

**V. Discipleship is the heart of the \_\_\_\_\_ of church and personal spiritual growth.**

**A. As seen in the ministry of the apostle Paul. Acts 20:17-38; 18:11; Titus 1:5; 1 Tim 3:1**

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**B. As seen in the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor 12:12-27, Eph 4:11-16**

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- Jesus started with a core group of 12
  - As the 12 grew, he selected 70 more and used the 12 to help train the 70
  - By Pentecost, the nucleus was 120, Acts 1:15
  - 3,000 were saved at Pentecost
  - The church had a membership of 5,000 men by Acts 4:4
  - Discipleship turned the world upside down within 25 years! Acts 17:6
  - So much so, all Asia heard the word—without the internet, cellphones, jet travel, automobiles, or copy machines, Acts 19:10
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**C. It is the measure of success in \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Churches and attendance are measurable - how many in church?
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**D. It is the measure of success in \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Evangelism is measurable - how many saved?
- But only discipleship gives a real measure to see if profession is really possession.

**E. It is the measure of success in the individual believer.**

1. Our job is to produce fruit (discipling spiritual children)

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2. Giving birth implies the responsibility of discipleship

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3. Success as a believer is measured by discipleship, specifically 2 Tim 2:2 as the standard of true spirituality

4. Success implies our need for a specific philosophy and plan of approach toward the important central task of discipleship

**Second: There Is a Biblical \_\_\_\_\_ to Discipleship**  
**Discipleship is the purpose of our new life.**

**DISCIPLESHIP**

<b>Is Not</b>	<b>Is</b>
1. An Activity	An Attitude, 2 Cor 12:15
2. A Program	A Philosophy, 2 Cor 6:1,3-10
3. A Series of Lessons	A Way of Life, Eph 4:11-16; Phil 3:17; Col 2:6-7
4. Education Only	Edification & Exhortation, Eph 2:11-12; Phil 2:3; 1 Thes 2:1-8
5. Teaching Only	Reproduction of Your Life in Someone Else, 2 Tim 2:2; Phil 4:9; 1 Cor 4:16; 11:1
6. A Handbook	Injecting Scripture into Another’s Heart, 2 Cor 3:1-3; 1 Pet 4:7-11
7. A Rapid Formula	A Long-Lasting Relationship, 2 Cor 8:1-5; Phil 2:24-30

**DISCIPLESHIP**

**A Balance Between**

1. Content	Concern, 1 Pet 3:8-9
2. Information	Involvement
3. Cerebral Activity	Practical Activity
4. Instruction	Inspiration
5. Teaching	Training
6. Advisement	Apprenticeship
7. Description	Demonstration, 1 Thes 2:10-12
8. Moralizing, 1 Cor 9:16	Ministering, 1 Cor 9:19-23; Rom 15:15-16; 1 Thes 2:3-8; Luke 1:2

**A. What discipleship is NOT**

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ that can be packaged, purchased and considered fulfilled

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2. In \_\_\_\_\_ with evangelism

3. Something to be delegated to a church staff member

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4. A \_\_\_\_\_ course / just lessons

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5. Home Bible studies

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6. One-on-one Bible studies

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7. Small groups meeting

**B. What discipleship IS**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of spiritual life from one living Christian to another

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2. The practical \_\_\_\_\_ that leads to conformity to the image of Christ

The Greek word for disciple, *mathetes*, means a follower-learner. You become a pupil or enroll as a student. This is why Harvest has a set curriculum and content to accompany discipleship.

- Some form of the word *disciple* found over 230 times in the Gospels
- It appears over 25 times in Acts
- The word is not found in the epistles, where to become a disciple is replaced with being a *saint* (it occurs 57 times)
- A disciple is one who learns, whereas a saint is one who is set apart for the mission by what they have learned! 2 Cor 7:1

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3. A process measured by four \_\_\_\_\_

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4. A process with both a beginning and \_\_\_\_\_

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**Third: There Is a Biblical \_\_\_\_\_ for Discipleship**  
 Discipleship is God’s plan for our present life.

