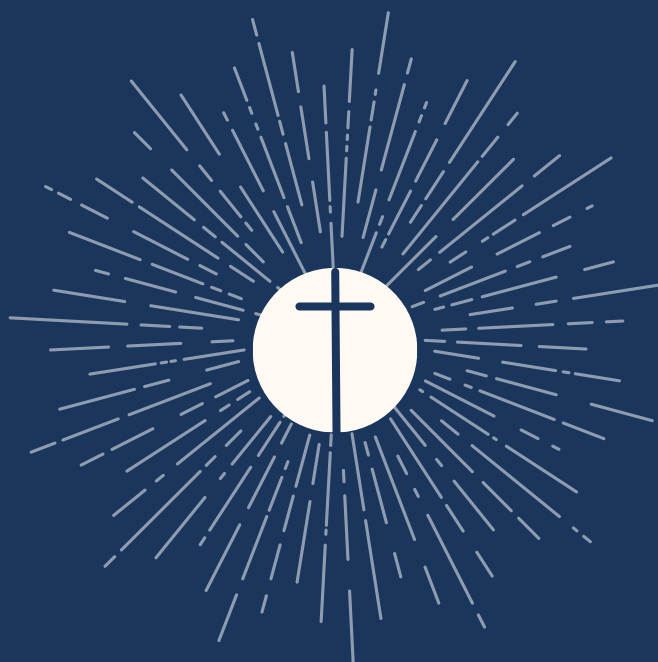
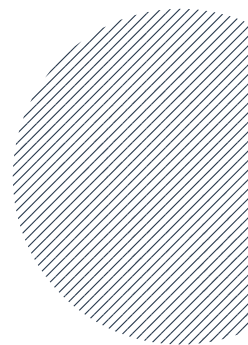


FOUNDATIONS



OF THE FAITH

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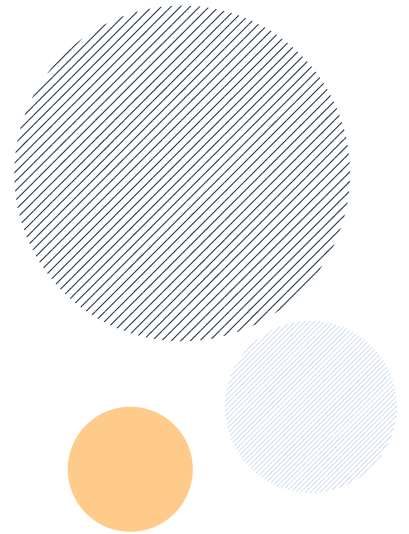
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HI THERE,

WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

We believe that discipleship is an instrumental part of the growth in the lives of followers of Jesus.

The purpose of this book is to allow students to grow in their knowledge of who God is while being known by those around them. This resource is simply launching grounds for discussion and discipleship.

We hope that those who complete this material will be able to master 6 core disciplines in their daily walk with God. These disciplines will be introduced throughout the book. You will be told when to start implementing them in the “Weekly Assignments” section of specific lessons. All the **CORES** are listed on the following page.

Each lesson will consist of three sections: Head, Heart, and Hands. The Head section is where you will be taught the topic of the lesson. The Heart section is where you will analyze and discuss why the lesson is important. The Hands section is where your group will practice what you have learned and figure out how the lesson applies to your life. We hope this structure will help your group grow in knowledge, understanding, and response to God and His word. Take your time to go through each lesson; some may take more than one week, and that is okay!

We pray that your conversations facilitated by this book allow you to fall more in love with Jesus over the next 12 weeks!

-THE UK BCM STAFF



Add after completing Lesson 5

Complete a S.O.A.P.S. Journal when you read your Bible. Aim to fill out a journal entry at least 4 out of 7 days of the week. Each S.O.A.P.S. Journal should contain the following:
Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer, Share.



Add after completing Lesson 6

Memorize: Practice your 4 memory verses for the month at least once a week.

Meditate: Spend extra time in your S.O.A.P.S. Journal meditating once a week.



Add after completing Lesson 7

Spend time in prayer using the P.R.A.Y. acronym. Aim to do this at least 4 out of 7 days of the week. Each time of prayer should contain the following:

Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield.



Add after completing Lesson 9

Seek to participate in Sunday corporate worship through a local church once a week.



Add after completing Lesson 10

Spend time in a community where you are known and know others once a week.

Ask and be asked an accountability question once a week.



Add after completing Lesson 11

Pray for **B.O.B.** this week. Aim to do this at least 4 out of 7 days of the week.

Spend time investing in and praying for one of the 2-3 people on your **Impact List** found on page 22.

1

WHO IS GOD

and what has he done?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know who God is and what He has done
- Understand that all of God's actions are based on who He is
- Know God's grand redemption story seen in the Bible
- Be able to articulate God's grand redemption story for yourself

KEY VERSE

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:16-17

INITIAL QUESTIONS

How do you get to know someone new? What kind of questions would you ask them to know them better?

On a scale of 1-10, how well do you think you know God?

What would you like your relationship with God to look like in the future?

HEAD:

How do we get to know someone? We typically ask them questions like “What is your story?” and “What do you do for a living?” Both of these questions are intended to help us understand more about this person’s qualities. We are essentially trying to find the answer to the questions “What is your character?” and “What are your actions?” If we want to know who God is, we must ask Him these questions.

Looking at God’s Character

How do we understand what a person’s character looks like?

What does a person’s character reveal about who they are?

A person’s character is made up of the attributes that they display and strive for in their heart and life. It is how they act, talk, and feel in their default moments. God displays so many of His characteristics throughout Scripture. Have your group take a look at a few of them. Choose 3 of the characteristics and read the Scriptures that go with them.

God is love - 1 John 4

God is perfect - Matthew 5:48

God is just - Psalm 89:14, Colossians 3:25

God is faithful - 2 Timothy 2:11-13, Psalm 36:5

God is all-knowing - 1 John 3:20, Psalm 139:4

God is all-powerful - Job 42:2, Psalm 33:6

God is in all places - Psalm 33:13-14

God is good - Luke 18:19, Psalm 119:68

God is gracious - John 1:17

God is holy - Isaiah 6:3, 1 John 1:5

It is important to know God's characteristics because His characteristics influence all of His actions and define what He values. Because God is perfect, He will never fail to live out these values. This means that we can always count on all of God's actions and values to align perfectly with these characteristics, and He will never do anything contrary to them.

What are some other characteristics of God?

Which characteristics are easy to believe are true? Which are hard to believe?

Looking at God's Actions

How do God's actions reflect His character?

To see what God does, you must look at what God did. God has maintained one singular plan since the beginning of time, meaning you can look at the steps and actions taken place within this plan to better understand who God is. God's singular plan is to redeem people for our good and His glory. Your group will examine this plan in three parts: God's Plan, Man's Brokenness, and the Gospel.

GOD'S PLAN

Read Genesis 1:31

How did God describe His creation?

In this design, God physically walked the earth with mankind. How do you think that influenced man's relationship with God?

BROKENNESS

Read Genesis 3:3-6, 23

What convinced Adam and Eve to eat the fruit?

What did Adam and Eve's disobedience show about how they viewed God's command?

Why do you think God kicked Adam and Eve out of the Garden?

After man's fall, God ceased to physically walk the earth with mankind. How do you think that impacted man's relationship with God?

Read Romans 3:23

What is sin?

Who has sinned?

Where do we see sin in the world around us?

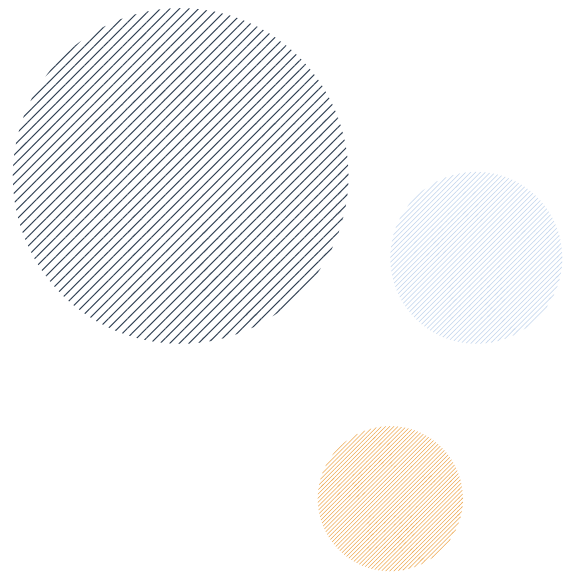
Read Romans 6:23

What is a wage?

What does "death" in this passage mean?

Do you think this is a fair punishment?

Is there a way we can avoid this death on our own?



THE GOSPEL

Read John 3:16-17

Why did God send His Son?

What does belief in the Son offer us?

What happened to our wage of death? Who paid for it?

How do you think this impacts man's relationship with God?

This is God's action: "He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

God is deeply relational. Because of this, God desires a personal relationship with you. We cannot do anything to earn this free gift from God. To receive this gift, respond through these three steps:

1. Admit that you have sinned and disobeyed God and ask Him to forgive you for your disobedience.
2. Believe in your heart that God has raised Jesus from the dead.
3. Confess that Jesus is Lord over your life, submitting to His authority in all things.

Read Romans 10:9-10

HEART:

What do you think someone must do to accept a relationship with God?

Why do you think we cannot restore the broken relationship with God, but Christ could?

Have you ever completed the three steps to accept God's gift of relationship with Him? If so, talk about when that happened. If not, what barriers would stop you from taking these steps today?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

We can know who God is by looking at His characteristics and His actions. He is holy, gracious, and loving. He made a way for us to know Him while maintaining all of His characteristics. He sacrificed His perfect Son to pay the price for our sin. He did this because He values you and desires a relationship with you. God has eagerly offered you eternal life, but a gift is not yours until you accept it. We must accept the gift He has offered to be united in a relationship with Him forever. There is great joy that we get to experience because of Christ and His death on the cross!

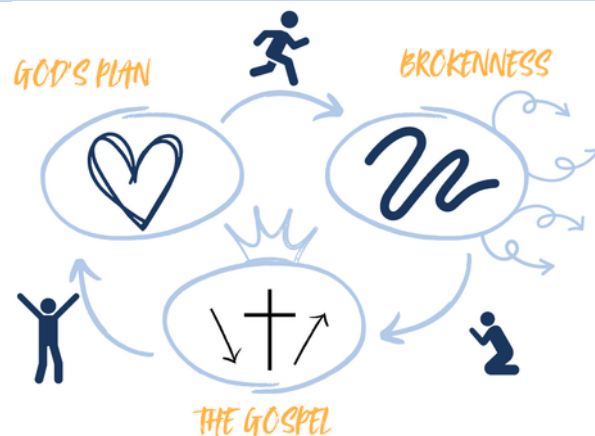
HANDS:

What are some ways you can begin to know God better?

What are some ways you can be reminded of the gospel in your day-to-day life?

Who are some people in your life that need to hear the message of the gospel?

A huge part of knowing God and the gospel is being able to share the hope it provides with others. This whole story can be summed up, easily memorized, and shared by a diagram called “Three Circles.” We will learn more about this diagram in lesson 4, but here it is as an example for now.



This diagram includes all three points of God's actions that we talked about in this lesson. Memorizing this diagram will help you memorize the major points of the gospel and share the gospel with others.

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Memorize the main points of the Three Circles diagram.
- Practice telling the story of the gospel to someone in your group using the main points of the Three Circles diagram. If you need help, ask people in your group.
- Complete the M.A.R.C.S. Assessment #1 in Appendix 1.9. This will help you discover areas of strength and weakness in your faith to help you grow through discipleship.

