## **A CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP**

As you consider "discipling" another person, please take to heart Jesus Christ's investment in that person: He created them, He gave his blood for them, He loves them unconditionally, He knows them as His sheep, He has given them eternal life, He thinks about them countless times a day, He is seeking their best interests and He wants them to mature and "bear fruit." Incredibly, you have been given a very special opportunity to be a part of God's over-all development and encouragement of His young disciple that stands before you. It is no mistake that God has also chosen you to disciple them. As you train this new disciple, you will grow and understand much more as the Holy Spirit instructs and uses you.

The Bible refers to new Christians as "babes in Christ" (1 Pet. 2:2). As with any newborn, critical sensitivity to the needs of the baby are the over-riding concern. The main issue is the good health of the young child, because good health insures normal growth, which eventually leads to maturity, responsibility, and reproduction (fruit). That same passage, tells us that the "babe" in Christ needs the pure milk of the Word; it is vitally important that all discipleship be based solely in God's Word and its application. Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" He then concluded, "Feed my sheep" (Jn. 21:17). With that in mind, please be sensitive to the following discipleship guidelines. Remember, disciple making has to be developed within you. It is also takes time, so be patient with yourself, your expectations and the new disciple (remember God is patient with you too, 2 Peter 3:9). God is also using the young disciple to help continue your training towards your own maturity as well as helping you to become a better disciple maker.

Becoming a disciple is something that is "caught" and "taught." Jesus said, a disciple will become like his teacher (<u>Luke 6:40</u>). Discipleship is not merely the accumulation of Biblical knowledge. The Pharisees in Jesus' day were loaded with Biblical knowledge, and yet Jesus cursed them for their pride and spiritual blindness to the truth. <u>James 1:22</u> tells us that if we learn the Word but fail to apply it we will become deceived. Healthy discipleship involves Biblical knowledge energized and illuminated by the Holy Spirit, then applied in His power in a way that produces eternal fruit through the believer. This is the critical transformational process described in <u>Romans 12:1-2 and II Cor. 3:18</u>. Discipleship becomes exciting and is "caught" by the young disciple when he or she sees you trusting God for something tangible, taking a calculated risk for Christ, and learning to be in the action of outreach with other Christ-controlled Christians.

All "babes" in Christ need someone else who is further down the road of spiritual maturity to help train them. That person needs to help the disciple to catch the life-style of trusting Jesus by faith. He needs to take the young disciple out into the "harvest field." The young disciple must get into the action, and see God come through for him.

Consider the difference you see between Christ-centered disciples and the futility everywhere else. Seriously look at the ripple-effect of Christians going their own self-centered, hypocritical way. What happens to the quality of their relationships? What gives them meaning, significance, and fulfillment in life? Look at their "fruit." Many are living defeated Christian lives because they were never discipled. Jesus said, "the multitudes were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd." The discipleship process is essential to progress in the Christian life. And God chooses average Christians to become great disciple makers, through His Holy Spirit's power and enabling.

<u>The encouragement</u>: Choose every day to be a disciple of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost, to live everyday filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit, growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, so that God can use your life and words to reach and disciple others the Biblical way (<u>see Pr.10:21 and 1 Thes.2:7-12</u>). As you follow Christ closely, you will see God meeting your needs, building your faith, becoming your closest friend, and using your life and words to greatly influence others for His kingdom.

<u>The choice</u>: Jesus said, "No man can serve two masters." (Matt.6:24); "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." You must choose who you will follow. To be divided is to be double minded according to James 1. To be uncommitted leaves a person without the will, determination, purpose, and un-distracted attention to be Christ's disciple.

If you have clearly chosen to be a disciple of Christ and have met His qualifications (Mt. 10:38, 16:24, Mk.8:34, Lk.9:23), then you have begun the most exciting adventure of your life. You will experience the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal 5:22-23) more and more as a way of life. As a disciple, you will encounter many difficulties and challenges to your faith, and probably to your life. But God's all sufficient sovereignty, grace, and power will give you great victories and guide you day by day molding and shaping your life for His purpose and glory, and producing your greatest personal fulfillment.

The call to make disciples is the third greatest commandment given to Christians corporately and to you individually (<u>Mt.28:18-20</u>), and comes only after the first and second greatest commandments to love God and others (<u>Mt.22:37-40 and Mk.12:30-31</u>). It is also a way of fulfilling the first and second greatest commandments; discipleship is an illustration of love for God (<u>Jn.14:5</u>) and others (<u>1 Thes.2:8</u>). He will empower you in this as you step out in obedience and faith (<u>Acts 1:8, 2 Cor.5:7, Col.1:28-29</u>). Will you follow His call (<u>Is.6:8</u>)?

#### PRACTICAL GUIDELINES TO "GO...AND MAKE DISCIPLES"

Pray that God will develop an ever-increasing flow of committed, multiplying disciples arising from your life and ministry.

## **Discipleship examples** (notice discipleship always multiplies to the next generations):

- 1. <u>Luke 6:12-16</u> Jesus chose to disciple the 12; they continued multiplying afterwards.
- 2. 2 Timothy 2:2 Paul discipled Timothy who discipled faithful men who also continued.
- 3. <u>I Thessalonians 1:4-10, 2:4-12</u> Paul led the Thessalonians to Christ and discipled them; they in turn spread that message, the gospel, everywhere within 300 miles (<u>1 Thes.1:7-8</u>).

## **Key discipleship passages:**

- 1. <u>Matthew 28:18-20</u> "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Jesus speaking)
- 2. <u>Acts 1:8</u> "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Jesus speaking)
- 3. <u>2 Timothy 2:2</u> "And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."
- 4. **Ephesians 5:15-18** "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.."

<u>A young disciple will develop best in four simultaneous contexts</u>, all occurring in a climate of developing personal relationships among true Christians with love, grace, acceptance, patience, encouragement and challenging action that requires faith:

- 1. Meeting one-on-one weekly with the person discipling him.
- 2. Meeting in a small group Bible study weekly.
- 3. Being part of a large group weekly.
- 4. Being involved in consistent outreach and personal evangelism.

# Essential "good soil" requirements to look for in anyone you hope to disciple (2 Tim.2:2):

Here are a few key *FAITH* issues; without these, discipleship <u>won't</u> happen.

- 1. **Faithful:** Does what he says he will.
- 2. Available: Has time to meet and doesn't miss appointments, meetings, etc.
- 3. **Interactive:** Communicates honestly with you.
- 4. **Teachable:** Not argumentative but takes what you say to heart and applies it.
- 5. **Heart for God:** Most importantly, they love God wholeheartedly and don't love the world.

## Guidelines to follow as you begin discipling a younger Christian:

- 1. **Pray** for the person you are beginning to disciple. Rely on the Holy Spirit to work in their lives. Remember, that the person you are discipling will be discipling the next generation!
- 2. **Building a relationship and personal credibility** is most important. Be sensitive to the needs and interests of the young disciple. Meet them where they are at.
- 3. **Be personable, relatable, and genuinely interested** in the new disciple with motivation of love. This should be demonstrated by taking the initiative to be <u>relatable</u> and build good lines of <u>communication</u>. Balance your relationship with <u>common interests</u> and <u>fun activities</u>.
- 4. **Remember, who you are to a person determines a lot of what he takes in from you.** The acceptance of content and new knowledge depends to a large degree on how he views the Christian sharing the information. It's been said that, "first they want to know that you care and then they will care what you know."
- 5. **Be sure to let the new disciple see you as a person who is also growing in Christ**; and share with him appropriate issues that you are presently trusting God for (ex. problems, challenges, difficulties).
- 6. **Answer the new disciple's questions first, then proceed to share the material** that you have planned for your time. When answering questions, always help him to <u>think first</u> about what God would say, instead of what you, a friend, or book would say.
- 7. **Do not "preach" at the person but rather <u>ask him questions</u> to help him learn things from the Bible himself. Think of your time as guided learning not forced teaching.**
- 8. Always help the new disciple see the Bible as the only source of truth for living his life.
- 9. **As you are talking, write out verses, diagrams, illustrations** on paper, and give it him as you are ending the appointment. Encourage them to keep this for future reference.
- 10. If you do not have time to finish all the material, simply continue it next time.
- 11. "Too much, too soon, too bad; too little, too late, so sad" Don't overload them with info, be patient! Don't dumb it down, help them take the next step!
- 12. Remember, the new disciple does not yet think, talk, or act like a more mature Christian, so do not ignorantly lose your credibility by doing one or more of the following:
  - a. Do not talk in "heavy" Christian religious language; talk in a normal way.
  - b. **Do not** try to communicate too deep, avoid rabbit trails; *keep it simple*.
  - c. <u>Do not</u> verbally or non-verbally communicate a <u>standard</u> of <u>performance</u> such as legalism, "rules and regulations," dress codes, language use, or any other "Christian" mannerisms. The new disciple must learn to thrive in his new freedom in Christ and follow the Holy Spirit's direction rather than the philosophies of others; <u>avoid legalism</u>.
  - d. **Do not** "spiritualize" everything in your conversation; **be real with them**.
- 13. **Meet once or twice each week; continuity and consistency** of time spent together is critical for effective discipleship. There must be a <u>WILLING COMMITMENT</u> to spend effective time with the new disciple so that he or she gets a good start in their walk with God. You can not mass-produce or assembly-line the discipleship process.

