



EASTSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

GROW MATERIAL

8 weeks of Biblical reflection for groups of 2-3 people aimed at growing fully formed followers of Jesus who receive their **identity** from him and model their **life patterns** after his.

Grab your Bible, a journal, and 1 or 2 other people.

Use this material to start discipling others in a small group (2-3 people) that meets once a week for 8 weeks. Use your meeting times to share, confess, encourage, and help each other love and follow Jesus more deeply.

Understand your identity and form healthy life patterns.

Each week your group will examine a lot of Scriptures that point to our identity as **Worshippers, Family Members, Servants, and Disciple-Makers**. This is who God created us to be, but all of us have sinned and need to be saved and renewed by God's grace to truly live as we are meant to live. Jesus offers us salvation and fills us with his Spirit so that we can begin "speaking the truth in love" to each other and help each other "grow up in every way" as the people of God (**Ephesians 4:15**). The more we understand our **identity** in Christ, the more we can form healthy Christ-centered **life patterns**.

15 minutes a day, in the morning or before bed.

You should be able to finish all of the questions each week by simply committing 15 minutes a day to working on the material with your Bible and journal. Prayerfully read the Scriptures that are listed each week and answer the questions in your own journal so that you can share and discuss with whomever you are meeting with for discipleship. Be sure to make notes about any questions you have, if there's something you don't understand.

WORSHIPER

I am a worshiper created to magnify God and bring him glory.

“Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!” (Psalm 34:3)

WEEK 1 — IDENTITY AS A WORSHIPER

1. **What does Scripture tell you about your identity as a Worshiper?** Study Genesis 1:26-27, Psalm 95, Proverbs 3:9, John 4:23-24, Hebrews 10:24-25, Romans 12:1. Focus on what it means to be a Worshiper of God. Note any other passages of Scripture that are important to you and write them down.
2. **Write down a few thoughts on passages where we see Jesus living out his identity as a Worshiper.**
3. **How does someone become a Worshiper of the one true God?** Read John 3:5-16, Ephesians 2:8-10, Colossians 1:13-14, and 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, and share how we are saved from sin to worship God.
4. **When did you first believe the gospel, trust in Jesus, and become a Worshiper of God?**
5. **What are your personal barriers to worshipping God now?** Identify and list the idols in your life that take the place of God as your treasure and the object of your worship, as well as any sins you habitually struggle with.
6. **Write your own short statement that summarizes your personal identity as a Worshiper of God.**

WEEK 2 — LIFE PATTERNS AS A WORSHIPER

1. **Write your personal “Worshiper” memory verse.**
2. **What are your personal life patterns as a Worshiper of God?** What simple life patterns, personal practices, or on-going spiritual disciplines do you need to be active in to ensure that you live a life of worship? These should be uncomplicated action items listed as daily, weekly, or monthly practices.
3. **What questions come up for you as you think about these habits, for further consideration or prayer?**
4. **How will you equip others to be Worshipers?** List any simple personal worship practices, tools, or methods that you can train others in that they can pass on to others, also.
5. **Whom will you disciple to be a more effective worshiper?**

FAMILY MEMBER

I am a member of Christ's family, adopted by God the Father.

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 John 3:1)

WEEK 3 – IDENTITY AS A FAMILY MEMBER

1. **What does Scripture tell you about your identity as a Family Member of the household of God?** Study Mark 3:31-35, Romans 8:12-17, Ephesians 1:4-5, Ephesians 2:18-22, 1 John 3:1. Focus on what it means to be a Family Member in the household of God, as one of God's children.
2. **Write down a few thoughts on passages where we see Jesus living out his identity as a Family Member.**
3. **What are your personal barriers to regularly participating in community as a member of Christ's family?**
List your personal hesitations or fears about living in community with your brothers and sisters, and investing in deep relationships in your local church. State how God wants you to deal with these fears.
4. **How do baptism and communion help us understand our identity as family members?** Read Acts 2:41, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, and 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 and share your thoughts.
5. **Write your own short statement that summarizes your personal identity as a Family Member in Christ.**

WEEK 4 – LIFE PATTERNS AS A FAMILY MEMBER

1. **Write your personal "Family Member" memory verse.**
2. **What are your personal life patterns as a family member in God's household?** What simple life patterns, personal practices, or on-going spiritual disciplines do you need to be active in to ensure that you live of fellowship with other believers in community? These should be uncomplicated action items listed as daily, weekly, or monthly practices (like joining a Community Group). Consider also what on-going equipping, encouragement, and personal accountability you need to gain consistency.
3. **How will you encourage others to participate in the community of Christ?** List any simple personal practices, tools, or methods for effectively building deep relationships. Is there someone you can invite to your Community Group or to church?
4. **Whom will you disciple into going deeper in community and fellowship?**

SERVANT

I am a servant of God and others.

