'vāSH(ə)n/

noun

 preservation or deliverance from harm, ruin or loss
 deliverance from sin and its consequences brought about by faith in Christ.

SESSION 4

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>

Meeting Checklist				
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.				
I have read the following scripture passages:				
		Romans 5:8		Romans 3:23
		Ephesians 2:8-10		Romans 6:23
		Romans 1:16		
		Acts 4:12		1 John 1:9
l sp	ent	time alone with the Lord:		
		Monday		Thursday
		Tuesday		Friday
		Wednesday		Saturday
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.				
Salvation: Eternal Life in Jesus Christ "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23 (CSB)				
Salvation: Confess and Believe "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him form the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation." Romans 10:9-10 (CSB) Salvation: Not of Works				
"For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not				

from yourselves; it is God's gift—not from works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 (CSB)

I have shared my story with someone this week.

SALVATION

It is important for you to understand this relationship you have with Jesus. So, what does it mean to be saved?

WHAT IS SALVATION?

Salvation means being rescued from sin that separates you from God.

Let's dive in a little further... Read Romans 3:23. What does it show us about our condition?

Scripture tells us we are born into sin. We have missed God's mark. We have fallen short of His Glory because of our sin.

Read Genesis 3. When did sin enter the world?

WHY DO I NEED TO BE SAVED?

Read Romans 6:23. What does our sin earn us?

Holy God cannot allow sin into His presence. Sin earns death. Because of your sin, you are separated from God forever. According to Romans 6:23, is there hope for you? How do we fix our sin?

HOW AM I SAVED?

Salvation, and eternal life, is made *available* to mankind *through the redemptive work of Christ through His death on the cross and His resurrection.*

re·demp·tion (rəˈdem(p)SH(ə)n/) noun 1 the action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil.

There is hope, but we cannot fix our sin. We need a way to be made right in relationship with God. Read Ephesians 1:7. What does the verse tell us about how we are saved?

We are saved because Jesus became the sacrifice.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR ME?

Read Ephesians 2:8-9. What is our part in salvation?

According to these verses, can we work for or earn our salvation?

Read Romans 10:9-10. What do the verses say about our salvation?

Read Romans 10:13. What comes to those who call Jesus' name?

WHAT NEXT?

It is important to remember we are not just rescued from sin, and eternity apart from God, we are also saved to something.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. What does the verse say about those who have life in Christ?

GET THE PICTURE.

Saved from sin and self. We are rescued from our old life (nature).

Saved to a new life and nature. We no longer are controlled by sin. We can live the life God has created us for and called us to! Because of God's Holy Spirit in us, we are free to walk in righteousness and obedience.

Saved through and through. When we are saved, we are now able to Glorify God in and through our lives and accomplish His purpose here on earth.

Abundant and eternal life. Not just life that waits us in eternity. Which certainly awaits! But, life in Christ is meant to help us live an abundant life here on earth! When we walk in life in Christ, we have abundant, fulfilled life in all circumstances.

Read John 10:10. In your own words, summarize what this verse says.

In coming lessons, we will discuss how honoring God in total life worship plays out in your life on a daily basis.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Have you come to a place when you trusted Christ for forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life? When, where, and how did that happen? Write it below and then talk about it in your DiscipleMe group meeting.

If you have not trusted Christ for salvation, talk to your DiscipleMe Group leader about how you can trust Jesus and receive forgiveness from sin and life in Christ. Today can be your day of salvation!

Want more evangelism tools? Visit skopos.org/goodnews for a guide to know how to bridge conversations to the Gospel. Also, see skopos.org/goodnewstrain for video training on how to have a GOOD NEWS conversation!



noun 1. immersion in water, symbolizing purification or regeneration and membership into the church

SESSION 5

Meeting Checklist				
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.				
I have read the following scripture passages:				
	Matthew 28:18-20		Colossians 2:12	
	Romans 6:1-4		Ephesians 4:16	
	Romans 6:5-14			
I spent time alone with the Lord:				
	Monday		Thursday	
	Tuesday		Friday	
	Wednesday		Saturday	
Lhave			(a) f an the a sup als	

I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.

Baptism: Obedient Response

"What should we say then? Should we continue in sin so that grace may multiply? Absolutely not! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Or are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life." Romans 6:1-4 (CSB)

I have shared my story with someone this week.

BAPTISM

WHAT IS BELIEVER'S BAPTISM Baptism is obedience for the believer in Jesus.

Baptism is an important *step of obedience* in your life *as a believer*. In fact, it is the first step of obedience. Look at Jesus' commission to the disciples, and to the church (us).

Read Matthew 28:18-20 (CSB). What does Jesus include as a part of making disciples?

-

Jesus included baptism as a part of making disciples. This is not only a command to baptize those reached with the Gospel, but for us, as disciples, to be baptized. Our first obedience, upon coming to faith in Jesus, when we believe and repent, is to be baptized. We see it again in the book of Acts.

Read Acts 2:38. What does Peter tell those who are impacted by his message and wanting to know how to respond to the Holy Spirit?

If we have repented, and come to Christ, we are to be baptized. We will explore the challenge to make disciples in Session 12.

BAPTISM IS A SYMBOL.

Knowing we are to be baptized as believers in Jesus, what does it mean?

You are baptized to show that you belong to God through Jesus. Baptism is a symbolic physical act. By being immersed in water, you are publicly expressing your faith in Christ. It is a visible way to show others the decision you have made to trust Jesus for salvation and trust Him to be Lord of your life. It is an outward picture of an internal change.

Read Romans 6:3-5. What does this passage say about baptism?

What does this mean, in your own words?

Baptism is a demonstration on the outside of what happened to you spiritually on the inside when your sins were washed away and you chose to follow Jesus for the rest of your life.

BAPTISM IS NOT A MEANINGLESS SYMBOL.

When a follower of Jesus is baptized, they are making a statement, through this very important symbol. By being baptized you are stating to the world you have been changed by Jesus.

BIBLICAL BAPTISM IS BY IMMERSION.

"We are buried with Christ in baptism and raised to walk in newness of life."

You may have heard your pastor say this when baptizing someone. This statement shows us the importance of the symbol of baptism.

We are **submerged** under water as a picture of being born again, the old me dying the new me coming to life in Christ. The old life is in the grave, dead, in the tomb, no longer with any power over me.

When we come out of the water, it is a statement of how my life has been resurrected in Jesus Christ, a picture that I now have the power to live a changed life because of what Jesus Christ has done.

Baptism is a statement of your faith to the world that you are now connected to Jesus Christ.

BAPTISM IS CONNECTION.

When you are baptized, it not only indicates you have been connected in relationship with Jesus, you also become a member of the church, connecting with the body of Christ. Every member of your church should already have been baptized as a believe in Jesus. We will further discuss the church and church membership in Session 12.

What questions do you have about baptism?

Have you been baptized following your decision to follow Christ? Y/N When was that?

If not, would you like to? Y/N

Talk with your DiscipleMe group leader to schedule a date and time to be baptized! They can't wait for help you make your decision public and show the world what Jesus has done in you!



to·tal /ˈtōdl/

adjective 1. comprising the whole number or amount 2. complete; absolute

> wor · ship /ˈwərSHəp/

noun 1. the expression of reverence and adoration for God 2. adoration or devotion shown toward God

> *verb* 1. show reverence and adoration for God

SESSION 6 TOTAL LIFE WORSHIP

Meetir	ng Checklist			
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
I have met with my DiscipleM	e Group.			
I have read the following scrip	oture passages:			
□ Romans 12:1-2	□ Ephesians 4:11-16			
Colossians 2:6-7	□ Philippians 2:1-11			
□ Mark 12:28-34	□ Luke 2:52; Colossians 3:1-2			
□ Galatians 5:16-23				
I spent time alone with the Lo	rd:			
Monday	Thursday			
Tuesday	🗆 Friday			
Wednesday	Saturday			
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.				
A Living Sacrifice: Total Life worship "Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2 (CSB) I have shared my story with someone this week.				
,,				

Salvation is not based on our work. God has done the work. We receive salvation as a gift of His work through Jesus. Jesus' blood cleanses us from our sin.

Read 1 John 1:9. How do we receive forgiveness from our sin?

You are saved when you admit the guilt of your sin, confess it, and believe in Jesus as the way to salvation and eternal life. Here's another way to think about it...

Read Romans 5:8

What does the verse tell you about God?

What does it say about us?

What does it say about following God?

God loved us, even in our sin. So, He gave us a gift. He gave us hope. He offered us grace, giving us what we didn't deserve. When we had no way to fix our greatest problem, our sin, God provided a way in Jesus. By **believing** in Jesus, **confessing** him as Lord, placing our **faith in Him**, we turn away from (repent of) our sin and trust Him for life. That life is both now and forever. We are saved by **trusting Christ** to save us from our sin. We are able to walk in new life and victory over death because of our salvation in Jesus! God has given us His love. We must trust and repent. We have a decision to make. This is the good news, or Gospel, of Jesus.

LET'S REVIEW...

Salvation is by the GRACE of GOD Salvation is found only in and through JESUS Salvation is received through FAITH as we BELIEVE and CONFESS Salvation leads to ETERNAL LIFE and NEW LIFE

SECURE

Salvation in Jesus is salvation forever.

Read Hebrews 10:1-18. These verses give us a picture of what Jesus did for us becoming the "once for all" sacrifice for our sins. Again in Hebrews 9:19-28, we read about the need for the blood sacrifice so our sins can be cleansed and Jesus becoming that one time sacrifice.

Our salvation is not something that is needed over and over, that we can lose and need again. Jesus has taken care of it. We trust and receive, forever.

Read John 10:27-30. What does this tell us about our *security of the true believer* in Jesus?

Once you trust Christ for life, He has and holds you. He won't let go.

TOTAL LIFE WORSHIP: ALL MEANS ALL

God wants to use all of you! As Christians, we sometimes try to give God only the spiritual portion of our lives. We try to hold on to the rest. The Christian life doesn't work that way! You cannot separate the spiritual from the rest of your life. It takes ALL to follow Jesus. All of of you!