14. **Do not get discouraged** thinking that you did something wrong when someone becomes a Christian, but doesn't want to meet with you, or starts, but then drops out. Remember, you're responsible only to be available to let God work through you in His Spirit's power, <u>trusting results to Him</u>. Keep looking for the "good soil," (<u>Mt.13,Mk.4,Lk.8</u>) *FAITH* person.

## **Appointment tips:**

- 1. Go to the potential disciple and intentionally set up an initial appointment, don't expect them to come and ask you to disciple them, remember Jesus' example <u>Mt.4:19</u> and <u>Mk.1:17</u>.
- 2. When setting up that first appointment, you need an opening transition statement as to what and why you would like to meet with them. Ex. "John/Suzi, would you like to see how God works in our lives in a practical day to day way?" Or, "Do you have some time tomorrow or the next day to get together and talk?" Have your schedule handy to plan a time.
- 3. Always call them the night before to confirm and remind them of the appointment.
- 4. At the end of each appointment, set up another appointment.

How to use this "teacher's" packet: (Go through whole packet on your own first, then...)

- \* Go through each follow-up before your appointment with the new disciple.
  - a. Make sure you are familiar with each of the diagrams and have thought through the verses, questions and truths before you meet.
- \* Give them the "student" packet and then each week work through it together.
  - a. Fill out each of the diagrams together (they are all filled out in the teacher packet).
  - b. Discuss the **questions** after each of the verses.
  - c. Follow all the "focus" pointers and other notes along the way.
- \* Make sure to stress applying God's Word after each of these Truths.
- **\* This packet is just a tool.** Be sensitive with where they are at. Don't view this packet as a lesson plan but as rails to run on. Work through it at their pace. If, on a given appointment, they need to talk about something different, be willing to adjust.
- \*You must make a <u>critical decision</u> by the <u>third appointment</u>: Is the potential disciple serious enough to continue meeting with? Are they a *FAITH* Christian? If they will not read the Bible on their own, find excuses to not meet, are full of worldly distractions, unfaithful; then it is impossible to really disciple them. Their heart is not really there yet. So, invite them to a Bible study, retreats, large group fun activities. Do not redouble your efforts with this person; instead look for someone else that really wants to grow in Christ, a *FAITH* Christian.
- \*This packet is the result of over 40 years of personal discipleship it works so we ask that as you use it and reproduce it that you leave it as it is without altering it. It is designed for one-on-one, small group Bible study, and as a resource for speaking to groups. Custom fit the content to the person or group you're addressing. You may need to add a verse, question, illustration, or part of your testimony. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you plan and talk.
- **\*Remember**, it will take going through this content with at least three people to see your discipleship ability begin to emerge with confidence. This will <u>feel weird</u> at first, and saying these things may <u>sound weird</u> too. Be patient with yourself (<u>Phil.1:6</u>) and keep growing.

## \*\*\*1st get-together - Before getting into the discipleship packet, go over the gospel. \*\*\*

- 1. **Never assume anything!!!** Don't assume that just because you've seen this person at church, or they grew up in church, or anything like that, that this person is a Christian.
  - a. Take the initiative to make sure they're a believer before starting with the packet.
  - b. Ask this person what their experience with Christianity has been.
    - i. Listen to their answers and ask clarifying questions
      - 1. <u>Ex</u>. When did Christ become real to you?
    - ii. If it is clear they've accepted Christ's gift of salvation, continue sharing your testimony and getting to know this person, then get into the discipleship packet.
    - iii.If you realize they have never personally started a relationship with Christ:
      - 1. Ask if they've ever seen the 4 Spiritual laws, then go over them with them.

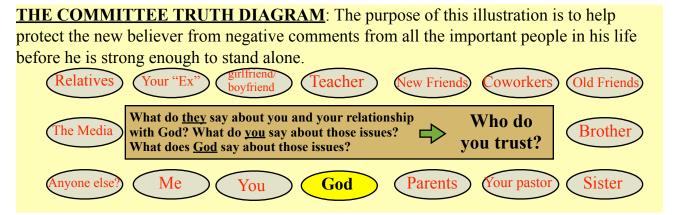
Benefits of using the 4 Spiritual Laws: Simple but complete summary of the full gospel, a great conversation starter, begin with a positive (God loves you), clearly present how to receive Christ, give you confidence (you know what you're going to say before you say it), you can show a person how to receive Christ in a few minutes, transferable method for teaching others to witness, concise but essential information isn't left out and millions have come to Christ through them.

- 2. For more information about sharing the 4 laws, ask whoever is discipling you.
  - a. They'll give you more guidance and copies of the 4 Spiritual Laws.
- 3. Avoid a "canned approach" by reading, then illustrating and finally personalizing.
  - a. Use good illustrations and personal examples to make the gospel clear.
  - b. Without an adequate understanding of the gospel a legitimate response is difficult.
- 4. How to present the 4 Spiritual Laws.
  - a. Pray before you start, that God would empower you and make them receptive.
  - b. Finish the booklet before answering tangential questions (don't get sidetracked).
  - c. Depend on the Holy Spirit, not yourself. He has to convince that person.
  - d. Be aware of your listener, ask questions like, "is this making sense."
    - i. Go back and explain everything they don't understand.
    - ii. Understanding the key issues of the gospel is vitally important!
  - e. Hold the booklet so it can be clearly seen. and point at what you are reading.
  - f. Fold back the page that isn't being read, so they don't get distracted.
  - g. Be sure this person understands that Christ comes into their lives and forgives their sins. If they merely repeat a prayer without understanding that Christ comes into their life and forgives their sins they do not experience true salvation.
  - h. Never force, badger or push someone to receive Christ.
  - i. Simply share the gospel with them, trusting God and then leaving results to Him.
    - i. If they don't receive Christ's gift, don't go on to discipleship, instead, if they are interested, continue meeting with them to walk through their reservations.
    - ii. If they do receive Christ, go immediately (within a week) to follow-up #1.

#### FOLLOW UP # 1 - SECURITY AND ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

<u>Hebrews 6:19</u> - We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

The point of your time together with a new disciple is to help them see that Christ has actually come into their life for sure. They need to see what Christ thinks of them and what the Bible promises about eternal life. Without security, no relationship can grow and develop. So this content, if understood, will help the Christian to grow spiritually in a much healthier way.



<u>Set this diagram up like this</u>: Go over this diagram on their paper asking, "suppose sitting around a large table are all the people who know you well, friends, family, teachers, etc. They are having a special committee meeting with you present to determine what is <u>most true about you and your relationship with God.</u>" After two hours of embarrassing discussion, God actually materializes at the table and asks if He can give His input about you. And so He does for the next 15-20 minutes.

<u>Focus</u>: help them realize that they must learn to rely only on God's Word for their security and that they can have true security in Christ. As you ask these questions, help them come to the correct answers on their ownhelp them discover these valuable truths by asking these questions and then clarifying questions as needed.

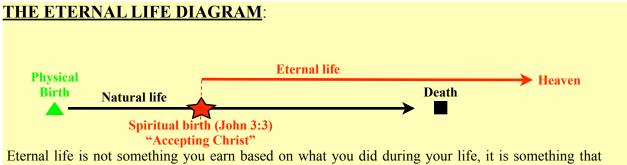
# Follow the diagram up with these questions:

- 1. Which opinion would you believe to be the most true about you? Why?.
- 2. Do you think that God's opinion of you would be more true than all the others combined?
- 3. What if someone, or everyone, disagreed with what God said about you? Is God still right and true, or is He now wrong?
- 4. What if you disagree with God? Who is right?
- 5. In a relationship with God, why is it important to know what He believes about you?
- 6. If God says something is true about you, can you believe that as fact?
- 7. Can you think of anywhere you can find "clear-cut" facts about what God believes about you?
  - a. The answer is God's Word, the Bible!

#### Now go over the next few passages concerning what God says about them:

- 1. **John 10:27-30** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Who do the sheep refer to?

- b. Who does no-one include, when God says no one can snatch you from His hands?
  - i. Hint: Satan, the world, you and others; anyone from the Committee Diagram.
- c. What does Jesus give to His sheep?
- d. How secure is this eternal life?
- e. When does this eternal life start?



Eternal life is not something you earn based on what you did during your life, it is something that begins here on earth the second you put your trust in Christ, accepting His free gift of salvation, and continues into eternity in heaven. Jesus promises you this in John 6:35-47. As His child, your eternity with Him is secure!

- f. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 2. <u>1 John 5:11-15</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What has God given you?
  - b. Where is eternal life located?
  - c. If you have Jesus Christ, then you also have what?
  - d. Are there any other requirements for eternal life?
  - e. Why does it say these things were written?
  - f. Why do you think that God wants you to KNOW for SURE that you have eternal life?
  - g. How can you apply this verse in your life?

Focus: Emphasize their security in Christ after each of these passages.