MEMORY VERSE:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:16-17

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- If you have any questions about God, who He is, or what He has done, the website GotQuestions.org will give biblical answers to almost any question you have.
- A more detailed explanation of the Three Circles diagram can be found in Appendix 1.1.

NEW CORE:

No new cores this week!

ACTIVE CORES



2

GROWTH

a proper response

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know how to respond to God based on who He is and what He has done
- Know the importance of respect towards God, repentance to God, and being sent for God
- Learn how you could grow in respect towards God, repentance to God, and being sent for God

KEY VERSE

And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”

Isaiah 6:3

INITIAL QUESTIONS

What is an area of your life that you want to grow in this year? How do you plan to grow in that area?

HEAD:

Read Isaiah 6:1-8

How would you describe what Isaiah sees?

What are the seraphim doing in these verses?

Based on the angelic beings' actions, how do you think they view God?

RESPECT

God is worthy of our **RESPECT**. This is not merely the respect that you would have for a friend, a boss, or a colleague. This respect is honoring God because He is Holy and worthy of worship.

RESPECT can be defined in two ways:

1. Deference to a right, privilege, privileged position.
2. The condition of being esteemed or honored.

We see the angels giving God both forms of **RESPECT**. They call out the title or position “Lord of hosts,” which declares power, rights, and privileges. They praise God by saying that the world is full of His glory. They also call God “holy” three times, which means “set apart.”

What are some of the rights and privileges you believe God holds as being Lord?

Where do you see the glory of God? How can you give Him praise for that right now?

HEART:

REPENT

As we see God for who He is, we respect Him. As we see His purity and glory, it is impossible not to notice our wickedness and sin because of the vast contrast between His immense goodness and our immense sinfulness. This should lead us to **REPENT**.

REPENT means to turn away from sin.

Real repentance means coming not only to be sorry for the consequences of sin but to hate sin itself.

-William Barclay

Re-read Isaiah 6:4-5

How does Isaiah respond?

Isaiah was a Godly man and a prophet, so why do you think he didn't try to justify himself and his actions to God?

Do you find yourself more likely to REPENT or to try and justify yourself before God?

Why do you think God requires us to repent to be in His presence?

As believers, we must **REPENT** if we are to stand before God. Yet we cannot pay the price for our sin. Only God can pay the price of our sin and atone for our transgressions. God is good and He will draw near to us if we draw near to Him, but we must draw close to Him on His terms, not our own. As we see God's glory, we must humble ourselves before Him and praise Him. Repentance to God looks like admitting your sins to Him, asking for forgiveness, and abiding in Christ for changed behavior. We see that before Isaiah is sent, he takes time to **REPENT**.

BE SENT

Finally, our response to God requires that we proclaim His glory to others. We are called to **BE SENT**. Isaiah 6:8 "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

We are all called to be sent. Many believers think that only "Super Christians" are sent; only pastors or missionaries are called to make Christ known. But Christ commands all believers to make his name known.

How confident do you feel in making Christ known to those around you?

We are all called to worship the glory of God we have seen (**RESPECT**), call ourselves and others to respond (**REPENT**), and proclaim this message to the world (**BE SENT**).

Which of these responses is hardest for you?

*Do you think the order of **RESPECT**, **REPENT**, **BE SENT** matters? Why or why not?*

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Our response to who God is and what He has done should be to **RESPECT, REPENT,** and **BE SENT**. We should respect God through worship. We should repent of our sins. We should be sent out to tell others the Good News of what He has done.

HANDS:

*What are some ways you have sought the glory of lesser things, even good things, instead of giving God the **RESPECT** He deserves? How can you give Him the glory and honor he deserves?*

What are some areas you have not given Him complete Lordship over your life? How can you give Him control over these areas?

*What are some things you need to **REPENT** of in your own life? How can you develop a hatred of sin?*

*Who in your life do you feel God is calling you to **BE SENT** to? Are there people in your dorm hall, your study classes, or in your family who need to hear about God?*

RESPECT.

REPENT.

BE SENT.

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Pray every day that God would give you a burden for His glory in your life and the lives of others.
- Pray for B.O.B. This is an acronym meaning:
***Burden** for the lost, **Opportunity** to share with the lost, and **Boldness** to share with the Lost.*

MEMORY VERSE:

And one called to another and said:
“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

Isaiah 6:3

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- *Cost of Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

NEW CORE:

No new cores this week!

ACTIVE CORES



3

DISCIPLESHIP

defined

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn what discipleship is and why it is important
- To understand that God calls all believers to both be disciples and to make disciples
- To understand where you are on your discipleship journey and how to grow

KEY VERSE

And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Matthew 4:19

INITIAL QUESTIONS

Who is someone in your life who has made a big impact on you? Where do you think you would be now without them?

As talked about in the second lesson, you should desire to grow in your relationship with God. What aspect of your walk with God would you most like to see grow this year?

HEAD:

We hear the term “disciple” often in Christian spheres, but what does it mean? Its most basic dictionary definition is “a follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.” But Christian discipleship goes a bit deeper than this description. To understand the meaning of discipleship, look at how Jesus led his disciples.

Read Matthew 4:18–22

How did Jesus call his first disciples? What did He say to them?

We see that the first thing Jesus did was not call his disciples to a specific goal, group, or plan. Rather, He called them to a person. He called them to Himself with the simple phrase, “Follow me.” To be a disciple, we must follow the teacher. To be a disciple of Christ, we must follow Him.

Read Matthew 19:21–22

What does it cost to be a disciple of Christ?

Following Jesus isn’t just a vague belief in His existence, but rather a fully committed relationship that abandons all other possessions, aspirations, relationships, and desires. We pursue Him and His leadership wherever it may take us. Even if that pursuit costs us all our worldly possessions, we will have still gained the ultimate reward: a personal relationship with God through Christ.

Read Luke 10:1-3, 17-20

Where did the seventy-two's authority come from?

What did that authority empower them to do?

These followers had devoted their lives to being shaped by Jesus' teachings. Their ministry was so effective because they allowed themselves to be molded into the image of the one who disciplined them: Jesus.

Unlike the seventy-two, we not only have Christ's example, but also His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit transforms us from within, making us more like Christ by replacing our desires and motivations with His. We cannot be true disciples of Christ without allowing ourselves to be transformed by Christ, His teachings, and His Holy Spirit.

What did Jesus do with His disciples after He had trained them?

Why do you think He did this?

The Holy Spirit empowers us to accomplish God's will on earth by doing work that glorifies Him. For the disciples, this meant taking the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the rest of the world, and we are called to do the same.

By looking at the example of Christ and His disciples, we can craft a good definition of what it means to be a "disciple" and what "discipleship" should look like.

Disciple: A person who submits their life to Jesus by following Him, is being transformed by the Holy Spirit, and does the work of God.

Discipleship: The intentional process of living life with a group of believers who encourage and enable each other to submit their lives to Jesus by following Him, being transformed by the Holy Spirit, and doing the work of God.

An important note to add is that discipleship can function differently for each person and group. As long as the relationship includes helping one another follow Jesus, be transformed by the Holy Spirit, and do the work of God, it is a valid form of discipleship.

HEART:

Why do you think we still pursue discipleship today?

Why do you think Jesus spent most of His ministry discipling people?

What do you think it takes to be a good disciple?

Jesus chose a simple strategy: teach people to live like Him and have them teach others how to do the same. (Matthew 10:24-25)

In Jesus' time, His ministry would've looked like a failure. He only had a small handful of followers, but those followers were extremely faithful to Him, available to do His work, and teachable by Him. From Jesus' time until now, the Christian faith has spread across the globe to billions of followers. It all started with a few disciples who were faithful to Jesus and His leadership.

Read Matthew 28:19-20

We are tasked with continuing this call to discipleship, sharing the gospel with those around us, teaching them to follow God, and helping them pursue Him. This is God's plan for His ministry, and He has invited you to play an integral role. In God's ministry plan, multiplying Christ in others is the goal. To achieve this, we should continually invest in others and allow others to invest in us.

“Discipleship without evangelism is not discipleship. It's actually recycle-ship.”

– Brian Zunigha

SUMMARY STATEMENT

A disciple of Jesus is “A person who submits their life to Jesus by following Him, is being transformed by the Holy Spirit, and does the work of God.” Discipleship is Jesus’ plan for making His name known throughout the entire world. Christ has called all Christians (including you) to partake in this mission by being discipled and discipling others. Trust Jesus and His plan by faithfully pursuing discipleship.

HANDS:

For this “hands” section, your group will be doing a self-evaluation using some tools to figure out where you are in the discipleship process and to determine some next steps of growth in your faith through your discipleship relationships.

HOW TO BE A GOOD DISCIPLE?

Be a F.A.T. disciple!

Faithful. Available. Teachable.

Be **FAITHFUL** and committed to your relationship with God and your discipleship group, even when it's hard. This means doing the homework, being committed to growing, being committed to challenges, being vulnerable, praying for each other, and being genuinely invested in the lives of people in your group.

Being **AVAILABLE** means that you are mentally and physically present when in discipleship groups. You can't be available if you don't make the necessary time and effort to meet. This means showing up on time and trying not to cancel meetings. Try to prioritize it, because discipleship is meant for your good. This also means being **AVAILABLE** to listen to God and respond when He calls you.

Being **TEACHABLE** means that you are open to learning about God and recognize that others have valuable insight. It means you can accept when people in your group challenge you to grow or shift your perspective. It also means you are **TEACHABLE** by God and His word, willing to adhere to what He teaches.

Where do you struggle to be a F.A.T. disciple? How can you grow or be challenged in that area?

EVALUATE USING D-SQUARE MODEL



Every disciple fits in one of these four boxes. As a group, break down each section.

D1: The disciple watches what the leader is doing and doesn't really help with the work. The main goal is to learn as much as possible from the leader.

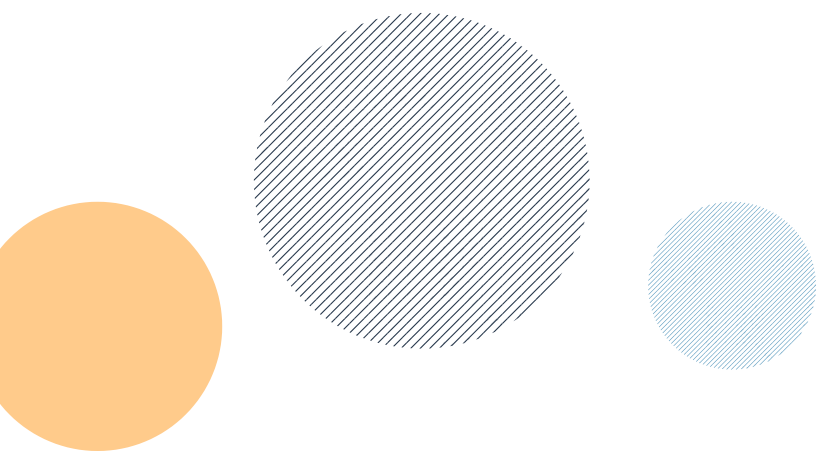
D2: The disciple helps with what the leader is doing, but is not doing the majority of the work. The main goal is to learn from experience with a guide to help.

D3: The disciple does the majority of the work, but the leader is there to help provide guidance and occasional assistance, but they do not do the majority of the work.

D4: The disciple does all the work and is starting to lead someone else who is in the D1 square, while the leader celebrates the maturity and growth of the disciple.

Where are you on the D-Square? (If you don't think you are on the D-Square, or are not a disciple of Christ, talk to your D-Group leader).

What are some practical things you can do to pursue moving to the next square?



WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Write the names 2–3 people in your life you would like to see come into a relationship with God on the line below, and pray that God would make them your future disciples. This list is called an **Impact List**.

Impact List: _____

- Pray for these people by praying for B.O.B. **Burden** to share the gospel with them, **Opportunity** to share, and **Boldness** to share.

MEMORY VERSE:

And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Matthew 4:19

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- *Real-Life Discipleship: Building Churches That Make Disciples* by Jim Putman
- *Master Plan of Evangelism* by Dr. Robert E. Coleman
- Look at the Discipleship Wheel in Appendix 1.6

NEW CORE:

No new cores this week!

ACTIVE CORES



4

TESTIMONY

the gospel through you

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know how to listen to someone's story using F.I.R.E.
- Know how to share your story (your testimony) using "before Christ", "because of Christ", and "now with Christ"
- Know how to share your testimony, making Jesus the hero of the story
- Know how to share God's story using the 3 circles method

KEY VERSE

For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is
eternal life in Christ Jesus our
Lord.

Romans 6:23

INITIAL QUESTIONS

A testimony is defined as one's personal story of life change as a result of the Gospel of Jesus working in and through them.

In what ways has God changed your life? Name a few.

On a scale of 1-10, how confident do you feel in sharing the Gospel through your testimony?

What is the importance of a testimony versus using other methods of sharing the Gospel?

HEAD:

Read John 4:7-30, 39

What did the Samaritan woman do after she meets with Jesus at the well? (v. 28-29)

What happened as a result? (v.39)

What does this reveal about the power of personal testimonies?

A personal testimony can be a really effective way to share Jesus with someone! Just like the Samaritan woman who shared what she witnessed with the people of the town, we too should have the urgency to share how Jesus has changed our lives with those around us. The cool part of a testimony is that it can be a highly relational way of sharing Jesus with someone else.

When was the last time you shared the Gospel with someone?

HEART:

THEIR STORY

If you want to share the gospel with someone whom you do not know, following the F.I.R.E. method can help lead your conversation into a gospel presentation.

FIND COMMON GROUND

What do you both have in common? Both UK students? In the same class?

INTERESTS

What do they enjoy doing in their free time? Do you enjoy similar things?

RELATIONSHIPS

Are they a part of any clubs or on-campus organizations?

Are they close to any family members?

EXPERIENCE WITH SPIRITUAL THINGS

Do you have any kind of religious background?

Who do you believe God is?

YOUR STORY

Now that we understand the importance of a testimony and how to build rapport, let's walk through how we can create a clear and comprehensive testimony. This will allow you to be equipped to share your testimony at any point or in any circumstance. (Hearing about their experience with spiritual things can be a great transition to start sharing your testimony with them!)

The easiest method to create the outline for your testimony is:

Before Christ, I ...

Because of Christ, I ...

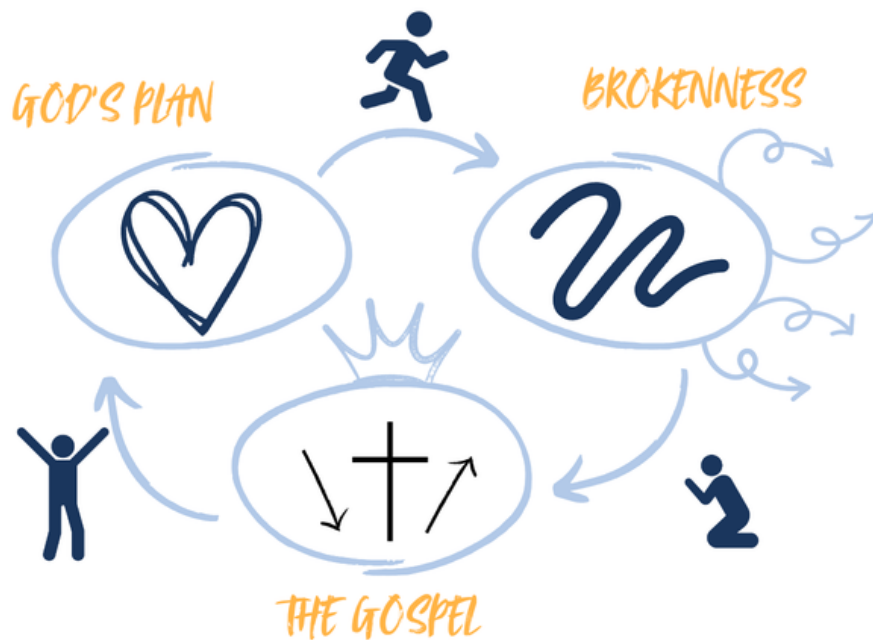
Now with Christ, I ...

Take about 30 seconds or so to fill in those blanks as a starting base.

The important thing to remember is that your testimony should not actually be about you– it should be about God's work in and through you. **Don't forget to make Jesus the hero of your story and the Gospel the key focus because it is the best story of all!**

GOD'S STORY

An easy way to have the Gospel in your testimony is by using the 3 circles method. Because it covers the main points of the Good News in a way that is both visual and easy to understand, it makes an effective diagram to use when evangelizing. These 3 main points include God's plan for man, the brokenness we experience as a result of sin in the world, and how a relationship with Jesus can restore us back into God's plan. **For a more in-depth understanding of the model, go to Appendix 1.1 and review it there. This lesson will focus more on how you can incorporate it into your testimony.**



Circle One: God's Plan

This is a great point in sharing your testimony to stop and ask the person you are talking to a question. This helps to make the conversation personal and engaging. We want to be relational through sharing the Gospel. Some questions you could ask here are:

In your personal experience, what do you believe is the definition of sin?

Do you think that most people are considered good or bad?

After they have shared their response, you can move on to the second circle of the 3 circles method.

Circle Two: Brokenness

Spend time elaborating on where you have experienced sin and brokenness before you knew Christ before moving on to the third circle.

Circle Three: The Gospel

Share how you came into a personal relationship with Christ and how the experience of sin and brokenness changed after you entered into a relationship with Him.

Finally, share that they too can experience joy found in a relationship with Christ.

TYING IT TOGETHER WITH A THEME

A theme is a message explored throughout your story. You want your theme to be something that can be relatable to others. Do not forget that the details can change depending on who you are talking to. Today, we will focus on composing your testimony through the lens of one selected theme. Some ideas can include identity, worth, purpose, etc.

A themed testimony could go something like this:

*“**Before Christ**, I sought my identity in the work I was doing in school, by trying to please my parents, or even in the people I dated. I was constantly being let down because I was finding my strength in sinful people. However, **because of Christ**, I learned that on my own I was never going to be enough. I understood for the first time that God had a perfect design for humanity, which was destroyed by the brokenness that sin brought into the world. But God did not keep us separated from him; instead, He sent His Son, Jesus, who was both fully man and fully God, to die to restore our broken relationship with Him. Once I understood this Good News, and I prayed that Jesus would come into my life and save me. **Now with Christ**, I know that I do not need to find my identity in the work that I do or the relationships I have. Instead, I find my identity in Jesus— the only identity which will truly satisfy me and will never fail me.”*

[illegible]

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Learning about another's story, sharing our own story, and tying in God's story is an easy and effective way of sharing Jesus with someone else. We know that it is important to always have Jesus be the hero of our story because our story has no purpose apart from Christ!

HANDS:

Practice sharing your testimony together as a group. Use this checklist to make sure that all the bases are covered.

- ☐ Is there an explanation of life Before Christ?
- ☐ Is there an explanation of life With Christ?
- ☐ Is there an explanation of life Now With Christ?
- ☐ Is it 3-5 minutes long?
- ☐ Is the Gospel clearly explained?
- ☐ Are there any words used that could be confusing to someone who does not know the Gospel or have a religious background?
- ☐ Is the theme clear and cohesive?

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Practice sharing your testimony with 3 other believers and get feedback
- Once you feel confident in your testimony, condense it into a 60-second “elevator pitch.” Sometimes you do not always get 3-5 minutes to share the Gospel!

MEMORY VERSE:

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Link to a 3-circles presentation



NEW CORE:

No new cores this week!

ACTIVE CORES



5

THE BIBLE

and how to read it

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know the importance of reading God's word
- Know how to read God's word by yourself
- Know how to do a daily quiet time using the S.O.A.P.S. method of reading Scripture

KEY VERSE

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

2 Timothy 3:16

INITIAL QUESTIONS

What is your favorite non-Christian book? (If you don't have an answer, pick a movie)

What aspect of the book makes it your favorite?

What is the overall message the author is trying to convey in that book?

HEAD:

THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE

Every author has a motive and a certain viewpoint they are trying to convey. This viewpoint can change drastically from author to author. Classic books like *The Lord of the Rings* wouldn't be the same if it was written by J.K. Rowling, nor would *Harry Potter* be the same if it were written by J.R.R. Tolkien. Who the author is greatly influences the narrative and message of the book. So to understand Scripture, we must know its grand author.

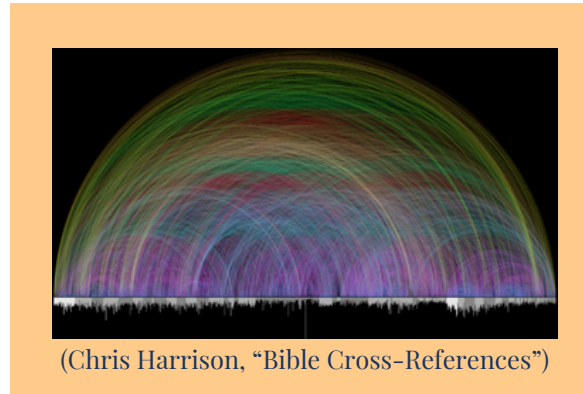
Read 2 Timothy 3:16

This passage says that "all Scripture is breathed out by God." What do you think that means?

Some say that Scripture is "written by men who were inspired by God." Is "breathing out" the same as "inspiring?" How are they similar or different?

Based on this passage, who do you think is the author of the Bible?

No other collaborative written work in history can compare to the unity found in the Bible. God was sovereignly directing the writing of Scripture, and He was also moving in history to bring the Bible to us in the form and order we have today. All 66 books of the Bible hold an important harmony: they all agree on God's character. Each line in the image below represents all of the cross references shown throughout the entirety of the Bible.



Nothing like this could ever succeed unless it had a unifying factor, or in this case, a unifying person: God Himself as author.

“For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” 2 Peter 1:21

THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE

Read 2 Timothy 3:15

What do you think God's goal was in giving us the Scriptures?

God's goal with Scripture is to make Himself known to humanity so that mankind would pursue a relationship with Him. This is most exemplified in the work and person of Jesus, who was called “the Living Word.” He died so that we might have a relationship with God. Scripture tells us this so that we have the knowledge and ability to accept the relationship He offers.

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES

Read 2 Timothy 3:17

What do you think Scripture teaches and trains us for?

By example and principle, the Bible equips us to accomplish God's good purposes in our broken world. This ultimately glorifies God because He is the one who taught us what goodness looks like. Jesus is goodness incarnate; therefore, goodness looks like Jesus and His character. So when God enables us to do good, He enables us to share His son Jesus with the broken world around us. By teaching and training us to do good works, the Bible is teaching us about to know, love, and obey Christ while making Him known and encouraging others to do the same.

HEART:

What do you think we gain by reading the Bible?

Do you spend time reading the Bible? If so, what does that time look like?

What should we do when we do not feel like reading Scripture?

How can the people in your discipleship group help you grow in reading the Bible?