TOTAL LIFE

Read Mark 12:30-31. What are the 5 areas of Jesus' life mentioned in these verses? (Fill in the missing letters). What dimension of "Total Life Worship" listed on the right do they match up with? (See answers at the bottom of the page)

Η	_ A. Physical
S	_ B. Mental
М	_ C. Emotional
S	_ D. Spiritual
N	_ E. Social

In the spiritual life, it is often easy to become lazy or hold parts of ourlives back from the Lord. Why do you think that is?

TOTAL LIFE LOOK

1

How would you rate yourself in each of the 5 areas of total life worship? Place each area on the line below (10 highest). Use the following letters to indicate each area: Heart (H) Soul (S), Mind (M), Strength (ST), Neighbor (N)

10

STAYING HEALTHY

We often neglect doing the right things we need to do. In order to say healthy we are the things we need to do?

TIME & ATTENTION

Think about it. Could you stay healthy only eating one meal a week? Not at all! The same is true of feeding ourselves spiritually. It takes time and attention, and constant feeding to give our total life of worship to the Lord. So, how do we begin? We looked at spending time with the Lord in Session 1.

LIVING SACRIFICE

Read Romans 12:1-2. What does God say to us about giving Him our whole life? From verse 1, what is a living sacrifice?

We are to present ourselves in a way that is acceptable to God, over and over. We keep coming back to the Lord in surrender and submission, giving our lives to Him.

Fill in the blanks from verse 2

Do not to be ______to the pattern of the world,

but be _____

What are some areas of your life in which you might need to be transformed?

How does that happen? Being transformed, according to verse 2?

RENEWING OUR MINDS

How do we renew our minds? List some ways below:

Take time to talk about this together in your DiscipleMe group.

THINK ON THESE THINGS

In Colossians 3:2, we see that we are to set our minds on things above and not on earthly things. With our minds set on the proper things, we are better able to set our lives on things God would have us live and do here on earth.

Read Philippians 4:8. What are the things we are to think on that match the character and nature of God?

Why is it important to renew our minds if we are going to see transformation in our lives? Write your answer below and talk about it in your group.

The Bible gives us good direction about what to set our minds on. How might you take steps in order to set your minds on and think on godly things?



noun 1. direct conversation with God

SESSION 7

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222

Meeting Checklist				
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
l have	met with my DiscipleMe Grou	ıp.		
I have read the following scripture passages:				
	Hebrews 4:14-16		Matthew 7:7-11	
	Hebrews 11:1-6		James 1:5-8	
	John 15:5-8		Psalm 139:23-24	
	1 John 5:14-15			
l spen	t time alone with the Lord:			
	Monday		Thursday	
	Tuesday		Friday	
	Wednesday		Saturday	
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.				
Prayer: Approaching God with Confidence "Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need." Hebrews 4:16 (CSB)				
I have shared my story with someone this week.				

PRAYER

Prayer is having a conversation with God. What a privilege it is to talk to the Creator! The creator of the universe invites us into a personal conversation with Him everyday! Wow! Even though it is a privilege, it can be a little much to think about.

"GOD IF YOU'RE OUT THERE..."

This is an approach many take with prayer. This should not be the case for believers in Jesus. Prayer is not just hoping God will listen an speak to you, but it is trusting He is real and available.

Read Hebrew 4:16. What attitude does the verse say we can have in approaching God because of Jesus?

In Christ, we can have confidence, or boldness, to approach God. We know He listens, and we can bring even our most vulnerable moments to Him.

Read 1 Peter 5:7. Write in your own words what the verse says about how God sees our cares (needs).

PRAYER GOES BOTH WAYS

Prayer is not just asking. It is also listening. That is how good communication works! (We discussed this in Session1) God wants us to bring our requests to Him (Philippians 4:6-7), but He, more importantly, wants to speak into our lives and guide us in His truth.

AVOID A BAD CONNECTION

What interferes with our prayers? Check the following to have open lines of communication with the Father.

Your Relationships Read the following verses . To pray effectively, you must:

John 15:7-8

Matthew 5:23-24

Your Attitudes Read the following verses. What attitudes are required for prayer?

 Matthew 21:21-22
 Matthew 6:9
 Mark 10:15

 Luke 18:1-8
 Luke 18:9-14

)

)

PRAY IN CONFIDENCE

John 14:14. Write what the verse means to you.

This means to be so attached to Him that His thoughts are yours, His desires are yours, His Life yours, and His nature yours.

PRAY FOR GUIDANCE

Sometimes you may not know what the Lord's will is for you in some areas. Here are some things you can pray in those moments:

"Lord, give me wisdom as I make this decision." (James 1:5-8) "Lord, give me strength as I share my faith with a friend today." (Acts 1:8) "Lord, help me to say "no" when given an opportunity to make sinful choices." (1 Corinthians 10:13)

God is eager to answer prayers like these.

KNOW GOD MAY SAY "NO."

Read Matthew 7:9-11. What do these verses say about God answering prayer?

God will answer your prayers, but trust Him to do so in a way that is best for you. This may mean Him saying "no" to your request.

WHAT DO I PRAY?

When you talk to God, here is a good way to organize your prayer. We will use the acrostic (A.C.T.S.) mentioned in Session 1. Look up the verses and fill in the blanks with reasons to praise.

A Adoration/praise (Psalm 63:4)

Adoring God for who He is. Adoration is related to thanksgiving, but different. What do you see in these verses as basis for adoration?

God the Father (Genesis 1:1 C_____; Psalm 23:1/S_____) God the Son (John 14:6/ ; Isa 53:5-6/ God the Holy Spirit (John 16:13/ ; Gal 5:22-23/

C Confession (1 John 1:9)

Acknowledging sin and praying for forgiveness

- Confess each sin individually to the Lord.
- Agree with God that the sin is wrong.
- Express your desire to avoid these sins in the future.
- By faith, claim His forgiveness.
- Right the wrong to whatever extent you can.
- By faith accept that you are totally cleansed.

T Thanksgiving (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Expressing thanksgiving to God for specific things God has done, cultivating a general attitude of gratefulness whatever the circumstance

S Supplication (Philippians 4:6)

Bringing request to God on behalf of yourself (petition) and others (intercession)

Petition: Praying for your needs

Pray for spiritual growth, pray for your materials needs, share with God the desires of your heart and trust Him to respond in the best way possible, making your desires match His. (Psalm 37:4)

Intercession: Praying for the needs of others Think of the people around you everyday. Think of the needs of those around the world you don't know.

Pray for God's provision & guidance in their lives Pray for their physical needs. Pray for their salvation. Pray for their spiritual growth and health.

Use the Daily Time with God worksheet and Weekly Prayer guide found in Appendix L to help your daily prayer time.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE EFFECTIVE

Read James 5:16. What does the verse say leads to effective prayers?

Read Ephesians 6:10-20. In your words, what do these verses say?

Prayer is not only a means through which God communicates with us, but it is also a weapon. Because of our redemption in Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, we have prayer and the Word of God as a means of attack. Prayer aids us in spiritual warfare.

We looked at the Bible in Session 2, and will again in Session 8. Spiritual warfare is the focus of Session 9.





adjective

1. fixed, fastened, or closed firmly; hard to move, undo or open 2. (of a grip) very firm so as not to let go



verb 1. take and keep a firm hold of; grasp tightly 2. maintain a firm contact

> *noun* 1. a firm hold; a tight grasp or clasp

SESSION 8 A TIGHT GRIP ON GOD'S WORD



Meeting Checklist				
	I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.			
l have r	met with my DiscipleMe Gro	up.		
l have r	read the following scripture	pass	ages:	
	1 Corinthians 15:2		Psalm 1:1-2	
	2 Thessalonians 2:15		Psalm 119:11	
	Isaiah 50:10-11		Colossians 3:17	
	James 1:19-25			
l spent	I spent time alone with the Lord:			
	Monday		Thursday	
	Tuesday		Friday	
	Wednesday		Saturday	
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.				
God's Word: A Shield for Sin "I have treasured (hidden) your Word in my heart so that I may not sin against You." Psalm 119:11 (CSB)				
God's Word: A Guard for Purity " How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Your Word." Psalm 119:9 (CSB)				
I have shared my story with someone this week.				

We have talked about specific details about God's Word and looked at the benefit of God's Word, but *what are we to do with God's Word*?

HEAR IT

Read Romans 10:17. How important is hearing the Word of God?

Hearing the Word of God is important, but we must go deeper if we are to have a firm grasp on the Truth.

READ IT

Why is it important to read scripture as well as to hear it?

Reading the Bible is only the beginning. In order for us to progress further in our grasp on the Truth, we must read scripture.

Read 2 Timothy 4:13. What is the command Paul gives to Timothy?

See Appendix C to chart your Bible reading.

STUDY IT

In addition to the previous look into the benefits of scripture, let's look at some other reasons why it is important for God's people (that's you!) to study the Bible.

Read the following verses. Match the reference to the description of why the Bible is important to study.

- _ 1 Timothy 4:13
- _ Psalm 1:2
- _ Acts 17:11
- _ Revelation 1:3
- _ Romans 10:17
- _ Psalm 119:11
- _ John 15:7
- _ 2 Timothy 2:15
- _ Revelation 2:7
- _ James 1:22

- A. Meditate Day and Night
- B. Read and explain in the Church
- C. Hide the Word in your heart
- D. Faith comes by hearing
- E. Received the Word with eagerness
- F. Blessed by reading, hearing, & doing
- G. Hear God speak
- H. Leads to action/obedience
- I. Live an approved life before God
- J. Answered prayer through obedient life

Answers: B,A,E,F,D,C,J,I,G,H

Finish this statement: Personally, I study the Bible because

MEMORIZE IT

Read Psalm 119:11. How does the verse describe scripture memory?

What do you read in the verse about the benefit of hiding God's Word in your heart (memorizing it)?

Memorizing scripture can guard you against sin. Here are some of the other benefits of scripture memory.

> Knowledge Wisdom Encouragement

Guidance Protection Correction

See Appendix J for an example of Scripture memory card and key memory verses.

THINK (MEDITATE) ON IT

Meditating on scripture means mulling it over, to think deeply about it. What we find God saying to us in His Word will guide us in how we seek Him in prayer. Let's take a closer look at meditation on the Word of God.

