

# PHILOSOPHY OF DISCIPLESHIP

## PURPOSE OF THIS PHASE

---

I. To establish the fact that there is a *biblical pattern* for discipling people.

---

---

---

II. To study the *biblical pattern* of the Lord Jesus Christ working with His disciples.

---

---

---

III. To search our lives to determine how we are progressing in our own spiritual walk.

---

---

---

## Background: God's Kingdom and Discipleship

---

I. **GOD'S MISSION IS TO ESTABLISH A KINGDOM - Isaiah 9:6-7**

- A. God's Kingdom will grow.
- B. God's Kingdom will never cease.
- C. God's zeal will ensure this takes place.

II. **Discipleship is the Heart of (God's) the Mandate**

A. ***God's Mission is Clear***

The mission is crystal clear in Matthew 28:18-20.

---

---

---

---

---

**KEY: Winning souls is not the fulfillment of the commission – it is just the beginning!**

**B. God's Mission is Consistent (2 Key points...)**

*First key point in understanding consistency in God's mission...*

**B1: GOD'S PLAN FOR FULFILLING HIS KINGDOM INVOLVES DISPENSATIONS**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**God has NEVER changed this plan!**

**1. The Dispensation of Innocence - Be Fruitful (Genesis 1-3)**

---

---

---

---

**2. The Dispensation of Conscience - Multiply (Genesis 4-8)**

---

---

---

---

**3. The Dispensation of Human Government - Replenish (Genesis 9-11)**

---

---

---

---

**4. The Dispensation of the Patriarchs (Gen. 12:3, Gen. 22:17) - Be Fruitful**

---

---

---

---

**5. The Dispensation of the Law – Multiply**

---

---

---

---

*(Skip Church - Dispensation of Grace.)*

**6. The Dispensation of the Millennium – Replenish**

---

---

---

---

**7. The Dispensation of Grace - Be Fruitful, Multiply and Replenish**

*God's original purpose has never changed. The mandate Adam and Noah received physically has been given to the New Testament believer spiritually.*

---

---

---

---

*Missions is how the church is to replenish the earth.*

*Second key point in understanding consistency in God's mission...*

**B2. GOD'S PLAN ALSO INVOLVES HIS SON, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST - Titus 1:2**

**1. There were two purposes for the first coming of Jesus Christ.**

---

---

---

---

**2. His first coming was concluded by the commissioning of His disciples.**

---

---

---

---

*So, discipleship is clear, consistent, and thirdly:*

**C. God's Mission is Consuming**

---

---

---

---

1. **What discipleship is NOT:**

---

---

---

---

2. **Discipleship is the transfer of life from one person to another.**

---

---

---

---

3. **Discipleship is the practical process that leads to conformity to the image of Christ.**

a. **The mandate:**

---

---

b. **The meaning:**

---

---

c. **Its significance:**

---

---

d. **The lesson:**

---

---

e. **Its Implications:** Discipleship is a process that can be measured by four key indicators.

These four goals are what separate us from being a discipleship “program” and being curriculum-driven:

1. To establish the believer in the Worship of God.
2. To establish the believer in the Word of God.
3. To establish the believer in the Local Church.
4. To establish the believer in the Ministry of the local church.

**CONCLUSION:** One becomes a disciple to learn how to live like the “saint” that he is. Therefore...

**Discipleship is a process that has both a beginning and an ending. (Do not expect saints if you do not disciple.)**

### III. Discipleship is the Heart of the Measure

Discipleship is the measure of our success in this dispensation. With discipleship, you can measure the two goals of conformity to Christ and glory to God in three areas: in the church, in the world, and in the individual believer. So, let's talk about how.

#### A. It is the Measure of Success in Churches.

---

---

---

---

#### B. It is the Measure of Success in Evangelism of the Lost.

---

---

---

---

#### C. It is the Measure of Success in the Individual Believer's Life.

---

---

---

---

*Next: Examining the biblical pattern for discipleship ministry.*

## The Biblical Pattern of Discipleship

---

### I. The importance of the ministry of *biblical discipleship* and its relationship to other ministry goals.

To carry out the mandate of Matthew 28:18-20, there are at least five essential objectives we must accomplish to fulfill the Great Commission.

