

## PARTNERSHIP OF PASTORS TRAINING

Partnership of Pastors International offers ministry training courses in different locations so that church leaders like you can be equipped to fulfill Jesus' mission for His church. All PPI courses use the Thompson Chain Reference Bible and also provide other ministry resources. Each church leader who completes a course receives an official PPI certificate of completion. **NOTE: You are required to complete Course 1 before enrolling in other PPI courses.**

### Training courses offered by PPI:

- Course 1 - *The Message and the Messenger* (**Fr.** *Le message et le messenger*)
- Course 2 - *Our Powerful Gospel* (**Fr.** *Notre puissant évangile*)
- Course 3 – *Leading Jesus' Church - Mission and Strategy* (**Fr.** *Diriger l'église de Jésus - La mission et la stratégie*)
- Course 4 - *Make Disciples - How do we do it?* (**Fr.** *Faire des disciples - Comment le faire?*)
- Course 5 – *Leading Jesus' Church - Servant-Leaders and Organization* (**Fr.** *Diriger l'église de Jésus - Les leaders-serviteurs et l'organisation*)
- Course 6 - *Satan's Opposition and Jesus' Victory* (**Fr.** *L'opposition de Satan et la victoire de Jésus*)

### What church leaders say about PPI training:

“Training in the Thompson Bible helps us to preach the Word of God and not our own opinions.”

“Your pastors conferences are the highlight of the year for pastors in our area. The conferences bring many pastors together from many different denominations so that we can fellowship and work together.”

“Thank you for your methodology. We learn from the assignments and working in groups. We appreciate you letting us respond in the seminar with what we are learning.”

“Thank you for coming to our country to encourage us and help us. We thank God for you and look forward to the next pastors conference!”



Contact us at [ken@ppiministries.org](mailto:ken@ppiministries.org)

# MAKE DISCIPLES - HOW DO WE DO IT?

## Course 4

### CHECK-IN

### WELCOME

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and the Head of all our churches! We welcome each of you to this training conference for church leaders. Let's ask the Lord to work among us so that we and our churches become more effective at making disciples of all nations.

### ABOUT PPI

Pastor Ken MacGillivray has been involved in encouraging and training international pastors for many years. We first came to Haiti in 2010 and met many pastors in Ouanaminthe. The Lord showed us that church leaders here - like church leaders in the United States or France or Africa - need encouragement and training in God's Word. With the counsel and help of Haitian and American friends, we offered our first training conference in Ouanaminthe, Haiti in 2011. Since then, with the Lord's help, we have worked together to train hundreds of church leaders like you.

In 2019, we officially established *Partnership of Pastors International (PPI)* (**Fr. Partenariat avec Pasteurs Internationaux**) to focus on encouraging, training and resourcing church leaders in Haiti and other developing countries. PPI is associated with *The Thompson Bible International Institute* (Dr. John Jauchen) and *African Pastoral Training* (Chuck Ballard) in training thousands of church leaders around the world using the Thompson Bible.

### ABOUT THIS COURSE

*Make Disciples - How Do We Do It? (Fr. Faire des disciples - Comment le faire?)* is the **fourth** of six training courses for church leaders. The Lord Jesus gave His church a clear and simple mission - *make disciples of all nations* (Matthew 28:19). He also showed us how to do it with the 12 men He himself disciplined for 3-½ years.

Following Jesus' example, these first church leaders evangelized and disciplined men, women and children who evangelized and disciplined others who evangelized and disciplined others. They raised up leaders and planted churches all across the known world in 30 years time, and they accomplished all this despite fierce opposition and difficulty. By the power of the Holy Spirit and clear focus on Jesus' mission, ***we can do the same!***

In this course, we will focus on the clear and simple mission of the church - *make disciples*. We will study what the Bible teaches about spiritual growth - what hinders and what helps people genuinely grow in Christ. We will discuss how *we church leaders* can disciple others effectively, providing a good

example to our church. We also will consider how each of our churches can become more and more effective at helping everyone in our church grow to maturity in Christ.

## CONFERENCE MATERIALS

### Everyone should have:

- A name tag and lanyard
- A Course 4 workbook and pen
- Your own Thompson Bible

**Note:** You must complete Course 1 - *The Message and the Messenger* before enrolling in this course. When you completed Course 1, you earned a Thompson Chain Reference Bible in French. Please bring your Thompson Bible every day of this course.

