

DISCIPLESHIP FIELD GUIDE: LEADER OVERVIEW

Welcome

If you've been directed to this guide then know that we have been praying for you! Our prayer has come right out of the pages of Scripture: that the Lord of the harvest would send workers into His harvest field. (*Matthew 9:38, Luke 10:2*)

If you're reading this, you've likely agreed to lead a discipleship group. This guide has been written to help equip you for that adventure. Everything beyond this point is intended to help you navigate both the Discipleship Field Guide tools in it and the various conversations that will emerge from it. Our goal is to help you confidently answer Jesus' call, week after week, to: "*Go and make disciples.*"

LEADER'S GUIDES

We've committed to provide you with everything you need to lead a discipleship group using the field guide. Below, we'll give you an overview of the field guide and how its various sections and parts are designed to work. Additionally, we have written a leader's guide for every single week that you meet. These can all be found in the leaders portal (website) where you will find them conveniently organized section by section.

We're confident that once you get into the rhythm and flow of meeting with your group, you will lean on these guides less and less. That said, don't neglect to check these notes weekly as they are especially useful in helping you navigate the tools in each section of the field guide (more on that in a bit).

Let's take a look at the flow of the Discipleship Field Guide and how it is designed to work:

FIELD GUIDE FLOW

The Discipleship Field Guide is made up of 10 sections, each consisting of 4 weeks. Each section is built around a different theme or conversation (i.e. “The Gospel” or “Prayer”). The intent is that your group meet weekly and become fully immersed in that section's topic.

As you look over the field guide you will notice that each week follows a purposeful rhythm built around a simple acronym: C.A.L.L. We'll talk you through these parts and explain how they function in a moment; but before we do, allow us to say a quick word about the reason this rhythm matters: If we expect those we disciple to one day go forth and make disciples, then the process that we model for them must be memorable and transferable.

One of the biggest reasons disciples fail to become disciple-makers is because, though they have personally benefited from someone's spiritual investment in their own life, they often cannot articulate the specific things that person did to help them grow. They may speak of ‘meeting together’ and ‘talking about the Scriptures,’ but when asked if they would feel comfortable discipling someone else the answer is often, “No.” They simply do not know how to do for others what was done for them.

This is why the weekly rhythm of the field guide is built around a very purposeful and memorable pattern. At the heart of this pattern is word and prayer; but to ensure it is easily transferable we use the acronym: C.A.L.L. Please follow this rhythm weekly in your group.

C.A.L.L.

- **Celebrate. [5-10 Minutes]** Start each week with celebration by asking: *“Where did you see God use you in His work over the last week?”* This question is intentional. We're not interested in just celebrating good things; we want to make disciples who think and live with God's Kingdom constantly in view. This question is designed to be a reminder that no matter our career or place in life, as followers of Jesus we each have a place and a purpose in the Kingdom - and people who have a purpose in life live with intentionality and joy.
- **Accountability. [5-10 Minutes]** This section is designed to help your group check in on the things that God may have put on their hearts the week before [see 'Sayings & Doings' below]. The goal of discipleship is not just to learn from Jesus, but to walk in obedience to what He has called us to do.

This section also includes Scripture memorization. For each of the 10 sections in the Field Guide there is a memory verse. Each time you meet, encourage your group to be memorizing that month's Scripture and, for accountability, practice reciting these Scriptures together during this 'Accountability' time each week. Reciting the Scripture back to one

another each week may seem elementary, but your commitment to this step is critical. Our goal is to pass on to those we are discipling a deep love and commitment to God's Word.

- **Learn. [25–45 Minutes]** The learn section is your group's time to dive into scripture and that section's topic. These two parts in the Learn section should garner rich conversation and greater understanding of the concept.

