

VALUES

301

Growth Track: Values 301

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www.milestonechurch.com

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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

Welcome to

VALUES 301

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20 (NIV)

Class Goals

- Understand Milestone Church's culture & values
 - Build spiritual family & connection
 - Model Small Groups at Milestone Church

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A GUIDE FOR YOUR VALUES 301 BOOK

Here's a brief explanation of the features of the Values 301 guide.

READING PLAN Follow the *It's Worth It 2.0* reading plan on page 9 to prepare for each week's topic of discussion.

TEACHING NOTES One of our pastors will teach the lesson each week. Fill in the blanks in the lesson outlines during the class, then you can refer back to these notes during your Small Group discussion.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS Each session is complemented with questions for your Small Group to discuss. This is a great time to ask questions you may have about the topic and share with others in your group.

READING PLAN

Each week, we will cover a specific chapter from *It's Worth It 2.0*, which you'll want to read in preparation for your time together. Feel free to discuss anything from the book with your Small Group.

SESSION 1 | INTRODUCTION AND SPIRITUAL FAMILY

It's Worth It 2.0 | Chapter 9, "Spiritual Family Is Worth It"

SESSION 2 | SALVATION AND WATER BAPTISM

It's Worth It 2.0 | Introduction & pp.112-116, "How Do Broken People Reach a Perfect God?"

SESSION 3 | THE BIBLE

It's Worth It 2.0 | Chapter 6, "The Bible Is Worth It"

SESSION 4 | MISSIONAL LIVING

It's Worth It 2.0 | Chapter 7, "The Mission Is Worth It"

SESSION 5 | THE HOLY SPIRIT

It's Worth It 2.0 | Chapter 11, "How Does the Holy Spirit Help Us?"

SESSION 6 | GENEROSITY

It's Worth It 2.0 | Chapter 10, "Generosity Is Worth It"

SESSION 7 | DISCIPLESHIP

It's Worth It 2.0 | Chapter 8, "Discipleship Is Worth It"

For more information and events go to milestonechurch.com.

SMALL GROUP VALUES

The following values will help set the commitment level and expectations for your Small Group. Please take time during Session 1 to discuss these values as a group and commit to following them.

VALUE

COMMITMENT

Group Attendance

We commit to prioritizing our Small Group by attending V301 every week and calling if we will be absent or late.

Safe Environment

We commit to listen to each other and to support one another without judgment.

Spiritual Health

We commit to allowing the members of our Small Group to speak into our lives and encourage us to live according to God's principles.

Building Relationships

We commit to contribute to our time together as a Small Group and to get to know each other. We will pray for each other regularly and support each other through life's ups and downs.



INTRODUCTION & SPIRITUAL FAMILY

our goal

We want you to understand
and experience the value
of spiritual family.

A person wearing a dark brown sweater is holding a white ceramic cup of coffee. In the background, there is a potted plant with green leaves in a light-colored pot, sitting on a white surface near a window. The scene is softly lit, suggesting a calm, indoor setting.

**“THIS IS HOW WE THINK
ABOUT CHURCH —**

not as a religious organization doing irrelevant activities, but as a family of people demonstrating the love of God in a way that impacts those around them.”

—JEFF LITTLE
IT'S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 8

WEEK ONE READING: IT'S WORTH IT 2.0 | CHAPTER 9, “SPIRITUAL FAMILY IS WORTH IT”

INTRODUCTION & SPIRITUAL FAMILY

**OUR
VISION** = **REACHING
PEOPLE
BUILDING
LIVES**

HOW DO WE KNOW IF WE'RE
REACHING PEOPLE?

- _____¹
- _____²

HOW DO WE KNOW IF WE'RE
BUILDING LIVES?

- _____³

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF VALUES 301?

- To grow in _____⁴ values and learn how to live out your faith
- To learn the _____⁵ of Milestone Church through teaching and impartation from some of our leaders
- To build relationships in a dynamic _____⁶ experience

Spiritual Family

We value developing spiritual family through authentic relationships that come from loving God, sacrificially giving, and serving each other.

SPIRITUAL FAMILY DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN—YOU HAVE TO WORK AT IT.

Jesus said that the world would know we love Him by the way that we love each other. Yet, so many people feel alone, unloved, and insignificant—what they really want is to feel like they belong. This is where the church comes in.

We believe the church should be a safe place where people can be honest, where they can share their challenges, where they can wrestle with truth, and where they can look for help in time of need. People matter to God, and He wants all of us to experience His love through the genuine and authentic relationships that come through when we need them most.

This doesn't happen through coming together for a few hours a week—it's what happens when people intentionally invest in each other. We believe you don't join a church based on personal preference—we believe God adds you to His body and places you where He wants you.

Psalm 68:6a (NIV) — God sets the lonely in families...

1 Corinthians 12:18 (NIV) — But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.



BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF SPIRITUAL FAMILY:

- Naomi and Ruth
- David and Jonathan
- Elijah and Elisha
- Jesus and His disciples
- Paul and Timothy
- The early church

There are lots of ways to do church—big impersonal events, programs and classes, traditional liturgy, or rallying around a particular cause.