Read Psalm 1:2 & 119:15, 27. What do these verses say about thinking on scripture?

What are the benefits of thinking (meditating) on scripture?

How do you express your delight in the Lord by thinking on His Word?

OBEY IT (DO IT!)

The end goal of scripture in our lives is that we would walk in obedience to it. We must apply the Word of God to our lives if we are going to see its full effect.

Read James 1:22. What is the goal of hearing God's Word?

What is the consequence if we only hear?

Read Joshua 1:8. Of what does the follower of God need to be careful?

This verse is a great reminder for us about meditating on scripture, but don't miss the point that, in order, for the mediation to find it's full intention in us, we must act according to what we find in scripture. We must obey God's Word.

Read 2 Timothy 3:14.

How does the verse describe obeying the World of God?

Read 2 Timothy 2:1-2. What does Paul tell Timothy to do?

We are to hold firmly to the Truth of God and teach others to do the same. We will look at making disciples more in Session 12.

JESUS SAID IT!

We see this in Jesus' commission to His followers when He says to "make disciples" by "teaching them to observe (obey, do) everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19)

Read John 8:21-32. What does Jesus say about obeying His commands?

Read Job 23:12. How might you treasure God's commandments in order that you might not depart from them?

If you delight in something, you find a way to get involved with it. You can't get enough of it. This is how we need to be with the Word of God.

GETTING A GRIP!

The 6 ways to engage God's Word we just discussed help us get a firm grip or grasp on the Truth of the Gospel. Much like the hand, the, strength in our grasp on scripture comes when we use all of it. Fill in the aspects of grasping God's Word on the appropriate part of the hand.



The strength of our hand comes not from our pinky, but from all of muscles in the hand working together. We must not only hear or read scripture. We must study, memorize, and meditate on God's word to get it into every part of our lives until it becomes a part of who we are and what we do, until we act on it.

Of the six areas, what do you find easiest? Which is strongest for you?

Which do you need to work on most?

How could you focus attention there?

Who could you get to help you?



noun I . the coverings worn by soldiers or warriors to protect the body in battle

1. provide (someone) with emotional social, or other defenses.

SESSION 9 BATTLE READY: ARMOR OF GOD

Meeting Checklist				
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.				
I have read the following scripture passages:				
	Ephesians 6:10-18		Romans 8:31-39;	
	James 4:7-8; John 16:33		2 Corinthians 4:7-18	
	2 Corinthians 10:4-5		1 Corinthians 10:12-14	
	Colossians 1:9-14		1 Peter 5:6-11; 1 Corinthians 16:13	
I spent time alone with the Lord:				
	Monday		Thursday	
	Tuesday		Friday	
	Wednesday		Saturday	
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.				

Putting on the Armor of God: Equipping for Spiritual Warfare "Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength. Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens. For this reason take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, to take your stand." Ephesians 6:10-13 (CSB)

More than conquerors

"Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Can affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger of sword? As it is written: because of you we are being put to death all day long; we are counted as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor power, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:35-39 (CSB)

I have shared my story with someone this week.

PREPARED FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE

The Bible discusses preparations for spiritual warfare through the imagery of a soldier fully equipped for battle. In this metaphor, each part of the armor, and the soldier's weapons, correlate to the resources God has made available to us through His Holy Spirit. God enables us to walk through life, enduring the spiritual battle that wages against us. God, through the Holy Spirit in us, gives us the guards, or full resources, we need to endure the attacks our enemy, Satan, throws at us. Why is it important to put on the armor of God to be ready for battle?

Read Ephesians 6:10. Where does power and strength to face the spiritual warfare come from?

Read Ephesians 6:11. What are we commanded to do in order to win the battle?

Read Ephesians 6:10-12. Who is attacking? What means does Satan use to attack us?

Read John 10:9-10. What is Satan's plan for you?

Read 1 Peter 5:8. What does this verse call Satan? What does he want to do to you?

Spiritual warfare is real and will happen. The enemy, Satan, is waiting for an opportunity to harm you, to kill you even. We are are commanded to outfit ourselves with the armor of God in order to stand in opposition to the devil's schemes. Christ is more capable than the enemy! Read 1 John 4:4. What does it say about Jesus' power? How does it make you feel as His follower?

Read John 16:33. What does Jesus bring us?

In the face of suffering what is Jesus' encouragement to us?

Read John 10:10. What is Jesus plan for us as His children?

GEAR UP

How do you prepare yourself for spiritual warfare? Read Ephesians 6:10-20. Match each part of the armor of God with its function.

Belt	Salvation
Breastplate	Faith
Shoes	Righteousness
Shield	Word of God
Helmet	Readiness for the Gospel
Sword	Truth

A CLOSER LOOK ...

The word "armor" comes from the two combined words "all" and "weapons". These verses discuss the armor of God, so, what are all the weapons God places at our disposal in fighting the spiritual battle we face?

"Belt of Truth" v. 14

The belt of truth holds the rest of the armor in place. Without tying up our lives with truth, we will not be able to fight effectively. When we are grounded in Truth we are able to stand firm. Read Psalm 86:11. How can we learn (know) and walk in God's Truth?

"Breastplate of righteousness" v. 14

Righteousness protects the vital parts of our life spiritually and practically. We walk in righteousness because we have righteousness in Jesus. Read Proverbs 4:23. Why is it important to guard your heat, and therefore your life? How does righteousness do that? "Sandaled with readiness for the Gospel of peace" v.15

Responding to the Gospel brings us peace with God. Peace with God readies us to remain steady, remove fear, face the enemy's attacks, evade the enemy, and navigate the battlefield we face in life. How can you be ready for the "Gospel of Peace?"

"Shield of Faith" v. 16

Shields protect from attack. How does our faith shield us form the attacks of Satan?

"Helmet of salvation" v.17

Helmets protect heads and minds. Why is it important our helmet is Salvation? How does it protect us?

"Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God" v. 17

God's Word is a weapon we use to fight the enemy's advance. Read Psalm 119:9. How can a young man keep his way pure?

Read Psalm 119:11. How does scripture help us fight the spiritual battle we face?

This passage gives us a great picture of being fitted, head to toe, with the Gospel in order to face spiritual battles. Which are there more of, defensive or offensive weapons? Why do you think that is?

Look at verse 18. What is the other offensive weapon that steadies us, keeps us grounded, in the Spirit as we fight the good fight of faith?

How are we to pray?

In Ephesians 6:18-20, what does Paul say to pray?

In verse 20, what does the phrase "ambassador in chains" mean to you?

Do you find it easy or difficult to speak up about Jesus?

Why or why not?

How can we pray for one another as we face certain spiritual warfare?

The resources we need to fight the spiritual battle we face are provided by God, be we must put on the armor in order to stand against the forces that wage war against us and the enemy who guides the forces.

In thinking about spiritual warfare, the goal is not to be side-tracked and worried by the battle we face spiritually. The goal is to stand firm. The armor of God helps us walk in the confidence and victory we have in Jesus in the face of warfare. In our faithful living, through the storm, we can encourage others in their fight as well.

By fighting the battle well, we can live the kind of life the apostle Paul writes about in 2 Timothy 4:7. Read the verse.

Based on the example of what Paul says about His life, what would you want said of you, or what would you want to write about the way you lived out your faith, when your life is nearing its end?

What are some things you can do in order to get there?



lord /lôrd/

noun 1. someone having power, authority, or influence; a master or ruler

lord · ship /lôrd , SHip/

noun 1. supreme power or rule

stew • ard /'st(y)o oərd,SHip/

noun 1. one who supervising or takes care of something

verb 1. manage, look after, take care of (another's) property

SESSION 10 GUARDING THE TRUST: LORDSHIP & STEWARDSHIP

Meeting Checklist				
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.				
I have read the following scripture passages:				
		Matthew 25:29 (14-30)		1 Timothy 1:3-5
		2 Corinthians 9:6-7		Psalm 24:1; Luke 9:23
		Proverbs 3:9		Luke 16:10;
		Colossians 3:23-24		1 Corinthians 4:1
I spent time alone with the Lord:				
		Monday		Thursday
		Tuesday		Friday
		Wednesday		Saturday
			,	

I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.

Stewardship: Serving the Lord in Everything

"Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ." Colossians 3:23-24 (CSB)

Stewardship: Faithful in the Small, Entrusted with Much "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy." Matthew 25:21 (CSB)

Lordship: Denying self, following Christ

"Then he said to them all, 'If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me." Luke 9:23 (CSB) Lordship: Delight and Faithfulness

"Trust in the Lord and do what is good; dwell in the land and live securely. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act, making your righteousness sine like the dawn, your justice like the noonday." Psalm 37:3-6 (CSB)

I have shared my story with someone this week.

LORDSHIP

Guarding the trust starts with lordship of Jesus Christ in our lives. So, what does that mean? When you came to faith in Christ, you confessed Jesus as Lord! This is huge for us to understand if we are going to live the life God has called us to in Christ. Read Colossians 2:6. What does this verse encourage the follower of Christ to do upon coming to faith in Him?

The word "*received*" in this verse means to lay hold of something as if it is your own. When we receive "Christ Jesus as Lord", trust Him for salvation, we acknowledge He has laid hold of us. He has made us His own.

The word "Lord" means that He is the one who has rights over us. We have given up the right to our own will and way and surrendered to Jesus as Lord. What does or could surrendering to Jesus as Lord look like in your own life?

The verse also says, since Jesus is our Lord, we are to "*continue to live in Him.*" The word "live" or "walk" in scripture indicates our daily conduct or behavior. This is the stuff of our everyday. So, since Jesus is our Lord, if we have surrendered our lives to Him, our lives will be lived in a way that honors His.

According to Colossians 2:7, what helps us continue in surrender to Jesus as Lord?

Read Ephesians 4:1. What does this verse say about the Lordship of Jesus in our lives?

A prisoner has no right to themselves. If we are prisoners of the Lord, He has the say over our lives. What area(s) of your life have you possibly been holding back from Jesus' control?

Read Luke 9:23. What does this verse say is required to become a disciple of Jesus?