TOOL: In each of the 10 sections in the Field Guide we will introduce your group to a tool that visually highlights a way of thinking and talking about the truths of Scripture. This tool is repeated for 4 weeks. Here's how the week-to-week rhythm works:

- **Week 1:** Teach the tool through either diagramming it yourself or watching the tool video with your group. Encourage the group to have their pen or pencil ready and to copy what they learn into the allotted space in their Field Guide.
- **Week 2:** Review the tool by leading them through it. This reinforces the concept and ideas for your group. (Don't hesitate to re-watch the video in preparation and/or practice it ahead of time so that you can lead your group through it when the time comes.) Assign someone else in the group to come ready to lead through the tool the following week. Make sure they have the link to the video so that they can review and prepare. *[Videos can be found in the [leaders portal for the Discipleship Field Guide](#).]*
- **Week 3:** Have a member of your group lead everyone through the tool. Though your group members might feel uncomfortable stepping into this role, remind them that it's not about getting it perfect. The process of hearing this every week and practicing it together is a critical part of equipping them for spiritual conversations with others. Finally, just as you did in week 2, assign someone else in the group to come ready to lead through the tool the next week.
- **Week 4:** Have a final member of your group lead the tool.

SCRIPTURE: The largest portion of your time each week will be spent in the Scriptures. For each week of the journey, you will be supplied with a Scripture related to that month's theme. Your job is **not** to teach the Scripture, but rather to lead your group to read and reflect on it together using The PRESS Method.

Application When we read the bible we should not simply grow in knowledge and leave it there. 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us it should also lead us to greater Christian maturity and righteous living. After spending time drawing truths out of the Scriptures, you will lead your group into a section called Application. *"What is God saying to me based on this*

Scripture and how am I going to think or act differently because of it?" The answer to this question becomes the 'takeaway' that each group member should apply to their lives in the coming week. This is also what you will review and check in on during the 'Accountability' section the next time you meet.

- **Listen. [10–15 Minutes]** The final moments together each week should be spent in prayer for one another and for the strength to walk in obedience to what God has revealed to you during your study of His Word together.

A Few Final Words

THE MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENT

Though we have supplied you with everything you need to lead a discipleship group, the most important ingredient to discipleship is prayer. Leader's guides are helpful, but prayer is essential. Having left us with the great commission to "Go and make disciples," Jesus called His disciples first to wait and pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Simply put, we cannot make disciples without the Spirit's help. Pray over your group each week before you meet and ask God to do what only He can do - change hearts and lives!

SHARE THE LOAD

Our goal is to make disciples who make disciples; that means that by the end of our time with our group they will know how to "go and do likewise." This means that part of the discipleship process is sharing the load, inviting members of our group to take a turn leading and guiding through the various portions of the study. This is the very thing that Jesus did with His disciples: He not only modeled ministry for them but He invited them to participate alongside Him, always coaching and instructing them along the way. In the same way, as you get further into the field guide, look for opportunities to share the load so that your group members can begin to learn how to disciple others using this tool.

PEOPLE OVER PROCESS

Discipleship can be messy. You will inevitably have times when someone in your group is facing a crisis. Your job in these moments is to be sensitive to the Spirit and sensitive to what God is doing in their life. It's okay on these occasions to break from the Field Guide and spend some time coming

around that individual. If you don't get all the way through the session that week as a result, or you have to add an extra week, that's okay! Put people over the process.

The Field Guide is designed to be exactly that, a guide! Just like on a road trip, though you will spend the bulk of your time following the route on your GPS, it's equally important to divert when necessary in order to fill up with gas or change a flat.

Pay attention to what God is doing in your group. Divert when necessary. Jump back on the highway and finish the journey when you are done.

God's Got This

You have everything you need to do everything God has called you to do... not because of the Field Guide or all of the weekly Leader's guides. No, you have everything you need because God has promised that His Spirit will lead you and guide you as you seek to be obedient to the Great Commission (*Matt 28:18-20*).

Trust that He's with you.

Trust that He's got this.

Trust that He will be faithful to His promise.

Now go and make disciples!

PART ONE:

Word

What a precious gift we have in the Bible. God's word written down that we can access anytime. It is a privilege that we can all too often take for granted. Over the next four weeks help your group move from preconceived notions of what the Bible is and recognize the riches of this book. The Word of God is active, vibrant and living. It is the authority on truth, the primary way God has chosen to communicate to us, and a guide to our everyday living.

