

# The Discipleship Pathway

CONNECT STUDY

 INTERNATIONAL  
CITY CHURCH

# DISCIPLESHIP MODEL

## Memory Verse:

Matt 28:18-19

<sup>18</sup> Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

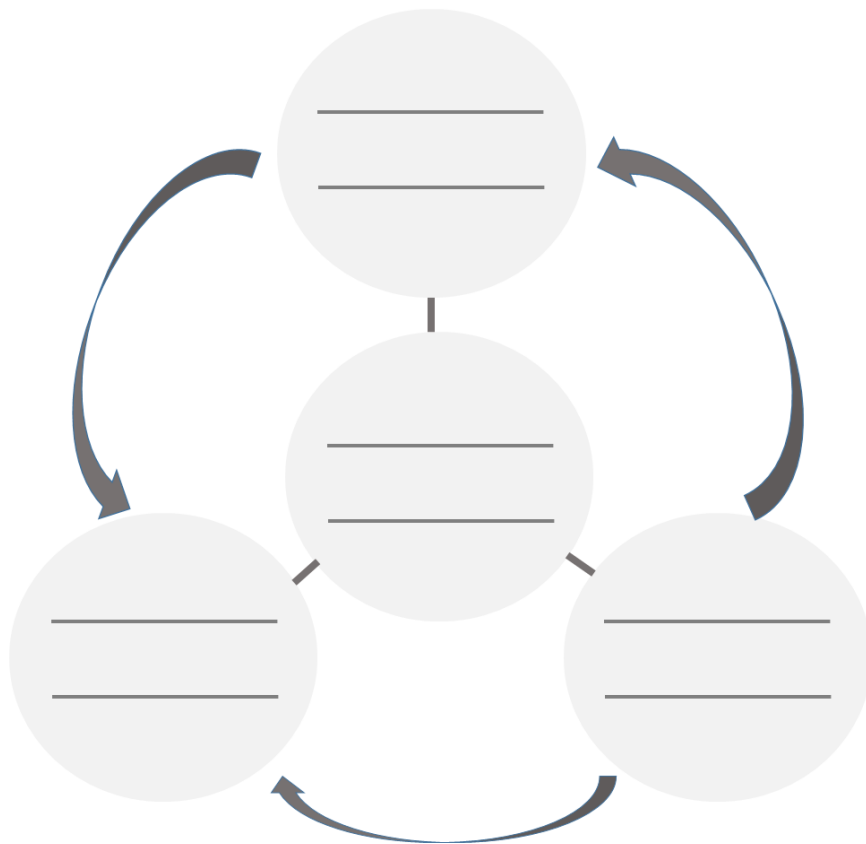
REVELATION

SEPARATION

TRANSFORMATION

ACTIVATION

DEMONSTRATION



# STUDY 1 —THE DISCIPLESHIP MODEL

## Introduction

The church has to be known for making \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Tim 1:12-14

<sup>12</sup>That is why I am suffering here in prison. But I am not ashamed of it, for I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of his return. <sup>13</sup>**Hold on to the pattern** of wholesome teaching you learned from me—a pattern shaped by the faith and love that you have in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives within us, carefully guard the precious truth that has been entrusted to you

### 1. The First Step: \_\_\_\_\_

To make disciples we need to move from monologue to dialogue. We also need to beware of the five stage of growth.

The growth needs to be measurable. In the book of 1 John there are more measures of discipleship.

- ✓ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Love \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ A shift in disposition from a lifestyle of \_\_\_\_\_ to a lifestyle empowered by \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Love \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. The Second Step: \_\_\_\_\_

Mature partnership understand the heart of the house:

- V\_\_\_\_\_
- V\_\_\_\_\_
- V\_\_\_\_\_

Partnership also means Participation. It means to participate in:

T \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

**3. The Third Step: \_\_\_\_\_**

2 Tim 2:2

You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

**4. The Fourth Step: \_\_\_\_\_**

The last M is \_\_\_\_\_

The church needs to be m \_\_\_\_\_ not just a \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:**

1. Where do you think you are at in the discipleship pathway—make, mature or multiply?
2. Why do people get stuck in the discipleship pathway? What are some of the challenges and how can one overcome them?
3. Share with someone your moment of revelation about Jesus Christ
4. About the four measures from 1 John, identify one area of growth that you need to work on and suggest some practical steps to do so.
5. What does it mean practically to invest our:
  - Time
  - Talent
  - Treasure

# STUDY 2—MAKE DISCIPLES

The first step is Discipleship.