- 3. **Romans 8:38-39** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Can you think of anything that is not included in this list that could possibly separate you from the love of Jesus Christ
  - b. Does this list include you as well (are you included in no created thing)?
  - c. What about anything you might do in the future (would that be included in nor the future)?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 4. 1 John 4:18 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Why is it that you no longer have to fear God's punishment?
  - b. How can you apply this verse in your life?

- 5. **Philippians 1:6** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Who will be faithful to complete the good work He started in you?
  - b. Can you trust this even when you feel like you've failed?
  - c. Will He ever give up on completing the work He started in you?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 6. <u>Hebrews 13:5</u> What does God promise in this verse? Would God ever break this promise?
  - a. Can you think of anything in life more secure than that?

## **Encourage the person you are discipling to start reading Bible:**

- 1. Ask them if they have a Bible in modern English:
  - a. The New American Standard, New International Version, Amplified Bible and New King James are all readable and easily understandable versions.
- 2. If they don't have a Bible, buy them one.
  - a. This is a small amount of money but a timeless and priceless investment in their walk with God. Write them an encouraging note about their walk with God and put it on the inside of the Bible before giving it to them.
- 3. **Encourage them to start reading in the Gospel of John**. Why? Because John is all about Jesus, the Author and Finisher of their faith (<u>Heb.12:2</u>). Jesus is the foundation of their new faith (<u>1 Cor.3:11</u>), which needs to be strengthened. Get them reading through John, and ask about what they are learning the next time you meet. Do this each week.

# Goals for the first discipleship appointment:

- 1. <u>Clearly articulate the security they have in Christ</u> throughout the appointment. This is a vitally important foundation for future growth.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. <u>Go through the Committee Truth Diagram</u> to establish a foundation for the rest of the appointment.
- 3. Go through the 5 key passages on security in Christ, at their pace: Jn.10:27-30, 1 Jn. 5:11-15, Rom.8:38-39, 1 John 4:18 and Philippians 1:6.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
  - b. Make sure to stress the **application question**, after each verse, so that they learn, from the start, to see God's Word in the context of application.
- 4. Encourage them to begin reading through the Gospel of John.
- 5. Ask how you can be praying for them.
- 6. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 2 - LIVING BY FAITH VS. FEELINGS AND CIRCUMSTANCES

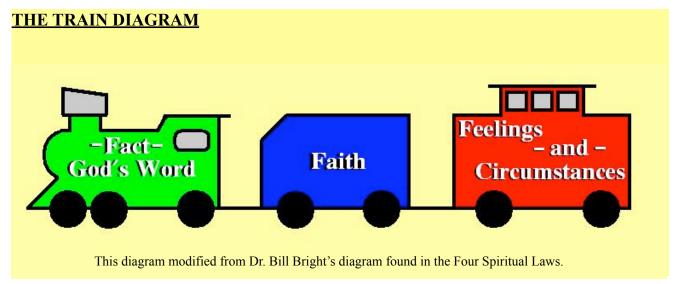
Romans 1:17 - The righteous will live by faith.

The point of this Follow Up is to teach that <u>our faith is based on the solid Word of God</u>, the Bible, and not on feelings and experiences that arise out of the circumstances of life. The reason that this must be addressed is that the American culture is one based on feelings and striving for good things to happen. Many times <u>feelings are in conflict with sound reasoning</u>, which actually hinders the growth of a Christian who may be ignorantly basing his faith in feelings rather than the infallible truth of the Scripture. Also, there are many believers who are striving for an emotional experience to validate their faith, rather than building their faith on Christ. For example, most immature Christians want to "feel" that God is in their life. Feelings come and go and are usually activated by the "flesh" and circumstances. Usually, <u>valid feelings come from the result of our faith and obedience</u> (it has been said, "don't feel your way into acting, act your way into feeling). True faith is in contrast to the five senses: sight, smell, feelings, hearing and taste; faith involves trusting God regardless of what our senses indicate.

Our faith is really our ability to trust Christ with every detail of our life. Our trust develops over time as we get to know God better and better, and act on the faith we do have. The bottom line will always be, can I trust God with this decision, issue, or circumstance? The ability to trust deeply regardless of how things look comes from the Bible and the Holy Spirit. As we trust God with the details, He transforms our minds and guides us into His perfect will.

- Before you get into today's content, review ASSURANCE a little from last time.
  Well, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, do you believe that Jesus Christ is still in your life? Why? Why not?
- Also ask if he as begun to read the Gospel of John, and where he is presently at in John. See if he has any questions and/or you may want to give your input on what he has read.

If needed, go back and review key verses and discuss the questions, concerns, or issues that are still "foggy" and not yet understood.



## **Questions about the Train Diagram:**

1. If you experience a really good circumstance, like winning a free car, how would you feel? Really great!! How would that feeling affect your faith? Would your faith in Christ go up or down?

- 2. Conversely, if a bad situation occurred like losing your drivers license, how would you feel? How would that feeling affect your faith? Would your faith in Christ go down?
- 3. Why should feelings and circumstances be the caboose and not the engine?
  - c. Answer: because they constantly change, aren't consistent and aren't a good reflection of Truth.
- 4. Why is it important to put your faith in God's Word, the Bible?
  - c. Answer: it is the unchanging Truth that we must live by.

The train will run with or without the caboose. However, it would be useless to pull the train by the caboose. In the same way, as Christians we do not depend on feelings or emotions, but we place our faith (trust) in the trustworthiness of God and the promises of His Word.

**Focus:** help them realize that we must place our faith and trust in the unchanging Truth of God's Word (security) and not in constantly changing feelings and circumstances (no security).

- 1. **Ephesians 2:8-9** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What role did faith play in your salvation?
  - b. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 2. <u>Hebrews 11:1 and 6</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What do you think "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" means?
  - b. What do you think it means when it says "without faith it is impossible to please God."
  - c. How can you consciously place your faith in God and His Word regardless of feelings and circumstances each day?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 3. <u>Hebrews 4:2</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to unite belief with faith?
    - i. Hint: live like what you believe is true, apply God's Word daily.
  - b. How can you apply this verse in your life?

- 4. <u>Romans 10:17, James 1:22 and James 2:22 and 26</u> read these passages out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does your faith come from?
  - b. Why must we apply what God's Word says?
  - c. How do faith and application (action work together)?
  - d. How can you apply these verses in your life?
- 5. <u>2 Corinthians 5:7</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. How can you live by faith and not by sight?
  - b. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 6. **Galatians 2:20** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What is the result of living by faith?
  - b. How can you apply this verse in your life?

# **Goals for the second discipleship appointment:**

- 1. <u>Clearly describe the importance of living by faith in God's Word</u> throughout the appointment. This is a vitally important foundation for future growth.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. <u>Go through the Train Diagram</u> to show them how fact, faith feelings and circumstances are related.
- 3. Go through the key passages on living by faith, at their pace: Eph.2:8-9, Heb.11:1,6, 4:2, Rom.10:17, James 1:22, 2:22, 26, 2 Cor.5:7 and Gal.2:20.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
  - b. Make sure to stress the **application question**, after each verse, so that they learn, from the start, to see God's Word in the context of application.
- 4. Encourage them to continue reading through the Gospel of John.
- 5. Ask how you can be praying for them.
- 6. Set up an appointment for next week.

# FOLLOW UP#3 - DEALING WITH SIN & EXPERIENCING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Ps.32:1 - Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

The point of this Follow Up is to help the new Christian to understand the issue of sin, confession, repentance, and staying in good fellowship with Christ.

#### A few key verses about sin:

- 1. Mark 7:20-23 Jesus defines sin.
- 2. Galatians 5:19-21 the deeds of the flesh are sin.
- 3. Exodus 20:3-17 The Ten Commandments describe specific sins.
  - a. Romans 3:19-20 The law was given to show us we are sinful and need Jesus.
- 4. I John 5:17 All unrighteousness is sin.
- 5. Romans 14:22-23 Whatever is not from faith is sin.
- 6. James 4:17 Knowing what you should do and not doing it is sin.

## So what happens when we sin after Jesus has already come into our lives?

- 1. <u>Hebrews 10:14 & 17</u> Jesus already forgave all your sins (past, present and future) by His sacrifice at the cross; He provided a pardon for you.
- 2. <u>Ephesians 2:8-9</u> The pardon is a free gift, irrevocable, based on grace (grace is getting something for free that you do not deserve).

# 3. Why do we still sin after Christ is in our lives?

- a. Romans 7:19-25 we still have our sinful human nature, called the "flesh."
- b. **I John 2:1-2** God has an answer for daily sin.

#### 4. How do I get rid of sin?

- a. I John 1:9 confess our sin to God daily and continue to be good friends with God
  - i. **Confession** is agreeing with God about our sin and asking His forgiveness. This illustrates **Repentance** which literally means to change the way we think about our sin (instead of being O.K with it, I see it how God does and then He helps me change from there He cleanses me from all unrighteousness).
- b. **I John 3:3** As you go on in your walk with God, you will want to sin less and less.

# 5. When should we confess our sin?

- a. As soon as we become aware of the sin.
  - i. John 16:7-11 The Holy Spirit will convict us of sin.