These are the five reasons for the existence of our church:

#### A. There are five primary goals in Christian ministry.

##### 1. Evangelism

---

---

---

---

Objective: Lead people to Christ and baptize them.  
But we cannot leave them to grow on their own.  
God has given them a purpose and has a plan for them. (Eph. 2:10)

**2. Establishment of local churches**

---

---

---

---

Priority of a family: edify, equip, and work together.  
Church has the ability to prepare people to minister in work.  
The church body can reproduce other church bodies.

**3. Preparing disciples**

---

---

---

---

We are saved to serve the living God.  
Jesus started with twelve common country boys and gave them the most significant mission on earth. Jesus gave them the resources to accomplish His plan.

**4. Conforming our lives to be like Jesus Christ**

---

---

---

---

God predestined you to grow in Christ after salvation.  
Mankind desires to reach perfection and utopia environments by means of science exploration, medicine, cloning.  
Man seeks retirement, shorter work week, and more benefits.  
Only Jesus can perfect you and give you true peace!

**5. Bringing glory to God**

---

---

---

---

God created you for Himself and for His pleasure.  
When time and sin end, God's kingdom will be comprised of people who practiced their free will to trust God and His Word.

**B. The importance of discipleship in relation to the other four goals.**

**All five of these goals of Christianity are vitally important, and none can be ignored, but discipleship holds the key position.**

1. Discipleship forms the link between the first two (quantitative) goals and the last two (qualitative) goals. Goals which cannot be measured.

---

---

---

---

*Pre-occupation with numbers, nickels and noses will diminish importance of discipleship. Quantity will not produce quality. Quality will result in quantity.*

2. Discipleship provides people with all the tools necessary to carry out their ministry and bring glory to God.

---

---

---

---

*Jesus devoted most of His ministry to His disciples.*  
*The first years of a person's life are important to their future.*  
*- Personal attention and investment.*  
*Jesus only lost one disciple.*  
*The other eleven served to make disciples and prepare them to carry on.*

**II. These five goals can be illustrated by the example of raising children.**

1. Evangelism - Bearing fruit through the new birth - a baby is born.
2. Establishment of churches - That baby is brought home and placed within the family unit.

*Evangelism and church attendance are vital, but true Christianity does not stop there. Just as family life does not end with simply bringing home the baby.*

3. Making disciples - teaching and training new converts - The child is taught the basic principles of life.
4. Conforming our lives to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ - The child grows up to be "just like dad."
5. Bringing God the glory - Prov. 17:6 - "Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers." Prov. 10:1, 15:20, 23:24-25, 29:3

III. **The hindrances to the ministry of discipleship and how to guard against them and overcome them.**

A. **Divisions between the discipler and disciple.**

---

---

---

---

The Roman Catholic Church has this division firmly in place by 3<sup>rd</sup> century.  
- Some priests, clergy, bishops, thought themselves higher.  
Dark Age – the Bible is kept from the common believer.  
Corinthian church allowed this philosophy to cause diversions.  
When church leadership is elevated and praised...  
- They become more vulnerable for attack and big fall.  
- They can become untouchable in a glass house.  
- The congregation begins putting personal spirituality on the leader's shoulder.

B. **Intellectual studies and debates**

---

---

---

---

People don't understand the Bible or refuse to believe the Bible.  
Prov 23:9 - Don't speak to a fool, Luke 23:8-9, Jesus set the example.  
Col 2:8-10 - Beware of those that attempt to spoil you with philosophy, traditions, and science.  
1 Cor 2:2-5 - Preach Jesus Christ – keep it simple.  
1 Pet 2:11-15 - Blameless life will put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.  
Don't give skeptics a reason to reject Jesus Christ.  
2 Cor 3:1-3 - Let your ministry speak for you - **God will defend His written Word.**

C. **The Charismatic movement**

---

---

---

---

Jews require a sign. 1Cor. 1:22 / Tongues are for a sign. 1Cor. 14:22  
Joshua 5  
Joshua has led Israel across Jordan River and into Promised Land.  
Israel has seen miracles in the wilderness for 40 years. vs. 10-12  
They have stepped out by faith by believing and obeying.  
**God finally ceases to spoon feed them manna and quail meat.**  
**There comes a time when Christians must begin feeding themselves.** But many Christians  
continue to depend upon signs and external miracles for God to prove himself. Yes, God works

miracles in your life but governed by absolute Truth. **We must learn to trust in Who God is and what He says; and cannot focus on what we want from God.** There is an end to being a disciple but no end to depending upon God for discernment and direction.