Week 1

Tips & Strategy

- This week is going to look a little different than the others, due to the need to build community and trust. Focus on connecting relationally and preparing for group success moving forward.
- **Expectations:** Good directions help us get where we are going. Setting expectations is not about making rules, it's about helping us all get where we need to be. Here are a few suggestions to help your group be successful. *(Encourage your group to write these down in their Field Guide. Though this may feel elementary, it's a helpful way to set expectations up front so that everyone is committed, trusts the process and is ready to use the Field Guide.)*
 - **We Meet Weekly.** Discuss weekly meeting time and the importance of being present.
 - **Pour In & Speak up.** Participation matters so pour in & speak up.
 - **Trust.** Keep what's said in the group, in the group.
 - **Learn to Lead.** Your leader is going to share the load and teach you to do what they do. Don't just come to learn; come ready to help carry the load.
 - **Live the Mission.** A discipleship group will require you to live on mission by putting your faith into action. Skimp on this and you will shortchange your spiritual growth.
- **Get To Know Your Group:** Create some space to get to know each other.

- **Testimony:** Sharing your testimony can be a powerful tool and will help your group grow close to each other. Plan on sharing your 3-5 minute testimony this week and asking them to share theirs after. Remind them this is not a performance. This will help everyone in your group get to know each other better.

Week 2

Tips & Strategy:

- **Leadership Strategy:** Show them the path, before you walk them down it. Share the CALL rhythm with your group prior to going through it for the first time. Let them know that they will be repeating this rhythm every week, not because it is perfect or magical but because it is helpful and reproducible. C.A.L.L.: Celebrate. Accountability. Learn. Listen.
- Don't assume that everybody in your group has the same understanding of the Bible. There are likely several thoughts and areas of gray. Don't be afraid to push into those conversations early.

The following is our church's doctrinal statement on the Bible; while you do not need to quote this or write it down, it may be a helpful reference if you run into some disagreements:

"We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and new Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises."

TOOL:

- There are many Bible study tools available today. You are likely familiar with one or more. The PRESS Method adheres to the tried and true process of: observation, interpretation, and application. The language around The PRESS Method is meant to be memorable and usable.

Application:

- You will likely have people in your group this week that say that they would like to read the Bible more (or some variation of that statement). Encourage them to turn this statement into a tangible goal. You can help them do that by asking:
 - When will you be in God's word?
 - Where will you spend your time and at what frequency?
 - What do you hope to get from it?
 - You can encourage them to start the 1 year reading guide [LINK](#)
- **Pray and Close.** Using a text group or [Groupme](#) is a great way to communicate prayer requests and stay connected during the week. Set this up for your group this week.

Week 3

Tips & Strategy:

- Encourage your group to read the passage for the coming week. It will help participants to be more familiar with the verse and enrich your conversations. There is no need to do a deep study before a group but a simple reading will help create greater understanding and better conversations.
- Today's passage reminds us that our time and God's word is not just an intellectual exercise. It is in fact God's word and that we are being with him in those minutes. It's a direct conversation that allows us to abide in & meet with a person, not just a text.

Week 4

Tips & Strategy:

- When you come to the end of a PART, ask what they have learned from the last few weeks together. If you have time, ask your group:

What about this section changed how you view God's Word or in what ways are you approaching it differently?

PART TWO: GOSPEL

The Gospel may seem like too basic a starting point for someone in your discipleship group; we must remember that our need for grace never changes, the Good News of Jesus never grows old, and we never graduate from our need of the Gospel. Not only that, it is critically important that everyone in your group is on the same page when it comes to understanding and speaking about the Gospel. As such, over the next 4 weeks your group will spend time exploring and understanding the Gospel. Don't assume that everyone in your group already knows and believes it.

Week 5

Tips & Strategy

- **Key Verse for Part 1: Romans 5:8**
 - Read the text together. Spend some time reflecting on the meaning of the verse. Consider asking: "What is this verse saying? What does it mean? What is its implication for us or for the world?"
 - Encourage your group to the plain reading of the text, and what the text means in context to the rest of the passage and the overall book's main message.
 - Encourage your group to memorize this verse and to come ready each week to rehearse it with each other.

Week 6

Tips & Strategy:

Section: Learn

- In the learn section, the instructions state to follow the PRESS Method using 2 questions as you study that week's text. Focus on these 2 'Examine' questions as found on your PRESS card:

Q1. What does this text say about God and His character?

Q2. What does this text say about us and our need?