#### 6. What happens when we do not confess known sin (sin God makes us aware of)?

a. <u>Hebrews 3:13</u> - We become hardened; fear sets in, fellowship with God is broken, we often run from God and other Christians, we become self-centered and hypocritical again like a non-Christian.

## The difference between relationship and fellowship.

- 1. **RELATIONSHIP** with God is your connection to Him. You're His child, He's your Father.
  - a. Your Father/child relationship with God does not change based on what you do; it is secure based on what He did at the Cross.
  - b. When you sin you don't cease to be His child.
  - c. Your <u>RELATIONSHIP</u> with God is <u>DEPENDENT ON CHRIST ALONE</u> and therefore it is constant regardless of how I live my life because it is DEPENDENT solely on Jesus Christ (Remember assurance verses from Follow Up #1).
- 2. **FELLOWSHIP** with God is your interaction, communication and intimacy with God.
  - a. Your interaction, communication and intimacy with God are affected by what you do.
  - b. When you sin, your interaction, communication and intimacy with God are hindered.
  - c. Your <u>FELLOWSHIP</u> with God is <u>DEPENDENT ON YOU</u> and a daily attitude of desiring to be what God wants you to be. If I sin willfully, or if God makes me aware of sin in my life, and I refuse to confess and change my attitude about that sin, then my fellowship or friendship with God is <u>temporarily broken</u> until I confess it and ask His forgiveness.

# RELATIONSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP CHART:

	Relationship (Father and Child)	Fellowship (interaction, communication, intimacy)
Sin	No Change	Hindered
Confess	No Change	Restored completely

If I do not confess my sin, then I do not in my conscience "feel clean" before God, and there is no longer the power and sometimes even the desire to live the Christian life. When I do confess my sin to God, regardless of how I feel, I am completely forgiven and clean.



## Going over the Garbage Dump Diagram.

- 1. Start by reading Psalm 103:12 and also read 1 John 1:9 again.
  - a. Ask a few clarifying questions about these verses.
    - i. How far is the East from the West? (Hint: Infinitely far)
    - ii. When you confess your sin how much does He forgive? (Hint: All of it)
  - b. Then drive this point home with the diagram. Write several different types of sin into the garbage dump. Then, draw a mound of dirt over it and label it "God's grace." Finally, put a sign in the top and write "no digging" on it. Describe how once we've confessed sin to God He forgives it and we need to accept His grace and not revisit our sins.

## Close with a few final scriptures:

- 1. 2 Timothy 2:13 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to be faithless towards God?
  - b. Why is it that God continues being faithful to us even when we aren't to Him?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 2. <u>Hebrews 12:1-2</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What do you think it means to lay aside everything that hinders us and the sin that entangles us?
  - b. What does it mean to fix your eyes on Jesus?
  - c. What does it mean when it says that Jesus is the author and finisher of your faith?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 3. <u>Psalm 119:11</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to hide God's Word in your heart?
  - b. Do you think that will really keep you from sinning?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?

# **Goals for the third discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly describe the importance confessing all known sin.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the Relationship/Fellowship Chart and Garbage Dump Diagram.
- 3. Go through the key passages on sin and forgiveness, at their pace: 1Jn.1:9, Ps. 103:12, 2 Tim.2:13, Heb.12:1-2 and Ps.119:11.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
  - b. Make sure to stress the application question, after each verse.
- 4. Encourage them in reading John and ask how you can be praying for them.
- 5. Set up an appointment for next week.

# Helpful Discipleship Review Questions (3 weeks in):

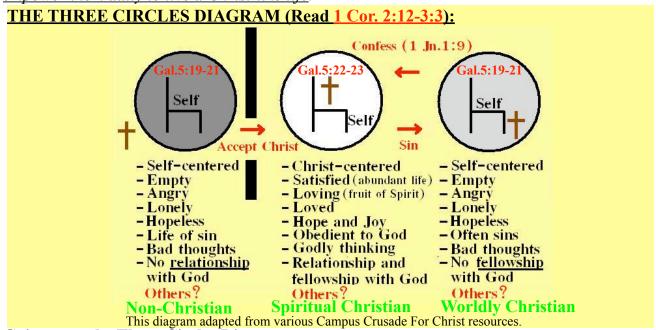
• By now you should be able to evaluate whether this person is a *FAITH* disciple (*Faithful* - do they show up to your appointments, *Available* - do they have time to meet and get involved in other fellowship, *Interactive* - do they communicate honestly with you, *Teachable* - are they taking this to heart and not arguing with you about it and finally *Heart for God* - do they illustrate a heart and love for God with a desire to continue growing).

- Are you becoming friends with the new Christian? If not, why not? Think of something fun, on their level, you could do together (lunch, sports, etc.).
- Do you meet often enough, once or twice a week, to have the continuity needed for a good relationship to develop? If not take the initiative to schedule don't wait for them.
- Are you introducing the new disciple to committed, Christ-controlled Christians? Have you taken them to a large group meeting or church yet? Invite them to church.
- How are they doing reading through the gospel of John? Are they getting a lot out of it? Think of good discussion questions you could ask them about the Gospel of John.
- Are you're appointments natural and conversational? Do you need to ask more questions or listen better?
- Should you keep discipling this person or would your time be better spent with someone else?
- By now you've definitely crossed a lot of comfort zones and may feel like you've failed in some areas. No matter what has happened, keep your eyes on Christ and trust His promises in <u>2 Cor.3:4-6</u> and <u>1 Cor.15:58</u>.
- <u>2 Cor.3:4-6</u> "Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life."
- <u>1 Cor.15:58</u> Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

#### FOLLOW UP # 4 - LIVING DAILY IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Gal.5:16 - So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

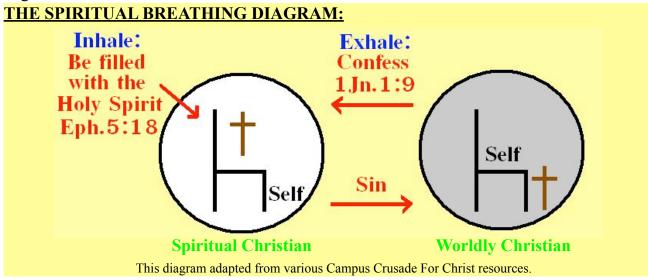
The point of this Follow Up is to help the new Christian understand how to live daily in the power of the Holy Spirit in such a way that they begin to see Christ's life lived through theirs while simultaneously experiencing victory over sin. This is potentially one of the most important follow-ups in this packet. *Important Note:* Refrain from getting into other denominational issues about the Holy Spirit right now. Keep the focus on the Holy Spirit's ability and desire to empower them daily to live a Christ-like life.



## **Going over the Three Circles Diagram:**

Read 1 Cor.2:12-3:3 which describes each of these three individuals (2:14 - the non-Christian, 2:12, 15 - the spiritual man and 3:1 - the worldly Christian). Start out by introducing the concept: explain that each circle represents a different type of life. Begin by describing the "Non-Christian" circle. Explain how this person has not yet accepted Christ's gift of salvation so Christ is outside their life. Make sure to point out that this person (Self) is on the throne of their life. Then describe characteristics of that life (a few are listed in the diagram but feel free to add more). Ask them how someone goes from circle 1 to circle 2. The answer is by accepting Christ. Then describe the "Spiritual Christian" circle. Christ is on the throne, directing this life and Self is submitted to Him. Go through all the characteristics of this life; again feel free to add other points here too. At this point ask whether they have always lived that way since they accepted Christ (the obvious answer is no). Finally, explain how a Christian struggling with sin is not in a constant flip-flop between the 1st 2 circles (as many baby Christians believe) but now, in a secure relationship with Christ, they're caught between the circles 2 and 3. At this point explain that the way to go from circle 2 to 3 is by sinning, then describe the characteristics of that life, the "worldly Christian" life. Conclude this diagram by revisiting 1 Jn.1:9 and reminding them

that the way to return to the middle circle, with Christ on the throne is simply to confess that sin and realize that instantly fellowship with God is restored and they are cleansed from all unrighteousness.



## **Tying it all together - Spiritual Breathing:**

Introduce the Spiritual Breathing diagram by using the analogy of breathing. Whenever you take a breath your body converts that to CO<sub>2</sub> which you must exhale. You can think of confessing sin as exhaling - getting rid of the junk. You do not need to sin as a Christian but when you do, be quick to exhale or confess that sin (Remember 1 Jn.1:9). Then ask what happens if you only exhale and never inhale? You won't survive. Similarly, the Spiritual Christian must constantly inhale also. Inhaling, in this analogy, is consciously being filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph.5:18).