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<b>THE SEVEN STAGES OF DISCIPLESHIP</b>	
<b>Step One:</b> Repentance & Faith, John 1; Luke 3	A change in one’s life after he trusts Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord
<b>Step Two:</b> Enlightenment & Guidance, John 2-5	Once that change becomes a reality, the disciple begins learning how his new life in Christ is different
<b>Step Three:</b> Ministry Training, Luke 4-6	As he learns more about what Christ requires of him, the disciple begins getting involved in the mission
<b>Step Four:</b> Leadership Development, Luke 6-9	As the disciple learns and participates in ministry he begins to lead others into the same process
<b>Step Five:</b> Separation & Reevaluation, John 6-8	Leadership draws opposition and demands a time of testing to prove the true commitment and motives of the disciple
<b>Step Six:</b> Participation in Leadership, Luke 10-19; John 9-12	Those potential leaders who endure the testing step up and assume leadership roles in the eyes of others as they put into practice decisions they made during the testing times
<b>Step Seven:</b> Consecration & World Vision, Luke 20-22, Acts 2,10	Leadership becomes a lifestyle where the individual is consecrated and equipped to carry out the mission

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**OUR PATTERN FOR DISCIPLESHIP IS SEEN IN THE TRAINING CHRIST GAVE HIS TWO GROUPS OF DISCIPLES—THE 12 AND THE 70**

1. He taught them the evil of racism and prejudice.
  - With the 12 He healed the centurion’s son, Matt 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10
  - To the 70 He taught the parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37
2. He demonstrated the acceptance of women.
  - With the 12, He received a sinful woman, Luke 7:36-50
  - With the 70, He permitted Mary of Bethany to sit with the men to study, Luke 10:38-42
3. He taught the principles of truth and holy living.
  - To the 12, Matt 6 • To the 70, Luke 11:1-13
4. He taught about the conflict between the kingdom of Satan and the kingdom of God, as demonstrated by His power over demons.
  - To the 12, Matt 12:22-33; Mark 3:22-30; Luke 11:14-26
  - To the 70, Luke 11:14-26
5. He taught against religious hypocrisy (of the Pharisees)
  - To the 12, Matt 12:33-45 • To the 70, Luke 12:1-2
6. He taught about the kingdom, and its growth and condition until the Second Coming.
  - To the 12, Matt 13 • To the 70, Luke 12:35-13:21
7. He taught them not to fear man.
  - To the 12, Matt 10:26-31 • To the 70, Luke 12:4-12
8. He taught them he would cause division, bringing not peace but a sword.
  - To the 12, Matt 10:34-36 • To the 70, Luke 12:49-53
9. He had conflict with the Pharisees concerning their traditions, and challenged tradition where it contradicted the Bible.
  - To the 12, Matt 15:1-20; 16:1-12 • To the 70, Lk 14:1-11; 15:1-32
10. He called them to sacrifice and deny self.
  - To the 12, Matt 16:13-28; Mark 8:27-9:1 • To the 70, Luke 14:25-35
11. He taught them the causes of sin and the need to restore the sinner.
  - To the 12, Mat 18:21-35 • To the 70, Luke 17:1-10

**Conclusion**

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To get even more of a biblical grounding, complete the “Discipleship Study” in the Appendix to this section.

**D2 How to Disciple**  
**Introduction**  
**Text: 2 Timothy 2:2**



**Four: There Is a Biblical PLAN of Discipleship @HBCBlueSprings**

Getting Started	Tips on Teaching	Developing Your Own Style	Practical Skills
<i>The First Time You Meet</i>	<i>Tying Lessons Together</i>	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Key Realizations</i>
<i>How to Set Up Your Notebook</i>	<i>Handling Problems</i>	<i>Choosing &amp; Using Illustrations</i>	<i>Concluding Thoughts</i>
TEACHING YOU		TRAINING YOU	

**Introduction**

PASTOR	DISCIPLER
<b>Rom 1:9</b> For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;	The discipler exercises a regular prayer ministry for the disciple.
<b>1 Cor 3:3</b> For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?	The discipler points out carnality when necessary.
<b>2 Cor 11:2</b> For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.	The discipler is burdened for the disciple's consecration to Christ.
<b>Gal 1:8</b> But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.	The discipler guards the doctrinal integrity of the disciple.
<b>Phil 1:8</b> For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.	The discipler possesses a Christ-like love for the disciple.
<b>Phil 2:17</b> Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.	The discipler will sacrifice for the disciple's spiritual growth.
<b>1 Thes 2:11</b> As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children,	The discipler's role is parental.
<b>1 Pet 5:2</b> Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;	The discipler will faithfully feed the disciple the Word of God.