When you "*deny yourself*", you give up personal control of your life. This life of following means you give up your life even if it costs you your life. When you surrendered your life to Christ, you surrendered to a life of Lordship!

Read 1 Peter 3:15. Where does Lordship start?

Read Psalm 37:4-5. What fuels a life of Lordship?

When we delight in the Lord, our desire is confirmed, molded to His. A deep love for the Lord drives our life of worship, living a life of trust in Him If we have surrounded to the Lordship of Jesus, our lives will be used in a way that honors Him and gives back what he has so freely given. This is the life of stewardship.

STEWARDSHIP

What is stewardship? A steward is one who takes care of something they have been given to watch over. Therefore, stewardship is the act of taking care of or managing something. In a Christian context, it is taking care, or being a good manager, of what God has given His children. Will we be good or lazy stewards.

Read 1 Corinthians 4:2. What does the Bible say about managers of God's resources?

What has God entrusted to us? Read Matthew 25:14-30. What was the master's response to the servants who used what God had given them?

What was the master's response to the one who hid what he had been given, who wasn't a good manager with what he had been entrusted?

In this parable, we learn that God has entrusted us with something of value to Him. He has given us something to manage, to take care of. With His trust comes responsibility to return on, use, what He has invested, what He has left us in charge of.

RESPONSIBLE?

What is our responsibility as good stewards? What do we have to give? Read the following verses and fill in the areas of stewardship listed in these verses.

T_ _ _/ Op _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Proverbs 6:6-11; Ephesians 5:15-17)

Av _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (Isaiah 6:8)

T _ _ _ _ (Colossians 3:17) G _ _ _ (1 Timothy 4:14)

Timothy had a special gift. God has gifted you, too. Use the gift God's given you, through His Holy Spirit when you came to faith in Jesus, to use in ministry.

Resources/ M _ _ _ (tithes & offerings, Malachi 3:8-12)

So, why give? Read the following verses. Draw a line to the matching principle you find in the verses.

2 Corinthians 12:15	Celebrate/ Honor/ Worship
2 Corinthians 9:1-7	Cooperation/Church
Proverbs 3:9; 1 Cor 16:1-2	Compassion/Concern
Matt 22:21; Deut 26:10	Commanded

Giving is inherent to the life of a follower of God. Giving is from a heart of worship and gratitude. Giving identifies the source of the resources we have been given and gives back out of God's provision. Giving places God fist, acknowledging our trust in Him. Giving enables ministry and missions locally and around the world.

See Appendix H for a look at how your offerings impact ministry and missions around the world.

What are we doing in these areas to make good on God's investment in us?

Look. Stewardship starts with Lordship. The good steward recognizes all of their resources are given to them by God and intended for use for glorifying God and for helping others.

Read Galatians 2:20. What does this verse say about Lordship?

How does Lordship like this play out in your life as good steward of what God has entrusted you with?

SO, HOW MUCH MONEY DO I GIVE?

The Bible does not give strict guidelines on some aspects of giving, but we do find, in scripture, two principles of giving we should consider as followers of God in Christ.

The tithe = the first 10 percent of your income

Offerings = money given above and beyond the tithe

The important motives in giving are giving from an attitude of generosity and compassion as well as giving cheerfully, out of devotion, rather than obligation. Generously and freely give from what the Lord has given you.

Read Luke 21:1-4. What did the lady in this story give?

What does this do to your thinking about giving?

What have you learned about stewardship?

What have you learned about Lordship?

What will you do as a result?



noun

1. ecclesia, call out company or assembly, God's people or children, the family of God, the Body of Christ; can be a local, living body of believers or the universal group who have trusted Christ through all time in all the world, both living and dead

SESSION 11 TAKING YOUR PLACE: THE CHURCH

>>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>> >>>

Meeting Checklist				
I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.				
I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.				
I have read the following scripture passages:				
		Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-16		Galatians 6:10
		1 Corinthians 12:4-11		2 Timothy 2:15
Ľ		Romans 12:1-21		Titus 2:7
		Ephesians 4:17-31		1 Peter 4:10
I spent time alone with the Lord:				
C		Monday		Thursday
C		Tuesday		Friday
C		Wednesday		Saturday
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.				
The Church: Doing Your Part				

"Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function, in the same way we who are many are one body in Christ and individuals members of one another." Romans 12:4-5 (CSB)

Serving the Lord

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 (CSB) Unity in the Body of Christ

"Therefore I, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to live worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling —one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4:1-6 (CSB)

I have shared my story with someone this week.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

When we are saved, come to faith in Christ, we become a part of the Church. So, what is the Church? Read Matthew 16:13-20. What sticks out to you about this passage? What questions do you have for your group?

The word "church' is derived from the Biblical word "ekklesia." It means "the called out ones." When we are saved, we receive the name of Jesus, we who are called out by the name of Jesus, are a part of a body of believers, a family, the Church. This is the context in which we are placed when we trust Christ for salvation. God does not intend His children to go it alone. He intends us to be a part of the body of Christ.

BIG "C"/LITTLE "C"

We need to see the Church in two ways:

Big C'' church = universal Church= All believers of all times from all places, both living and dead.

Little "c" church

local church = local bodies of believers assembled to worship and serve.

Understanding these designations helps us understand our place in history, accountable as part of a larger, ongoing, global movement as well as our responsibility to a local body of believers we identify with and walk through life with to carry out the mission of God in the world as our part of the "Big C" church effort.

WHO'S AT THE TOP?

Read Matthew 16:13-20. Jesus will build His church, through the disciples, on their confessing that He is the Christ. How do the following verses describe Christ's relationship to the Church?

Ephesians 2:20

1 Corinthians 3:11

Ephesians 4:15

We recognize and rely on Christ as the source, base, key, authority, and head (ruler) of the church. He loves, instructs, provides for, and sustains His family, the Body.

WHAT DO WE DO TOGETHER?

Read Acts 2:42. What does the verse tell us about the activity of the early church?

This is what we are to do together as well. We are to be devoted to walk in the teachings of Jesus, fellowship (community with one another), remember the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, and prayer.

YOU BELONG!

Read Romans 12:4-5. What does the verse say about believers' connection to one another in the body?

You belong to the others in the Church. You have a responsibility to them. You have a place and an important role in the family of God.

EVERYONE MATTERS

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. What do these verses say about the importance of each individual believer in the Church?

WHY DO I CARE?

How are we to treat or interact with one another? What are the attitudes and actions we are to show as part of the church?

Philippians 2:3-11 Psalm 133:1 1 Corinthians 1:10 Romans 12:3 Ephesians 4:1-3

As part of the family of God, you should care for, support, and walk in unity and love with others in the Church.

WHAT IS THE POINT?

Read Ephesians 4:11-12. What is the church made to do, the purpose of the church?

Read Ephesians 4:13-16. What is the goal of the serving and equipping?

WHAT IS MY PART?

The body does not function as it should without all of us doing our part.

Read Romans 12:6-8. What does the Lord tell us about our part in the church?

Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What do these verses say we are to personally do in relationship to other believers in the Church?

How can you do these things this week?

HOW DO I SERVE?

According to 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Romans 12:3-8, and Ephesians 4:7, 11-13, how are we to serve in the body?

According to 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, where does our gifting, ability to serve, come from?

We are gifted according to God's will through His Holy Spirit. This is not something we produce. It is from God as He sees fit. We serve according to our gifting. This allows us to serve with humility and selflessness.

Do you need to know more about how the Lord has gifted you? Take a look at spiritual gifts in Appendix K to gain a basic understanding of how the Spirit of the Lord has gifted you to serve.

TAKE YOUR PLACE

In order to take our place in the Church, the Body of Christ, you must:

Show up

Being a part of the church is not just attendance, its about involvement. You can't affect, influence, or impact what you are not a part of. Connect with the body and get involved!

Gear Up Take time to learn what your gifting is and how you can use it in ministry.

Build Up Build up the Church by being available, willing, and committed.

Serve it Up

Volunteer, get experience in whatever ways are available to you and needed. Do not wait to take your place in the church! Ask a leader how you can serve, and get busy!

THINK ABOUT IT

How can you:

Show up? Gear up? Build up? Serve it up?

What keeps you from taking your place in the church?

What questions do you have about life in the Body of Christ?



verb 1. form (something) by putting parts together 2. cause (something) to exist or come about; bring about



noun 1. personal followers of Jesus 2. followers of student of a teacher or leader

SESSION 12 CLOSE THE LOOP: MAKE DISCIPLES

Meeting Checklist I have read the assigned session and completed the required material.			
I have met with my DiscipleMe Group.			
I have read the following scripture passages:			
 Matthew 28:18-20 Matthew 4:19-20, 5:13-16 John 1:45; Mark 16:15 	 2 Timothy 2:2; 1 Peter 2:9-12 Romans 10:14-15 		
□ John 15:5-6, 15:16	□ 2 Corinthians 5:17-21		
I spent time alone with the Lord:			
🛛 Tuesday	🗆 Friday		
Wednesday	🗆 Saturday		
I have memorized my memory passage(s) for the week.			
Making disciples: Every Believer's Command "Jesus came near and said to them, 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe			

everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (CSB)

I have shared my story with someone this week.

MAKING DISCIPLES

When Jesus ascended into Heaven, He left the disciples (and us, His Church) with an important task. Read Matthew 28:18-20. What sticks out to you about the verse? What is the important task Jesus gives the church?

What is His command in these verses?

Who are we to make disciples of?

What does Jesus say about making disciples? G _ _ _ B _ _ _ _ T _ _ _ _ _

Let's take a closer look at this process, element, or discipleship

We are to make disciples

In verse 19, we see the only *command* in this passage. Jesus says to *make disciples*. This is the *mission* Jesus gives his people. That's you and me!

How? As we make disciples, we are to engage in the following ways:

Going, v.19

This is an intentional process. We don't usually go somewhere without the end in mind. As we make disciples, it is as we are going, *intentionally* looking for those who need to know Jesus and follow Him.

Baptizing, v. 19

We discussed baptism in an earlier lesson. What do you remember about baptism?