<u>Focus</u>: help them realize that just like a their human body needs to inhale and exhale to be healthy, so also their spiritual person must do the same; confessing sin whenever needed and being filled with the Spirit continually. Below we'll go over specific verses discussing how to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

# What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit:

- 1. God's Holy Spirit already lives in you!
  - a. <u>John 7:37-39</u>, <u>Ephesians 1:13</u>, <u>1 Corinthians 3:16</u> and <u>6:19</u> all promise that as a Christian, from the second you put your trust in Christ, the Holy Spirit lives in you and won't leave you. <u>But that's just the beginning</u>.
- 2. All Christians are commanded to be continually filled with (empowered by) the Spirit.
  - a. Being filled with the Spirit means to be empowered and directed by Him.
  - b. <u>Think of it this way</u>: Imagine you are four-wheeling in the mountains when your jeep runs out of gas. The gas tank is empty so the jeep is powerless to accomplish anything. In the back of the jeep you have an extra canister of gas. That gas is <u>in</u> the jeep but it isn't <u>filling</u> the tank and until you fill the tank the jeep will go nowhere; as soon as you fill the tank, however, you're on your way. The filling of the Holy Spirit is the same way. He is in your life from the second of your salvation but you must daily allow Him to fill you to experience His power in every part of your life.

## **How to be filled with the Holy Spirit:**

- 1. **Ephesians 5:18** Realize that being filled with the Spirit is God's command to all Christians.
- 2. Follow the <u>ABCD'S</u> of being filled:
  - a. Ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit (Read Luke 11:13 and 1 John 5:14-15).
  - b. Believe He fills you and claim it by faith alone (Read James 1:6-7).
  - c. Confess all known sin (Remember 1 John 1:9).
  - d. <u>Desire</u> to have Christ's control in your life (<u>Read Matthew 5:6</u>).
  - e. Surrender control to Christ (Read Romans 12:1-2).
- 3. We call this process a "throne check," consciously being filled with the Spirit continually throughout the day, allowing Christ to be in control and on the throne.
- 4. Realize you can't earn the right to be filled with the Spirit, you do not have to beg God to be filled, you must not depend on feelings you claim the fullness of the Holy Spirit **by faith**.
- 5. <u>Galatians 2:20</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What's the difference between living life my way and letting Christ live His through me?
  - b. As you walk filled with His Spirit what can stop Christ from living His life through you?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life? (Hint be filled with His Spirit!)

**Focus:** Share your personal testimony of how spiritual breathing has worked in your own life.

6. Develop the habit of a "throne check" every 15 minutes! Seriously, be on the alert, the "flesh" can take control faster than we think.

# **Goals for the fourth discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly describe the importance being filled with the Spirit.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the Three Circles and Spiritual Breathing Diagrams.
- 3. Make sure they understand the ABCD'S of being filled
  - a. Keep reminding them about the *ABCD'S* in future appointments.
- 4. Go through the key passages on being filled with the Spirit, at their pace: (Eph. 5:18, Lk.11:13, 1Jn.5:14-15, James 1:6-7, 1Jn.1:9, Mt.5:6 and Rom.12:1-2.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 5. Encourage them in reading John and ask how you can be praying for them.
- 6. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 5 - WHO THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AND WHAT HE DOES FOR US

2 Cor. 13:14 - The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

The point of this follow up is to clarify who the Holy Spirit is and what his role in the Christian's life is. A lot of Christians are very ignorant about the Holy Spirit. They have no idea what a great player this Person is in the Christian's life. In the last appointment, we talked about the Holy Spirit being the power source for running our lives, but He does even more than that for us on a daily basis. All Christians desperately need to know who the Holy Spirit is and cooperate with what He is doing in and through their lives. <u>Important Note</u>: <u>Refrain from getting into other denominational issues about the Holy Spirit right now. Keep the focus on the Holy Spirit's ability and desire to empower them daily to live a Christ-like life.</u>

## Who is the Holy Spirit:

1. **He is not:** An impersonal force, a mystical feeling or emotion, a dove, the symbol of God, a spooky ghost, a hijacking tyrant, an unbridled lunatic, your conscience or sensationalistic experiences.

## 2. 2 Corinthians 3:3, 17 - He is God, the third Person of the Trinity.

i. Just like you are 1 person, comprised of 3 parts, your body, your soul and your spirit, God is one God with 3 parts, the Father, the Son (Jesus) and the Holy Spirit.

<u>Focus</u>: We're about to get into a ton of scripture about what the Holy Spirit does for the believer. Be sensitive to not blow this person out of the water. If you need extra time, take an extra week. Go at their pace. Make sure they understand all the Holy Spirit does for them.

#### 3. What He does for the believer:

- a. **John 16:14** All He does is done to glorify Jesus Christ.
- b. **Romans 8:15** He Gives you access to God through spiritual rebirth (Titus 3:5, Jn.3:3-8) and a Spirit of Sonship.
- c. Ephesians 1:13, Romans 8:9-11, 1 Corinthians 6:19 He lives in you.
- d. John 14:17 He's always with you.
- e. **Ephesians 5:18** He fills and empowers you as you allow.
- f. 2 Corinthians 3:18 He is transforming you, making you more like Jesus.
- g. John14:6, Romans 8:26 He encourages, comforts and helps you.
- h. **Romans 8:14** He guides you.
- i. <u>John 16:13</u> He leads you into all the truth.
- j. John 14:26 He teaches and reminds you of God's Word.
- k. <u>I Corinthians 2:12</u> & <u>Luke 24:45</u> He enables you to understand God's Word.
- 1. Ezekiel 36:27 He enables and empowers you to obey God.
- m. John 16:8 He shows you your sin so that you can confess it to God and be cleansed.

- n. <u>John 7:35-37</u> He is the source of the ABUNDANT LIFE (<u>John10:10</u>) and the "streams of living water" that need to flow through all believers.
- o. Galatians 5:22-23 He produces the fruit of the Spirit in you.
- p. <u>Acts 1:8</u> He gives you the power to share the Gospel, and to live a super-natural life; to live above your circumstances.
- q. Ephesians 1:13 He seals you in Christ.
- r. <u>1 Corinthians 12:13</u> He baptizes you or puts you into the Body of Christ at the moment Christ comes into your lives.
- s. Romans 8:27 He intercedes for you.
- t. **Romans 8:26** He helps you pray according to the will of God.
- u. **Romans 12:4-9** & **Ephesians 4:11-13** He gives gifts, abilities and talents to each believer to carry out the ministry of Christ on earth.

#### **Driving it home:**

- 1. Now that you understand what the Holy Spirit does for you, remember He is God, He lives in you and He desires to fill you continually, empowering you to live like Christ.
  - a. You can try to live the Christian life on your own and constantly fail or you can choose to live a life continually filled with His Spirit.

# 2. <u>Remember</u>: You can be filled with His Spirit experiencing His power by following the ABCD'S:

- a. Ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit.
- b. **B**elieve He fills you and claim it by faith alone.
- c. Confess all known sin.
- d. <u>Desire</u> to have Christ's control in your life.
- e. Surrender control to Christ.

# **Goals for the fifth discipleship appointment:**

# 1. Clearly describe the who the Holy Spirit is and what He does.

- a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through these several verses at their pace; make sure they understand.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
  - b. Make sure to stress the **application question**, at the end of this follow up.

# 3. Review the ABCD'S of being filled.

- a. Ask them if they applied this principal over the past week.
- 4. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
- 5. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 6 - HOW TO GROW SPIRITUALLY AS A CHRISTIAN

Eph.4:15 - ...we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.

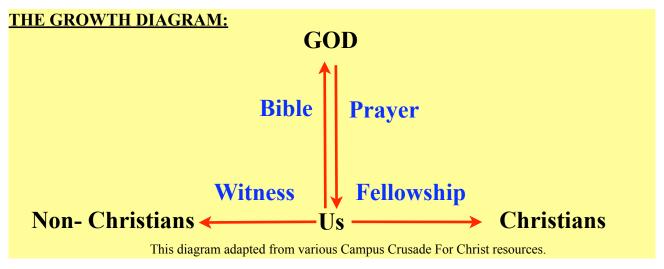
The point of this follow up is to give the new Christian a perspective on and vision for their continued growth as a Christian. You want to help the young disciple understand how and in what major ways spiritual growth can take place in his life. Spiritual growth is positive and continued development in a person's relationship with God, becoming who He desires them to be. Just like any other relationship, development and progress involves two-way communication and time. Intentional, spiritual growth should be encouraged as a high priority.

## **Spiritual growth has a goal:**

- 1. <u>2 Peter 1:3-9</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Where does His divine power for your growth come from?
  - b. <u>V.5</u> says "make every effort" to grow in your walk with God; what does that mean?
  - c. What does v.8 say is the result of this growth.
    - i. God's desire is that we would become mature and complete (<u>James 1:4</u>), bearing fruit for Christ (<u>Jn.15:5,16</u>).
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?

#### **Spiritual growth is dependent on:**

- 1. **Philippians 1:6 and Colossians 2:6-8** Growth is dependent on Christ.
- 2. <u>John 14:26, 16:13, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 5:18</u> Growth is dependent on The Holy Spirit and allowing Him to fill us.
- 3. <u>I Peter 2:2</u> Growth is dependent on growing in God's Word.
- 4. <u>James 1:21-22</u> Growth is dependent on Trusting what God's Word says and <u>applying it by faith</u> in your daily life.
  - a. You must *desire* to obey God and be *available* to obey Him.
- 5. <u>Hebrews 3:13</u> The <u>encouragement of other more mature Christians</u> who will take the time to meet and share how God has helped them to grow.
- 6. 2 Peter 3:9 God is patient with each of us, so be patient with yourself. Growth takes time!!!