TOOL:

- The Gospel can seem simple, but it is full of layers. Our goal over this section is to give an understanding of the depths of the Gospel. Make sure you check out the Gospel Triangle Video and then discuss it as a group.
 - **Show vs. Teach:** Rather than using the word 'Teach' when introducing a tool, we encourage you to say: "I want to show you a tool." We are not creating students who follow us as teachers, we are simply fellow followers of Jesus "showing" them how to follow Jesus, too. It is more like an apprentice or journeyman than a student relationship.
 - **Take the pressure off your shoulders.** Sometimes the tool can be intimidating to explain. Don't worry, the tool is just a resource; it is not the main point of what is happening in your time together. Feel free to watch the teaching tool video together if that is more comfortable for you.

Week 7

Tips & Strategy:

- **Put it in Their Hands:** See if someone else in the group can explain (and diagram) The Gospel Triangle. Remind them that we aren't looking for perfection; rather, we simply want to ensure we have learned the major movements, key words and core Scriptures associated with each part of The Gospel Triangle. Encourage the group to help out along the way.
- **Ask:** How is today's verse represented in the triangle?
- **Sayings and Doings:** What is God saying? And what is God calling you to do about it? Don't be afraid to lean into this with your group. Ask probing questions. Don't hesitate to ask them how what they are hearing from God is attached to the Scripture reviewed that day. And encourage their "doing" to be SMART (Strategic, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timebound).

Week 8

Tips & Strategy:

- **Put it in Their Hands:** In week 2 you explained The Gospel Triangle; last week you invited someone else to explain it; now, have a final member of your group walk everyone through The Gospel Triangle. Remind them at the end of the group members' explanation of the Gospel Triangle, that the goal is to understand the Gospel more holistically. Recognizing that the good news about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection not only heals our relationship UP with God, but also IN to ourselves and our community, as well as OUT to the world. This can be tied back to the Scripture this week in Ephesians 2:1-10 (Saved by grace and raised with Jesus = UP. Not our doing, or our works, no boasting, it is his work in us both personally and corporately = IN. And we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works = OUT.)

PART THREE:

Discipleship

In part three we focus on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. While four weeks is not long enough to cover all of the ways the Scriptures call us to live differently as His disciples, we will use this time to define what it means to be a disciple and give your group a tool for helping them discern what that might look like in every facet of life. As we will see, as disciples of Jesus we must learn to live for Christ, die to self and give our lives to others in service. Discipleship is a call to a whole new way of life that is radically different from the world's way of living.

Week 9

Tips & Strategy:

- **Memory Verse & Learn:** You will find that quite often the monthly memory verse is the same verse we study in the Week 1 Learn portion of the field guide. This was done intentionally to help participants dwell on the truth of this Scripture. When this occurs, do the Learn section of the study *prior* to discussing the Memory Verse.

TOOL:

- Each month you have a tool to discuss. That tool is repeated in all 4 weeks of the month. Instead of simply telling them about the tool each week, help them be part of the following process:
 - **Week 1:** I Do, You Watch. This week you present and explain the tool (or watch the video together). This is the first time they will have seen the tool and will likely have some questions.
 - **Week 2:** I Do, You Help. Draw part of the tool but ask your group to participate and help you complete it. Ask how this week's Key Verse is reflected in this tool.

- **Week 3:** You Do, I Help.. This time it is their turn, ask someone in your group to explain the triangle. Depending on the group this might be a good chance to have them lead your Key Verse discussion as well.
- **Week 4:** You Do, I Coach. Last week you had someone in the group explain the tool and Key Verse. This week allow another person to do it.
- PRO-TIP: This rhythm is not a critical part of this discipleship guide, but will help your group participants learn and be better prepared to lead in the future. For more information look at [The Leadership Square](#).

Sayings & Doings:

- ‘Sayings & Doings’ helps us make the scripture applicable to our lives. These questions can be useful too when someone needs support with their personal application.
 - “What” questions: What aspect of God and his character stood out most to you? What rose to the surface through our conversation? What about that aspect of God or man stood out to you? What made you uncomfortable? What part of this passage are you not living up to?
 - ‘Why’ questions: Why do you think that felt strongest? Why do you think that stood out for you? Why did you feel uncomfortable about this passage? Why do you feel like you're not living up to this passage?
 - ‘How’ questions: How do you see that connecting to your life right now? How could you live this passage out better? How do you think God would have you live differently this week?