HERE AT MILESTONE, WE DO CHURCH LIKE A FAMILY.

Spiritual family is God’s idea. It’s bigger than Milestone Church. Spiritual family is more than a style of church. Spiritual family is more than being kind or friendly and trying to help people in need.

Spiritual family is a conviction of how God builds and a commitment to value and prioritize how we relate to others. It causes you to see how you love and serve other people as a reflection of your love for God.

John 1:12 (NIV) — Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...

WHAT PREVENTS US FROM EXPERIENCING SPIRITUAL FAMILY?

- We can't _____⁷ it.
- Painful experiences with _____⁸ or natural _____⁹.
- It's _____¹⁰—we don't know how it works.
- We prioritize _____¹¹.

1 John 3:1a (NIV) — See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCE SPIRITUAL FAMILY?

- They have a _____¹² of God, the Church, and their place in it.
- They believe significant spiritual growth comes on the _____¹³ of committing to spiritual family.
- When challenges come, they _____¹⁴ instead of stepping back.

A photograph of an outdoor dining area at dusk. In the foreground, there are several wooden folding chairs and tables. A string of warm white LED lights hangs across the top of the frame. In the background, there are green bushes and a brick wall. The overall atmosphere is cozy and inviting.

HOW DOES VALUES 301 HELP US EXPERIENCE *Spiritual Family*?

It helps us *confirm* that God has placed us in this family.

It provides key relationships that help us *grow*.

We discover and develop our gifts so we can *serve* others.

DISCUSS

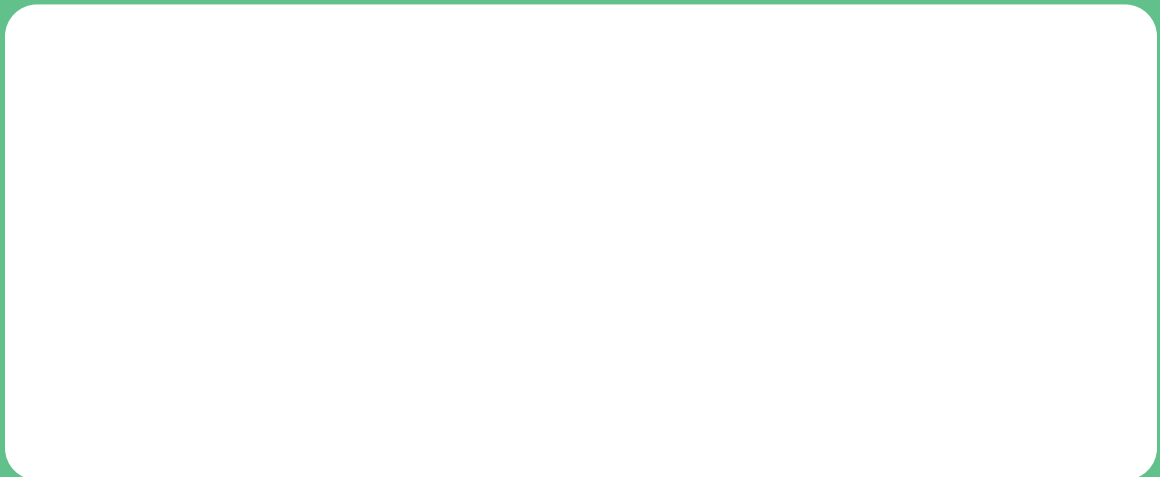
1. Introduce yourselves and exchange contact information. We provided space for you to write this on page 11.
2. Before this session, had you ever heard of spiritual family or seen the concept in the Bible?
3. Have you ever experienced spiritual family?

ACTIVATE

- Write down and memorize the names of the people in your Small Group.
- Commit to value the relationships in your Small Group and prioritize these next several weeks together.

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES



SALVATION & WATER BAPTISM

our goal

We want you to have a genuine relationship with God and to understand the powerful next step of water baptism.

“JESUS HAS A PERFECT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

He has for eternity. He lived the perfect life we should have lived but couldn't. And yet He willingly died the death we deserved in our place to pay the debt we owed. Now through His infinite love He offers His perfect relationship with God to anyone who would receive it by faith.”

~JEFF LITTLE
IT'S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 115

**WEEK TWO READING: IT'S WORTH IT 2.0 | INTRODUCTION & PP. 112-116,
“HOW DO BROKEN PEOPLE REACH A PERFECT GOD?”**

SALVATION & WATER BAPTISM

Every human being is created in the image of God with a unique purpose and calling that becomes clear through a genuine relationship with God.

The problem is, in order to have a relationship with a perfect God, you have to be perfect. And none of us meet this standard.

We don't need help feeling guilty. We feel guilty because we are guilty. The world is a broken place. Real evil exists in our world—not just out there—it's in us too. Others have broken us—but sometimes, we've done the breaking—especially in the lives of those we love the most.