**I. The MINDSET of the Discipler**

A. A discipler should expect to make disciples in an environment that is constantly \_\_\_\_\_, Rom 8:36 (cf. Psalm 44:2); John 12:24; Phil 2:17,30; 1 Cor 4:6.

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B. Spiritual leaders are very vulnerable to being lifted up with \_\_\_\_\_, 1 Cor 4:6, 8:2; 2 Cor 3:5; 4:5, 12:6

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C. Paul’s mind-set sets the example for \_\_\_\_\_ leadership, 1 Cor 15:10; Gal 1:15-16; 2 Cor 3:5; Col 1:23; I Tim 1:12

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**II. The FOUNDATION for Spiritual Growth**

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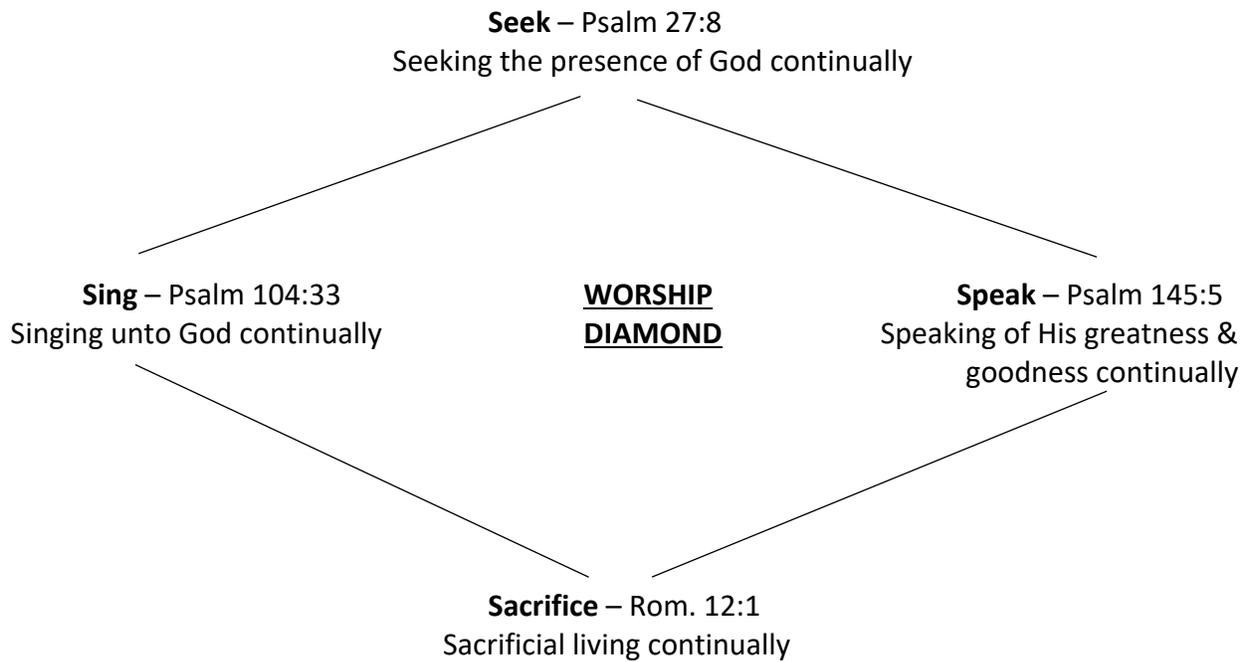
**A. The Four Goals: Steps to Spiritual Success**

1. Goal One: To establish the disciple in the worship of God—provides needed

- a. This goal is the highest obligation of the disciple, Rom 11:36; Col 1:16; Rev 4:11.
- b. Establishing the disciple in worship protects the disciple from idolatry, Exo 20:1-6.
- c. The disciple is also protected from being self-centered.
- d. Being established in worship positions the disciple to bear fruit to the Glory of God, John 15:1-8.

**How do we accomplish this goal?**

A practical way to help establish your disciple in the worship of God is to teach them to practice the “worship diamond.”



2. Goal Two: To establish the disciple in the word of God—provides needed

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a. The disciple must get his absolute authority from the Bible.

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b. The Lord Jesus Christ established his word with his disciples, John 14:15, 14:24, 15:3,7,14; 17:6-8.