**When you leave each day**, you may take your nametag, workbook and Thompson Bible with you. Be sure to bring these items with you each day of the training. Your nametag is your pass.

### Complete this training:

Plan to attend every session of this training. We take attendance each day. Do your best on each assignment. This course will give you joy, but you will also work hard! If you successfully complete this ministry training, you will receive:

- An official PPI certificate of completion for this course
- Other ministry resources

You will receive these awards at our special *Closing Ceremony and Recognition* on the final day.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- \_\_\_\_\_ at this location. Please be on time!
- Our conference coordination team will be here no later than \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will eat a meal together each day from \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will end each day on time.

## QUESTIONS AND PRAYERS FOR THIS COURSE

# REVIEW OF THE THOMPSON BIBLE

## Session 2

### The Thompson Bible is different from other study Bibles.

The Thompson Chain Reference Bible is:

- An excellent translation of the Bible - Old and New Testaments
- A “library” of study tools for church leaders between its two covers! These are tools that help you think about the context and meaning of Scripture.
- A Bible “software” in hardware form
- Thousands of church leaders around the world have learned to use the Thompson Bible in their ministry, and you are one of them!

### The Thompson Bible includes many study tools.

Pages v-vi (*Fr.* pages iii-iv) and after Revelation (*Fr.* after page 1417).

### TWO KEY INDEXES

Through their lifetime, Dr. Frank Thompson and his wife studied over 8000 Bible topics and linked more than 4400 topics in a “chain-reference” system through the Bible.

- **General Index** (*Fr. Index General*) - over 8000 topics listed alphabetically.
  - a. What is the first topic in the General Index? What is the second topic? The third?
  - b. A topic may have subtopics. *Ex. Ability (Fr. Egz. Abandon)*.
  - c. Now find *Justification (Fr. Justification)* in the General Index (**Fr.** Index General).
    - Use the guide words at the top of the pages.
    - What are the subtopics of this main topic?
  - d. All topics or subtopics have a “topic number,” or “chain number,” that points you to the Numerical Index (*Fr. Index de Themes en Chaine*).

- **Numerical (Chain) Index** - 4451 (**Fr.** 4439) topics traced through the Thompson Bible. Remember, the Chain Index is organized numerically.

1. Look up the topic *justification of self impossible* (**Fr.** *justification propre, impossible*) in the *General Index*.
  - a. What is the chain number for this topic?
  - b. Now find that chain number in the *Chain Index*.
  - c. What is the first verse in chain?
  - d. Turn to the first verse in the Bible. Then use the margins to follow this chain through the Bible.
    - i. The four margins and what they contain.
    - ii. Three helps in the outside margins.
    - iii. Find the chain number beside the topic. What is it?
    - iv. What is the next verse in the chain? Go to that verse, and follow the chain through the Bible.

Here's the second way to start a chain study:

2. As you read the Thompson Bible, find a topic to study in the **margins**. Example - *Justification (I)* (**Fr.** *Justificaton (I)*) in Romans 5:1.
  - a. Find the chain number beside the topic. What is it?
  - b. Locate that chain number in the Chain Index. What is the first verse in the chain?
  - c. Turn in the Bible to the first verse in the chain, then follow this chain through the Bible.

- d. Read each verse in the chain *in its context*. This is important!
- e. Make notes on what God says, what it means and how we should live it out. This study prepares you to teach God's Word effectively to others.
- f. Note also Dr. Thompson's study notes on a passage of Scripture (ex. Romans 5:1-5 - *Blessings of Justification*; **Fr.** Romains 5:1-5. - *Benedictions de la justification*).
  - i. List the blessings of justification Paul notes in Romans 5:1-5.
  - ii. Based on what Paul says here, what does "justification" mean?

## SUMMARY

- The Thompson Bible is not just a good translation of God's Word. It is also . . .
- The Thompson Bible has two key indexes. What are they?
- How do you use these indexes?
- What is the "chain reference" system in the Thompson Bible? How does it work?

## QUESTIONS?

# I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

## Session 3

In His first teaching about the church, the Lord Jesus said He would “build” His church so well that the gates of Hell would not overcome it.

Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. (Matthew 16:16-18)

- What do you think Jesus means by “building” His church?
- What part do we have in that as church leaders?
- Could a church be overcome by the powers of Hell if it’s not being built up by Christ?

## THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH

In Course 3, we discussed three foundational truths about the church in Matthew 16:13-20.

### 1. Jesus’ church is His people, all those who confess Him and belong to Him.

The word translated “church” here is the word *ekklesia*. This word refers points to the people of God. People gathered for a purpose. An assembly of believers living out Jesus’ mission for His glory. That’s church.

### 2. The church belongs to Jesus.

“On this rock I will build My church.” MY church. The church - our church - belongs to Jesus Christ. No true church belongs to its pastor, its board, or its congregation.

### 3. Jesus builds His church.

We have no right to make the church into what we want it to be. The church belongs to Christ, and He intends to fashion it into what He wants it to be. The Lord Jesus will build our church as we cooperate with Him humbly, courageously and practically.

That's the foundation Jesus laid for His church. Genuine, effective churches stand on the confession of who Jesus is - as the Bible explains that - and on what He intends for His church.

## HOW JESUS BUILDS HIS CHURCH

How does Jesus "build" His church?

1. He adds lost people to it through **evangelism**. Find topic number 733 *Church, Accessions to* (Fr. 1180 *Additions à l'église*) in the Chain Index.
2. He strengthens believers in it through **discipleship**. This is the focus of Course 4 - Building up the church by making strong disciples of Christ.

**ASSIGNMENT 1 (in a group) - Building up the church.** Find and follow the topic *Church, compared to a building* (**Fr. Eglise, comparée à un édifice**). Each group will choose one verse and its context, other than the first verse. Note your verse reference, read the context carefully, and summarize what your passage teaches about building up the church.



# BUILDING UP = TEACHING THEM TO OBEY

## Session 4

Building up the church fulfills Jesus' command to teach believers to obey all that He commanded. When we help believers grow in Christ, we are fulfilling an important part of the mission the Lord gave us.

### THE GREAT COMMISSION

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. (Matthew 28:16-20)

**Make disciples.** That's the church's mission. That's why we're here. Remember what we learned in Course 3 about making disciples.

### 1 COMMAND AND 3 WAYS

Jesus' command to make disciples is one word in Greek - *matheteusate*. The word means "to cause someone to become a disciple of Jesus."

- A disciple is "a learner-follower," someone who:
  - Understands and believes the good news about Christ
  - Responds to Him in repentance and saving faith
  - Continues to learn from Him and become more like Him
- Very simply, a disciple is someone who has **been saved** and is **being sanctified**.

### HOW DO WE "MAKE" THEM?

When we "make" a disciple . . .

- **WE GO** - We take the initiative to help people understand the good news about Jesus and urge them to respond to God in repentance and saving faith. **Disciples are genuine believers in Jesus Christ.** This is evangelism, adding to the church.

- **WE BAPTIZE** - We pray for, encourage and teach new Christians the basic truths of Scripture and urge them to be baptized. New believers respond by confirming their salvation and committing to growing spiritually. This is the beginning of discipleship.
- **WE TEACH THEM TO OBEY** - We continue to love, model and teach believers to learn and obey Jesus' commands and become more like Him in their everyday life. We aim at not just content and understanding, but also obedience and heart. This is ongoing discipleship.

In short, **we invite and help people to KNOW and LOVE and FOLLOW Jesus Christ**. That's what it means to "make disciples." That's how Jesus made disciples. That's how Paul and other early church leaders made disciples.

*What happens if your church fails to make disciples the way God intends?*

## **BUILDING UP = TEACHING TO OBEY**

The whole church is involved in building up one another:

- Pastors model and equip (Ephesians 4:10-17)
- Faithful believers practice one another ministry:
  - 47 "one another" commands in the New Testament. What are some of them?
  - 3 "each other" commands in the New Testament
  - All 50 "one anothers" give us specific ways to live out Jesus' ONE command to love one another as He has love us (John 13:34).
- New believers respond with desire and obedience.