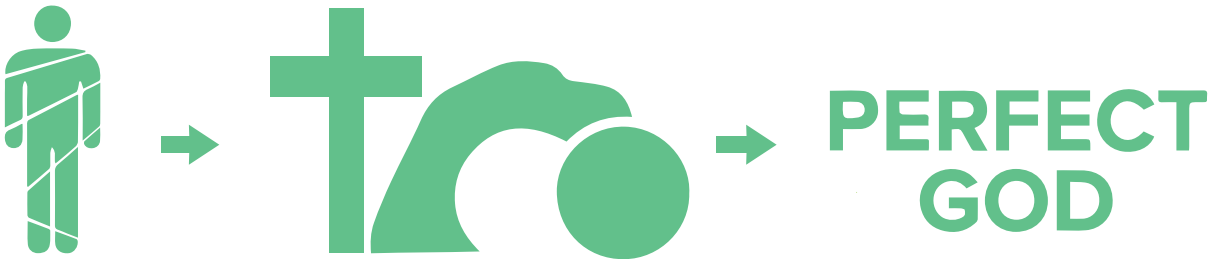


HOW CAN BROKEN PEOPLE REACH A PERFECT GOD?

There are only three options:

1. Try to be _____.¹
2. Convince ourselves _____² is not perfect.
3. Find a perfect _____.³

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV) — God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.



WHAT IS SALVATION?

Salvation is a free gift we receive by _____⁴ that restores us into a perfect relationship with God through the death and _____⁵ of Jesus.

Our righteousness will never be enough. We can't earn our way into a relationship with God. But Jesus lived the perfect life we couldn't and died the death we deserved in our place.

It's so simple. But there are three common objections:

1. I'm a good _____.⁶ – *Do I need a substitute?*
2. Is Jesus the only _____?⁷ – *What will my family/friends think?*
3. Is God really perfect? – *I've experienced so much pain.*

When we put our trust and faith in Jesus, He gives us His righteousness—His perfect legal standing with God—as a gift. When God looks at us, He sees the perfect obedience of His Son Jesus. Because of this, not only does God forgive us of our sins, He receives us into His family.

Romans 10:9-10 (ESV) — ...because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Water Baptism

Acts 2:36-38a (ESV) — “Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...”

THERE IS A CLEAR BIBLICAL CONNECTION BETWEEN

_____ ⁸ **AND** _____ ⁹

Baptism follows repentance in the life of a believer.

Repentance is not religious guilt.

Repentance is not beating yourself up.

To repent is to change your _____ ¹⁰

Repentance was a military term used to describe a marching soldier who did an about-face—stopping, turning, and proceeding in the opposite direction. Biblical repentance is always a turning FROM—sinful, selfish desires, and a turning TO—obedience to God and a new life in Christ.

Matthew 28:19-20a (NIV) — “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Jesus told His followers to do two things with new disciples:

- _____ ¹¹ them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- _____ ¹² them to obey everything I commanded.

Romans 6:4 (NIV) — We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

WHAT IS *Baptism?*

Baptism is more than a religious tradition—it's a relational next step we take out of our _____¹³ to Jesus.

Baptism is a one-time step of faith to celebrate genuine repentance to a new life in Christ.

Baptism is a public expression of an inward change.

Common questions about baptism clarified:

- Baptism **does not** save us (make us right with God).
- Biblical baptism **does** require _____¹⁴.
- Biblical baptism **does** require the faith and _____¹⁵ of the believer.

Infant baptism is a common tradition to dedicate children to the Lord. This can be valuable, but is functionally equivalent to baby dedication and is not believers' baptism.



DISCUSS

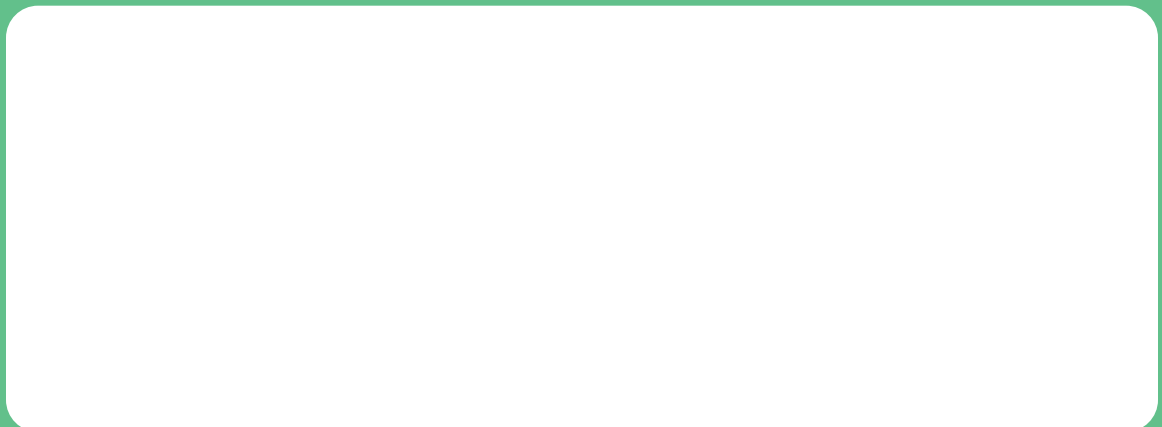
1. Have you put your trust in Jesus and exchanged your sin for His righteousness?
2. Do you know how to receive this gift? Do you know how to offer it to someone else?
3. Have you been baptized according to the biblical pattern?
4. If not, what's holding you back? What questions or uncertainty do you have?