Week 10

Tips & Strategy:

- Several key concepts in this section encourage us to surrender to Jesus. Surrender is not a reluctant yielding but rather an expression and exercise of our trust in Him as we die to our ways and take up His ways, knowing that they are right and best.

Week 11

Tips & Strategy:

- People learn best by doing. Don't forget to allow somebody else to lead out in sharing the tool. If they struggle through it that's ok. Help them succeed by inviting the group to jump in and help fill it out, or by coaching them throughout the teaching of the tool.

Week 12

Tips & Strategy:

- When you come to the end of a Part, ask your group what they have learned from the last few weeks together. If you have time, consider asking:
- Ask: How has your understanding of discipleship changed over the last few weeks? And in what ways are you living out your personal discipleship to Jesus differently?

PART FOUR:

Prayer

A lot of people pray. They pray for the right words for an upcoming interview, for the healing of a family, for their team to win the game. Prayers of petition requesting that God act on our behalf are something that He welcomes, but there is much more to be discovered. Prayer allows us to communicate with our loving heavenly father and allows us to align our will with His. Regular prayer is an essential aspect in the life of all Christians. This week you will guide your group to discover a rich vibrant prayer life. Moving past the superficial to something deep and powerful. Encourage your group to be intentional over the next four weeks and experience God's presence through a vibrant prayer life.

Week 13

Tips & Strategy:

- Prayer is a central part of our faith. It allows us to draw near and experience intimacy with a living God. Don't miss that with mundane lifeless words. Remind your group that God is living and active and desires to hear from us, as well as to speak with us.
- Encourage your group to focus on enriching their prayer life over the next four weeks.

TOOL:

- Utilizing scripture will help grow a robust and deeper prayer life. Consider praying the weekly scripture over each other. You do this by paraphrasing the contents and applying it to the life of the individual.

Sayings & Doings:

- Help your group make their sayings and doings over the next four weeks focused on prayer.
 - Ask what their prayer life is like?
 - Is it fulfilling or lacking?

- When has it been at its best?
- Get practical about steps they would like to have in a deeper prayer life.

Week 14

Tips & Strategy:

- During the “Accountability” portion, be sure to ask how their prayer life is going. Do they see any changes? Celebrate positive changes and encourage those discouraged by a lack of progress.
- Pray this week's scripture over each other by paraphrasing and applying it to each other's lives.

Week 15

Tips & Strategy:

- During the “Accountability” portion, be sure to ask how their prayer life is going. Do they see any changes? Celebrate positive changes and encourage those discouraged by a lack of progress.
- Pray this week's scripture over each other by paraphrasing and applying it to each other's lives.

Week 16

Tips & Strategy:

- During the “Accountability” portion, be sure to ask how their prayer life is going. Do they see any changes? Celebrate positive changes and encourage those discouraged by a lack of progress.
- Pray this week's scripture over each other by paraphrasing and applying it to each other's lives.

PART Five:

Community

Relationships are an essential part of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. It's in community that true spiritual formation takes place. The phrase "one another" appears in the New Testament over 100 times. It's hard to go more than a few pages without a reminder to "spur on one another", "build one another up", "challenge one another", and "encourage one another". Discipleship was never meant to be an individual enterprise. By God's design, we were created for community - and community is essential for our spiritual maturity. This week focuses on the value of community and how you can spur one another on.

Week 17

Tips & Strategy:

- You are nearing your half-way point with your group. Look back over the past 4 months and reflect on some highlights
 - This is also a great time to establish commitments.
- Not everyone has had positive experiences with the Church or Christians. When navigating these types of issues be sure to listen to hurts and failures. Over the next four weeks you will see a new vision of community emerge.

TOOL:

- Identity is an incredibly powerful truth. John Calvin said, "Without knowledge of self, there is no knowledge of God." Fortunately as followers of Jesus we have been given an entirely new Identity, which helps us relate to God and others in a whole new way. This truth never gets old. We need to be reminded of it over and over again.

Sayings & Doings:

- Don't miss the opportunity to talk about relationships in this section. In what ways have they experienced a healthy Christian community? In what ways have they experienced unhealthy

Christian community? How does that contribute to how they operate or respond to the community now?