# **The Growth Diagram Eplained:**

- 1. <u>Hebrews 4:12</u> God speaks to us us personally through His Word, the **Bible**.
- 2. **Philippians 4:6-7** We speak with God through **prayer**.
- 3. <u>Hebrews 10:24-25</u> Fellowship isn't just hanging out with other Christians, but spending time with Christ controlled Christians, encouraging each other in our walks with God.
- 4. <u>Acts 1:8</u> Witnessing (talking to non-Christians about Jesus Christ), is communicating the Gospel and sharing what He has done in our lives, so that they can know Jesus Christ also.

**Focus:** The rest of this discipleship packet will focus on these key areas of growth. Make sure to highlight how these four areas (God's Word, prayer, fellowship and witnessing) are vital for future growth.

## Results of growth taking place in our lives:

- 1. <u>1 Corinthians 10:31</u> We can glorify Christ in <u>everything</u> that we do.
- 2. **1 John 3:3** We sin less and less.
- 3. **Romans 5:3-5** Our convictions and character become much stronger.
- 4. **John 15:5,16** Spiritual multiplication/fruit takes place.
- 5. **Galatians 5:22-23** The "Fruit of the Spirit" becomes a life-style.
- 6. John 10:10 The "Abundant Life" becomes real.
- 7. <u>1 Thessalonians 5:11</u> We become a blessing and encouragement to others.
- 8. 2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 12:1-2 We are being transformed into His likeness.
- 9. <u>James 1:5</u> Given wisdom for decision-making in life.
- 10. Psalms 5:12 Surrounded with God's favor.
- 11. Psalms 84:11 God will not withhold any good thing from us.

# **Study passage:**

- 1. <u>Philippians 2:12-13</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean by "work out your salvation..."?
  - b. What does this verse promise God will do as you participate in this process?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?

# **Goals for the sixth discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly convey vision and perspective for continued growth.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the Growth Diagram.
- 3. Go through the key passages on growth as a Christian, at their pace: 2 Peter 1:3-9, Heb.4:12, Phil.4:6-7, Heb.10:24-25, Acts 1:8 and Phil.2:12-13.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 4. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
  - a. Remember to be filled with the Spirit and encourage them to also (ABCD'S)!
- 5. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 7 - HOW THE BIBLE HELPS US GROW

2 Tim.2:15 - Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, <u>rightly handling the word of truth</u>.

The point of this follow up is to help the new Christian learn that everything a Christian believes should rest on the **truth and authority of the Scriptures.** The Bible is incredibly and uniquely different from any other book on earth and it alone is the inspired and infallible Word of God. The Christian's **identity, confidence, conscience, and life-style** are developed by the Bible. The Bible is the Christian's greatest resource to combat the temptations of the "flesh" and the world, and it is the foundation of our faith which shields us from the "fiery darts" of Satan. Any believer can speak with clarity, purpose, direction, hope, and authority because of the written Word of God.

The Holy Spirit enters the process of our learning by turning the Scriptures into the **Living Word** (Heb.4:12). Through the Holy Spirit's ministry of **Illumination** the believer can now understand and apply the truth of the Scriptures to his or her life, or a current situation. He leads the believer in making decisions that only reflect God's Will and plan for life. The Holy Spirit uses the Scriptures to <u>transform our lives</u>, to convict us of sin, righteousness, and judgement, to encourage, to comfort, to re-direct our thinking, to give us wisdom, to sensitize our conscience of right and wrong, and to draw us into godliness, righteousness, and a holy life-style. He builds our faith with the Scriptures (Rom.10:17).

# **Key perspective:**

- 1. <u>The Holy Spirit's role</u> is to guide, teach, and illuminate our minds to understand, and then to empower the believer to apply by faith the Biblical truth to his or her life.
- 2. **The Christian's role** is to be faithful to read and study the Bible.

<u>Focus</u>: The next few points are here to show the reliability and trustworthiness of the Bible. If you need more info on this, take time to listen to the MP3 below and study various materials from Josh McDowell.

#### Just a few basic facts about the Bible (for more on this go to http://www.trainbyfaith.com/Reasonstobelieve.mp3):

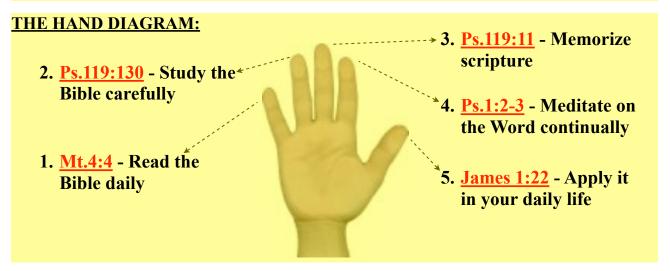
- 1. **It is scientifically accurate** The Bible makes accurate scientific claims about radioactivity, hydrology, astronomy, biology, physics and other areas of science.
- 2. **It is historically accurate** Archeology and history fully corroborate the Bible.
- 3. **It is prophetically accurate** There are hundreds of prophetic claims in the Bible which have been fulfilled with dramatic accuracy.
- 4. **It is textually authentic -** There are so many thousands of copies of the Biblical manuscripts that no text is in question.
- 5. **It's continuity is staggering -** 60 generations over 1600 years produced this book. 40 authors including kings, peasants, philosophers, fishermen, physicians, poets, statesmen, and scholars. There is perfect agreement with prophesy and fulfillment, historical facts and sequence. The Bible is printed in over 2200 languages, and is the best seller every year.

6. **It is unique** in that it all agrees, doesn't contradict itself, points to Jesus as the Savior, proclaims the authority of God, and if applied, transforms people and nations.

#### **Biblical claims:**

- 1. <u>2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21</u> All of the Bible is the inspired written Word of God, right from the mouth of God.
- 2. <u>2 Timothy 3:17</u> The Scripture is all a Christian will ever need to be "adequate, equipped for every good work."
- 3. **John 14:6; John 8:31-32** It is the very Truth of God.

<u>Focus</u>: From here it is vitally important that the new believer learns to make God's Word the foundation for everything they think and do in life. The next diagram and verses will show them how to accomplish that.



# **Going over the Hand Diagram:**

Explain that just like all 5 fingers on your hand work together so that you can use your hand in your daily life, so also, these 5 key areas will make God's Word relevant in your life. Go through each of the verses and questions below, as you go through the diagram.

## **God's Word in our daily lives:**

- 1. *Finger 1*: <u>Matthew 4:4</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Do you ever go without eating just because life gets busy? Similarly, why would someone go a single day without being fed by God's Word?
  - b. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 2. Finger 2: Psalm 119:130 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to "unfold" God's Word?
  - b. What will you gain if you do this?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?

- 3. Finger 3: Psalm 119:11 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to hide God's word in your heart?
  - b. What does it promise will result from this?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 4. *Finger 4*: <u>Psalm 1:2-3</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - \* Note: Meditating on God's Word simply means that you continue to think about what you read in God's Word and all that means, throughout your day.
  - a. How might meditating on God's Word be beneficial?
  - b. What does this verse promise will result from meditating on God's Word.
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 5. *Finger* 5: <u>James 1:22</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - \* *Note*: Imagine trying to eat a bowl of cereal without a thumb. Very difficult! Likewise, if we read, study, memorize and meditate on God's Word, without applying it, we will never see the abundant life become a reality for us.
  - a. Why is application (doing what God's Word says) critical to growth as a Christian?
  - b. What does this verse say will happen if we don't apply God's Word?
  - c. Read <u>1 John 3:18</u>. How does that relate to <u>James 1:22</u>?
  - d. How can you apply these verses in your life?

Focus: Explain how the Bible has helped you personally grow. How do you read, study, memorize, meditate on and apply it in your daily life? Do you have a reading plan? Take time to ask them what they've been learning in the Gospel of John. Ask them how they can apply what they've been learning.

#### **The Point:**

- 1. <u>Luke 6:46-49</u> How can you build your life on the foundation of His Word?
  - a. How can you apply these verses in your life?

# **Goals for the seventh discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly convey vision for the importance of God's Word in our daily lives.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the Hand Diagram and the key principals and verses on God's Word, at their pace: Mt.4:4, Ps.119:130, Ps.119:11, Ps.1:2-3 and James 1:22.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 3. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
  - a. Help them think through ways they can be applying what they've been reading.
  - b. If they've finished with the book of John have them start a new book (Romans?).
  - c. Remember to be filled with the Spirit and encourage them to also (ABCD'S)!
- 4. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP #8 - GOD HELPS US GROW THROUGH PRAYER

1 Thes.5:17 - pray continually. (keep a constant attitude and line of communication with God)

The point of this Follow Up is to convey the importance of prayer to the young believer. It has been said that, "Satan laughs at our toiling, mocks at our wisdom, but <u>trembles</u> when he sees the weakest saint on his knees." The Christian has no strength of his own. <u>Eph. 6:10</u>, says, "be strong in the Lord and the power of His might." Prayer and the Word of God are inseparable. Pray for what the Bible promises, expect God to answer in His way and at His time. **Prayer is personal communication with God through His Spirit in the name and authority of Jesus.** Andrew Murray rightly said, "Do you not realize that time is needed; much time in fellowship with the Father and the Son, if you would experience the power of God within you?" And John Bunyan, in the Pilgrims Progress, captured the heart of prayer, saying, "In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart."