ACTIVATE

- If you have not already, talk to your leader about praying to receive the gift of salvation.
- Take the first step of obedience through water baptism.
- If you have already received salvation and have been baptized, celebrate and encourage others who are taking these steps.

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES

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THE BIBLE

our goal

We want you to fall in love
with the Bible and know
how to apply its truths to
your daily life.



“THE BIBLE IS THE PRIMARY MEANS

by which we relate to God, grow closer to Him, and understand who He is, what He cares about, and how He’s called us to live.

We can’t live the life God’s created us to live without a healthy and growing relationship with His Word.”

-JEFF LITTLE
IT’S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 84

WEEK THREE READING: IT’S WORTH IT 2.0 | CHAPTER 6, “THE BIBLE IS WORTH IT”

THE BIBLE

We value the Bible as God's revealed truth and the catalyst for life transformation, and change. The Word of God is one of the greatest gifts He has given us. It's so many things—divinely inspired, relevant, applicable, perfect, supernatural, simple, complex, comforting, and challenging.

It literally is the last word—nothing will be added to it, and it has the final say in questions of how we live our lives, lead our families, and function as a church.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV) — All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Psalms 119:105 (ESV) — Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

- The Bible is a library that tells one big story.
- The Bible is made up of 66 books from more than 40 authors, written in 3 languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek), through the superintending inspiration of the Holy Spirit, over a span of 1,500 years.
- The Bible is divided between the Old and New Testaments, telling the story of one God who moves in the lives of imperfect broken people and always culminates in the person and life of Jesus.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE?

1. The purpose of the Bible is to _____¹ who God is.
2. It's the primary way we learn to _____² God's voice.
3. Consistent time with God in His Word brings us _____³ to Him.

THE ALL-TOO-COMMON PROBLEM

It's the tension between two competing realities:
I value the Bible, but I don't consistently read it.
We have Bibles on our phones, on our computers, all over our homes—and yet, Bible literacy continues to go down.

Psalm 86:11 (NIV) — Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO READ THE BIBLE?

1. I don't see the _____⁴ benefit.
We need help to see how what we read impacts how we live.
2. I don't have _____.⁵
We kill time, we spend time, but we make time for what we really care about.
3. I don't _____⁶ it.
From the beginning, people have studied the Bible with others, in groups, asking questions, and finding help.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT SOMEONE WHO REGULARLY READS THE BIBLE?

- They make it the _____.⁷
- They are _____.⁸
5 minutes a day is better than one hour once a week.
- They _____⁹ to God through the Word.
We're not studying for a test or building Bible trivia knowledge. We want to know God.
- They read it in _____.¹⁰
We need ALL of the Bible to understand ANY of the Bible.
- They understand it through _____.¹¹
We ask questions and learn from one another. That's how we grow.
- They _____¹² and meditate on the Word.
We fill our heart and mind with God's Word. "Memorize" means we have it. "Meditate" means we consistently think about it.

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) — For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

DISCUSS

1. How consistently do you read the Bible? How long?
2. Does it feel like information, or do you relate to God when you read it? Do you hear His voice when you read it?
3. Do you have people who you talk to about what you're reading?
4. When was the last time something you read in the Bible impacted your daily life?

ACTIVATE

- Commit to reading the Bible every day this week.
- Write down and memorize a scripture verse that you find meaningful or helpful.

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES



MISSIONAL LIVING

our goal

We want you to live a
life on mission by daily
demonstrating God's heart
toward people.

“THE BIBLE TELLS ONE BIG STORY

that always points to Jesus. Why did the Father send His perfect Son to become a man, to live a perfect life, and to die a sinner’s death? Why was He resurrected three days later? Why did He give the disciples the Holy Spirit and clear instructions to carry on His mission? What was the point?

What was His mission? Jesus makes it clear in Luke 19:10: ‘The Son of Man came to seek and save the lost.’”

~JEFF LITTLE
IT’S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 104

WEEK FOUR READING: IT’S WORTH IT 2.0 | CHAPTER 7, “THE MISSION IS WORTH IT”

MISSIONAL LIVING

THE GREAT COMMISSION:

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV) — And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

What are some barriers to missional living?

- Wrong _____ 1
- Wrong _____ 2

**EVANGELISM IS NOT JUST SOMETHING
WE DO, BUT IT'S HOW WE LIVE OUR
LIVES.**

GOD'S HEART FOR THE LOST

LUKE 15



THE LOST SHEEP

Luke 15:1-7 (ESV)

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable: “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.”



THE LOST COIN

Luke 15:8-10 (ESV)

“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”



THE LOST SON

Luke 15:11-24 (ESV)

And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”

THREE COMMON THREADS IN THESE STORIES:

1. Something of great _____³ is missing.
2. It warranted an all-out _____.⁴
3. Joy and _____⁵ ensued.

WHAT DOES MISSIONAL LIVING LOOK LIKE?

2 Corinthians 5:20 (ESV) — Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Pray

- To catch God's heart
- To make what you already do missional
- To be attuned to and cooperative with the promptings of the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8 (ESV) — “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Invest

Add value to those in your relational circles/sphere of influence.