Week 18

Tips & Strategy:

- Don't get through this entire section on Community, without making it personal. Push your group to openly discuss areas they have fallen short or neglected. Lead through being vulnerable and communicating personal failures before you ask others to do so.

Week 19

Tips & Strategy:

- The Gospel Identity Triangle doesn't work backwards (see Ephesians 2:8-10). We do not live a life of obedience to earn our identity. Our identities are given to us freely from God's love. And our identities do not earn our way to knowing God, God reveals himself freely through nature, the scriptures, and Jesus. So that as we come to know more and more of our loving heavenly Father we come to see his love for us and the very good identities he gives us as his Beloved/Children/New Creation (see 1 John 3:1-2 & 2 Corinthians 5:17) and out of that identity we can walk in loving obedience to his call (see John 14:15-21 & 1 John 4:7-21). Notice how God shows us what a community of people living out of their Gospel Identities looks like in our scripture passage today Acts 2:42-47.

Week 20

Tips & Strategy:

- What does a true gospel impacted and gospel saturated community look like?
- How does a true gospel community live? How do they stand out from the world around them?

- How do we fall short of living up to this picture of true gospel community in Romans 12?
- What kinds of things can you do to live into this picture of true gospel community found in Romans 12? (hint: it's not just try harder... it's tied to finding our individual and corporate identity in the good identity that our loving Father God gives us, in and through Jesus.

PART Six:

Spirit

The Holy Spirit is an essential aspect of our faith. Yet, his activity is often misunderstood. Over the next 4 weeks, your group will dive into the activity of the Holy Spirit. Recognizing how he allows us to become true followers of Jesus, empowered to live faithful lives on mission for God's Kingdom.

Week 21

Tips & Strategy:

- We will be spending some time in Rom. 8. We have focused on this scripture in past weeks. It's important to recognize that scripture is not divided up into categories that only apply to one circumstance or theological point. Also we never graduate from the Gospel and it's important to return to foundational passages again and again in our lives in order to ensure we are living them out well.
- A couple of notes about the Holy Spirit
 - He teaches, empowers, and encourages followers of Jesus to live our lives as disciples of Jesus. (John 16:13)
 - The Spirit equips believers for Christ-like living and service (Rom. 15:13; 1 Cor. 12:11; Eph. 3:16)
 - The Holy Spirit is not a power to be controlled, he is the third member of the trinity (Matt 28:19 & John 16:14)

TOOL:

- This section repeats the Live-Die-Give triangle. This has been done intentionally. The hope is that you can dig a bit deeper into this tool and see it from a slightly different lens. Do not minimize or skip the tool because of its familiarity. Repetition is the key to remembering these tools and these truths. This tool is tied to the work of the Holy Spirit in and through our lives for help in identifying this and teaching the TOOL in your group, see: Romans 8:5 for “Live for Christ, Romans 8:13 for “Die to Self” and Acts 1:8 for “Give Your Life in Service to Others.”

Week 22

Tips & Strategy:

- Remind your group that the Spirit of God is a living and active person that desires to interact with them... this requires us to spend time with him, and not just reading and speaking, but also listening. Listening for the Spirit of God to speak to us is a good spiritual discipline to practice during this section.

Week 23

Tips & Strategy:

- “Walk by the Spirit” and “Keep in step with the Spirit” are the two key commands or directives in this passage, what do these mean? How do we obey these commands?

Week 24

Tips & Strategy:

- This week you will read about the promise of the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:1-11. This promise is fulfilled in Acts 2. Encourage your group to read Acts 2 on their own outside of group time to see what happens when the Holy Spirit arrives.

PART Seven: All of Life

There is a tendency to treat life like a set of compartments. In one compartment we have our family, in another work, maybe school, perhaps friendships or finance. Often our faith is just another compartment. Over the next few weeks we want to push past this short sighted understanding of Christianity. Being a follower of Jesus impacts every aspect of our life in such a way that even the most mundane components can become expressions of life in Christ.

Week 25-28

Tips & Strategy

- This section is going to flow a bit differently than the others. The hope is that we can dive deep into some specific areas of life. Now is the time to ask the questions; what kingdom values influence your everyday life?

Step 1: Pick a topic. You can make that decision as a leader based on the group's needs or you can invite the group to be part of exploring some key areas.