**ASSIGNMENT 2 (with your group) - God commands us to grow.** Study the topic *Growth, spiritual commanded (Fr. Croissance spirituelle, commandée)* in the Thompson Bible. Note the verse references, the context and observations about what each passage teaches.

# THREE BARRIERS TO MAKING DISCIPLES

## Session 5

Making disciples the way Jesus commanded is not easy for us! So many things work against us and in us, all connected to the Devil, the world and the flesh (sin nature). We must understand how these three barriers operate so that we can defeat them daily and focus on the mission of the church.

### 1. THE DEVIL

- **Above us** - The supernatural enemy we cannot defeat on our own.
- Through Adam and Eve's fall, Satan gained authority and influence in this world.

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. (Luke 4:5-6)

- He rules over a dark kingdom (Acts 26:16-18; Colossians 1:13-14).
- He is the "god of this age" (2 Corinthians 4:4).
- Topic 3155 *Prince of This World* (**Fr.** 3531 *Prince de ce monde*)
- Satan works within God's will and under God's sovereign authority (Job 1; Genesis 3:15; John 16:11; 1 John 3:8; Revelation 20).

Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. **The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.** (1 John 3:8)

**ASSIGNMENT 3 (with your group) - How Satan opposes discipleship.** Find and study the *Work of Satan* (Fr. *Oeuvre de Satan*) in the Thompson Bible. Write your notes below.

## 2. THE WORLD

- **All around us** - like standing in a river current
- “World” in the Bible can refer to the:
  - Earth, the physical planet that God created and owns (Psalm 24:1-2; Acts 17:24)
  - All people who do not know God (John 1:10; 3:16-17)
  - Especially in John’s writings, **the world system that opposes God and His will.** (John 14:17-19; Romans 12:1-2; 1 John 2:15-17). What is the “world system”?
- Satan uses the world system to drag lost people and Christians away from God. It is very effective!

### ASSIGNMENT 4 (all together) - Contextual study and teaching of one Scripture.

- Read and re-read 1 John 2:15-17.
- Note what each sentence IS:
  - **Command** - Tells us to do something
  - **Warning** - Tells us not to do something
  - **Encouragement** - Result of obedience
  - **Condition-result** - *If* this, then that
  - **Reason** - *Because* or *for*
  - **Question** - To help us understand or make us think about how we apply
- Note what each sentence DOES:
  - **Explain?**
  - **Prove?**

- **Illustrate (give an example)?**
- **Apply?**
- **Make observations and summaries as you think through the passage!**
- This is an effective way to study a Scripture in context AND to prepare to teach or preach it to others:
  - What do you need to **explain** to your people?
  - What do you need to **prove** to them?
  - What could you **illustrate** so that your people understand and apply correctly?
  - How should we **apply** what God says here and now?

### **1 John 2:15-17**

Do not love the world or the things in the world (2:15)

If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him (2:15)

For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world (2:16)

And the world is passing away along with its desires (2:17)

but whoever does the will of God abides forever (2:17)

## **ASSIGNMENT 5 (all together) - Two-sided topic studies in the Thompson Bible.**

Look up the topics/subtopics *Worldliness-Unworldliness* 3914-3918 (**Fr.** *Attachement au monde - Spiritualite* 417-421) in the Chain Index.

- Survey the topics and subtopics in this section.
- What it is and what it is not (two sides) - This helps you teach/preach these topics clearly and practically.
- Dig deeper in one or more topics and prepare your message series.

### **3. THE FLESH (SIN NATURE)**

- **Inside us** - Tempting and influencing our thought, words and actions
- In Romans 7:21-23, Paul calls our sin nature “the law of sin.” It’s like the law of gravity, a powerful force within us that influences everything we feel, think, say and do.

## **ASSIGNMENT 6 (with your group) - The flesh.** Study one of these topics with your group:

1) *The flesh, general references to (Fr. Chair, références générales)* OR 2) *Corruption, moral (Fr. Corruption, morale)*. Then answer the questions below based on what the Bible teaches.

### **Questions about our sin nature:**

1. What is “the flesh”?
2. How much does our flesh control or influence our lives?
3. Does it change after God saves us? If so, in what way?