- Coworkers

- Neighbors, family, friends
- Community: Hobbies/sports/recreation

Look for opportunities to get to know them, to engage in conversation, or to serve them.

Be intentional—go to the same place for groceries, haircuts, eating out, and coffee. Get to know your neighbors. Build relationships with families on your child’s teams or activities.

Invite

- To come to church with you
- To visit your Small Group
- To commit their life to Christ

We like to say, “We’re an everyone church.” We all have a unique part to play. And when we all add our gifts and play our part, we reflect the love of Jesus to people who don’t know Him.

This kind of church becomes the most evangelistic atmosphere on the planet, because Jesus shines through, not just the people on the platform, but the people in the parking lot, at kids’ check-in, in the café, and in the seat next to you.

Ephesians 3:10-11 (NIV) — His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

4 KEYS TO SHARING CHRIST WITH SOMEONE

Some have never attempted to share the gospel message because they are intimidated by what they should say. Below is a basic outline that will help you to share using well-known Bible verses:

THE PROBLEM



Romans 3:23 (NIV)
for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

GOD'S SOLUTION



Romans 5:8 (ESV)
but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

THE GIFT



Romans 6:23 (NIV)
For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

YOUR RESPONSE



Romans 10:9 (ESV)
...because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

DISCUSS

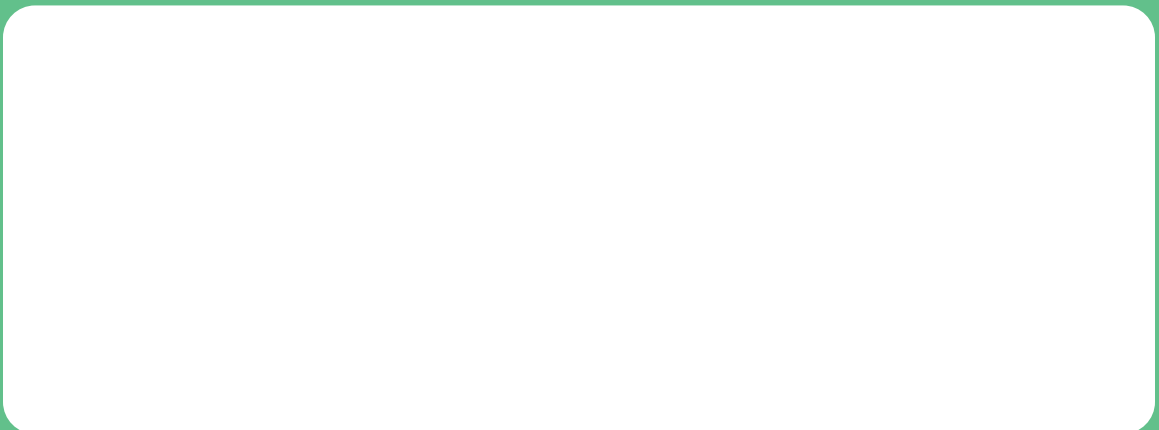
1. Have you had the opportunity to lead someone to the Lord?
2. What are some environments or areas you can look to be intentional to meet people and engage in conversations about the gospel?

ACTIVATE

- Take a note card, and write your name at the top. Write the name of a friend or family member who needs to know Christ on the card.
- Commit as a Small Group to pray for these individuals every day to come to know Christ.
- Invite someone this week to come visit your church.

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES


NOTES



**THE HOLY
SPIRIT**

our goal

We want you to
understand the role and
empowerment of the Holy
Spirit in your daily life.

A modern living room with a grey sofa, a wooden coffee table, and framed art on the wall. The coffee table has a small potted plant on it. The sofa has a patterned throw blanket and a textured pillow. The wall has two framed pictures, one of a building and one of a landscape.

“WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS MOVING,
there’s power to be a witness, there’s the bold
proclamation of the Word, and there are people coming
into a relationship with Jesus.”

~JEFF LITTLE
IT’S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 203

WEEK FIVE READING: IT’S WORTH IT 2.0 | CHAPTER 11, “HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT
HELP US?”

THE HOLY SPIRIT

In this session, we are going to look at the power and purpose of the Holy Spirit and how He interacts with us. We will also learn how the Holy Spirit overflows from our lives and brings us to new heights in our Christian life. It is our purpose to discover afresh the person of the Holy Spirit and the importance of His power and presence in our everyday life.

TWO TYPICAL RESPONSES:

- The Confident: This group includes those who can approach the topic with insight and understanding. They have studied the subject and they have a confident relationship with the Holy Spirit.
- The Curious: This group includes the majority of people who live in our area. They are open to and even excited about learning more about the Holy Spirit, but are not entirely confident that they have the insight needed to understand the empowerment of the Holy Spirit or spiritual gifts.

THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF THE BELIEVER

1. HE _____¹ US INTO REDEMPTION.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (NIV) — And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, **who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance** until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

The Holy Spirit is God’s seal that we belong to Him and His pledge guaranteeing that He will do what He has promised. His power works in us to transform us now, and what we experience now is a taste of the total change we will experience in eternity.

