

THE PROGRESSIVE GROWTH OF A DISIPLE

Evangelizing the Nations

“and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”
Luke 24:47 ESV

Discipling the Saints

And Jesus came and said to them, “... Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”
Matthew 28:18-19 ESV

OBSERVE:

- 1) Actual discipling is not as clear cut or strictly linear as this chart, i.e. a disciple doesn't move from one stage to the next – in multiple stages simultaneously
- 2) Each progressive step builds on each preceding step.

AT EVERY STAGE THEY NEED:

- 1) **Nourishment** (through frequent exposure to the Word) – Matt 4:4; Acts 20:26-28;
- 2) **Protection** (through faithful concerted prayer) – Luke 22:31-32;
- 3) **Encouragement** (through timely exhortation and strengthening) - Acts 14:22; Heb 3:13; 1 Sam 23:16).

DISCIPLING THE NEW CHRISTIAN Grasping and Practicing the MEANS of Grace	DISCIPLING THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN Grasping & Practicing the DOCTRINES of Grace	DISCIPLING THE MATURE CHRISTIAN Grasping & Practicing the SERVICE of Grace
<p>Clarifying Distinctives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing them in the Faith <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Colossians 2:6-7 ESV - 6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What they should do • Teaching greenhouse growth • Learning to look upward • Seeing a big God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hungry, they feed 	<p>Clarifying Distinctives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enriching them by Grace <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Ephesians 3:17-19 ESV - 17 that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why they should do it • Teaching gospel transformation • Learning to look inward • Seeing a big cross <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> They come to the cross to be cleansed (to be obedient in the trust of their initial sanctification) <input type="checkbox"/> They come to cross to die (to be obedient in the practice of the progressive sanctification) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awed, they worship <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Help the Young Christian understand and embrace:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A theocentric world and life view (it's a God-centered world; breaks down the dividing wall between the secular & the spiritual) <input type="checkbox"/> A covenantal theology (the unity of the covenant of grace and the oneness of the people of God; breaks down the dividing wall between the OT & NT) <input type="checkbox"/> A biblical morality (the indicative precedes the imperative; breaks down the dividing wall between motive & practice) 	<p>Clarifying Distinctives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipping them for Ministry <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Ephesians 4:11-13 ESV - 11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who they should do it for • Teaching glorious calling • Learning to look outward • Seeing a big world <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> In the stewardship of the Gospel, they need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) heart; 2) vision; 3) know how <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passionate, they serve

DISCIPLING THE NEW CHRISTIAN continued	DISCIPLING THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN continued	DISCIPLING THE MATURE CHRISTIAN continued
<p>Implementation Vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Seeker / New Christian <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Prodigal God</i> - 8 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: Understand the gospel - Target: I don't see the Christian message any different than the message of other religions. - Format: Group discussion - Prep: Read chapter 2. <i>The Reason for God</i> - 15 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: Understand the apologetic for God - Target: Christianity doesn't seem cogent and rationale. - Format: Group discussion - Prep: Read chapter • New Christian <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Biblical Change</i> - 8 Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: Understand the means of grace - Target: I'm not sure how to grow in my faith. - Format: Group discussion & teacher instruction - Prep: Read chapter 	<p>Implementation Vehicles</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>How People Change</i> - 15 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: Understand sanctification by the gospel - Target: I try to do what's right but obedience seems like a huge weight with little gratitude or joy. - Format: Group discussion and teacher instruction - Prep: Read chapter 	<p>Implementation Vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service to the Saints <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Equipping the Saints</i> - 6 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: To learn, identify and minister gifts of His Spirit in my church community - Target: I don't think I'm particularly suited for ministry in my church community. - Format: Teacher instruction - Prep: Fill out gift assessments 2. <i>Discipling the Saints</i> - TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: To be trained how to establish, enrich and equip others in their Christian journey. - Target: I don't know what to do in helping someone else mature in their faith. - Format: Teacher instruction & group discussion - Prep: TBD • Service to the World <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service in Word - TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: To learn how to share the gospel message, provide answers to objections to the gospel message and living gospel message life. - Target: I just don't think I could ever be effective in communicating the gospel to those who don't believe. - Format: Teacher instruction & group discussion - Prep: TBD 2. Service in Deed - TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: To learn how to serve the East Nashville community with tangible and beneficial deeds. - Target: I don't know how to serve the East Nashville community. - Format: Teacher instruction & group discussion - Prep: TBD

GROUNDING THE NEW, YOUNG AND MATURE CHRISTIAN IN THE WORD

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bible Surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: Provide summary/broad overview a. OT - Weekend seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format: Teaching - Prep: None b. NT - Weekend Seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format: Teaching - Prep: None c. Doctrine - <i>Bitesize Theology</i> / 12 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format: NG discussion - Prep: Read chapter | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Christian Living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goal: Provide summary/broad overview a. Marriage - Weekend seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format: Teaching - Prep: None b. Family - Weekend seminar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format: Teaching - Prep: None c. Godliness - TBD | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Ministry <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Serve w/Mission - TBD b. Serve w/Heart - TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possible material: <i>Leadership Essentials</i> c. Serve w/Know How - <i>Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Format: Teacher instruction & group discussion (summer) - Prep: Read chapter |
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