Read Matthew 4:4 and John 6:63

God's words are not just some sayings that contain wisdom; His words are life. Just like food or water, we need God's words to live. The Scriptures are the written word of God that tells us how to have life abundantly. Reading the Bible may be a hard discipline for you, like eating vegetables, but at the end of the day, we need the life-giving nutrients of God's word to survive as Christians. So cling tightly to them, and pursue them daily.



SUMMARY STATEMENT

God authored the Bible through men in order to reveal Himself to mankind, bringing glory to His name and salvation to us. The written word of God gives life; therefore, the Scriptures should be of utmost importance to us. This means we should strive to pursue them daily to find rest, relationship, and life all founded in God's word.

HANDS:

One of the greatest skills you can obtain in life is the ability to read Scripture for yourself. Find what best facilitates focus and direction so that God is most glorified with your time spent in His word.

Your group will learn to study Scripture using S.O.A.P.S. journals. This method will work for any passage of Scripture that you are currently reading. After reading a passage, write a journal entry filling out all of the categories in the acronym each day. By the end of your time, you will have a full journal entry of notes that help you memorize the passage, break down the important parts of the passage, apply the passage to your life, take your findings to God in prayer, and share the truths of Scripture with others.



SCRIPTURE

Read the passage and write out a few, or all, of the verses by hand to better understand the meaning and remember what you read.

OBSERVATION

Write down some of your thoughts on the passage, noting some of the key parts. Also, look for context by reading what was said just before and after the passage. We must always read Scripture within its context so we do not misinterpret what God is trying to say. Look up who the human writer was and to whom they were writing. Write down any other related verses you know. If there is a word you don't understand, look it up and write down its definition. A few good questions to ask yourself in this section are: "What does this Scripture say about the nature of God?" "What does this Scripture say about the nature of man?" "What does this Scripture say about me?"

APPLICATION

This is where you get to apply Scripture to your own life by asking how this passage impacts you. Ask yourself, "What needs to change to align my life with God and Scripture?" "What are some practical steps I can take to make that change happen?" Write down your thoughts in this section.



PRAYER

We cannot live in the way Scripture instructs without God's strength and assistance. Therefore, we must take all the things we've learned to God in prayer. Pray that He applies the passage to your heart and enables you to live up to the challenge set by Scripture. Write out your prayer in your journal, then pray the words you wrote. The prayer doesn't have to be long and complicated, but make it intentional and heartfelt.

SHARE

Write out some specific ways you can share what you've learned with others. Ask yourself, "How do I need to share this with myself, my community, and the world?"

Now that you know the meaning of a S.O.A.P.S. journal, try practicing writing one right now! Below is a blank S.O.A.P.S. journal entry. Take about 15–20 minutes to read a passage and fill out the journal entries. You can use any passage of Scripture, but to the right are a few recommendations for you to get started. After everyone fills out their journal, take a few minutes to each share what they wrote in one of their sections.

- John 15:1–11
- John 1:1–5
- Matthew 6:25–34
- Genesis 22:1–14
- Exodus 3:1–22
- Philippians 2:1–11
- Ephesians 2:1–10

SCRIPTURE Write the actual verse or passage of Scripture.	
OBSERVATION How do you interpret what God is saying in the passage?	
APPLICATION In what ways can you apply this to your life?	
PRAYER Write a prayer asking God to help you apply this to your life.	

SHARE

Think about one thing that you can share with the people in your group.

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Start implementing **CORE 1** by keeping a S.O.A.P.S. journal for at least 4 days throughout this week.
- Consider starting a joint reading plan with your group so that you can discuss your S.O.A.P.S. journals together and keep each other accountable to read Scripture.

MEMORY VERSE:

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

2 Timothy 3:16

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Link to Bible Cross References



NEW CORE:



Complete a S.O.A.P.S. Journal when you read your Bible. Aim to fill out a journal entry at least 4 out of 7 days of the week. Each S.O.A.P.S. Journal should contain the following: Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer, Share.

ACTIVE CORES



6

MEMORIZATION

and meditation of scripture

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know the importance of memorizing and meditating on Scripture
- Know how to memorize Scripture
- Know how to meditate on Scripture

KEY VERSE

How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119:9-11

INITIAL QUESTIONS

What do you think is the purpose of Scripture memory? Do you think it is important? Why or why not?

What is the purpose of meditation on Scripture? How does it relate to memorization?

HEAD:

Read Psalm 119:9-11

How does this passage say a person can keep his way pure?

What does it mean to “guard one’s way”? Why is this understanding essential for a disciple of Christ?

What does it mean to seek God with our whole heart?

How do God’s commands impact your life daily? Why does Scripture warn us against wandering from them?

How can Scripture help you not wander from God’s commandments?

The Word being stored in the heart gives a picture of treasure being stored. How have you stored up Scripture as a treasure in your own life?

In verse 11, it says “hidden your word in my heart” which refers to both memorization and meditation of Scripture. The memorization of Scripture allows us to remember verses throughout our day to day lives, but meditating on Scripture influences our heart posture.

HEART:

MEMORIZATION

Read Matthew 4:1-11

How does Jesus combat Satan?

What do you tend to turn to when fighting sin? What does the outcome lead to?

How does what you turn to reflect your trust in God?

Scripture reminds us of what is true when the world tries to turn our attention away from God. When we are grounded in God's word, we can face the ups and downs of life, because we are holding fast to an absolute truth that is unwavering.

MEDITATION

Read Psalm 119:14-16

What does David compare delighting in God's testimonies to? Do you value God's word to that level?

Scripture memory oftentimes leads to meditation as we dwell on the words of God. Modern forms of meditation are often viewed as a non-Christian practice. Meditation can be defined as emptying your mind to reach a state of transcendence or nirvana. For Christians, meditation is quite different. Meditation is setting your complete focus on God. Meditation is a delight that we get to experience as believers as we discover and remind ourselves of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge God's Word holds.



Meditation is a vital part of our daily time in God's word because it allows us to continually focus on the words we read while thinking critically about how we should apply Scripture to our lives.

“Without meditation, the truths which we know will never affect our hearts... As a hammer drives a nail to the head; so meditation drives a truth to the heart.”

–Thomas Watson

As we go deeper in our walk with God and have more life experience, God reveals more and more of His character. Verses about God giving his son hold more weight when you have kids of your own. The call to sacrifice everything you have and follow after Christ becomes a lot harder when you have things that are costly to sacrifice-- a job, a house, your relationship, etc. However, there is great joy found in the Bible that provides hope in times of hardship. Both Scripture memory and memorization are important as believers to encourage us and equip us to live as life-long disciples of Christ.

How do you think Scripture memory and meditation can deepen your walk with the Lord?

How do you think Scripture memory and meditation can deepen your walk with other believers?

How do you think Scripture memory and meditation can deepen your ability to communicate the gospel to the world?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Scripture memory and meditation are often overlooked practices by modern believers, yet they are the very habits that Christ used to battle Satan. Memorization fuels meditation, and meditation drives us to memorize more of God's word. As we begin to see the effects of Scripture in our lives, we will want to memorize and meditate more and more.

HANDS:

To practice memorization, make a selection of 4 verses to memorize over the next month. They can be verses from a particular section of Scripture or verses from several parts of Scripture which all relate to a common theme. There are benefits to both. By memorizing large sections of Scripture you see the beauty of the text in its particular context. By memorizing individual verses you can discover how different parts of God's word is able to speak truth to a given theme: who God is, fighting temptation, combating anxiety, trusting God's will, etc. Take these passages with you throughout your day, whether it is a note on your phone, or on note cards you keep in your backpack. Keep them close so that you can practice memorizing them often.

If you memorize 1 verse a week, then you will be able to memorize 52 verses in a year! Imagine having 52 verses in your arsenal! In 2 years you could memorize the entire book of Philippians.

As you memorize, always remind yourself that the goal of Scripture memory is not to be seen as a super Christian, or even to have the biggest arsenal of Scripture to use in defense of the faith. The goal is to let the truths of Scripture penetrate your heart and move you to worship. Do not memorize mindlessly. Memorize to intake the mind of God.



HELPFUL TIPS FOR MEMORIZATION

- Read the verse out-loud to yourself, even if you are in a room by yourself.
- Divide the Scripture into sections and memorize one section at a time.
- Use flash cards and write the verses out by hand
- See if you can put a verse to a tune or picture
- Do not paraphrase wording when memorizing. The details are in the wording of God and this can help you not to forget parts of the verse later on.
- Stack different habits together, such as going over your memory verse while you drink your morning coffee or when you arrive to class early.
- Go over your verses with a group that can hold you accountable.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR MEDITATION

- Focus your reading on big portions of Scripture, but meditate on small sections of Scripture.
- Have a quiet environment, isolation from others, and a reflective lingering on God and His word.
- Take your time reading and writing the verse dwelling on each part.
- Ask yourself what the verse(s) reveal about God's character
- Use “meditation mapping” found in the additional resources section

To practice memorization and meditation, work it into the process of your next S.O.A.P.S. journal entry.

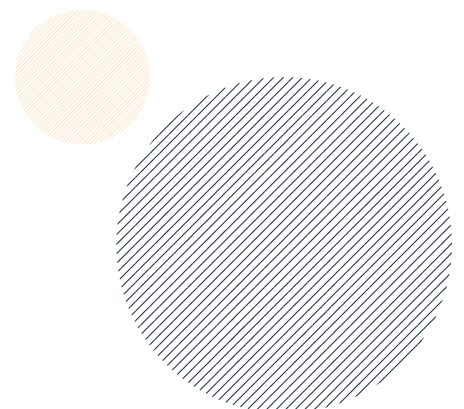
In the Scripture section, choose a verse, a characteristic of God, or a work of God on which to focus.

In the Observation section, take extra time to linger on God's words. Repeat certain words or truths from Scripture in your head. This is a time to let God's words sink deeply into your heart and fill you with joy.

Then, in the Application section, let those words you meditated on lead to thoughts about how you can live out those truths for yourself. Dwell on these thoughts, developing clear details of your plan to live out God's word.

In the Prayer section, let your previous meditations feed into your prayers to God. Rejoice and give Him praise for the truths you have meditated on, then pray for strength and guidance to implement the plans you meditated over. Let your meditation lead to prayer and to delight in Him more.

Share how God has been growing you through the verse you have memorized, so others can delight in God alongside you.



WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Start implementing **CORE 2**

MEMORY VERSE:

How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119:9-11

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Check out some Bible memory apps



- Check out Dr. Whitney's meditation resources article



- Some of our personal favorite apps are Versify and Versle

NEW CORE:



Memorize: Practice your 4 memory verses for the month at least once a week.

Meditate: Spend extra time in your S.O.A.P.S. Journal meditating once a week.

ACTIVE CORES



7

PRAYER

and why it is important

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To know the importance of prayer
- To know how to pray
- To understand why we pray by looking at Jesus' example
- To be equipped with the tools of a solid prayer life

KEY VERSE

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you

1 Peter 5:6-7

INITIAL QUESTIONS

What is the purpose of prayer? Read Hebrews 4:16 and Philippians 4:6-7.

How would you describe the quality of your prayer life?

What are some of your barriers to spending regular time in prayer?

HEAD:

Read Matthew 6:5-8

What heart attitude does Jesus command of people as they pray?

Why do you think Jesus' command here is important to a deeper prayer life?

How accurately does your prayer life reflect this heart attitude?

Jesus tells us our prayers should come from a genuine heart of seeking God, not from wanting to look good before others. He commands that our prayers are to be from a humble and contrite spirit.

Authentic prayer is genuine communication with God, both in making our requests to God and in our listening for His communication with us. God will never speak to us in a way that contradicts His Word. In fact, an important way in which God “speaks” to us in prayer is God bringing to mind Scripture that applies to our requests.