Step 2: Talk about how this value is lived out in God's Kingdom vs the World's. Use the Kingdom tool.

Step 3: Use scripture. A list of scriptures is provided below. Reachout to the NEBC discipleship team if you need support here or anywhere else.

Step 4: Make it Personal: Don't let vague examples be enough for these conversations. Steer your group to examine their own lives. Ask permission to help keep them accountable in the area of focus.

Step 5: Pray: That the Spirit works in this specific area and that they are able to live in a way that honors God.

TOOL: Topic References for Kingdom Living Tool

Marriage	Ephesians 5:1-33, Matthew 19:4-6, 1 Corinthians 7:1-24
Parenting	Proverbs 22:6 & 29:17, Ephesians 6:1-4
Sexual Integrity	1 Corinthians 5:1-13, Proverbs 6:32
Finance	1 Timothy 6:10-12, Hebrew 3:5, Luke 12:34, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
Work	Colossians 3:23-24, Psalms 90:17, Hebrews 4:9-10
Friendship	1 Thessalonians 5:11, 1 Corinthians 5:13, Proverbs 18:24
Politics/Authority	Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Jeremiah 29:7, Leviticus 23:22
Community & Neighbors	Hebrew 13:12, Romans 12:16
Single Life	1 Corinthians 7:7-35
Church	Hebrews 10:25, Acts 2:42-47
Relationship with Self	Galatians 2:20, Colossians 1:9-23

Sayings & Doings:

- Encourage your group members to make today's topic a commitment for this week. Based on today's reading and conversation, how can you live out God's kingdom value more fully this week?

PART Eight: Mission

Following Jesus is so much more than just avoiding sinful behavior. We are also called to his mission. A mission that Jesus gave us in some of his last moments on earth. He called us to “*go and make disciples of all nations*,” He painted a picture of the process. In Acts chapter 1, Jesus tells His disciples to begin in Jerusalem, then Judea, Samaria and finally “*the ends of the earth*.” (Acts 1:8) Jesus' mission, though global in scope, began local. The disciples were to begin with those right in front of them; friends, family, neighbors. This month we will challenge our group members to move beyond a shortsighted understanding of our faith that begins and ends with us. Instead recognizing that we have been called to something greater. We have been called to be on mission for Christ sharing the good news of the Gospel wherever we go.

Week 29

Tips & Strategy

- This week help your group start understanding that the Gospel gives us a new identity and a new calling. This new calling is to go out and make disciples. Discipleship includes sharing the Gospel with people who have yet to respond to it and helping followers of Jesus mature in their faith.
- Good works that come in the form of Mercy ministries and social justice are not in themselves the Gospel. They do, however, point to the Gospel and they give us the opportunity to share the

Gospel of Jesus Christ based on the favor that has been earned through the love shown. It is also a representation of the compassion and human flourishing that exist in Jesus and God's kingdom.

TOOL:

- Good Deeds → Good Will (Favor) → Good News
- Help your group this week to make "Mission" practical. Help them come up with practical goals and encourage them through supportive accountability. (ie. Serve someone without expecting anything in return and if given the opportunity start a spiritual conversation with them, seek to serve someone in need this week and if asked why you serve tell them that God served you through Jesus).
- Let's look at our lives this week and see where we have the opportunity to do Good Deeds. Let us also examine our lives if there is anywhere that we don't have Good Will or Good Favor with people, so that we might remedy this by loving and serving people well (ie. Good Deeds). And Lastly if we are doing good deeds, and have good will with people where is there opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus?

Week 30

Tips & Strategy

- What God has done for us, God wants to do through us. Not only should we respond to God's love and compassion on us by living holy lives, but we are to love and serve our neighbor so they too might experience God's love and compassion through us.
- Encourage your group to love and serve people this week and be prepared to report back the following week with how they loved and served someone like Jesus would.

Week 31

Tips & Strategy:

- The context for our passage this week is in the upper room with Jesus and his Disciples at the end of the last supper. Before they leave for the Mount of Olives where Jesus is betrayed, Jesus prays. In Jesus' High Priestly Prayer for his followers (which include you and I) Jesus prays for our unity, our love and that the truth would be known in and through us. We have

been sent by Jesus, and Jesus goes to the Father in prayer on our behalf so that we would be on mission for God. Unity, love and truth matter in our mission.