It is important to remember that baptism is an important display of the new life you have in Christ. Baptism shows outwardly an inward relationship with God in Jesus and connects believers, through that relationship, with other believers in the Church. This is the *relational* context in which God intends us to live as His followers. Teaching, v. 20

What does Jesus say we are to teach?

What are we to teach those who come to faith to do?

We often miss the point of disciple-making and stop with seeing people come to faith in Christ. It is important that we help them, grow them as followers of Jesus and become integrated into the life of the Church. When Jesus says to teach those who come to faith, He is telling them how to and show them what it looks like to walk in obedience. This element of discipleship is *instructional*.

DO YOU HAVE THE POWER?

Where does the ability to make disciples come from? Is this something we just do on our own, something we made up? Is this something we have to have a special skill to do? Is this something we need someone else's permission to do? Are we on our own in making disciples and fulfilling God's mission in the world?

Read verses 18 & 20. What does Jesus say He has in verse 18?

What encouragement do we receive from Jesus in verse 20?

How does it make you feel to know Jesus is with us as we follow His command to make disciples?

Write a prayer of thanks to the Lord for having the authority and for giving you the power of His presence to make disciples.

FISHERS OF MEN

Read Matthew 4:19-20. In your own words, what does the scripture say about making disciples?

What does it mean to be "fishing for people"?

"Fishing for people" means reaching others with the good news of Jesus, brining them to the Lord, and then taking responsibility to make sure they are growing in Christ and with the family of God.

WHO'S IN YOUR POND?

Think about your life?

Who around you needs to know Jesus? Who can you go fishing for?

Who do you know that is a believer who needs to grow in discipleship?

WHAT'S THE GOAL? CLOSE THE LOOP.

The goal of our life in Christ is to walk with Jesus toward His end/purpose.

His purpose is that we reach others with the Gospel, extending the love of God to others who need to be rescued from their sin, and then help them to do the same. When we do this, we are closing the loop on discipleship and become what God intends His children to become, committed disciples.

GUIDE DON'T POINT

Often we just talk about what we should do, tell and point people toward the truths of being a disciple, but we never follow through and actually show them what it looks like, walking with them and guiding them as they get there.

Read 2 Timothy 2:2 and Hebrews 10:24-25. How do these verses say about guiding others?

Is "entrust" easy or hard? Is it quick or does it take time?

How often should we meet to invest in one another?

How can you practice that in your life?

WILL YOU?

Now that you have reached the end of the first stage of the DiscipleMe Challenge. You may be ready to take the next step in closing the loop on discipleship by making disciples. Work with your group leader.

WHO COULD BE IN YOUR GROUP?

Think about the friends you listed on the previous page. Who in that group could you ask to join you in the DiscipleMe Journey. The challenge continues. Will you accept it?

- -
- _
- -
- -

If you are ready and willing to take the next step and make disciples, sign the agreement on the back of Appendix L and turn it to your DiscipleMe leader the next time you meet.



plural noun: appendices 1. sections or tables of additional matter at the end of a book or document

2. supplement or back matter

A: DISCIPLEME MEETING GUIDE

- Open with Meeting Checklists
- Recite/Share memory verse
 - What did you learn from these verses?
- Talk it Out
 - How was last week? Did you walk faithfully with the Lord? Have you pursued Him? How?
 - How many days did you spend time in God's Word and prayer? What did you learn?
 - What was it hard? How could your time with the Lord be better?
 - Who did you share your story with? How did it go?
 - What did you find hard about this week?
 - Do you have any questions about the session?
 - Is there anything you need help understanding or need practical help with?
 - How can you live out the Truth we walked through in this session?
 - How can we be a support to each other this week?
- Group Accountability
 - Have your thoughts, motives, desires, and behavior honored Christ this week?
 - What did you struggle with this week? Is there any sin you are dealing with we need to discuss?
 - How can we pray for one another?
- Look ahead to next session

Group Prayer

Use the DiscipleMe Group Prayer Guide (Appendix B) or another prayer guide of your choice.

Meeting Tips

Keep meetings short. If possible, less than thirty minutes. Point each other to scripture, not just your opinions. Speak truth in love. Be reliable. Be honest. Maintain confidences. Be consistent. Be encouraging. Make the most of your meeting time, saving "chit chat" for another time.

B: DISCIPLEME PRAYER GUIDE

Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to work in and through you.
Pray for God's direction.
Pray for faithfulness.
Pray for wisdom and discernment.
Pray for each other's personal and spiritual lives.
Pray for the lost you will share with this week.
Pray for boldness for one another.
Pray for purity.
Pray for influence with the lost.
Pray for God's will and peace in social justice issues. (racism, unrest, violence, ...)

What else could you pray for in you DisicpleMe group?

PRAY DAILY FOR THE "DAILY "5

Pray for the lost you know to trust Jesus. Pray for the nations (to know of and to respond to Jesus). Pray for family, friends, and your country. Pray for your neighbor. (Who is your "neighbor"?) Pray for your school.

What would be in your Daily 5?

C: BIBLE READING RECORD

Genesis	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50
Exodus	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40
Leviticus	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27
Numbers	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
Deuteronomy	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
Joshua	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34
Judges	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
Ruth	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
1 Samuel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
2 Samuel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
1 Kings	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
2 Kings	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
1 Chronicles	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
2 Chronicles	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
Ezra	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Nehemiah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
Esther	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Job

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42

- Psalms
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72

 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89

 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104

 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117

 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129

 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141

 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150
- Proverbs 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Ecclesiastes 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Song of Solomon 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

- Isaiah 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66
- Jeremiah 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52

Lamentations 12345

Ezekiel 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

Daniel	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Hosea	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
Joel	123
Amos	123456789
Obadiah	1
Jonah	1234
Micah	1234567
Nahum	123

Habakkuk	123
Zephaniah	123
Haggai	12
Zechariah	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
Malachi	1234

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
Mark	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
Luke	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
John	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
Acts	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
Romans	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
1 Corinthians	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
2 Corinthians	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
Galatians	123456
Ephesians	123456
Philippians	1234
Colossians	1234
1 Thessalonians	1 2 3 4 5
2 Thessalonians	123
1 Timothy	123456
2 Timothy	1234
Titus	123
Philemon	1
Hebrews	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
James	12345
1 Peter	12345

2 Peter 1 2 3 1 John 1 2 3 4 5 2 John 1 3 John 1 Jude 1 The Revelation 12 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 2 22 22		
2 John 1 3 John 1 Jude 1 The Revelation 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 2	2 Peter	123
3 John 1 Jude 1 The Revelation 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 2	1 John	12345
Jude 1 The Revelation 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 2	2 John	1
The Revelation 12345678910111213141516171819202	3 John	1
	Jude	1
	The Revelation	

D: MY STORY WORKBOOK

You have a story! If you know Jesus, you have a spiritual legacy of faith! People you meet need to hear how you came a follower of Christ and how He is transforming your life. Write a sentence or two for each of the following section:

My life before I met Christ:

How I came to faith in Jesus:

My life since I came to faith in Christ:

Practice sharing your story in your DiscipleMe group. Be able to keep it under 2 minutes.

E: GOSPEL CONVERSATIONS

As you share your story or testimony, here are some simple ways you can share the Gospel of Jesus with those you talk to.

ONE GREAT HOPE

"But God proves His love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us." Rom 5:8

There is **ONE GREAT GOD** "But God proves His own love..."

There is one God. The verse doesn't say "The gods" or "one of the gods." God is the Creator of all things. Acts 17:24-26 reminds us that God made the world and needs nothing from us. God loves us. God is Love. He is perfect in His love and He has proved His love. "For God so loved the world..." (John 3:16). God loves His creation, and has proven His love for us. Why do you think it is important for God to prove His love?

Describe some of His characteristics: God is real, He is Creator, He is all powerful, He is loving. But He is also, holy and just.

We have **ONE GREAT PROBLEM** "... while we were still sinners..."

Sin is either knowing something is wrong and doing it anyway, or knowing the right thing to do and not doing it. This means we all have a problem. We have all sinned (Romans 3:23). We have all rebelled against God (knowingly or unknowingly). What we deserve for our sin and rebellion is punishment/ spiritual death. (Romans 6:23). What does this say about all humanity?

Discuss sin (10 Commandments, Rom 3:23-24) Good deeds will not justify anyone. (Isa 64:5) Because God is good/holy/just He must and will punish sin. (Romans 6:23, reality and consequence of Hell)

God has given us **ONE GREAT HOPE** "... Christ died for us..."

We are unable to save ourselves from our sin problem. Only God is great enough to do that, and He proved His love for us by sending Jesus Christ as a prefect sacrifice to suffer the penalty of our sin through His death on the cross and the resurrection. "Christ also suffered for our sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring you to God." (1 Peter 3:18). Jesus Christ is our ONE and only way back to God.

Even through we broke God's law, Jesus paid our penalty. (John 3:16) He proved what he said was true by raising from the dead. That gives us assurance of life after the grave. (1 Cor 6:14) and an abundant life on earth!

We are face with ONE GREAT DECISION

We must repent of our sin and believe the Gospel. "Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15). "For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have ever lasting life." (John 3:16). We must ask Jesus to save us: "For everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13). How is this accomplished?

We must decide to put our trust in Jesus and rely on what He did on the cross to pay for our sin so we can come to God and go to Heaven. Or we can reject Him and pay for our own sins in Hell.

If you've never made a personal decision to accept God's gift of love and salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ, why not do it right now? If you truly want to accept God's love, have forgiveness of your sins, have a personal relationship with Jesus as your Savior, and follow His direction for your life; use this model and share with God that you're ready to receive salvation in Him.

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Congratulations on your new life in Christ!

L

F

WANT L.I.F.E.?

Read Colossians 4:2-6 Pray for Opportunities to share, for courage and to be clear.

What does the Bible say about **LIFE**? Use the following acrostic to explain the Good News of life in Christ!

- L "Love": God's first work to everyone is that He loves them and wants them to be saved and experience eternal life. (John 3:16 and 10:10)
 - "I": But everyone has chosen to follow his own way (Romans 3:23). Sin is basically letting "I" rule life instead of God.
 - "Forgive" God will forgive all your sins and give you eternal life when you turn from your sins and believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins and rose again for you, to forgive sins and conquer death. (1 Peter 3:18)
- **E** "Encounter": Encounter Jesus Christ personally through prayer.