Human emotions and experiences do not supersede fact.

Unknown tongues, healing services slain in the spirit.

Leadership misapplies Scripture, causing confusion - 1 Cor 14:22

1. That the Holy Spirit comes and goes, determined by a person's faith.

2. That Christians sometimes need a second filling of the Holy Spirit.

3. That if miracles are not present, then the person lacks faith.

4. That Christians can lose their salvation.

Reality and reason must supersede emotions or feelings.

#### **D. Legalism**

---

---

---

---

Many churches hold on to the Old Testament law. Moral laws are valid.

There is a difference between Old Testament and liberty.

Lordship of Jesus Christ is the key.

Jesus Christ fulfilled the Old Testament law - Rom 8:3-4

Jesus Christ redeemed us from the curse of law - Gal 3:13

The external do's and don'ts are unnecessary.

#### **E. Ceremony**

---

---

---

---

Catholic Church finds its identity in the symbols, rituals.

Jesus Christ is the only mediator- 1 Tim 2:5

The external symbols connected with the priest and cathedral.

We, as believers, are part of a royal priesthood - 1 Pet 2:9-10

**KEY: We bring people to Jesus. We don't stand in the way.**

### **III. The results of following this biblical pattern of discipleship.**

#### **A. The example of the Lord Jesus Christ**

- Jesus selected a core of twelve men.
- As they grew, Jesus selected 70 additional disciples, Luke 10:1
- Prior to Pentecost, the nucleus was 120 – Acts 1:15
- 3,000 were saved at Pentecost, Acts 2:41
- 5,000 men believed, Acts 4:4
- Christians accused of turning the world upside down within 25 years,

Acts 17:6

- All Asia Minor heard the Word, Acts 19:10 (without TV, radio, brochures, cell phones, computers, cars, airlines)

Jesus focused on investing in sincere, faithful followers.

Yet, He was always taking opportunities to reach the needy, the sick, and the weary.

The Great Commission involves saving the lost and training the saved.

**B. The chart comparing evangelism (addition) to discipleship (multiplication).**

***If Jesus Christ had only evangelized.***

Years	3	6	9	12	15
12 converts per 3 yrs	12	24	36	48	60
12 converts per day	13,140	26,280	39,420	52,560	65,700

Evangelism alone equals addition.

***Jesus Christ disciplined and trained leaders.***

Years	3	6	9	12	15
12 disciples trained to teach others	1 x 12 12	12 x 12 144	144 x 12 1,728	1,728 x 12 20,736	20,736 x 12 248,832

- Started with a core group of 12.
- As their numbers grew, He selected 70 more and used the 12 to help train the 70. This fueled even more growth in the 12.
- By Pentecost, the nucleus was 120 - Acts 1:15.
- 3,000 were saved at Pentecost.
- Membership of 5000 men by Acts 4:4.
- Turned the world upside down - Acts 17:6 - within only 25 years!
- Acts 19:10 - All of Asia heard the Word - without TV, radio, telephones, airplanes, cars, or fax machines.

**Evangelism plus discipleship = multiplication.**

**This is the Great Commission for the New Testament Church**

**C. The example of the Apostle Paul**

- He understood the process of discipling spiritual generations, 2 Tim.2:2
- Paul taught disciples in the Corinthian Church, Acts 18:11
- Paul had trained disciples at Ephesus, Acts 20:17-20
- Paul taught the disciples at Thessalonica, 1 Thess. 2:4-11
- Paul disciplined Timothy during his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey, Acts 16:1-4
- Paul disciplined Titus and worked with him in ministry, Tit. 1:4-5

- Paul commissioned Timothy and Titus to ordain elders for the purpose of multiplying disciples, 1 Tim.3:1; Titus 1:5.

**D. The Great Commission can be fulfilled by any local church.**

God has equipped us to do so, but the key is every Christian growing as a disciple and becoming involved in ministry.