- Other chain studies about our sin nature:
  - Carnality 645 (*Fr.* Esprit charnel 1299)
  - Depravity 2546 (Fr. Temps mauvais 2640)
  - Sinful mind 2351 (Fr. Pensee charnelle 2971)

The Devil, the world, the flesh - these are powerful barriers to growing in Christ and making disciples. We cannot overcome them on our own! Like our salvation, our sanctification is a miraculous, powerful work of God that we participate in and cooperate with every day.

## THE STARTING POINT FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH Session 6

God has invested so much in restoring us to the likeness of His Son! Spiritual growth is the powerful work of God that we cooperate with every day.

### NEW CREATION

What does Paul mean when he says,

*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come.*  
(2 Corinthians 5:17)

What has changed? What is the “old” that has passed away? What is the “new” that has come? How can we answer these questions from the Bible?

**ASSIGNMENT 7 (with your group) - New Creation.** Study one “new” topic in the margin next to 2 Corinthians 5:17 (includes *regeneration*). Answer the questions above from your study, and write your notes below.

## GOD'S WORK AND OUR WORK

To help others grow in Christ, we must emphasize God's work then our work in spiritual growth. This is the emphasis of Scripture.

- *You died . . . Put to death* (Romans 6:1-4 and Romans 8:13; **Colossians 3:3, 5**)
- *I am crucified . . . Crucify* (**Galatians 2:19-20 and 5:24**; also see *Dying with Christ* 3504 and the study *The Surrendered Life* (**Fr. Mourir avec Christ** 3963 and the study *Vie Livree*))
- *You were circumcised . . . Circumcise your hearts* (Colossians 2:11; **Deuteronomy 30:6 and Deuteronomy 10:16**; Jeremiah 4:4)

Give an example of how we could focus incorrectly on *our work* instead of *God's work* in making disciples.

What is the danger of emphasizing one over the other in helping believers mature in Christ?

## PAUL ON THE LAW (Romans)

1. The Jews accused Paul of teaching:
  - a. "Throw away the Law and do what you want." (Romans 6:15)
  - b. "The Law itself is the problem." (Romans 7:7)
  - c. "Though it's good, the Law destroys people." (Romans 7:13)

*He responds to all three, "No way!"*

2. Paul taught that God's Law is like . . .
  - a. A spotlight that points out all the ways we have failed God. (Romans 7:7, 13)

- b. A list of boating rules thrown to a drowning man. (7:14-15; 8:3)
- c. A line drawn provoking us to cross it (Romans 7:5, 8; Colossians 2:20-23)

*Christ fulfilled God's Law so we could live by faith! (Romans 10:4)*

3. Paul explains four "laws" in Romans 7-8:

- a. The Law of God - God's perfect character and the standard we must meet.
- b. The Law of the Mind - We know and want to obey God's law.
- c. The Law of Sin - Evil dominates our lives despite our best intentions and efforts.
- d. The Law of the Spirit - Jesus fulfilled the requirements of God's Law for us, fully satisfying God's holy anger toward us. Christ's perfect life and sacrifice allowed God to:
  - i. Remove the Law as the standard of His acceptance
  - ii. Break the control of sin in our lives
  - iii. Put the Holy Spirit within us to control us

4. We now live in the "new way of the Spirit" (Romans 7:6):

- a. Free from guilt and slavery to sin (Romans 8:1)
- b. Able to live the way God wants us to live (Romans 8:2, 7)
- c. Fulfilling the Law instead of failing to keep it (Romans 8:4)
- d. With new focus instead of old habits (Romans 8:5)

*Real spiritual growth is possible because the Holy Spirit lives within us!*

**ASSIGNMENT 8 (all together) - The Indwelling Spirit (*Fr. Saint-Esprit, habite dans les croyants*)** Find this topic in the Thompson Bible and note the chain number. Then follow this topic through the Bible. What do you learn about the work of the Holy Spirit within every believer in Christ?

## **NEW TESTAMENT DISCIPLE-MAKING**

### **Session 7**

So far we have studied the Biblical foundation for making disciples. Let's get practical now. How do we cooperate with the Holy Spirit to help believers grow to maturity in Christ? What can we do to take part in building Jesus' church?

#### **HOW JESUS MADE DISCIPLES**

Jesus invited people to be *with Him* for 3-½ years. He loved them, taught them, answered their questions, involved them in serving others, corrected them and - so important! - modeled a life for God in front of them. That's how Jesus made disciples. That's how WE make disciples today.