# Matthew 6:9-13 - Jesus describes the point and process of prayer:

- b. Adoration Spend time communicating with God and telling Him what He means to you.
  - i. The point of prayer is relationship, not what we get out of it.
    - 1. Spend time simply talking to God and praising Him.
- c. <u>Confession</u> Make sure to confess all known sin to God in prayer (<u>1 Jn.1:9</u>).
- d. Thanksgiving Spend time thanking God for all He gives you and does for you.
- e. Supplication Ask God to meet your needs and for Him to work in your life.
  - i. Also spend time praying for others.

# **Key verses on prayer:**

- 1. **Ephesians 3:20** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What limits God from answering our prayer?
  - b. What limits us in our prayer?
- 2. **Romans 8:26-27** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What is the Christian's problem in prayer?
  - b. What role does the Holy Spirit have in our prayer?
  - c. Why does the Holy Spirit intercede for us <u>only</u> according to the Will of God?
- 3. **Psalms 37:4** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to delight yourself in the Lord and how does it relate to prayer?
  - b. What will be the results of expressing our desires to God?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 4. <u>1 John 5:14-15</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. How can we know that God hears our prayers?

- b. How can we be sure that He will answer?
- c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 5. <u>Matthew 7:7-11</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What is the Christian's part in prayer?
  - b. Why does God greatly desire to answer our prayers?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 6. **Philippians 4:6-7** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Describe the limitations of prayer in these verses?
  - b. What <u>personal benefits</u> are a direct result of prayer? Why?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 7. <u>John 15:7</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What is the promise of prayer?
  - b. What are the pre-requists to God answering prayer? Why?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?

# <u>Tools that help us stay strong in prayer</u>: Interweave your testimony about these.

- 1. **Keep with it.** It isn't natural at first, but we learn to pray by praying, make it a habit.
- 2. Schedule time to pray every day, and continue that attitude of prayer throughout the day!
- 3. **Prayer List/Diary**: As God directs, write down prayer requests and concerns. Put together a "10 Most Wanted" list these are the people that you would like to see become Christians.
  - a. The Divine Order: Talk to God about people first, then go talk to people about God.
- 4. **Prayer Partner:** Find someone you can pray with on a consistent basis.
- 5. **Prayer Meetings:** These are great places for encouragement to pray with a number believers. You can learn a lot from listening and agreeing in prayer with others.

<u>Focus</u>: Explain how prayer has helped you personally grow. How does prayer work for you? Invite this young disciple to pray with you, or to a prayer meeting. Remember to be praying for them!

# **Goals for the eighth discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly describe the role prayer plays in our relationship with God.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the key passages on prayer, at their pace: Eph.3:20, Rom.8:26-27, Ps. 37:4, 1 Jn.5:14-15, Mt.7:7-11, Phil.4:6-7 and Jn.15:7.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 3. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
  - a. Remember to be filled with the Spirit and encourage them to also (ABCD'S)!
- 4. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 9 - DEVELOPING A PERSONAL CONNECT TIME

Jer.30:21 - "...who is he who will devote himself to be close to me?" declares the LORD.

The point of this Follow Up is to help the young Christian develop a conviction for their own daily time with God, a Connect Time. There is probably no other greater priority a Christian could ever have than his or her daily Connect Time. A Connect Time is a time alone with God each day to refocus our life according to Biblical Truth. and to apply His power to the concerns of our day. We need to see where we have failed and allow the Holy Spirit with the Word to transform our lives into His perfect Will. We should use our Connect Time to re-group our forces after the battle of the previous day and to plan for the next day's attack. It is a time spent hearing from God, getting in His Word, confessing sin, thanking and praising Him, praying and committing the day to Him, consciously beginning the day filled with His Spirit (**Eph.5:18**).

## **Key components of a Connect Time:**

- 1. The purpose should be to meet with God on a friendship/fellowship level, to grow closer to Him and to have our spiritual needs met.
- 2. A Connect Time should consist of <u>time in God's Word</u>, <u>prayer</u>, <u>confessing sin</u>, <u>thanking God</u>, <u>praising God</u> and <u>committing the day to Him</u>, <u>consciously filled with His Spirit</u>.
- 3. A Connect Time should be <u>unhurried</u>, not full of various distractions and thinking about various things to do that day. Those things and other events represent the battle that God must give you the power to win before you leave your meeting with God.

<u>Focus</u>: Explain how valuable your Connect Time is to you. Describe how you developed the habit and how that time has affected your life since. Convey a vision for their personal Connect Time with God.

#### **Getting Started:**

- 1. Schedule a definite **time** when you are most alert. Effective Connect Times will need 15-60 min.
  - a. Schedule this time daily into your weekly schedule so that it becomes your most consistent priority and habit pattern of your life.
  - b. **The morning is the best time** for your Connect Time as it is the time with the fewest distractions, and it helps you start your day off right.
- 2. Find a definite **place** free from outside distractions where you can concentrate.

#### **Key Verses:**

1. **Mark 1:35** - Jesus' example.

- 2. <u>Luke 5:16</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What type of places did Jesus spend time with His Father?
  - b. How frequently did Jesus spend time with His Father?
  - c. Why do you think Jesus emphasized His time with His Father in His life?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?

<u>Focus</u>: Really highlight Jesus' example. If Jesus took time, every morning, getting away to distraction free places to spend time with the Father, what reason would any of His followers have to not do the same. A follower of Christ has chosen to follow Him and should do that in this area also.

- 3. **Psalms 5:3** King David's example.
- 4. <u>James 4:8</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What do you think it means to draw near to God?
  - b. What is the promise here for you as you take the initiative to grow closer to God daily?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 5. **Philippians 1:9** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. How can you your love for God grow in knowledge?
  - b. What will your daily time in God's Word do for your walk with God?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 6. Matt. 26:41 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What did Jesus say would happen if we neglect prayer?
  - b. What will your daily time in prayer do for your walk with God?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 7. <u>Luke 10:38-42</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What was Mary doing and why was that important?
  - b. What was Martha's problem?
  - c. What did Jesus say was the only thing that matters?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?

#### The results of a Connect Time over time:

- 1. It really helps you to know God, to have **fellowship with Him** on a more intimate level.
- 2. <u>Psalms 119:18</u> He will "open your eyes to see wonderful things" from the Scripture.
- 3. <u>James 1:21</u> You will "receive the Word implanted..."
- 4. It changes your basic attitude everyday from trusting yourself to **trusting God**.
- 5. A Connect Time **nurtures a "Heart for God."** Our desires become softened and conformed to His. We want to be more like Jesus.

- 6. <u>2 Timothy 1:7</u> It gives us **confidence and assurance** for making decisions according to God's Will.
- 7. <u>Philippians 2:13</u> It increases our motivation to see God change our character, and to actually do what He says (Obedience to the truth).
- 8. <u>1 John 2:27</u> It gives the Holy Spirit a great opportunity to **teach you directly**, so that you will be able to gain wisdom and "Reason with others over the Scriptures."

<u>Focus</u>: Take a personal role as an accountability encourager in this area. Continue encouraging their personal Connect Times. Help them develop the habbit. You may even want to take the initiative to call them on a frequent basis to encourage them to take time to spend with God.

# **Goals for the ninth discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly describe the importance of a scheduled and habitual "Connect Time."
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the key passages on Connect Times, at their pace: Mark 1:35, James 4:8, Phil.1:9 and Lk.10:38-42.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 3. Encourage them to begin scheduling a Connect Time with God every day.
- 4. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
  - a. Remember to be filled with the Spirit and encourage them to also (ABCD'S)!
- 5. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 10 - HOW ENCOURAGING FELLOWSHIP HELPS US GROW

Heb.3:13 - encourage one another daily.

The point of this Follow Up is to help the young Christian see the need to be committed to Christ centered fellowship. Fellowship is deep and meaningful mutual encouragement in following Christ that benefits every area of the believer's life. This fellowship is always a natural by-product when two or more believers who have put Christ first in their lives take the personal initiative to build each other up in Christ. Fellowship is vital to our growth because we can learn a lot from other believers as well as share how God has worked in our lives. There is a great sense of encouragement when we can share the reality of Christ through our victories and the mistakes we have made. Fellowship helps us understand our dependency on God and each other. We need close relationships where we are mutually accepted, developed, and encouraged in order to grow. We need to sense that we are truly in the family of God. Fellowship is a lot like a burning fire that gives off light and heat, but the logs in the fire must be close to each other or the fire will go out.