Admit you have sinned (Romans 3:23) and that sin deserves death. (Romans 6:23)

Believe in the gift of God, that Jesus died and rose again to forgive sins and conquer death. (Romans 5:8, 10:9-10, 13)

Confess Jesus Christ as Lord by trusting Him as Savior and Lord. (John 1:1**2**)

God promises eternal life to everyone who believes!

F: GOOD NEWS CONVERSATIONS

HOW TO HAVE A G.O.O.D. N.E.W.S. CONVERSATION

Have you ever wondered how to start a conversation with someone about faith and the Gospel of Jesus?

Here are some helpful tips in having conversations that point people to the GOOD NEWS of Jesus!

G GO to God in prayer. (James 5:16b)

Ask God to be involved and give you opportunities to show and share the Gospel.

Pray for 3 people with laser like focus

Pray though your yearbook

Prayer walk your school campus

Pray specifically for lost people with other believers at church, school, etc.

O OPEN UP a conversation. (Proverbs 20:5)

Talk about L.I.F.E. (NOTE: This is different than the LIFE Gospel conversation)

Location: From? Going?

Interests: Sports? Music? Movies? - Favorite things to do? Family: Brothers/Sisters? Older/Younger? Parents? Close? Education/Experiences: Always gone to this school? College Plans? Favorite Teacher?

Look to turn a natural conversation into a spiritual one.

Ex: After talking about their interests, you can talk about your interest in church/ youth group, and then ask if they attend any church regularly. Don't assume that if they do, they are automatically a Christian.

O OBSERVE and admire what they believe (Proverbs 15:1)

Inquire their thoughts on spiritual things. Go to church? Have any spiritual beliefs? Where did everything come from? What happens to us after we die? Do you believe in a Heaven/Hell? Do you think God would consider you to be a good person? Who do you say Jesus is? Admire all you can about their beliefs. Build a bridge with them, not a wall.

> Atheist: Appreciation for science and logic Mormon: Hardworking, nice, family values Muslim: Committed to prayer, devout life Religious: Goes to church, read the Bible, good person Jehovah's Witness: One God, dedication to evangelism New Ager: Desire for a better world, good person

D DESCRIBE what you believe (Romans 5:8)

Use the One Great Hope or L.I.F.E. Gospel Conversations in Appendix E

N NOTE your testimony. (1 John 1:3)

Briefly tell your story of how you trusted Christ for salvation.

Before you were saved. When you were saved. After you were saved.

Keep it short (under 2 minutes) and focused on Jesus.

E EXAMINE if that happened to them (Acts 4:12)

After you share your testimony, ask if anything like that has happened to them. Listen to what they are putting their trust in. Is it in the Savior or in being a "good person" or being "religious"?

W WELCOME them to trust in Jesus (Romans 10:13)

You've explained the Gospel. Now what? Ask 2 questions:

Does that make sense? Is there anything holding you back form trusting Jesus right now?

S SHOW them what to do next. (2 Peter 3:18)

Ask them to pray or lead them in a prayer to trust Christ based on your Gospel conversation.

Dear God / I know I'm a sinner / I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins / and rose from the dead / I trust in Him alone to be forgiven and for life now and for eternity in Heaven. / Thank you for saving me. / Help me to live for you. / Amen.

Explain the importance of these areas to growing in the grace of Christ:

OBEDIENCE Baptism, Church Family, Disciple-Making NEW LIFE

Growth, Prayer, Bible

EXPRESS

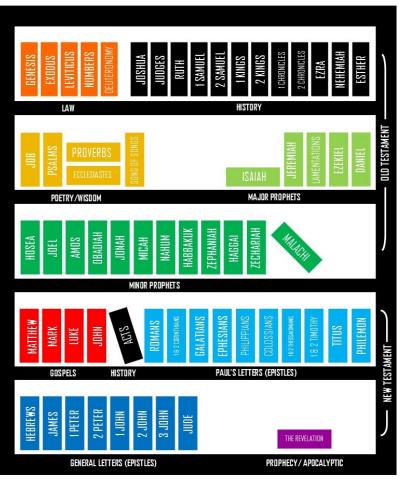
Express your new faith through evangelism

G: BIBLICAL GENRES

Don't ignore genre. Genres are categories of literature. Each has its own characteristics that help us read, understand, and apply scripture more appropriately and effectively. The Bible uses a number of different genres.

It is important to know where each book fits and how each book is grouped with other books in the same genre. Understanding the genre of a book, and the specific characteristics of each genre, informs our ability to handle God's Word.

Be careful! Even though a book might be grouped in a general category genre, it may contain parts of other types of literature. Pay attention to each passage as it relates to the whole as well as to the specific literary genres that might be contained within another.



H: THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

The Cooperative Program (CP) is Southern Baptists' unified plan of giving through which cooperating Southern Baptist churches give a percentage of their undesignated receipts in support of their respective state convention and national Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) missions and ministries.

When you give to your local Southern Baptist Church (where you are a member or where you are involved with a DiscipleMe group), your church forwards on a determined percentage to Oklahoma Baptists which is then split into several places:

Ministry within the State through Oklahoma Baptists

Oklahoma Baptists affiliate organizations (OBU, BVC, OBHC, and Waters Edge)

National SBC entities (IMB, NAMB, Southern Baptist seminaries, and the ERLC).

Within 10 days of you giving to your local church through tithes and offerings, the money is impacting ministry and missions form the front door of the church and reaching literally around the world. You are making a global kingdom impact when you give to your local Southern Baptist church!

What is your church's current percentage that is set aside to go to the Cooperative program?

Why do you think it is important for churches to cooperate like this?

What other questions do you have about our Southern Baptist coop-erative mission and ministry efforts?

I: THE BAPTIST FAITH & MESSAGE

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The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

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There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

A. God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

B. God the Son

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

C. God the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

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Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

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Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest

sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

A. Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Savior.

B. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

C. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

D. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

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Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

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A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.

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Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

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The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

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The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowl-edge Him as King. Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation

into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

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God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

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It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

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Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

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God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

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Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

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All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

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It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

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God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

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God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

Visit www.sbc.net/bfm2000.asp for the complete list of scriptural references for each article of the Baptist Faith and Message

J: SCRIPTURE MEMORY

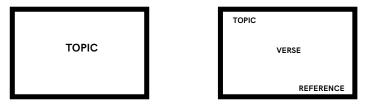
Scripture memory is an important link to the vitality of a believer's daily life. Here are some tips on hiding God's Word in your heart.

1.) Choose a verse or verses (passage)

You may want to pick a verse or two a week to start and then work your way up to longer passages and more in a month.

- 2.) Read it in its immediate context Scriptures do not stand alone. They live in context. This will help you understand the meaning of the verse and be able to apply it appropriately.
- 3.) Read the verse or passage multiple times (aloud).
- 4.) State the topics, references, verse, and topic each time you recite the verse.
- 5.) Re-visit and review your verses immediately, for the next week or two, and monthly.

Making a verse memory flash card



SOME SUGGESTIONS:

- Write the verse out.
- Make a memory verse flash card
- Work with a friend or group and take turns stating alternating words in the verse including topic and reference.
- Have someone quiz you by taking out certain words and having you fill in the blanks.
- Create competitions or incentives with your group or with friends.
- Text challenges to copy, paste, and add the next word with your group members. Take turns starting.
- Post each scripture with a prayer on social media.

SOME HELPFUL TOOLS:

Fighter verses App Verses- Bible Memory App Topical Memory System (Navigators)

K: SPIRITUAL GIFTS

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TÌ −*AÌ* âä aid the body by leading and directing members to accomplish the goals and purposes of the church, motivates people to work together in unity toward common goals (Romans 12:8)

Æu älä – ä û lead the body by steering others to remain on task, enable the body to organize according to God-given purposes and long-term goals (1 Corinthians 12:28)

€ – *Áâä*ũÝ instructing members in the truths and doctrines of God's Word for the purposes of building up, unifying, and maturing the body (1 Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7; Ephesians 4:11)

Rû ÔÆÎ teaching and training in discipleship, the God-given ability to learn, know, and explain the previous truths of God's Word, a word of knowledge is a Spirit-revealed truth (1 Corinthians 12:28)

š äÆ ú discerns the work of the Holy Spirit in the body and applies His teachings and actions to the needs of the body (1 Corinthians 12:28)

s âl Á proclaims the Word of God boldly, builds up the body and leads to conviction of sin, manifests itself in preaching and teaching (1 Corinthians 12:10; Romans 12:6)

* \ddot{a} \hat{A} \hat{u} \dot{u} \dot{l} \hat{u} aid the body by recognizing the true intentions of those within or related to the body, test the message and actions of others for the protection and well0being of the body (1 Corinthians 12:10).

 $2 \hat{a} - \ddot{a} \hat{u}$ encourage members to be involved in and enthusiastic about the work of the Lord, good counselors and motivate others to service. Exhortation exhibits itself in preaching, teaching, and ministry (Romans 12:8)

zâl âl ÆüÝ look out for the spiritual welfare of others. Not limited to a pastor or staff member (Ephesians 4:11)

?-*äâ* trusts God to work beyond the human capabilities of the people, encourage others to trust in God in the face of apparently insurmount-able odds (1 Corinthians 12:9)

2 $-\hat{u}\hat{Y}\hat{I}\hat{a}\hat{u}$ lead others to Christ effectively and enthusiastically, builds up the body by adding new members to its fellowship (Ephesians 4:11)

d âä plant churches or be missionaries. Apostles motivate the body to look beyond its walls in order to carry out the Great Commission (1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11)

zì ä Dìô recognize practical needs in the body and joyfully give assistance to meeting those needs, do not mind working behind the scenes (1 Corinthians 12:28; Romans 12:7)

[\hat{I} \hat{A} cheerful acts of compassion, aid the body by empathizing with hurting members, keep the body healthy and unified by keeping others aware of the needs within the church (Romans 12:8)

@ä äìÝ give freely and joyfully to the work and mission of the body, cheerfulness and liberality are characteristics (Romans 12:8)

D ä–ä ability to make visitors, guests, and strangers feel at ease, often use their home to entertain guests, integrate new members into the body (1 Peter 4:9)

You can take the survey to find out more about your gifting by visiting http://bit.ly/2FMNUXY

L: BIBLE STUDY/WORSHIP RESOURCES

THIS APPENDIX INCLUDES:

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DAILY TIME WITH GOD

Date: _____

READ

Passage: _____

MEDITATE: What do I think God is saying to me through this passage?