- **LOVE + TRUTH over TIME**
- We can't force someone to grow in Christ. It takes:
  - Prayer, depending on the work of the indwelling Holy Spirit
  - Patience - It's not about us!
  - Example - Not pushiness, shaming or guilting
  - Perseverance in teaching the Word and in showing them how to obey it in everyday life
  - Other people - God uses others in the church - not just us - to help believers mature in Christ

#### **THREE TOOLS FOR GROWING IN CHRIST**

Depend upon and use the tools God gave us to make disciples. You do not have to create new tools!

1. Word of God (Psalm 119; John 17:17; Romans 12:1-2)
2. Spirit of God (John 14:15-17; 2 Corinthians 3:18)
3. People of God (50 "one anothers" in the NT!)

## HOW GOD CHANGES US

Following Jesus' example of Love + Truth over Time, Barnabas, Peter and other apostles disciplined Paul. Paul then disciplined many, many others as he planted churches across the known world. In Ephesians 4, he gives us three steps to follow in our own lives and as we disciple others. No doubt, the Apostle Paul wanted Christians - especially church leaders - to use these steps to make strong disciples of Christ.

### Steps in Spiritual Growth (Ephesians 4:17-32)

- Ephesians 4:17-19 - How lost people think and live
- Ephesians 4:20-24 - How we change (3 steps)
- Ephesians 4:25-32 - Examples of the steps

## Using the 3 Steps

- Keep filling your mind and heart with Scripture.
  - Read and re-read. Listen and listen again.
  - The Bible speaks to everything in our lives, specifically or in principle.
- Apply what God says to situations in your own life and family. Trust and obey!
- Share what God is teaching you with others, beginning with your family. (More in Session 8.)
- Be intentional and consistent in discipling your own family. If you are not discipling your family, you will struggle to intentionally, consistently disciple others in the church.
- Pray that God will lead you to another person you can disciple.
- Think about people God has put in your life:
  - You see them regularly.
  - They're the same gender as you.
  - They want to grow in Christ. They're hungry for spiritual things.
  - They may have time to meet with you.
- Invite 1-3 of them to meet with you to encourage each other in Christ.
  - Decide on a day and time that regularly works well for you.
  - Plan to meet for 1-2 hours weekly or twice monthly for a period of time. Meet with them consistently!
  - Be prepared to suggest a book in the Bible to read together and discuss chapter by chapter:
    - Gospel of Mark for a new believer
    - What would they like to learn?
    - You can use other good material, too.
- Keep your time warm and simple.
  - Get to know them, and let them get to know you.
  - Encourage, encourage, encourage!
  - Pray specifically for them.\
  - Reach out to them between meetings.
  - Love + Truth over Time

- Practice “SOAPS” in your meetings with them:
  - **Scripture** - Read a section of Scripture together.
  - **Observe** - Talk about what God is saying and what He means in this Scripture. Keep it simple!
  - **Apply** what that Scripture says to real life. Be an example to them of how to submit your whole life to God.
  - **Pray** - Pray about what you’re learning in God’s Word. Pray for their concerns and family.
  - **Share** - Challenge them to share what God is teaching them with others. Be an example of this yourself - especially in your family.

**Who could you disciple?**



## **START AT HOME**

### **Session 8**

Making disciples starts at home. In Ephesians 5, God commands husbands to love their wives sacrificially, wash her with the water of the Word and present her as a joyful, shining bride to Christ. That's Love + Truth over Time, husbands! In the same way, God instructs wives to love and respect their husbands and to make their home their priority (Ephesians 5; Titus 1). God tells fathers to take the lead in raising their children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). That's discipleship! If we want to please God and effectively disciple others, we cannot neglect our families.

Practically speaking, if you are not encouraging your spouse and children in Christ, you will struggle to intentionally, consistently disciple others in the church. (Your family is your first congregation!) On the other hand, if we allow God to humble us and grow us in discipling our own family, we will become strong, effective disciple-makers of others!