#### **Key Verses:**

- 1. Acts 2:42-47 What types of things did the early Christians do together in fellowship?
- 2. **Romans 1:11-12** What did Paul say would result from His time with the Romans?
- 3. **John 17:20-23** What value did Jesus place on unity and why is that important?
- 4. John 13:34-35 What does Jesus say will be the result of unity among believers?
- 5. **John 15: 9-12** What essential key issue must take place among believers before we can love each other as we should? Why?
- 6. <u>I John 1:5-9</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. If we are to have genuine fellowship with God, what must be true of us?
  - b. If we are to have genuine fellowship with other believers, what must be true of all of us?
  - c. What does it mean to "walk in the light" and how is that demonstrated? (1 Cor. 13:4-8)
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 7. **Romans 12:5** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does "we who are many form one body" mean?
  - b. How can you be better committed to being one with the rest of Christ's Body.
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 8. <u>Hebrews 10:24-25</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:

- a. The purpose of fellowship is to "spur each other on to love and good works." What does that mean and how can we do that?
- b. According to this verse is fellowship "just hanging out" or does it involve more active, Christ centered encouragement than that?
- c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 9. **Philippians 2:1-4** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What does it mean to be like-minded, having the same love and being one in spirit and purpose with other Christians?
  - b. How can you humbly and unselfishly put others' good above your own?
  - c. What "atmosphere" of fellowship would that produce?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?

# What happens when there is little or no genuine fellowship:

- 1. Christianity becomes more theoretical than real for you.
- 2. You become a "lone ranger" believer who becomes ingrown, undeveloped, self-centered, and live a life of futility.
- 3. True fellowship fades because of personal sin. When a believer allows sin to take over, he rebels and runs from God and other believers.

<u>Focus</u>: Encourage this young Christian about the importance of being committed to encouraging fellowship with other Christ centered believers. If Christians won't get plugged in to good fellowship they will not grow. Invite them to your church, Bible study or other Christ centered group of believers.

# How can you be involved in genuine fellowship:

- 1. Where and how could you find this kind of fellowship?
  - a. <u>Hint</u>: "Connect," Christ centered church and other good Christian groups, Bible study small groups, one-on-one discipleship and other good, encouraging friendships.

# **Goals for the tenth discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly describe the importance of good, Christ centered fellowship.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the key passages on fellowship, at their pace: Acts 2:42-47, John 13:34-35, 1Jn.1:5-9, Rom.12:5, Heb.10:24-25 and Phil.2:1-4.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 3. Ask them how their Connect Times with God have been going.
  - a. How could you better encourage them in this area?
- 4. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
  - a. Remember to be filled with the Spirit and encourage them to also (ABCD'S)!
- 5. Set up an appointment for next week.

#### FOLLOW UP # 11 - SHARING YOUR FAITH MAKES YOU STRONG

Philemon v.6 - I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

The point of this Follow Up is to show the young Christian how every follower of Christ is called to partner with Him in reaching this World for Him. Communicating the Gospel, involves taking the initiative in the power of the Holy Spirit to reach out and share with another person how he can have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. It is truly the greatest miracle of all to see a person come out of "darkness into the light of Christ." We witness <u>verbally</u> with words and <u>non-verbally</u> by our lives. Both ways are necessary and complimentary, not mutually exclusive. "Our talk needs to match our walk, and our walk needs to match our talk." Evangelism is one of the most exciting parts of the Christian life. Unfortunately only about 2% of American Christians share their faith - mostly because they are scared and have never been shown how. This appointment will help you and the young Christian, grow in this vitally important area. Evangelism is a lifestyle that involves: **prayer**, **sharing the Gospel, getting a response, follow-through and more prayer**.

#### **Questions to consider:**

- 1. How valuable is your relationship with Christ?
- 2. Can you think of any greater decision you could make than inviting Christ into your life?
- 3. What is the greatest thing that has ever happened to you?
- 4. What is the greatest thing that you could ever do for another person?

## **Key Verses:**

- 1. 2 Peter 3:9 Describe one of God's greatest wishes. Why does God have this wish?
- 2. **Ephesians 2:1-3** What miraculous work Has God done in your life that you can now be a part of in another's life?
- 3. <u>1 Corinthians 9:16</u> What is Paul Saying here and why is he saying this?
- 4. 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What did God give all believers?
  - b. Describe the process of reconciliation?
  - c. What is the function of an ambassador?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 5. Matthew 28:18-20 read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. Who has given us the authority to tell others?
  - b. What is the first step of discipleship?

- c. Can you think of any greater purpose for your life? Why or why not?
- d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 6. **Romans 10:9-15** read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. What must someone do to be saved?
  - b. What does it take for them to hear the gospel?
  - c. Who has God chosen to bring the "good news?"
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 7. <u>Colossians 4:2-6</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. How does prayer relate to outreach?
  - b. What qualities should come from our words as we share the Gospel?
  - c. How can you apply this verse in your life?
- 8. <u>I Peter 3:15</u> read passage out loud together, then discuss these questions:
  - a. How can you "always be prepared" to share your faith?
  - b. What would you say if someone asked you how you became a Christian?
  - c. How could you be sure that you would be able to communicate effectively?
  - d. How can you apply this verse in your life?

Focus: It usually takes 10 times sharing your faith before you get over the fear barrier that prevents most Christians from taking that step in the first place. It is your objective to help this young disciple get over this barrier. You should plan on taking them out sharing several different times in several different ways. You will have to take the initiative to **train** this young believer to use their **personal testimony**, the **4 Spiritual Laws** and other evangelism tools and you will have to personally **take them out several times to apply their training**. If you need more training on using the 4 Spiritual laws as an evangelism tool refer back to page 6 or contact Master Plan Ministries (970-259-5768) or **trainbyfaith.com** for more info.

#### **Practical steps to getting started:**

- 1. Learn how to use your **personal testimony** as an evangelism tool.
- 2. Learn how to use the **Four Spiritual Laws** as an evangelism tool.
- 3. <u>Pray</u>, and <u>take</u> them out to share their faith. <u>Let him or her watch</u> as you talk to others. Then <u>talk about what happened</u> and what should be the next step with the person whom you shared the Gospel.
- 4. Have the new disciple introduce you to his or her friends, then take the initiative and share the Gospel while he or she watches. Then encourage the new disciple to share their faith while you watch and help as needed.
- 5. <u>Make sure to reiterate that our responsibility is to pray first, then step out in faith, filled with the Spirit, taking the initiative to share the gospel and then trust the results to God.</u>

# What are the results of sharing our faith:

- 1. **Great joy and excitement** to be used by God to share the greatest message from the greatest Person of all time and eternity!!
- 2. **Confidence** based in God's faithfulness, is quickly produced.
- 3. **Fears are over-come** (even the fear of rejection) by being filled with the Holy Spirit and reaching out to others <u>consistently</u>.
- 4. You gain a full understanding of everything you have in Christ Jesus (**Philemon v.6**).
- 5. Seeing God work in another person's life expands your faith, especially if you've been praying for and sharing with this person.
- 6. Generally, witnessing will "**spark" and motivate** the Christian in all the other areas like prayer, reading the Bible, and fellowship. The Christian's general attitude seems to become more positive, and "walking in the Spirit" more real.
- 7. As the Christian is involved in God's battle against Satan for the lives of others, he gets a much better **understanding of his purpose for life**.
- 8. Fruitfulness and the Abundant Life become a way of life.

# **Goals for the eleventh discipleship appointment:**

- 1. Clearly describe the importance of sharing our faith.
  - a. The goal is for them to understand these truths. If you need more time, just pick up next week where you left off this week. DO NOT RUSH THROUGH THIS.
- 2. Go through the key passages on fellowship, at their pace: 1 Cor.9:16, 2 Cor.5:17-20, Mt.28:18-20, Rom.10:9-15, Col.4:2-6 and 1 Peter 3:15.
  - a. Do not add more verses at this time they can only handle so much right now.
- 3. Ask them how their Connect Times with God have been going.
  - a. How could you better encourage them in this area?
- 4. Encourage them in reading the Word and ask how you can be praying for them.
  - a. Remember to be filled with the Spirit and encourage them to also (ABCD'S)!
- 5. Set up an appointment for next week (discipleship doesn't end here, it is just getting started!!!).
  - a. See the closing tips below for ideas

## **Closing tips:**

1. By this time, you should have gone from a casual acquaintance to a good -friend relationship with this disciple. If not, why not? Analyze your relationship. Disciple building does not take place in a vacuum, but only through growing relationships.

- 2. How is the new disciple <u>actually doing</u> now that you have finished the Follow-up, which contained a lot of the basics? Does the new disciple display the basic attitudes to go on with disciple building? Review *FAITH* criteria listed on **page 3**.
- 3. Is the new disciple involved in a Bible study at his level, and developing other Christian friends? Pray, then analyze this situation, and develop a plan if necessary.
- 4. Have you used any of your personal interests to have fun with the new disciple? If not, what could you plan to do?
- 5. Don't stop now, keep going. You are probably beginning to grow tremendously through this process and so are they.
- 6. You can get a copy of our 2nd discipleship packet at trainbyfaith.com, or by contacting Master Plan Ministries at the number below.

If this basic discipleship material has been helpful to you and this new disciple, obtain another copy and give it to him, so that he is equipped to disciple the next generation. You can obtain further resources at <u>trainbyfaith.com</u>, or by contacting Master Plan Ministries at <u>970-259-5768</u>.

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