Do you think it is important for your prayers to have both talking and listening? Why or why not?

Read Matthew 6:9-15

Jesus lays out a pathway for prayer in these verses. The P.R.A.Y. acronym is a helpful tool in structuring our prayer lives.

PRAISE

Jesus starts his prayer with praise. “Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be thy name...”
The term hallowed comes from the word Holy, which means to be set apart.

How is God and his name set apart?

How could recognizing this affect your prayers?

REPENT

In verse 12, Jesus models that we are to ask for forgiveness and that we are to simultaneously forgive others.

As discussed in lesson 2, repentance is necessary for a proper response to God. For us to be forgiven, we must forgive others.

A recognition of our own sin and how much we have been forgiven opens up a pathway for us to genuinely give grace and forgiveness to others who have wronged us.

ASK

God longs for us to bring our requests to Him.

Why do you think Jesus asks for God’s kingdom to come and His will to be done before the request for bread?

Why is it important that our requests to God follow this same order?

YIELD

This can be the hardest part for many.

How do we ask and trust God with the results, regardless of the outcome?

Why is this sometimes difficult?

This is why the order of our prayers matters. If your first prayer is, “give us this day our daily bread,” what happens if you don't get bread? Because of the persecution of Christians, many believers around the world do not have enough food to survive. Is God any less sovereign in those moments? Our first prayer must be to praise God for who He is, regardless of the results. When we pray, “draw us closer to you regardless of the circumstance”, God always wants to answer that prayer with “YES”!

No matter how God answers our prayers, we can trust that God remains faithful; that is who He is. His very character is faithfulness; thus, all of his actions are trustworthy, even if we don't understand.

PRAISE.

REPENT.

ASK.

YIELD.

HEART:

PRAISE

Why do you think Jesus starts with praise?

What are ways we sometimes treat God and his name as less than holy?

REPENT

Do you find it easier to praise or to repent?

In what ways does sin inhibit our prayer life?

ASK

Why do you think it is important to bring our prayer requests before God, since He already knows what we need and want?

Psalm 37:4 says, “**Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.**” *Do you find most of your requests to God come from a desire to delight in Him or from a desire and delight for the things God can give you?*

Read Luke 11:5-9. *How does God respond to persistence in prayer? Is He “bothered” by us?*

YIELD

What is an area of your life in which you have a hard time yielding the results to God?

How has God answered your prayers in the past?

What are some barriers you have to yielding the results of prayer to God?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Prayer helps you connect with God, empower your faith, and rely on him. Our prayer lives should consist of praising God, repenting of our sins, asking God for His provision, and trusting Him with the results. God is in control. He is not a magical genie whom we make requests. Instead, prayer is one of the greatest ways we deepen our relationship with God.

HANDS:

Now we will take turns praying using the P.R.A.Y. acronym as a guide. Leaders go first on the first few to give an example. Take time to pray through each of these prompts.

PRAISE

Praise God for something He has done in your life.

Praise God for one of his names/ titles. (ex. Father, provider, protector, savior, etc.)

REPENT

Spend time confessing to God sin in your life (ex. gossip, jealousy, lust, lack of trust, worry, etc.)

ASK

Ask God to hear and respond to your requests. Lift up those requests to Him now.

Ask God to move in your life and on campus this semester.

YIELD

End your time telling God, no matter how He answers your prayers, you know He is good and faithful. Give your trust to God, yielding and trusting that He will do all things for His glory and our good (even if it can be hard to see sometimes at first).

TOOLS FOR PRAYER

PRAYER JOURNAL

It can be so easy to live in the moment and forget how God has answered our prayers in the past. Prayer journaling can be a great tool to see how God answers prayer in your life. Simply write down your prayers and the days you prayed them and then anytime God answers a prayer, write down the date and how it was answered. (See Appendix 1.7 for more prayer journal entries)

PRAYER ASKED / DATE	PRAYER ANSWERED / DATE

PRAYER CALENDAR

Often it can feel like there are so many things to pray for that your prayers feel aimless or lacking direction. Try praying for specific things on specific days. For example, you may pray for God's wisdom, your family, and B.O.B.* every day. You may decide to pray for your campus on Monday, your city on Tuesday, your state on Wednesday, your country on Thursday, and the world on Friday. You may choose a different people group and missionaries in that country once a week or once a month. There are tons of ways to keep prayer exciting. (See Appendix 1.8 for more prayer calendar entries)

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Practice P.R.A.Y. in the “Prayer” section of your S.O.A.P.S. journal
- Start implementing **CORE 3**

Next week is an application lesson on leading a group. Briefly look over the next lesson and think about what passage of Scripture you want to go over so you can be prepared.

MEMORY VERSE:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- PrayerMate App
- Bible App’s “Prayer” section
- Prayer Journal and calendar in appendix 1.7 and 1.8

NEW CORE:



Spend time in prayer using the P.R.A.Y. acronym. Aim to do this at least 4 out of 7 days of the week. Each time of prayer should contain the following:
Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield.

ACTIVE CORES



8

LEARNING TO LEAD

your turn

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand the importance of not only being led but also leading others
- To share and ask intentional questions about Scripture and others' lives
- To be equipped to have the confidence to lead others in a group
- To be able to share what you have learned doing S.O.A.P.S.

KEY VERSE

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

INITIAL QUESTIONS

Have you ever led a bible study or group discussion with someone else?

On a scale of 1-10, how confident do you feel in this ability?

HEAD:

Read 2 Timothy 4: 1-5

Based on this passage, what is Paul commanding Timothy to do? Why?

How does teaching equip people to be lifelong disciples of Jesus?

Teaching the Bible can feel intimidating or like you need a ton of ministry experience, seminary training, etc., in order to teach others. However, there are a lot of tools available to make the process simple. We know that discipleship is important because Jesus himself disciplined others while He was on earth. **Growing in the skill of teaching allows us to disciple others more effectively.**

Teaching and good discussion are facilitated with the right questions being asked. In the book of Romans, Paul asks the church at Rome a total of 47 questions to help teach them on a variety of topics.

Do you think asking questions is a good form of teaching? Why or why not?

HEART:

Read 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

Based on this passage, who should we be imitators of? Why?

How are you currently being an example to other believers?

Oftentimes, we do not know how to do something well until we are taught how to do it. The same is true for leading someone through the Bible.

Last week, you were informed that you would be leading the lesson this week. Because of that, this lesson will look different than the others in this book. **Now it is your turn to lead!** Do not worry, though, we are going to walk you through every step.

The purpose of this discipleship book is to grow you in head and heart knowledge, but also to equip you to live out life as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Part of living it out is being able to lead and disciple other people. In lesson 3, you learned the D-Square model. You can look back at that lesson or reference the model in Appendix 1.5. Today, we will mainly be in section D3, “Discipler Helps. Disciple Does.” You are not in this alone! Let’s start by picking a passage of Scripture to walk through. This could be one you are reading in your personal quiet time, one from a sermon you listened to recently, or just one of your favorite passages of Scripture.

Need some help? Here are a few examples.

Colossians 3:1-17

Psalms 23

Philippians 1

STEPS FOR LEADING A GROUP

Use the S.O.A.P.S. method that we practiced in Lesson 5 to give structure to your lesson.

1. Read the **SCRIPTURE** together out loud. Give everyone time to read the Scripture on their own.

- i. *What about the context, author, or time of writing adds to a better understanding of the Scripture?*

2. **OBSERVATION:** Start up the discussion by asking what stood out to everyone and what was confusing or raised further questions. You do not need to have all the answers to the questions. The purpose of this exercise is to work together to give further clarity to the topic. You can also supplement with resources like *EnduringWord.com* and *GotQuestions.org*. Engaging discussion occurs through intentionality, not necessarily with the perfectly prompted question. Start by asking these three main questions and add others as needed:

- i. *What does this say about God?*
- ii. *What does this say about man?*
- iii. *What does this say about me?*

SCRIPTURE.

OBSERVATION.

3. **APPLICATION:** Study of Scripture should include consideration of how we can live out what we have learned. Consider questions that encourage your group to go deeper, not simply fill in the blank or give yes or no answers. Some examples of questions are:

What is your response?

Is there anything you need to add or subtract from your life to better reflect the glory of God?

What do you think those originally listening to this Scripture were thinking?

How can we apply this Scripture to our lives this week?

Summarize what was discussed.

4. Take **PRAYER** requests and pray together. Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower you to love and obey His Word.

5. **SHARE** what you have learned from your time together. Share the truth you learned with one person outside of your group.

APPLICATION.

PRAYER.

SHARE.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Being able to lead someone through Scripture is important for discipleship and multiplication because you are equipping others to imitate Christ as you imitate Christ.

HANDS:

Now, take time to lead a brief lesson on a passage of your choice!

Leading an effective study through the Bible does not always need to have super hard or detailed questions. God works through intentional conversations about His word and sharing life together!

Passage of choice: _____

What does this say about God?

What does this say about man?

What does this say about me?

Notes/additional questions:

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Practice asking yourself engaging questions while you have your quiet time this week. This will allow you to feel more confident in leading others through the same questions
- Look for opportunities to lead others, even in small ways, this week. Leadership takes time. Leading others often looks like serving them, so find ways to lead them to Christ by the way you serve them.

MEMORY VERSE:

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Explanation of how to lead a Bible study with “Head, Heart, Hands” or “What, So What, Now What” questions



NEW CORE:

No new cores this week!

ACTIVE CORES



9 COMMUNITY

building and serving

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know how Christ sought and served you
- Know how to help others build community
- Know ways in which you can serve

KEY VERSE

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

Romans 12:9–11

INITIAL QUESTIONS

Why is building a community with believers important?

What are the ways a community with believers looks different from a community with non-believers?

HEAD:

Read Romans 12:1-3

In verses 1-2, we see Paul appeal to the church to offer their bodies as living sacrifices. He commends them to do this based on the mercies of God.

How does the sacrifice of Jesus allow us and inspire us to offer our own lives as sacrifices to God and one another?

How does sacrificial love in the church show the love of the gospel to others?

How is living a sacrificial life to God considered worship?

Paul exhorts the Roman church, verses 3-8, not to think of themselves more highly than they ought. Instead, they value the gifts each of them has been given and the gifts others have been given. We are not called to be jealous of one another's gifts but to rejoice in the gifts God has bestowed upon us as individuals in the body of Christ. Each believer is united in Christ and with one another. Each believer has been blessed with spiritual gifts that they may turn around and bless others for the glory of God.

Read Romans 12:4-8

Why must we be united to Christ and other believers as the church?

What are some of the gifts you believe God has given you?

What are some of the gifts that you see in your group?

How can you use these gifts to glorify God this year?

Feel free to take the spiritual gifts survey in the additional resources section after this lesson to discern some of the gifts God has blessed you and your group in.

HEART:

Read Romans 12:9-21

What are some traits of a “true Christian” (v. 9-13)?

How does Christ exemplify these traits?

Are these traits inward-focused, outward-focused, or both (9-21)? Why do you think this is so?

Are there any of these traits that you struggle with? How can you grow in these traits this year?

We see that Paul focuses on the marks of true Christians, which consist of how they serve God and others, both those in their Christian brotherhood (v. 10) and those outside the Christian community (v. 14, 20-21).

What are some ways you are currently serving your Christian community?

What are some ways you are serving those outside of your Christian community?

In what ways did Jesus set an example of service?

What are some practical ways we can follow His example?

Reread Romans 12:14–21

How do the examples in these verses reflect a Christ-like character to both Christians and non-believing communities?