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**How do we accomplish this goal?**

- Challenge them to build a daily altar (personal quiet time with God) using our prayer diary or a Bible reading plan
- Show them how to use center column reference (or another tool) to let the Holy Spirit explain scripture with scripture through cross-referencing
- Encourage them to fill out the handout and take notes every Sunday
- Be willing to devote a few minutes each week after discipleship to answer any Bible questions

3. Goal Three: To establish the disciple in the local church fellowship and structure—provides needed

- It gives them an identity in the Body of Christ, Rom 12:5; Gal 3:28
- It gives them a place and safe space to grow
- It provides them with accountability, 1 Thes 2:11; 5:12; Heb 13:17; 1 Tim 3:15
- It provides them with a structure to equip them for ministry, 2 Cor 5:18-20; Eph 4:11-12

- a. Jesus established this principle with the twelve, John 13:34-35, 15:12-15
  - b. Jesus established the body of Christ to function as one, John 17:11, 17:18-26
  - c. The disciple must be more than your student; they must become your friend
  - d. Your disciple must have a vehicle to work out God’s plan for his or her life
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**How do we accomplish this goal?**

- Sit with them in church services
- Bring them to attend ministry functions with you
- Invite them to spend time you with and other friends outside church facilities (dinner, games, etc.)
- Challenge them to obedience in baptism
- Encourage them to get involved in church activities and service
- Help them transition into an adult class, or men’s and ladies’ ministries
- Are they prioritizing the Lord in their resource? Teach them to tithe.

4. Goal Four: To establish the disciple in ministry with you—provides needed

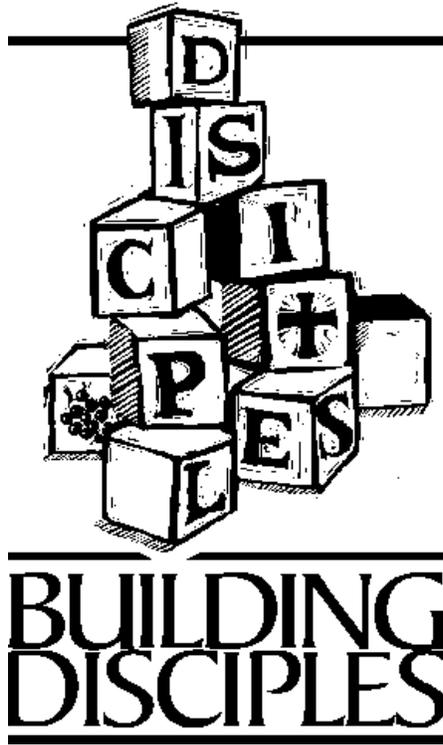
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- a. Your job is not complete until your disciple has begun an active involvement in the work of Jesus Christ.
  - b. Both Jesus and Paul produced people who were capable, functioning participants in ministry, John 14:12, 15:1-8, 15:16
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- It makes them effective, 1 Pet 4:10
- It will increase and edify this church body in the love of Christ
- It includes them in our God common mission, Mark 10:45; 1 John 3:16
- It brings them to the place where can reproduce, 2 Tim 2:2; Col 1:27-29

**How do we accomplish this goal?**

- Show them how to do personal evangelism when you go out
  - Take them with you to a Bible study
  - Give them responsibilities in ministry activities (meals, cleaning, service, support, baptism, hospitality, etc.)
  - Encourage them to join an adult class
  - Help them develop their testimony! (See “D1 Helps” for Lesson 1)
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**B. Summary**



• Establish your \_\_\_\_\_ in Worship – Honor God by following Christ personally and passionately.

• Ground your \_\_\_\_\_ in the Word – Get disciplined and begin to learn the Bible and see what God is saying to you.

• Invest your \_\_\_\_\_ through this Church – Participate in the life of this body by becoming a member, by partaking in the ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper, and by supporting the Gospel here and abroad by tithing (10% of your income), and giving more as the Lord leads in special offerings or sacrificial commitments. Develop authentic loving fellowship with others in this church.

• Involve your \_\_\_\_\_ in Ministry – Initiate redemptive relationships with those who do not yet know Jesus Christ, and invest your time, skills, talents, and gifts in and through this church and its ministries.

Friendship → Faith → Fellowship

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