### **OVERCOME THE BATTLE**

- The power struggle between husband and wife - and God's grace (Genesis 3:16-21)
- Public versus private life (Matthew 6:1; 1 Timothy 4:16)

### **SIMPLE, HONEST AND CONSISTENT**

1. Set aside regular time as a couple and time with your children.
2. Read Scripture and talk about main truths in the passage.
3. Pray together for one another.
4. Share with your spouse and children what God is teaching you. Open your heart to them about your weaknesses and struggles. You don't have to be perfect. They already know you!
5. Take other opportunities to teach and train your family at other times (Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
  - a. In the ups and downs of daily life.
  - b. As you are preparing to teach or preach.
  - c. After you address a situation in the church, or when others ask you questions.
6. Include them in your ministry as much as possible.

**ASSIGNMENT 9 (group of men or women) - Christian Marriage.** Read 1 Peter 3:1-9 with your group. Then use the steps of contextual study on pages 14-15 to make observations and applications about your specific Scripture (**women** - 1 Peter 3:1-6, 8-9 and **men** - 1 Peter 3:7-9). Keep it biblical and make it practical!

## INVOLVE YOUR CHURCH

### Session 9

Is your church a disciple-making church? Every church - whether they realize it or not - faces the tension of whether they'll just "do church" in an impersonal way or they'll commit themselves to the slower, personal work of helping people know and follow Christ in their everyday lives. How is your church doing?

#### IT'S BOTH

Remember, Jesus builds His church in two ways:

1. He adds lost people to it through evangelism.
2. He strengthens believers in it through discipleship.

Making disciples in your church includes both! Make sure every person in your church understands the gospel and has responded to Christ in repentance and saving faith. And give them consistent opportunities to grow to maturity in Christ. The Apostle Paul summarizes his ministry this way:

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone **mature** in Christ. 29 For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me. (Colossians 1:27-29)

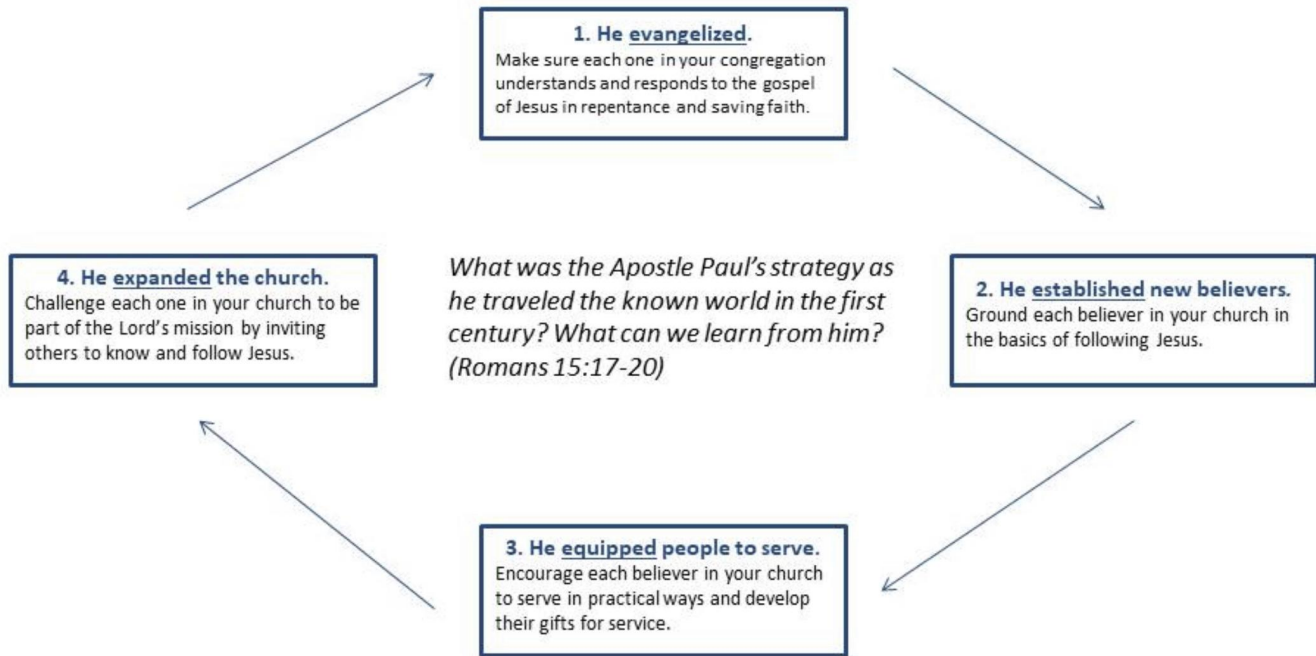
He understood that God's plan for His church is to grow each person to maturity in Christ. *All to maturity and many to leadership* - this is a Biblical goal for your church!