A focus on evangelism means we have to break the “Holy Huddle” of believers. We need a strong Christian community for support and encouragement. At the same time, we should find ways to share Christ with those in our sphere of influence who may not know Him. After all, if we stay with only our Christian brothers and sisters, how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? (Romans 10:14)

Do you experience community with Christians and non-Christians?

Why is community within each group essential?

Jesus promises that the world will hate those who follow after him (John 15:18–25). Regardless of how the world treats us, we are not to respond with a heart of hatred; in fact, Paul exhorts believers to do the opposite.

According to Romans 12:14–21, how are we to treat those who are against us? Is this hard for you to do? Why or why not?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

We are called to serve those around us, both those inside and outside of the church. Engaging with our community is the simplest and most direct way to show the love of the gospel. By engaging our immediate community, we fulfill the Great Commission by reaching the people in our spheres of influence.

HANDS:

We are called to serve both our Christian community and those outside of our Christian community.

What are some ways you can serve your Christian community this next month?

How can you use your gifts to bless those around you in your Christian community?

What can your disciple group do to serve you this next month?

What are some of your “circles of influence” where you can provide service, minister, and share the love of Christ and the message of salvation?

If you are having trouble identifying your “circles of influence,” ask:

- *Where do I play?* This can be hobbies or where you spend your free time.
- *Where do I stay?* This can be your apartment complex or dorm room.
- *Where do I work?* This can be your job, the library, or the people in your major.

How will you serve, minister, or share with that community this next month?

We are also called to be a part of the community in our local church. (Hebrews 10:24–25)

Are you involved in a local church? If so, where? If not, why not?

How can you invest in your local church this next month?

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Find one way to serve in the BCM and your church this month.
- Find one way to serve outside of the BCM and your church in your “circles of influence”.
- Start implementing **CORE 4**

MEMORY VERSE:

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil;
hold fast to what is good. Love one
another with brotherly affection. Outdo
one another in showing honor. Do not
be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit,
serve the Lord.
Romans 12:9-11

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Link to spiritual gifts survey



NEW CORE:



Seek to participate in Sunday corporate worship through a local church once a week.

ACTIVE CORES



10 ACCOUNTABLE

a shared life

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know the importance of living an accountable life to God and to other believers
- Know the importance of correction and celebration
- Know the importance of knowing others and being known by others

KEY VERSE

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

1 John 1:6-7

INITIAL QUESTIONS

What is accountability in the context of the Christian faith?

What is your experience with being accountable?

To whom should we be accountable?

HEAD:

Read 1 John 1:5-10

In this passage, John makes the analogy that God is light. He goes on to describe a contrast between light and dark.

What does light represent? What does darkness represent?

Becoming a Christian means entering into fellowship with God. The Holy Spirit works within us to sanctify us, removing the darkness (sin) from our lives. However, John goes on to say that there are some who claim to be in fellowship with God, but still walk in darkness.

Is John saying that we have to be perfect and without sin to be a Christian?

What does Romans 10:9-10 say is required to become a Christian?

What is the danger of continuing to “walk in darkness”?



A person who finds themselves trying to walk in both light and darkness is in one of these positions:

1. Lost. Not ever truly having the gospel change their life.
2. Lost, but thinks that a past prayer, emotional feeling, being good, joining a church, etc., has saved them, but their life was never truly changed.
3. Saved, but living “on the fence,” as a carnal Christian and worried about the sin in their life, but stuck in it.

John is giving a call to strive for righteousness while on this earth. Our sin is cleansed by the blood of Jesus. We are then reminded that this does not mean we have no sin, but instead, we are encouraged to confess our sins.

What happens when we confess sin according to this passage?

Why is this important to God, and why is this important for our growth?

John does call us to confess our sins to God. However, we should not ONLY confess our sins to God. The call to confession is one that involves living an accountable life both to God and to other believers.

Why would it seem easier to confess those same sins only before God and not to a friend?

Why does John encourage us to confess our sins to other believers?

Confession should entail both correction and celebration. We need correction when we sin. This requires vulnerability to confess our sins to other believers. We should celebrate with others when we are growing in obedience and in our relationship with God.

Loving accountability with God and with other believers is for our sanctification.

HEART:

“Confession is the spiritual discipline that allows us to enter into the grace and mercy of God in such a way that we experience forgiveness and healing for the sins and sorrows of the past.”

–Richard Foster

Both forgiveness and healing are involved in confession. Each day this week, consider an area of your life that needs more scrutiny. Ask God to enter into this area of your life, especially into those areas you are most uncomfortable with, asking for healing and forgiveness.

What reservations, if any, do you have towards confessing your sins to other believers?

How can we as a group encourage accountability with one another?

Is there any sin in your life right now which you feel led to confess to the group?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

An accountable life reflects vulnerability in confession to both God and others. This allows us to know others deeply and be known by others. When we do this, we become open to the correction of sin and can celebrate freedom from sin. Confession leads us to recognize our sin and turn to Jesus for forgiveness and transformation of our hearts to look more like Him.

HANDS:

- Spend time celebrating a few things you have seen God do in your life this year.
- Spend time celebrating where you have seen God work in the lives of your group this year.
- Spend time confessing sin in your life to those in the group.
- Spend time praying for forgiveness and freedom.
- Spend time thinking about and sharing with your group areas of your life that you want accountability in from sin struggles. Talk to a staff member if you need extra help.

Accountability groups are a great way to put this into practice. A strong accountability group can be small and intimate, or it can be larger to gather more perspectives.

What are some ways we could help the BCM be a place where you can know others and be known by others?

What can we do to build trust with one another?

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Start implementing CORE 5

MEMORY VERSE:

If we confess our sins, he is faithful
and just to forgive us our sins and
to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- *The Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster
- Habit Share App
- Covenant Eyes is a paid app, but good for groups or individuals struggling with pornography

NEW CORE:



Spend time in a community where you are known and know others once a week.

Ask and be asked an accountability question once a week.

ACTIVE CORES



11

ON MISSION

a sharing life

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Know the importance of living missionally
- Be able to see how you fit into God's eternal mission
- Know God's desire to reach the world
- Know opportunities on how to serve locally, domestically, and globally

KEY VERSE

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

Revelation 7:9

INITIAL QUESTIONS

Who in your life has been an example of what life on mission looks like? What have you learned from them?

HEAD:

Living life on mission means living with an overflowing desire to make God's name known. It means we are actively looking for opportunities to share, using the talents and capabilities God has given us. A life on mission means that we see that He has placed us where we are to reach those who do not know God.

What places has God put you in where you have an opportunity to share the Good News of Christ with people who do not know Him?

How can you serve these people?

Read Acts 8:26-38

Philip was actively on mission, discerning where to go from the Holy Spirit and sharing with whoever he could when the opportunity presented itself. Philip had a clear willingness to seek out opportunities. He listened to the Holy Spirit, leading him to an opportunity to share, and he took advantage of the opportunity.

What about Philip's heart posture led him to the Ethiopian eunuch?

Do you find that you have a willingness to look for opportunities to share, or is this a challenge for you?

In this story, Philip hears the voice of the Holy Spirit telling him where to go and who to share with.

How does the Holy Spirit help us serve others and share the gospel with them?

HEART:

Read Luke 10:2

What is a laborer? Who do you think is called to be a laborer?

How do you think praying that God would raise laborers might influence our desire to seek opportunities to share?

There are thousands on our campus, millions in our nation, and billions in our world that do not know Christ. We must be aware of the brokenness that surrounds us. That brokenness should drive us to share the Good News of Christ with everyone we meet.

“There are more students who would respond to the gospel than there are Christians seeking to share the gospel with them.”

— Paul Worcester

The first command in the Great Commission is to “Go.” The Great Commission is a call to reach the lost, not just where you already are, but also where the gospel is not.

Read Revelation 7:9

Every tribe and tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord, and it is through the labor of gospel workers that the world will hear the gospel.

How can you work to reach the nations now, during your time as a student?

What factors in your life now make it easier to go and serve than might be possible 5 or 10 years from now?

What are some of the ways you could go and serve as a college-aged student (or right after college)?

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Living on mission means devoting one's life to seeking out opportunities to reach the lost with the gospel. In the Great Commission, Jesus emphasizes a need to reach the nations, and in some way, we are called to be a part of that mission. We need to prayerfully consider what role God has in store for us and be open and willing to go wherever He might send us.

HANDS:

You can support the Great Commission for the rest of your life in three ways: **prayer, giving, and going.**

PRAYER

If nothing else, we ought to be praying earnestly that God would move in the most unreached nations. We should pray regularly for the gospel to be made known in all nations. Have a scheduled time or day that you can spend praying for the nations.

Do you find yourself praying for the gospel to be made known among the nations currently? Why or why not?

GIVING

Giving is another great way to support reaching the nations. You might not be able to give much, but even with all the expenses of college, each of us can sacrifice something. Our careful stewardship makes possible the spreading of the gospel around the world. Missionaries rely on individuals, churches and cooperative giving for financial support in order to devote themselves to their ministry.

What are ways you can give sacrificially while in college?

What are some areas you can consider sacrificially spending less to invest in missions?

GOING

Finally, there is going. At the BCM, we challenge students to give up one summer to serve somewhere domestically like Crossings, Fuge campus, or GenSend, and then to give one more summer serving overseas somewhere through the IMB, Nehemiah Teams, or some other sending organization. Going overseas is a scary thought for a lot of people. The cost, the work, the new environment, the ability to engage with the people, the lack of comfort, and even what your parents might think are all authentic concerns. A lot of people will sadly close the door to this and assume God isn't calling them to it without giving it much thought. But college is the time when you have the most flexibility to be sent.

You have 4 summers in college; how can you use them for God's glory?

Many students take a gap year or two during their college education or immediately following college. The International Mission Board has semester-long, year-long and two year **HANDS ON** or **JOURNEYMAN** paid or extremely inexpensive overseas service opportunities.

What are your current thoughts on serving overseas?

What reservations do you have?

What sacrifices would you need to make to serve this summer or the next?

Who do you need to talk to for more information?

Which of the three roles discussed above (Prayer, giving, going) do you think God might be asking you to fulfill this semester, next year and in the next four years?

Do you think this could change?

How open are you to God surprising you with a call to missions?

Regardless of how you feel about the Great Commission, we must remember that it is a COMMAND. Jesus doesn't say to think about it and go, or to go when you're ready. He says to "Go!" Give it prayerful consideration, but don't just shut the door on it. Pray for opportunities to share here and now. The practices you develop now will be the practices you take with you on overseas missions, so work on building healthy evangelistic habits where you are now. Consider going overseas on a mission trip, but do not neglect the mission here and now.

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Spend time this week praying intentionally over where God could be calling you to serve on mission
- Add praying for the nations to your prayer calendar
- Start implementing **CORE 6**

MEMORY VERSE:

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,
Revelation 7:9

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- *Insanity of God* by Nik Ripken
- *Something Needs to Change* by David Platt
- Missionary biographies and Christian media on this topic: *Tortured for Christ* (Richard Wurmbrand), *Let the Nations Be Glad* (John Piper), *Shadow of the Almighty* (Elizabeth Elliot)

NEW CORE:



Pray for **B.O.B.** this week. Aim to do this at least 4 out of 7 days of the week.

Spend time investing in and praying for one of the 2-3 people on your impact list.

ACTIVE CORES



12 EVANGELISM

reaching the campus

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn how to set up a Gospel Appointment
- Learn what to do before a Gospel Appointment
- Learn what to do at a Gospel Appointment
- Learn what to do after a Gospel Appointment

KEY VERSE

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 all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

INITIAL QUESTIONS

On a scale of 1–10, how confident are you in your ability to share the gospel?