2. HE IS OUR HELPER.

John 14:16 (ESV) — “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **Helper**, to be with you forever...”

3. HE _____² US ALL THINGS, AND HELPS US REMEMBER GOD’S TRUTH.

John 14:26 (NIV) — “But the **Advocate**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”

4. HE GUIDES US INTO ALL TRUTH.

John 16:12-13 (NIV) — “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, **he will guide you into all the truth**. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”

5. HE HELPS US IN OUR WEAKNESS AND _____³ FOR US.

Romans 8:26-27 (NIV) — In the same way, **the Spirit helps us in our weakness**. We do not know what we ought to pray for, **but the Spirit himself intercedes for us** through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit empowers believers through the baptism with the Holy Spirit. The word baptism in Greek means “to immerse, to submerge, to overwhelm.” Hence, to be baptized with the Holy Spirit is to be immersed or submerged in the power of God. (See also Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; John 1:33; and Acts 1:4-8) In the Bible, this concept is referred to in a number of different ways.

1. “Being filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:4)
2. “Receiving the Holy Spirit” (Acts 8:17)
3. “The Holy Spirit falling” (Acts 10:44; 11:15)
4. “The Holy Spirit comes upon you” (Acts 1:8; 19:6)
5. “Being baptized with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1:5; 11:16)

Luke 3:16 (NIV) — John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

THE THREE-FOLD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The three-fold relationship that we can have with the Holy Spirit is best illustrated by looking at these three Greek prepositions.



1) PARA = WITH // COME ALONGSIDE

John 14:16-17 (NIV) — “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”

John 16:8 (ESV) — “And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment...”



2) EN = IN // COME LIVE IN US

John 14:16-17 (NIV) — “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV) — Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.



3) EPI = UPON // TO OVERFLOW FROM US

Acts 1:4-8 (NIV) — On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Baptism with the Holy Spirit is more than just an event.

Five different times the book of Acts records the disciples being “filled with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2:4; 4:8; 4:31; 13:9; 13:52) That’s why we talk about the baptism with the Holy Spirit or being filled with the Holy Spirit as being more than just a one-time experience.

Ephesians 5:18 (NIV) — Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...

EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BIBLE

1. DAY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-4 (NIV) — When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

This is an example of disciples of Jesus being baptized with the Holy Spirit.

2. PHILIP IN SAMARIA

Acts 8:14-17 (NIV) — When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, **and they received the Holy Spirit.**

This is an example of Christians being baptized with the Holy Spirit.

3. PETER PREACHES TO THE GENTILES

Acts 10:44-48 (NIV) — While Peter was still speaking these words, **the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message**. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

This is an example of simultaneous salvation and baptism with the Holy Spirit.

4. PAUL AT EPHESUS

Acts 19:1-6 (NIV) — While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” They answered, “**No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.**” So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?” “John’s baptism,” they replied. Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, **the Holy Spirit came on them**, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

This is an example of disciples of John being saved and baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Manifestations of the Holy Spirit we see in the book of Acts:

1. Boldness (Acts 4:31)
2. Prophecy (Acts 19:6)
3. Tongues (Acts 2:4; Acts 10:46; Acts 19:6)

1 Corinthians 14:14-15 (NIV) — For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So what shall I do? **I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding;** I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.

RECEIVING THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Just as with salvation, you believe, you ask, and then you _____⁴ based on your faith in God and His promises in the Bible.
 - a. Believe that the Holy Spirit wants to fill you and _____⁵ you to be a witness.
 - b. Ask in faith for God to fill you with His Spirit to _____.⁶
 - c. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit that has been promised to all who obey Christ (Acts 5:32).

2. Trust that God is a good God and that His gift is good and available to those who ask.

Luke 11:13 (NIV) — “If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

FOUR IMPORTANT UNDERSTANDINGS ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control), not the manifestations of the Spirit, are the qualities needed for leadership.
2. Our goal is unity, not uniformity, through charity (love).
3. Our hope is that you avail yourself to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life and all that God has for you.
4. God is a God of order, and so is His expression through His Holy Spirit in the Church.

1 Corinthians 14:26-33 (NIV)

²⁶ What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. ²⁸ If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God. ²⁹ Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. ³⁰ And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. ³¹ For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. ³² The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. ³³ **For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.**



DISCUSS

1. Are you confident or curious in relation to the Holy Spirit?
2. After hearing the lesson tonight, do you think you have a better understanding of the Holy Spirit and His role in your life?
3. What is the difference between the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the overflowing of the Holy Spirit?

ACTIVATE

- Engage more with the material on the Holy Spirit—go back and study the Bible passages and talk with someone.
- Pray or ask someone to pray for you to receive the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES



GENEROSITY

our goal

We want you to actively participate in advancing God's mission in the earth through biblical generosity.

“FROM THE BIBLE’S PERSPECTIVE,
everything belongs to God. He owns everything; but
because He’s generous, He gives freely to each of
us. We’re not owners; we’re all stewards—managers
of what we’ve been entrusted with. Psalm 24:1 tells
us, ‘The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the
world, and all who live in it.’”