ACT: How can I act on what He has shown me?

PRAY:

I Adoration/Praise

II Confession

III Thanksgiving

IV Petition-Pray for your needs

V Intercession-Pray for others

Copy this or use this format to list quiet time notes and daily prayer requests in a discipleship journal.

AL PRAYER GUIDE

WEEKLY PERSONAL PRAYER GUIDE

Date: _____

Pray Weekly for your needs and the needs of others. Here is a possible structure you can use to organize your petition and intercession:

MONDAY: MISSIONARIES TUESDAY: TASKS WEDNESDAY: WORKERS THURSDAY: LEADERS FRIDAY: FRIENDS & FAMILY SATURDAY: SIN & THE LOST SUNDAY: SERVICES

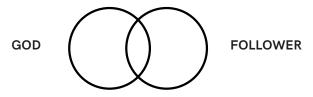
Another way to pray is to pray through DAILY TOP 5 prayer priorities:

Date	Person or Need	Specifics	Answer

Copy this or use this format to list weekly prayer requests in a discipleship journal.

GOD/FOLLOWER BIBLE STUDY METHOD

The "God Follower" method of Bible study is made up of just two simple but powerful questions that can be asked of any passage or scripture:



- 1.) What does this passage tell me about God?
- 2.) What does this passage tell me about how to follow God?

TARGET BIBLE STUDY METHOD

The "Target Method" of Bible study takes an outside to inside approach to Bible study. It helps you apply God's Truth to your own life while encouraging you to respond honestly to God and to act immediately on what you have learned.

The Target Method uses just three questions to guide you through the Bible Study process. Picture in your mind a round "bull's eye" target with two rings and a heart in the center. Each of these three elements represents one of the questions introduced in the Target Bible Study Method.

First Question: Outer Ring What does it say? (Summarize the passage) Second Question: Inner Ring What is God saying to me? (Take it personally) Third Question: Center Heart How will I respond? (Plan for change)

For more in-depth practice in using these methods of Bible study visit skopos. org/devo to complete the Devotional to End all Devotionals or find the Devo to End All Devos Reading Plan on the YouVersion Bible App.

THE CUT BIBLE STUDY METHOD

The "CUT Method" of personal Bible study is the knife in the set of study tools that you have acquired. If you follow it closely, you will gain a broader, better, and more detailed understanding of any scripture that you read and how it fits within the Bible as a whole.

The **CUT** Method is so named because it requires you to look at a passage of scripture three times before leaving it; once for **C**ontext, once for **U**nderstanding, and once for the application of **T**ruth.

STEP 1: CONTEXT

When reading for **context**, ask yourself this question: "What's going on here and how does it fit with what I already know to be true?"

If you are jumping into the middle of a book, make sure to read over the content just **BEFORE** and **AFTER** the passage that you are reading to make sure that you are not missing any background or additional thoughts that would make what you are studying more clear. By skipping this step, you can misinterpret a passage of scripture in a big way! To understand what a passage really means, you cannot just read one verse. You need to get the "context".

If you are using a study Bible, you will find most of the following information in the book introduction. If you are not using a study Bible, borrow or buy a Bible commentary or go online to biblegateway.com, an excellent resource for anyone looking to study God's Word. Also, read closely to find important background information in the text itself.

Make sure to write down what you discover so that you can refer back to it later and build on what you know rather than starting all over again each time you revisit a book or passage!

Discover the **AUTHOR**, **AUDIENCE**, and **PURPOSE**. Who wrote it? To whom? Why did they write this?

Figure out **TIME**, **PLACE**, and **SETTING**. When was it written? Where was it written? Under what circumstances was it written (consider both the events taking place in the author's life and historical events affecting the social climate)? Just do your best to get a "feel" for what was going on when it was written.

Visit skopos.org/devo for more in depth practice using these methods of Bible study using the Devotional to End All Devotionals. Also, find the Devo to End All Devos Reading Plan on the YouVersion Bible App.

THE CUT METHOD BIBLE STUDY METHOD 2

STEP 2: UNDERSTANDING

After reading a passage and looking for the "context", step two or the CUT method is reading for understanding. After determining the context, ask yourself this question: "what does it mean?" To discover this, you need to find the parts that you do understand and the parts you do not understand.

Try one or both of the following ways to begin:

In your Bible, highlight or underline any phrases or words that stand out or "speak" to you and circle any words or phrases that you do not understand or seem unclear in some other way.

In your journal, paraphrase (put into your own words) the passage. If you can re-write it in your own words, then you probably have a basic understand of the passage. If you get stuck re-writing, you will know where to start researching more.

Now, begin **digging deeper** by doing any or all of the following (whatever you chose to make time for):

See if your passage has a footnote in your Bible (consult the front of your Bible to learn how to use your Bible's footnoting system. Read any commentary that you find there and/or look up any relevant verses listen in the margin or your bible next to that verse's reference.

Look up unclear words or phrases in the concordance or topical index of your Bible. Again, read the commentary or look up relevant verses.

Consult additional Bible Study aids: commentaries, Bible dictionaries, etc. You can also find free, reliable online helps to search for the answers to your questions. Ask your church leadership for help in finding reliable sources.

If you remember reading or studying similar passages of scripture before, read them again. This is where it really helps to have kept notes in your journal to look back on. A basic principle to remember about studying the Bible is that many times a difficult passage is explained by a more simple to understand passage somewhere else. Allow the Bible to explain the Bible.

Keep following all leads until your curiosity is satisfied.

For more in-depth practice in using these methods of Bible study, visit skopos. org/devo to complete the Devotional to End All Devotionals or find the Devo to End All Devo Reading Plan on the YouVersion Bible App

THE CUT BIBLE STUDY METHOD 3

STEP 3: APPLYING TRUTH.

When deciding how to apply truth, ask yourself this question: "Where do I go from here?"

Take all of the insight that you have gained over your first two readings of a particular passage and give yourself some time to think about it. Allow the Holy Spirit to show you what the knowledge that you have just gained has to do with you personally. Let Him show you where your choices fail to line up with God's will for your life. Chances are the Holy Spirit has already started calling your attention to specific ideas as you did your best to understand what you were reading.

It is especially critical to write down your thoughts during this stage of Bible study. This is where you keep track of what God is doing in your life and the direction He seems to be taking you. This is where you record your thoughts while they are fresh, before human reason and the troubles of the day rob your memory and dull your sensitivity. Reviewing these notes later will keep you accountable to yourself and to God. If you don't know what to write in your journal, follow these guidelines until you get the hang of it:

Encouragement

Were you reminded of any truths? Which of your thoughts were confirmed (proven right) by what you studied today? In what areas of your life were you encouraged to "keep on keeping on?"

Challenge

What changes did God ask you to make in your life as a result of your study? Be as specific as possible on this one. How will your life be different today, tomorrow, and next week as a result of what you learned?

Question

Finally, what questions do you still have? With which ideas do you continue to struggle?

Now, spend some time in prayer thanking God for encouraging you, challenging you, and drawing to you dig even deeper into His Word. Spend time confessing any sin He has revealed to you and make any commitments He leads you to make.

For more in-depth practice in using these methods of Bible study, visit skopos.org/devo to complete the Devotional to End All Devotionals or find the Devo to End All Devo Reading Plan on the YouVersion Bible App.

HOW TO: BOOK STUDY

As you begin to study scripture, here are some suggestions on how you might study a book in the Bible.

- 1.) Choose a book to study. Read through it several times and make notes before looking at other's commentary.
- 2.) Answer the basic information:
 - What is the genre (type) or writing?
 - Where does the book fit into the Meta-Narrative

Creation Fall Provision Incarnation Redemption Instruction/Commission Completion

- Who is the author?
- Who is (are) the recipient(s)?
- Why is the letter written? (Purpose/Occasion for the letter)
- Who are the main characters mentioned?
- Background?

What is going on in the world, or with the author or audience, at the time it was written? How does that bring deeper meaning to the text and how it applies to your life and to the church today?

- What themes stand out in the book?
- What are the prominent themes?
- 3.) Outline the book based on your reading.
- 4.) Identify the key verse.
- 5.) What passages did God teach you through?
- 6.) What verses did God use to grab your attention?

(underline and star them in your Bible)

- 7.) Write down what challenged you.
- 8.) Determine what you will do as a result? How will you obey?
- 9.) Identify other questions you have.

What Biblical books you have the most interest in studying?

HOW TO: CHAPTER/PASSAGE/VERSE STUDY

As you begin to study scripture, here are some suggestions on how you might do a study on a specific verse or passage in the Bible.

- 1.) Select a passage or verse. Read through multiple times in context.
- 2.) Who is involved in this verse or passage?
- 3.) Where does it fit in scripture? How does this fit in the rest of the book?
- 4.) What key words jump out at you?
- 5.) What key ideas or themes are in the verse or passage?
- 6.) What important things do I need to know about?
- 7.) What do I feel God was saying to me?
- 8.) How can I apply this to my life? What will I do with this truth?
- 9.) What scriptures are related?
- 10.) What questions do I have about this verse or passage?
- 11.) What do I need to study further?

HOW TO: WORD STUDY

Here are some suggestions on how you might do a study on a word from a Biblical passage or verse (examples: walk, live, know, love, hope). Remember: Don't get too hyper-focused on word study. Word study helps us find meaning of words and helps us understand a passage better. It serves our proper interpretation and application of scripture, allowing us to better know and do the will of God. It serves our better understanding of God's redemptive plan.