In the book of 1 John, four measures of discipleship are given.

## 1. E\_\_\_\_\_ Christ (REVELATION)

1 Jn 5:11-12 And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.

We must know \_\_\_\_\_ we believe, not just what we believe.

## 2. E\_\_\_\_\_ the New Life (SEPARATION)

1 Jn 3:9 Those who have been born into God's family **do not make a practice of sinning**, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God.

This speaks of r\_\_\_\_\_. Repentance speaks of a change of direction.

Practical applications:

### a. C\_\_\_\_\_ your sins daily

Read 1 Jn 1:9

### b. Know what not to \_\_\_\_\_

Read 1 Jn 2:15-16

Lust of the flesh—passion

Lust of the eyes—possession

Pride of life—position

### c. Receive \_\_\_\_\_ from others

Read James 5:16

## 3. E\_\_\_\_\_ the word of God

I John 2:5 But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. This is how we know we are living in him

#### 4. E\_\_\_\_\_ the local church

1 Jn 2:7, 9-11

"...Love one another...If anyone claims, "I am living in the light," but hates a fellow believer, that person is still living in darkness. Anyone who loves a fellow believer is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. But anyone who hates a fellow believer is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.

Practical applications:

- a. Help the \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. Love the \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. Forgive the \_\_\_\_\_

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

1. Share your story about how you received the revelation about the reality of Jesus.
2. Share which of the following areas that you struggle most with:
  - Lust of the flesh
  - Lust of the eye
  - Pride of life
3. Why do you think we are fearful of telling others about our weaknesses?
4. How can we create a safe place for people to share about their weaknesses in connect group? Do you have any positive or negative experiences in this regard?
5. Foot traffic such as "crying babies, demanding spouse, unending house chores, etc." can encroach upon the root system of our life - our devotional life. What are some practical ways to protect our spiritual root system?
6. Think of the last time you were offended by a Christian leader or friend. How could you have done better to resolve the situation?

# STUDY 3—MATURE PARTNERS

Acts 2:42 “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship (koinonia)”

## 1. The meaning of Koinonia

Koinonia or fellowship is often associated with having a cup of coffee with other Christians. But in the first century, the word commonly had commercial overtones.

Koinonia in the New Testament:

- ✓ J\_\_\_\_\_p\_\_\_\_\_ in something with someone, such as in a community, or team or an alliance or joint venture.
- ✓ Always imply \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Koinonos means a companion, a partner or a joint owner. Thus koinonia can also imply an association, or a partnership in common.

## 2. Partnership means investment

Partnership requires an investment of t\_\_\_\_\_, t\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

In Acts 2, we can see how the believers invested their time, talent and treasure:

Time—they devoted themselves to \_\_\_\_\_

Treasure—they sold their \_\_\_\_\_ In Rom 12: 26 “For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.”

Talent—\_\_\_\_\_ gifts. And we strengthen this through ministry \_\_\_\_\_, ministry \_\_\_\_\_ and ministry \_\_\_\_\_.

## 3. Partnership in three areas

We need to be in partnership in three areas: V\_\_\_\_\_, V\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### a. Vision Partnership

Amos 3:3 “Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction...” We must walk together in the same direction to the same destination.

Gal 5:25-26 “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another

## b. Values Partnership

This speaks of having the same values and cultures as how we will accomplish the task. One of the key principles that we go by is the Platinum Rule.

The Golden Rule

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The Platinum Rule

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## c. Verbiage Partnership

Our language identifies us. We need to be speaking the same language. In partnership, we need to guard our words.

Our words need to be \_\_\_\_\_. Not lip service but heart service.

James 3:11 Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water?

### DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

1. Why do partnerships (in business, marriage, ministry, etc.) go wrong?
2. Share with someone what you think are the Rom 12 talents that God has given to you and how can you invest your talents in the connect group and the church?
3. Share how you discovered your talents/gifting in God. And if you have yet to identify your gifting, what are some practical steps you can take to do so?
4. Are you walking in step with the rest of the church? How do we measure that?
5. How do we apply the platinum rule in our relationships with one another?
6. How does one distinguish constructive vs destructive (idle) criticism with regards to connect group and church?



# STUDY 4—MULTIPLY LEADERS

Everything rises and falls on leadership. We need to strengthen in order to lengthen. We need a strong leadership base in order to sustain growth in the church.

## 1. Heart of Leadership

Mk 10:42-45 “So Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus did not say we should not aspire for greatness but how to do so. I Tim 3:1 tells us if someone desires to be an elder/leader, he desires an h \_\_\_\_\_ position.

“Expect great things for God. Attempt great things for God”

--William Carrey

The world measures greatness by how many people serve us but Jesus measures greatness by how many people we serve. In being a leader, we need to have:

Attitude of a \_\_\_\_\_ but heart of a \_\_\_\_\_.

A word of caution is that there is a price tag to being a great servant-leader. We must embrace that price willingly.

1 Pet 5:2 “Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God”

## 2. Hands of Leadership

1 Pet 5: 2 “...eager to serve”

Jesus mentioned about “putting the hand to the plow”. It speaks of s \_\_\_\_\_ and taking \_\_\_\_\_.

It also speaks of not \_\_\_\_\_. Never give up your post.

We also need to \_\_\_\_\_ hands with others.

### 3. Mouth of Leadership

Lk 6:45 "...out of the abundance of the heart the (his) mouth speaks..."

Words are powerful. Saul was jealous because he heard the words "Saul killed a thousand but David killed ten thousand".

Ps 5:1 "Give ear to my words, consider my meditation"

#### DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

1. What are some hesitations people have about leadership? How do we overcome these hesitations?
2. If you had no constraint in terms of finance and time, what great things would you like to attempt for the Kingdom of God?
3. What do you understand from the statement "having the attitude of a servant and the heart of a son"? What does it look like practically?
4. In what area can you step up and take responsibility?
5. What kind of life stage are you at i.e. single, newly married, parents with young kids, empty nesters, etc.? How do we make sure that we do not neglect our talents and gifting at every season of our lives?
6. What are the tell-tale signs of insecurity in leadership? How can we guard our heart and mouth practically?

## Journaling Schedule

29/06	30/06	01/07	02/07	03/07
1 John 1:1-4	1 John 1:5-7	1 John 1:8-10	1 John 2:1-4	1 John 2:5-8

06/07	07/07	08/07	09/07	10/07
1 John 2:9-12	1 John 2:13-17	1 John 2:18-21	1 John 2:22-25	1 John 2:26-29

13/07	14/07	15/07	16/07	17/07
1 John 3:1-6	1 John 3:7-10	1 John 3:11-15	1 John 3:16-20	1 John 3:21-24

20/07	21/07	22/07	23/07	24/07
1 John 4:1-4	1 John 4:5-8	1 John 4:9-12	1 John 4:13-16	1 John 4:17-21

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### Answer keys:

#### STUDY 1

Introduction: disciples; 1. Make disciples; relationship with Jesus; Love the word of God; a lifestyle of repentance to a lifestyle empowered by grace; love the church; 2. Vision; Values; Verbiage; Time; Talent, Treasures; 3. Multiply Leaders; 4. Monitor; Missional Discipleship; missional not just attractional

#### STUDY 2

1. Encounter Christ; whom we believe; 2. Enforce the New Life; repentance; a. Confess; b. what not to love; c. Receive help from others; Enjoy the word of God; 4. Engage in the local church; help the needy; Love the crazy; forgive the nasty

#### STUDY 3

1. Joint participation; 2. Time, talent and treasure; prayer; sold their possessions; Rom 12 gifts; ministry equipping, ministry experience, ministry exposure; 3. Vision, Values and Verbiage; b. The Golden Rule is do unto others what you want them to do unto you; Platinum rule is to love God and do what he wants you to do; c. sincere

#### STUDY 4

1. Honourable position; attitude of a servant but heart of a son; 2. Stepping up and taking responsibilities; It also speaks of not looking back; join;