—JEFF LITTLE
IT’S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 179

WEEK SIX READING: IT’S WORTH IT 2.0 | CHAPTER 10, “GENEROSITY IS WORTH IT”

GENEROSITY

WHY IS GENEROSITY SO APPEALING?

You never look more like Jesus than when you are _____.¹

John 3:16 (ESV) — For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Acts 20:35b (NIV) — “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

The number one barrier to giving is _____.²

1 Timothy 6:17 (NIV) — Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

2 Corinthians 9:6 (HCSB) — Remember this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously.

THREE WAYS WE CAN BE GENEROUS:

1. Time

- PUT GOD _____.³

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) — “But seek **first** his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

- PRIORITIZE _____.⁴

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV) — A **generous** person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.

2. Talent

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV) — Each of you should use whatever gift you have received **to serve others**, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

- GIVE YOUR BEST TO JESUS AND WHAT HE IS

_____⁵

3. Treasure

Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV) — “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**”

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

TITHE = **FIRST 10% OF
WHATEVER YOU
BRING IN**

Leviticus 27:30 (NIV) — A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, **belongs to the Lord**; it is holy to the Lord.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV) — Honor the Lord with your wealth, **with the firstfruits of all your crops**; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Malachi 3:8-12 (NIV) — “Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ “In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. **Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.** Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the Lord Almighty. “Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the Lord Almighty.

Matthew 23:23 (NIV) — “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—**justice, mercy and faithfulness**. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.”

OFFERING = **SACRIFICIAL GIFT
OVER AND ABOVE
THE TITHE**



THREE REASONS PEOPLE DON'T TITHE

1. They're *afraid* they won't have enough.
2. They think they're more *generous* than they are.
3. They don't take God at His *Word*.

FOUR MOTIVATIONS STRONG ENOUGH TO EMPOWER YOU TO TITHE

1. You trust God as your *Source*.
2. You love *God* more than money.
3. You believe God has *more* for you, not less.
4. You believe God's plan begins with His *Church*.

DISCUSS

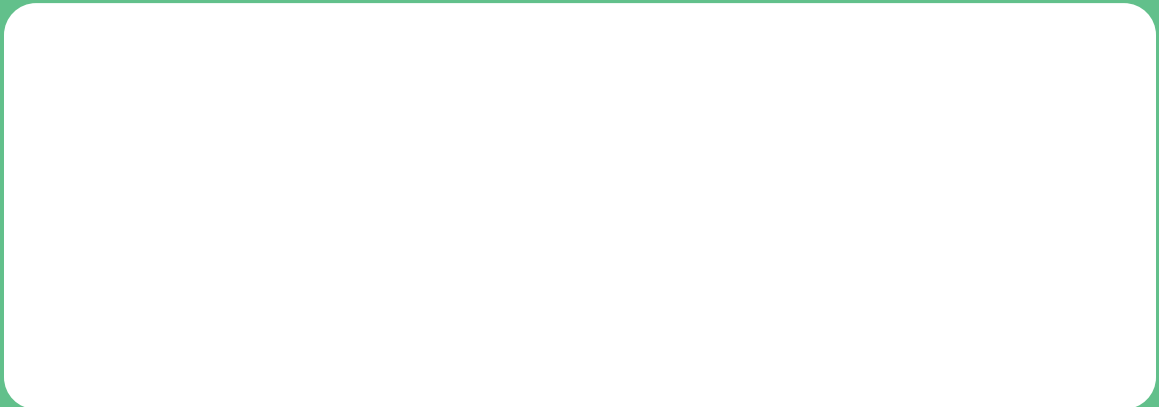
1. Why is fear the greatest barrier to generosity?
2. In what ways has God been generous to you? How does God's level of generosity toward you affect your level of generosity toward others?
3. Tell us about a time you gave sacrificially. This could include your time, talent, or treasure. How did the act of giving sacrificially affect you?
4. Does anyone have a testimony of when you began tithing?

ACTIVATE

- Identify an area of your life where God is leading you to act with greater generosity.
- Take the step to confidently trust God with your finances by putting Him first through tithing.

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES



DISCIPLESHIP

our goal

We want you to take your
next spiritual step and to
help others take their next
spiritual step.

“DISCIPLESHIP IS RELATIONAL:

Watch what I do; now you do it; now we talk about how we can do it better. None of us are ever finished. The program doesn't end. As long as we're alive, we're meant to follow Jesus and keep taking steps.

And Jesus believed the best way we learn to keep taking steps ourselves is by helping someone else take their next step.”

~JEFF LITTLE
IT'S WORTH IT 2.0, P. 134-135

DISCIPLESHIP

We want to grow. You wouldn't be here if you didn't want to be developed. We want to get better in the areas we care about most. As a culture, we're into personal development and coaching.

The biblical word for this is _____.¹

What is discipleship?

One _____² taking steps and helping another take their _____.³

Discipleship is not a class. It's more than the exchange of spiritual information. It's a way of life. It's a seed that never stops growing.

Jesus had a clear strategy to take over the world. It was in the last words He spoke to His disciples before returning to His Father. His challenge continues to us today. It's called the Great Commission, or "Co-mission," because it's a mission we do together with Him. He promised to be with us always as we make disciples.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV) — Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus entrusted the entire future of His mission to the process of discipleship. He knew His disciples (including us) would make mistakes, but He saw the potential for exponential growth.