- 1.) Choose a word (or 2 or 3) from your daily readings, study, message, or Bible study.
- 2.) Look for words in the passage that repeat, are focal words, or that you don't understand.
- 3.) Find the meaning, in English as well as research the Biblical languages with helpful tools. (interlinear Bible, lexicon, Bible dictionary, concordance, commentary, Greek-Hebrew helps)
- 4.) Use word study to help you better understand the overall verse/ passage/ chapter/ book.
- 5.) Cross reference with other mentions in scripture.
- 6.) Find out the meaning of the word, how it fits in its immediate and broader context.
- 7.) Determine how it relates to the believer in today's world. How does it impact you?

What words from the Bible are you interesting to know more about?

HOW TO: CHARACTER STUDY

As you begin to study scripture, here are some suggestion on how you might do a study on a character in the Bible (examples: Jesus, Paul, Timothy, Samson, David).

- 1.) Select a character and a passage. Why did you want to study this character?
- 2.) What are you wanting to find out?
- 3.) Read the passage or account of the character several times, on your own, with no outside commentary or comments.
- 4.) Create a biographical sketch. Write down what you found. What

are significant facts about this character? What are the character traits you see? Strengths? Weaknesses?

- 5.) Besides this passage, where else is this character mentioned in scripture. What else do you learn from them in those accounts?
- 6.) What key verse in the biblical account(s) of this person could serve as a key verse for their lives?
- 7.) How did God use this individual? What was their experience with God?
- 8.) What have you learned from this Biblical character? What in their lives could you imitate or avoid?
- 9.) How can you live differently as a result of what you learned?
- 10.) Close with prayer time based on the life of the character you studied.

There are 2,930 people mentioned in the Bible. Lots of opportunity to learn from those who have gone before.

What character would you like to study?

HOW TO: TOPIC/THEME STUDY

As you being to study scripture, here are some suggestions on how you might begin to study a biblical topic or theme (examples: love, joy, hope salvation, lordship). We know that the Bible relates to and is useful for every area of our lives. It is alive and active and can impact our daily living, being and doing.

- 1.) Identify a theme or topic.
- 2.) Find a cross-reference in scripture.
- 3.) Define the term or theme from a Biblical perspective in our own words. Check it against a Bible dictionary.
- 4.) Study themes in context as well

Remember: do not just hen-peck verses that mention the topic you want to study. Make sure to select a passage or area of scripture that deals thoroughly with the topic or theme in context.

- 5.) Answer important questions
 - What does God say on the theme or topic?
 - What implications does what I have learned have for my life?
 - How can I live by His Truth(live differently as a result?
- 6.) Where else does this study lead me?
- 7.) What questions do I have about this theme/topic as a result of my study?

After referencing and cross-referencing scripture on the time or topic, use study Bible notes, and other study resources like a concordance, Bible dictionary, or commentaries to round out your exploration.

BIBLE BOOK STUDY NOTES

Copy this page and use as a guide Book:

Genre:

Meta-Narrative (Circle where the book fits.)

Creation Fall Provision

Incarnation Redemption Instruction/Commission Completion

Author:

Recipient:

Why? (Purpose/Occasion):

Who are the main characters mentioned?

Background:

What is going on in the world at the time, or with the author or audience?

Prominent themes:

Outline:

Key Verse:

What passages did God teach me through?

What verses did God use to grab my attention? (Underline and star them in your Bible)

Things I was challenged with?

Things I will do as a result?

I have these other questions:

CHAPTER/PASSAGE/VERSE STUDY NOTES

Copy this pages and use as a guide

Verse, passage, or chapter: Date:

Content or outline (What does the verse/chapter say?

Key players:

Relationship to the rest of the chapter or book?

Key Words:

Key ideas or themes:

Verse to memorize:

TOPIC: REFERENCE: WRITE THE VERSE OUT:

Important things to note:

I feel like God was saying:

What will I do? (ways I can apply this to my life)

Related scripture:

Questions I have:

What I need to study further:

BIBLE WORD STUDY NOTES

Biblical word: Date:

Why do I want to study this word?

What is the word's importance?

What is the word's meaning?

What is the word's grammar? How is it used in this verse, passage, or book?

Other meanings or uses? How is the word used in other passages (if any)?

Mentions by other authors or other places in scripture?

Grammatical Info: Main form: Lexical Form: Textual Form: Part of Speech (parsing information):

Historical factors affecting the word's meaning?

Significance: How does the word help me understand the overall passage/ book/verse?

Questions I have:

How can I use this to help me walk more faithfully in Christ?

Does this lead me to any other scriptures/words?

TOOLS USED (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY) Interlinear Bible, Lexicon, Bible dictionary, concordance, commentary, Greek-Hebrew helps, study Bible

BIBLE CHARACTER STUDY NOTES

Copy this page and use as a guide

Biblical character:

Date:

Why did I pick them? What do I want to find out?

About the character:

Facts? Character traits? Strengths? Weaknesses?

Other reference/mentions:

Other info from those accounts:

Key Verse(s) for their lives?

What was their experience with God?

What have I learned?

Something to imitate/aim for?

Something to avoid?

How will I live differently as a result?

Write a prayer based on the study of this Biblical Character's life.

BIBLICAL TOPIC/THEME STUDY NOTES

Copy this page and use as a guide.

Topic/Theme:

Date:

Passage:

Cross-references:

Definition of theme/ topic?

What does God say about it?

What does it mean for me?

How can I live by this truth? (change as a result of what I learned)

Where does this lead me? What else do I need to study?

What questions do I have?

GROUP BIBLE STUDY NOTES:

Copy this page and use as a guide.

Date: Leader (if any):			
Main Scripture:		Title (if any):	
Type of study:			
	Character		Book
	Passage/verse		Chapter
	Theme		

Prepare personally (check as you complete)

- □ Pray for God's guidance for yourself and you leader (if any)
- □ Read the Scripture from your Bible and record your thoughts below.

Prepare Biblically

Central or main truth:

Outline/study points:

Other themes/truths:

Questions I have:

How can I apply the Truth of this passage today?

Circle one: LG GRP STUDY SMALL GROUP SUN SCHOOL OTHER

WORSHIP SERMON NOTES

Copy this page and use as a guide.

Date: _____ Preacher/Speaker: _____

Main Scripture: _____ Title (if any): _____

Outline (if any):

What I heard God saying to me through the music, scripture reading, testimony, or sermon:

Truths to believe, questions to ask, actions to take, or attitudes to embrace:

Circle one: LIVE STREAM AUDIO MESSAGE VIDEO MESSAGE PODCAST

DISCIPLEME COMMISSION SERVICE

CALL TO WORSHIP

RECOGNITION OF DISCIPLEME CANDIDATE LEADERS

WORSHIP IN SONG

SCRIPTURE READING OR RESPONSIVE READING

WORSHIP IN SONG

TESTIMONIES OF GROWTH AND COMMITMENT

Have students and leaders share their stories from the semester of how God used this process to deepen their faith and obedience. Include testimonies of how the students have felt the urgency to follow the call to make disciples.

WORSHIP or SPECIAL MUSIC

CHARGE

Have one or two pastoral staff members or lay people in the church deliver the charge for the students who are talking the calling to lead DiscipleMe groups in the coming semester or 12 week round of discipleship groups.

LAYING ON OF HANDS and PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

DISMISSAL SONG OF CELEBRATION

RECEPTION FOLLOWING

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Print out the service order to speak to the importance of this event to the church and those involved, it also will make a great reminder for the students as they move forward.

Consider a gift for those commissioned. The gift could be a Bible or something that will help them in this ministry.

Think about how you might create a visual display, memorial, in your church somewhere that will remind your student leaders and your congregation about their commitment to what the Lord has done and is doing in your congregation and through this commissioning and disciple-making effort.

Consider instituting a prayer partner emphasis with other adults in your congregation who will commit to pray for the leads for the next semester or maybe two, developing on ongoing system of adult investment and care in the lives of your DiscipleMe leaders. You could also enlist prayer partners/encouragers for those students who are members of your DiscipleMe groups. Consider working that into your commissioning service and prayer emphasis as well.

DISCIPLEME CHALLENGE

I'm Ready!

Congrats on completing the DiscipleMe journey! Will you commit to continue this journey by becoming a disciple-maker? You are not saying you have it all figured out. You are only saying you are ready to answer the call and willing to grow.

I want my life to be used to reach the lost and develop new believers to become growing disciples. I am ready and willing to follow the Lord's command to make disciples.

(Student signature) _____ (Date) ____

I have seen the maturity in _____ (student name) and will support them in pursuing the path of making disciples. I acknowledge their willingness and readiness to make disciples. I will follow them on this next phase of their journey, encourage and assist where and when needed.

(Leader signature) ______ (Date) ______

I'm Not quite Ready

So, for whatever reason, you or your DiscipleMe leader may feel like you are not quite ready to jump in and make disciples right now. That's okay! You can still commit to go deeper in your development and con-tinue to learn about your life in Christ and grow in your faith. Would you like to take that

I see the benefit or the discipleship process and relationship. I want to continue my DiscipleMe journey for another semester. I commit to remain open to the challenge to make disciples, but I would like to take a little more time to prepare for that full responsibility.

(Student signature) _____ (Date) _____

I affirm the growth in ______ (student name) and will help them in their future growth. I commit to leading another DiscipleMe group they can be involved with or by making sure they have another group to engage with. I will continue to pray for them and follow up on their progress!

(Leader signature) _____ (Date) _____

LOOKING FOR MORE?



AWAKENING is a 3-session Intro study from John 1 designed to encourage interest in and participation in DiscipleMe. It is a great resource to be used in a retreat, DNow, Wednesday night, or Sunday night setting. AWAKENING is available for download at oklahomabaptists.org/youth/ education/#discipleme

Also, look for upcoming expanse of DiscipleMe through new content packs, online helps, and other exciting resources

Also, check out the following discipleship and study resources:

THE PURSUIT

A personal Bible study for new believers

THE DISCOVERY

A personal Bible study and mentoring opportunity designed to you explore what it looks like to follow God's call on your life, specifically a call to vocational ministry leadership.

THE DEVO TO END ALL DEVOS

A Bible study tool to help you grow by living out spiritual disciples and learning to study the Bible on your own

The Pursuit, Discovery, and the Devo to End All Devos are also available at oklahomabaptists.org/youth and are also modified reading plans in the YouVersion Bible app.