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)

WEEK 5 – IDENTITY AS A SERVANT

1. **What does Scripture tell you about your identity as a Servant?** Study Genesis 2:15, Matthew 6:19-20, Matthew 20:26-28, Galatians 5:13-14, Philippians 2:4-8, 1 Peter 4:10. Focus on what it means to be a Servant. Note other passages of Scripture that are important to you. Write down the results of your study.
2. **Write down a few thoughts on passages where we see Jesus living out his identity as a Servant.**
3. **How does being a servant generally go against our modern culture and sensibilities?**
4. **What are your own personal barriers to being a servant?** In what ways are you expecting others to serve you? What mental, emotional, or spiritual barriers do you have in taking on the mentality of a servant? How are you currently serving others at your home, church, or neighborhood and how can you grow in that direction?
5. **Write your own short statement that summarizes your personal identity as a Servant of Jesus Christ.**

WEEK 6 – LIFE PATTERNS AS A SERVANT

1. **Write your personal “Servant” memory verse.**
2. **What are your personal life patterns as a Servant of God?** What simple life patterns, personal practices, or on-going spiritual disciplines do you need to be active in to ensure that you live a life of a servant? These should be uncomplicated action items listed as daily, weekly, or monthly practices.
3. **Any open questions for further consideration or prayer?**
4. **How will you equip others to serve?** List any simple personal practices, tools, or methods to ensure that you live your life as a servant. How can you train others in Biblical servanthood, also?
5. **Whom will you disciple to be a servant?**

DISCIPLE-MAKER

I am a disciple of Jesus who is called to make and multiply disciples.

“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)

WEEK 7 – IDENTITY AS A DISCIPLE-MAKER

1. **What does Scripture tell you about your identity as a Disciple-Maker?** Study Genesis 1:27-28, Matthew 4:19, Matthew 16:24, Matthew 28:16-20, 2 Timothy 2:1-2. Focus on what it means to be a Disciple-Maker. Note other passages of Scripture that are important to you. Write down the results of your study.
2. **How does evangelism relate to this?** Read 1 Peter 2:9 and write down some thoughts about how evangelism is part of your identity as a Christian and a Disciple-Maker.
3. **Write down a few thoughts on passages where we see Jesus living out his identity as a Disciple-Maker.**
4. **What are your own personal barriers to being a Disciple-Maker?** Do you see yourself as a Disciple-Maker and an evangelist? Why or why not? What are your own personal barriers to making disciples of Jesus Christ. State how God wants you to deal with these barriers.
5. **Write your own short statement that summarizes your personal identity as a Disciple-Maker.**

WEEK 8 – LIFE PATTERNS AS A DISCIPLE-MAKER

1. **Write your personal “Disciple-Maker” memory verse.**
2. **What are your personal life patterns as a Disciple-Maker?** What simple life patterns or on-going personal practices do you need to be consistent in to ensure that you are making disciples? These should be uncomplicated action items listed as daily, weekly, or monthly practices.
3. **How will you make disciples that can make other disciples?** List any simple personal practices, tools, or methods for effectively making disciples. How can you train others in ways they can train others, also? What do you need to communicate with those you are discipling so that they have the vision, conviction, and mandate to pass it on to others?
4. **Who are three non-Christians you know that can share the gospel with, and when will you do that?**
5. **Whom will you disciple in such a way that they disciple others, and when will you meet with them?**

I'm done! What do I do now?

Now that you've finished this material, it's your turn to take others through it!

As you reflected on your Life Patterns, you were asked, “**Whom will you disciple?**”—now it's time to start discipling those people! Here are some simple next steps for you to help others “grow up in every way” (Ephesians 4:15) as **Worshippers, Family Members, Servants, and Disciple-Makers:**

- **Pray** for God to help you as you participate in his mission of spreading the gospel and making disciples who make disciples.
- **Invite** 1-2 others to start meeting with you to go through this material and begin forming deep discipleship relationships with them.
- **Continue** meeting with the person who took you through this material for ongoing discipleship and coaching as you make disciples (you can use our “Discipleship Meeting Guide” at eccatx.com.com/discipleship)