Acts 6:7a (NIV) — So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly...

He believed disciples who make disciples in the context of the local church would change the world.

Discipleship takes place along the way. It's an apprenticeship model. They learned from Jesus because they were with Him and then they passed that on to others. It works the same way for us.

You teach what you _____,⁴ you reproduce who you _____.⁵

John 13:15 (NKJV) — For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

Jesus modeled discipleship in one-on-one settings, with His closest disciples, with the 12, with the 70, and even with the multitudes.

It takes place one-on-one, in Small Groups, in church. It's intentional. Small Groups are biblical. Small Groups help make a big church small. Small Groups can develop relational trust and growth. But there's more to discipleship than being in a Small Group.

HOW DOES DISCIPLESHIP WORK?

- You commit to _____⁶ and the _____⁷ He's called you to.
- You commit to easily identifiable _____⁸.
The Word, prayer, character, leadership, generosity, etc.
- You commit to receive _____⁹ with a good attitude.

HOW DO YOU MAKE A DISCIPLE?

It takes a disciple to make a disciple.

- Look around you—start in your home, relationships, and pockets of influence.
Look for someone asking questions about life, faith, or facing challenges you know God can help them with.
- Be with them.
Discipleship is more about relationship than information.
- Help them in the basics.
Start with the Word.
- Challenge and encourage them.

DISCUSS

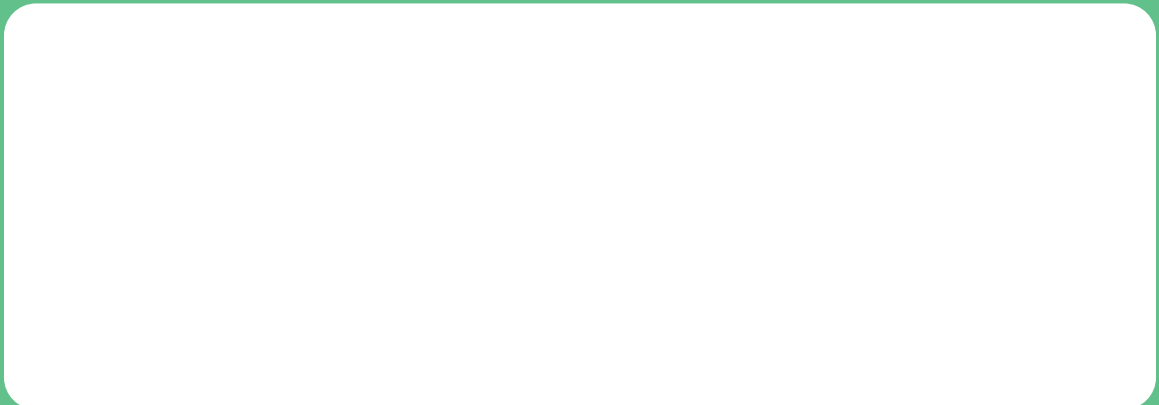
1. What did you learn about discipleship?
2. How could you change your personal growth/development?
3. Have you committed to the three things that make discipleship work?
4. Have you made a disciple? What's your biggest obstacle?

ACTIVATE

- If you haven't already, commit to the process of discipleship.
- Pray and ask God to show you someone to begin to invest in and develop a discipleship relationship with. (Start in your home.)

PRAY TOGETHER

Make note of each other's prayer requests and follow up to see how God responds.



NOTES

ANSWER KEY

SESSION 1 INTRODUCTION AND SPIRITUAL FAMILY

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. New Commitments To Christ | 5. Culture | 10. Counter-Cultural |
| 2. Baptisms | 6. Small Group | 11. Personal Freedom |
| 3. New Leaders | 7. See | 12. Big View |
| 4. Biblical | 8. Church | 13. Backside |
| | 9. Family | 14. Lean In |

SESSION 2 SALVATION AND WATER BAPTISM

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Perfect | 6. Person | 11. Baptize |
| 2. God | 7. Way | 12. Teach |
| 3. Substitute | 8. Repentance | 13. Obedience |
| 4. Faith | 9. Baptism | 14. Immersion |
| 5. Resurrection | 10. Mind | 15. Conviction |

SESSION 3 THE BIBLE

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1. Show Us | 5. Time | 9. Relate |
| 2. Hear | 6. Understand | 10. Context |
| 3. Close | 7. Authority | 11. Spiritual Family |
| 4. Immediate | 8. Consistent | 12. Memorize |

SESSION 4 MISSIONAL LIVING

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Mindsets | 4. Search |
| 2. Methods | 5. Celebration |
| 3. Value | |

SESSION 5 THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Seals
2. Teaches
3. Intercedes
4. Receive
5. Empower
6. Overflowing

SESSION 6 GENEROSITY

1. Giving
2. Fear
3. First
4. Relationships
5. Building

SESSION 7 DISCIPLESHIP

1. Discipleship
2. Christ-follower
3. Next Step
4. Know
5. Are
6. Jesus
7. People
8. Growth
9. Coaching

Reaching People. Building Lives.