#### EVERYTHING

So we must be intentional. The Apostle Paul said everything we do as a church should build up the Body, either by adding people to the church or strengthening believers in Christ.

What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. (1 Corinthians 14:26)

# Paul's Ministry Pattern



In some way, every ministry of your church should 1) help people understand the gospel and respond in repentance and saving faith and/or 2) help people to become more like Christ in their everyday lives. Be intentional about this!

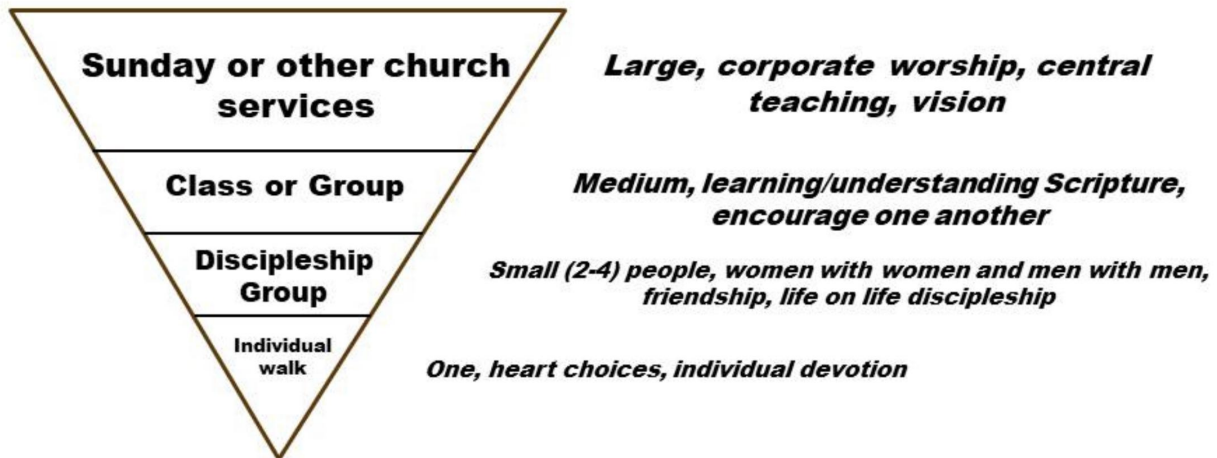
- Teach your people from the Bible what Jesus' church is all about.
- Provide an example for your teachers, leaders and parents of how to love, pray for and encourage others using the Scriptures.
- Train teachers, leaders and parents how to give their testimony and share the gospel with others.
- Train teachers, leaders and parents in how to love, pray for and encourage others in Christ using the Scriptures (SOAPS).
- Equip and expect your teachers and leaders to evangelize and disciple in their classes, groups and choirs.

- Teach and challenge everyone in your congregation to evangelize and make disciples.
  - The key to a growing, effective church!
  - It only happens when our people are growing genuinely in Christ and are excited about it.
  - Remember the *Three Tools for Spiritual Growth* and the 50 “one anothers” of the New Testament.

## STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Making disciples takes **Love + Truth over Time**. Some ministries of the church effectively teach God’s Truth. Other ministries give our people Time to ask questions and share what’s happening in their lives. Other ministries give believers opportunities to Love one another well. Your people need all these opportunities! Don’t make one more important than another.

## WHAT DIFFERENT CHURCH MINISTRIES ADD TO MAKING DISCIPLES





**CLOSING CEREMONY AND RECOGNITION**  
**Session 10**

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind that by testing you may discern what God's will is. Romans 12:2*

**WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS**

**PRAISE IN SONG**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**TESTIMONIES**

**OFFERING**

**AWARDING OF CERTIFICATES AND BIBLES**

**CLOSING WORDS AND PRAYERS OF DEDICATION**



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