What would prevent you from sharing the gospel with someone?

HEAD:

Throughout the course of this book, you have grown in gospel knowledge, practiced sharing your testimony, learned how to lead others in a discipleship relationship, and learned about God's deep desire to make His name known among all people using His preferred method: you.

Now that you have learned all this, it is time to send you and your group out to the campus and the world to share the Good News of Jesus with the people in your life. However, this task can be daunting. To help ease some of the anxiety with this great task, this lesson will provide some direction on how to most strategically create opportunities to share the gospel with the people in your life. One method to help you start these conversations is through something called **Gospel Appointments**.

WHAT IS A GOSPEL APPOINTMENT?

Gospel appointments are a simple and straightforward method for meeting with someone to find out where that person is spiritually and to intentionally share the gospel. They consist of:

- A one-on-two meeting (or one-on-one if you are feeling confident)
- A specific time and place
- An intentional purpose of sharing the gospel

WHY GOSPEL APPOINTMENTS?

It can be difficult having a serious conversation on your way out of class, or around the water cooler when you are expected to get back to work or have somewhere else to be. The other person may not feel comfortable talking about spiritual beliefs in that setting. Gospel appointments allow you to set up a conversation with someone at a time and place where the person knows what you will be talking about and won't feel ambushed.

Gospel appointments are effective because:

- They provide an opportunity for focused, intentional conversation.
- They reduce distractions and interruptions.
- They give time to explore the person's questions and clarify potential misunderstandings.

HOW TO SET UP A GOSPEL APPOINTMENT

You can set up Gospel Appointments the same way you would set up any meeting where you would like to have more time to discuss a subject with someone. An example of this could be:

"Oh, you're studying Criminal Justice too? I'd love to pick your brain on which professor to take next semester. Would you be up for a meeting to talk more sometime?"

But for us, we want to talk more about God and their faith status, so we should ask in a way that makes our intentions for the conversation clear. An example of this could be:

"Can we meet up for coffee to get to know each other? I would love to hear more about your faith background"

or

"I would love to grab coffee to talk more about what the BCM is all about"

HOW TO PREPARE WELL

Prepare for your appointment by doing these 3 things:

- 1. Pray for the person you are meeting with and pray for the conversation you will have.**
- 2. Text them to confirm the meeting time and location**
- 3. Bring a pen, paper, and a Bible.**

WHILE YOU ARE MEETING

Use the F.I.R.E. method discussed in lesson 4 to create a smooth transition into a conversation on spiritual topics.

- Start by trying to hear their life story. People enjoy talking about themselves, so ask them intentional questions that make them feel known and loved. This part should be about 70% of the meeting time.
- Once they finish their story, maybe tell a bit about your story, using the testimony you developed in lesson 4. This should be about 10% of the conversation.
- Use how God has worked in your life to transition into God's story. This is your time to clearly share the gospel. You can use methods like 3 Circles to guide the conversation, or even draw it for them if it would be helpful. This should be about 20% of the conversation.
- Finally, finish with a clear invitation to accept Christ by asking them a question like: "Because Christ died for you, you can have a personal relationship with Him. Is that something that you want?" After asking this question, be silent and let them answer for themselves. This is a big decision for them, so give them time.

AFTER THE MEETING

No matter their response, give them clear next steps.

If they said yes to a relationship with God, invite them into your discipleship group, or start a new group with them so that they can continue to grow in their faith. Ask them if they are free to meet at the same time and place next week so that they can continue to ask questions and grow. This also allows for more conversations on important next steps such as baptism and church membership.

If they said no, then ask them what barriers are keeping them from accepting a relationship with God. If they are willing, set a regular time to continue meeting with them and help them work through those barriers.

HEART:

What are some fears or concerns you currently have with sharing your faith?

What is something that could encourage someone in your group through the fears they have?

What response would you have if someone you shared the gospel with gave their life to God? How would you feel?

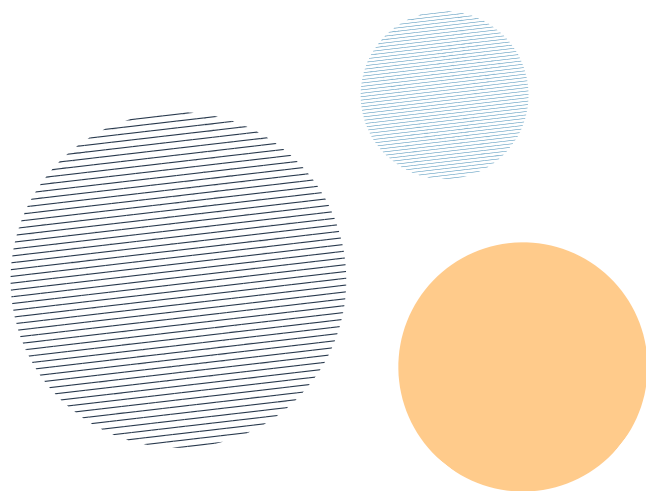
Let your desire to see someone's eternity changed overcome your fear of rejection. Lean on God and His strength to guide and motivate you to reach the people around you with the life-giving gospel. Go in confidence, for behold, Jesus is with you always, to the end of the age.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Gospel Appointments are a great way to start gospel conversations in a quiet and controlled environment. Set them up with clear expectations and a specific time and place. Listen well to them and their story. Share your story and God's story, asking them directly if they want a relationship with God. Help guide them through their next steps, no matter the outcome. And go in confidence knowing Jesus is with you through it all.

HANDS:

Take time in your groups to set up Gospel appointments with the 2-3 people on your impact list you made at the end of lesson 3. Text them now, or make plans to ask them the next time you see them. Hold each other accountable to set up these appointments, because they have eternal consequences. Encourage each other to be bold in reaching these people. Offer to join each other on the Gospel Appointments. Be a united team to reach the campus for God and His glory. You are sent!



WEEKLY ASSIGNMENT

- Continue to check in with your group about the gospel appointments they are setting up
- Complete the M.A.R.C.S. Assessment #2 in Appendix 1.9. Compare this to where you were when you started this book. Be prepared to discuss what areas God has grown you and where you need continue to pursue growth
- Read the section of this book titled “What is Next? – Continued Discipleship” on the next page

MEMORY VERSE:

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 all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19–20

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Link to “*Be a Disciple*”



- Gospelappointments.com
- *The Fuel and the Flame*, Steve Shadrach and Paul Worchester
- Life on Mission app (A 3 Circles app)

ACTIVE CORES





WHAT IS NEXT?

continued discipleship

Thank you so much for trusting us to guide your discipleship by using this curriculum. We hope that you have not only acquired the DNA of the BCM but also the DNA of the gospel through your time reading this material. But now that you have finished, what comes next?

Thankfully, discipleship does not end with a book, so we encourage your group to continue meeting on a regular basis. We recommend that you spend this time reading through a different book, material, or resource that will help your group continue to grow in areas that may be less foundational, but still vital to your growth in Christ.

We also encourage you to continue to practice and discuss the **CORES** you have implemented over the course of this book. These principles are foundational for any Christian, no matter their spiritual maturity.

We are so thankful to have played a part in you building strong foundations in your relationship with Christ.

-THE UK BCM STAFF



APPENDIX ● ● ●

1.1

3 Circles Method

1.2

S.O.A.P.S. Method

1.3

P.R.A.Y. Method

1.4

F.I.R.E. Method

1.5

D-Square Model

1.6

Discipleship Wheel

1.7

Prayer Journal

1.8

Prayer Calendar

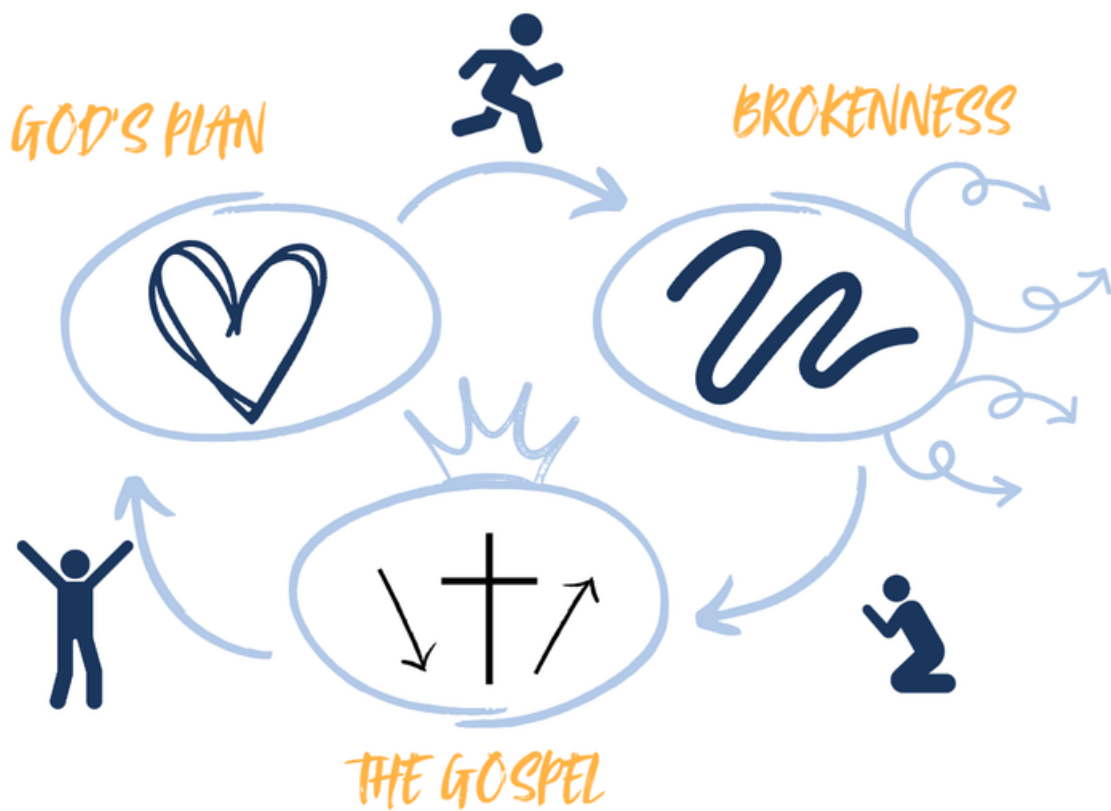
1.9

M.A.R.C.S. Assessment



1.1 ³ CIRCLES METHOD

This method is not the only way to share the gospel and does not need to be used every single time you tell someone about God, but it is a helpful tool to remind yourself to explain the three main points of the gospel when you share.



GOD'S PLAN

Read Genesis 1:31

When God created the earth and everything in it, He created very good things. If you have ever admired the beauty of nature, then you already know this. Goodness is a part of God's character, therefore everything He does and creates must be good. In this good design, God physically walked the earth with mankind and had a personal relationship with them.

BROKENNESS

Read Genesis 3:3-6, 23

Adam and Eve were deceived to think that their desires were greater than God's command. And because God is perfect and holy, He could not allow imperfect and unholy people to be in his perfect garden, so he cast them out, separating them from a direct relationship with God. We call this disobedience to God "sin."

Read Romans 3:23

You have also contributed to the world that is broken. It wasn't just Adam and Eve who sinned, or even just "bad people" who have sinned, but we ALL have sinned. No matter how big or small the sin, everyone has disobeyed God.

Most people try to find a way to make our sin-filled world better in order to escape this brokenness we are all stuck in, but ultimately they end up right back where they started: a world filled with brokenness. A world filled with sin.