- How does the fact that Jesus is praying for our mission affect how you are on mission?
- How might unity affect our mission in the world?
- How might love affect our mission in the world?
- How might truth play a role in our mission in the world?

Week 32

Tips & Strategy

- In Jesus' final moments with his Disciples before he ascends into Heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father, Jesus speaks to them of the Holy Spirit and of being on mission for him as his witnesses. The Holy Spirit plays a critical role in our empowerment for mission and as Jesus' witnesses in the world. We don't go alone in our mission, God is with us in and through the Holy Spirit.
- What kind of power does the Holy Spirit give us, or display in us?
- How does the Holy Spirit use this power for mission in your life?

PART Nine:

Witness

A witness is somebody that declares belief and truth. Witnesses have long been valued as reliable evidence of truth. Our witness of God's goodness and the saving grace of Jesus is a powerful tool in others lives. Over the next 4 weeks we will encourage our groups to be good witnesses of the truth of the Gospel. We will encourage them to share their story to impact the lives of others.

Week 33

Tips & Strategy

- It's important during this section to not only discuss the value of being a witness but to challenge your group members to practice it.
- Help them set a goal by asking Who, When, Where and How.
- Celebrate the gospel being shared whether it's received or not.

TOOL:

B - Begin with prayer. Ask God, "How do you want me to bless the people in the places you've sent me to?"

L - Listen. Don't talk, but listen to people. Listen to their struggles and their pains as you ask about their life.

E - Engage. Engage the relationship by pursuing ways to build trust and relationship. Hang out, grab coffee, share a meal, chat it up on the sidelines of your kids soccer game.

S - Serve. If you listen and eat with people you will learn how to love and serve them. Don't serve as a means to an end; serve as a genuine expression of God's love.

S - Story. With trust and relationship built, the time will come to share the story of how Jesus changed us.

Week 34

Tips & Strategy

- Many people have never shared their testimony before. Have them share a 1-2 minute testimony in your group. It does not have to be their entire story of faith. It can be a part that they believe could be used to point others to Jesus. Remind your members to make Jesus the hero of their story, where they were prior to Jesus and how Jesus saved/rescued/redeemed them.

Week 35

Tips & Strategy:

- Remind your group this week that our Worship is tied to our Witness. If we live a life of worship to God the world will see our witness to his glory, his holiness, and his strength.

Week 36

Tips & Strategy

- Witness and Discipleship is not a system of addition it is a system of multiplication. Disciples of Jesus are to make disciples who make disciples (multiplying the witness of what Jesus has done).

PART Ten:

Disciple-Making

The final three sections of this Discipleship Field Guide are all topics that encourage us to go out and engage others. This final section on Disciple-Making is an essential part to every mature Christian's faithfulness to Jesus. It is through discipleship that Jesus chose to spread the Gospel and its transformative power. It's time to share the vision of disciple-making and challenge your group members to help others draw near to Jesus and obey His commandments.

Week 37

Tips & Strategy

TOOL:

- Live - Die - Give is more than a tool for our own personal discipleship it is also a tool that we can use in discipling others. It can be used as a probe to dig deeper into their discipleship to Jesus, or a diagnostic tool on an area that they are not living into as well.

Week 38

Tips & Strategy

- Ask your group who they are praying about asking to be discipled by them? Or who they have already asked? And start praying for those conversations and discipleship relationships.

Week 39

Tips & Strategy:

- Revisit who your group is having conversations with this week about discipling. Encourage them to follow through on these conversations, again they may need more encouragement and challenge than prior weeks. Remember to pray for them, and don't hesitate to reach out to whoever discipled you for advice on how to care for your people well in this process.

Week 40

Tips & Strategy

- Congratulations, you have arrived at the final lesson in the Discipleship Field Guide, this is not a finish line, but it is something to celebrate. Make sure to celebrate with your group this week, and follow through with the Epilogue in your Discipleship Field Guide. Reflect on all that God has done this year during your discipleship group and make sure to praise God together for all that He has done.
- Please reach out to the Discipleship Pastor this week about your last week, so we can celebrate with you, and so we can know who has completed the Discipleship with you and who your people are planning to disciple.