Read Romans 6:23

A wage is something you worked for and rightly deserve, and what our sin rightly deserves is a physical and spiritual death. At some point, we will all physically die, but just like Adam and Eve, our sin has separated us from God and caused us to be spiritually dead without Him. It does not matter how much good work we do, we cannot do enough to fix this separation and work our way back to God. However, the end of this verse gives us hope of freedom from this punishment we deserve!

THE GOSPEL

Read John 3:16-17

God sent his Son Jesus to earth to pay the price of death that we earned, so that we could be forgiven of our sin and reunited in a perfect relationship with God just like Adam and Eve had with Him in the garden.

Payment for the whole world's sin had to come from a perfect or sinless person. Although Jesus was God in the flesh, He lived a life very much like ours, being tempted to disobey God in all the same ways we are, but He never once disobeyed God in any way. Because of this, he was the perfect sacrifice that could adequately pay the price that our sin required. After Jesus had been dead for three days, He came back to life to show that He has ultimate authority and command over death itself!

Jesus has the power to offer us life instead of the death that our sin deserved. We are no longer barred from a relationship with God by the sinfulness in us, because Jesus has removed that barrier by giving up His life for us.

This is God's actions: "He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

God desires a deep personal relationship with you, so he provided a way for that to happen. All that is required of us to accept this gift are these three things: Understand that we have sinned and disobeyed God and ask Him to forgive us for our disobedience. Believe in your heart that God has raised Jesus from the dead. Confess that Jesus is the Lord over your life, submitting to His authority in all things.

1.2 S.O.A.P.S. METHOD

SCRIPTURE

Read the passage and write out a few, or all, of the verses by hand to better understand the meaning and remember what you read.

OBSERVATION

Write down some of your thoughts on the passage, noting some of the key parts. Also, look for context by reading what was said just before and after the passage. We must always read Scripture within its context so we do not misinterpret what God is trying to say. Look up who the human writer was and to whom they were writing. Write down any other related verses you know. If there is a word you don't understand, look it up and write down its definition. A few good questions to ask yourself in this section are: "What does this Scripture say about the nature of God?" "What does this Scripture say about the nature of man?" "What does this Scripture say about me?"

APPLICATION

This is where you get to apply Scripture to your own life by asking how this passage impacts you. Ask yourself, "What needs to change to align my life with God and Scripture?" "What are some practical steps I can take to make that change happen?" Write down your thoughts in this section.

PRAYER

We cannot live in the way Scripture instructs without God's strength and assistance. Therefore, we must take all the things we've learned to God in prayer. Pray that He applies the passage to your heart and enables you to live up to the challenge set by Scripture. Write out your prayer in your journal, then pray the words you wrote. The prayer doesn't have to be long and complicated, but make it intentional and heartfelt.

SHARE

Write out some specific ways you can share what you've learned with others. Ask yourself, "How do I need to share this with myself, my community, and the world?"

1.3 P.R.A.Y. METHOD

READ MATTHEW 6:9-15

P_{RAISE}

Jesus starts his prayer with praise. “Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be thy name...”
The term hallowed comes from the word Holy, which means to be set apart.

R_{EPENT}

In verse 12 Jesus models that we are to ask for forgiveness and that we are to simultaneously forgive others. As discussed in lesson 2, repentance is necessary to a proper response to God. For us to be forgiven, we must forgive others. A recognition of our own sin and how much we have been forgiven opens up a pathway for us to genuinely give grace and forgiveness to others who have wronged us.

A_{SK}

God longs for us to bring our requests to Him.

Y_{IELD}

No matter how God answers our prayers, we can trust that God remains faithful; that is who He is. His very character is faithfulness thus all of his actions are trustworthy, even if we don't understand.

1.4 F.I.R.E. METHOD

Following the F.I.R.E. method can help lead everyday conversations into a gospel presentation while making the person feel known and loved.

FIND COMMON GROUND

What do you both have in common? Both UK students? In the same class?

INTERESTS

What do they enjoy doing in their free time? Do you enjoy similar things?

RELATIONSHIPS

Are they apart of any clubs or on campus organizations?

Are they close to any family members?

EXPERIENCE WITH SPIRITUAL THINGS

Do you have any kind of religious background?

Who do you believe God is?

1.5 D-SQUARE MODEL



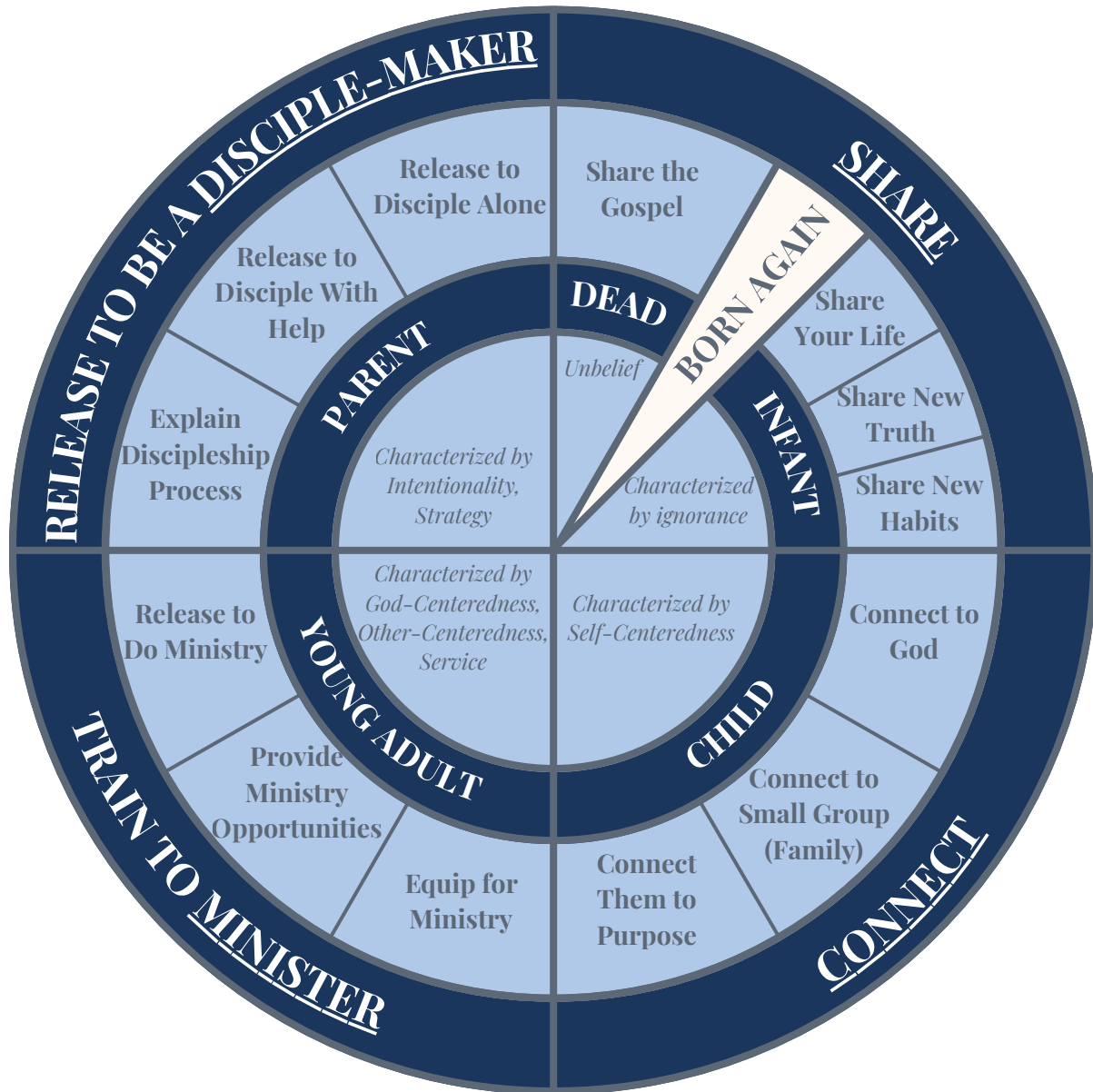
D1: The disciple watches what the leader is doing and doesn't really help with the work. The main goal is to learn as much as possible from the leader.

D2: The disciple helps with what the leader is doing, but is not doing the majority of the work. The main goal is to learn from experience with a guide to help.

D3: The disciple does the majority of the work, but the leader is there to help provide guidance and occasional assistance, but they do not do the majority of the work.

D4: The disciple does all the work by themselves, starting to lead someone else who is in the D1 square, while the leader celebrates the maturity and growth of the disciple.

1.6 DISCIPLESHIP WHEEL



This wheel depicts how we lead person's growth through discipleship. First we must **Share** the gospel and encourage them to share their new faith. Then we encourage them to **Connect** to God and Christian community. Next, we **Train To Minister** so they can learn to lead others to God. Finally, we **Release to be a Disciple-Maker** so they can go out to the world and make new disciples of Christ.

1.7

PRAYER JOURNAL

PRAYER ASKED / DATE	PRAYER ANSWERED / DATE

1.8 PRAYER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Assign each of the things you are praying for to a day of the week. Then each day, you will pray over all the entries in a column. The prayers can differ from day to day, or you can pray for the same thing every day throughout the week. You have total flexibility to make this calendar your own. Use this to create order in what you pray for and a to create a regular rhythm for pray.

1.9 M.A.R.C.S. ASSESSMENT #1

Circle a number 0-5 based on your level of adherence to each statement
(0 = Never / 5 = Always)

Missional

- I regularly share the gospel with others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I pray for people on my impact list to know Jesus personally 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I seek to have God-focused conversations 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I work towards God's name being known globally 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I serve and spend time with people who are not Christians 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Accountable

- I am a part of a group that continually encourages me 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- My temptations and sins are known and discussed with someone 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- My friends have the freedom to share and ask me anything 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I share my failures and successes for the benefit of others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Two or more people regularly challenge me to grow in my faith 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Reproducible

- I continually abide in Christ and His power 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I regularly look for opportunities to invest in others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I desire to invest in believers so that they can invest in others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I share my life with others to display Christ and His character 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I view proclaiming the gospel as a means to make disciples 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Communal

- I fellowship and worship with a local church 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I serve the Church 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I belong in and to a small group of Jesus' followers 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- My words build up individuals and the Church 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I pray for my community, my church, and my leaders 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Scriptural

- I fill my heart and mind with God's words 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I regularly spend time in Scripture 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I point others to God's words 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I submit to the authority of Scripture in thought, word, and deed 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I memorize Scripture 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

1.9 M.A.R.C.S. ASSESSMENT #2

Circle a number 0-5 based on your level of adherence to each statement
(0 = Never / 5 = Always)

Missional

- I regularly share the gospel with others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I pray for people on my impact list to know Jesus personally 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I seek to have God-focused conversations 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I work towards God's name being known globally 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I serve and spend time with people who are not Christians 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Accountable

- I am a part of a group that continually encourages me 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- My temptations and sins are known and discussed with someone 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- My friends have the freedom to share and ask me anything 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I share my failures and successes for the benefit of others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Two or more people regularly challenge me to grow in my faith 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Reproducible

- I continually abide in Christ and His power 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I regularly look for opportunities to invest in others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I desire to invest in believers so that they can invest in others 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I share my life with others to display Christ and His character 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I view proclaiming the gospel as a means to make disciples 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Communal

- I fellowship and worship with a local church 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I serve the Church 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I belong in and to a small group of Jesus' followers 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- My words build up individuals and the Church 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I pray for my community, my church, and my leaders 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- Total: _____

Scriptural

- I fill my heart and mind with God's words 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
- I regularly spend time in Scripture 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
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- Total: _____