- 1 Cor.12:12-27
- 2 Cor.5:18-20
- Eph.4:11-16

**ILLUSTRATION: The plan for discipleship is seen as training that Christ gave to His two groups of disciples – the twelve and the seventy.**

***There are eleven areas of similarity in discipling of 12 and of 70***

1. He taught them the evil of prejudice.
  - a. With the twelve He healed the centurion's son. Matt. 8:5-13; Lk. 7:1-10
  - b. With the seventy He taught them the parable of the Good Samaritan. Lk. 10:25-37
2. He demonstrated the acceptance of women. Everywhere, Christianity has liberated women.
  - a. With the twelve, He received a sinful woman. Lk. 7:36-50
  - b. With the seventy, He permitted Mary of Bethany to sit with the men to study. Lk. 10:38-42  
*Both of these, along with John 4, went against culture.*
3. He taught the principles of truth and holy living.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 6
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 11:1-13
4. He taught them the conflict between the kingdom of Satan and the kingdom of God as demonstrated by His power over demons.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 12:22-33; Mark 3:22-30; Lk. 11:14-26
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 11:14-26
5. He taught against the religious hypocrisy (of the Pharisees).
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 12:33-45
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 12:1-2
6. He taught about the kingdom, its growth and its condition until the second coming of Christ. He taught them dispensational truths.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 13
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 12:35-13:21
7. He taught them not to fear man. It is necessary for any disciple to confront his culture
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 10:26-31
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 12:4-12
8. He taught them that He would cause division between men bringing not peace, but a sword.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 10:34-36
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 12:49-53
9. He had conflict with the Pharisees concerning their tradition. He challenged tradition where it contradicted the Bible.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 15:1-20; 16:1-12
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 14:1-11; 15:1-32

10. He called them to sacrifice and deny self.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 16:13-28; Mk. 8:27-9:1
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 14:25-35
11. He taught them the causes of sin and the need to restore the sinner. Discipleship comes full-circle and leads right back to evangelism. This is the only proper motive for soul-winning. Discipleship is on 2 levels: knowledge and life; instruction and practice. The first level is teaching; the second is experience. The first level is learning; the second is being.
  - a. To the twelve, Matt. 18:21-35
  - b. To the seventy, Lk. 17:1-10

## **ILLUSTRATION: The Old Testament Picture of Discipleship.**

### **I. THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT - Exodus 1-12**

- A. Israel is in Egypt in the first portion of the book of Exodus and pictures a lost man still in bondage to the world. Exodus 1
- B. Moses is given the task to go and deliver the children of Israel, and in so doing, plays the role of an evangelist.
- C. God gives Moses the message of His will to Israel. Exodus 6:6-8
  1. *"I am the Lord and I will bring you out from under the burden of the Egyptians and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you..."* (REDEMPTION)
  2. *"And I will take you to me for a people and I will be to you a God..."* (RELATIONSHIP)
  3. *"And I will bring you in unto the land... and I will give it you for an heritage..."* (REWARD)
- D. God judges the gods of Egypt with the plagues, signifying the need for Satan's stronghold to be loosed before salvation can occur. Exodus 7-11

### **II. THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA – Exodus 13-19**

- A. Having been delivered from Egypt, Israel is pursued by Pharaoh; just as Satan attacks a new Christian after salvation. Exodus 13
- B. God comes to the rescue of Israel in a mighty way, similar to the way He does on behalf of the young believer. Exodus 14
- C. Israel faces several trials early on in their journey to Mt. Sinai. Exodus 14:10-20, 15:23-26, 16:1-15, 17:1-7
  1. Each trial pictures the situations God allows to come into one's life after salvation.
  2. Each trial is met by murmuring, as is usually the case for a young Christian.

3. Each trial is solved miraculously by God to prove to Israel (and the believer) His sovereignty.
- D. Moses pictures a good evangelist who does not leave the new convert to fend for himself.

### **III. THE CAMPING AT MOUNT SINAI - Exodus 20-Leviticus 27**

- A. Israel, like a young disciple, is now ready to get some clear instruction from God.
- B. However, before this takes place, God meets with Moses (the discipler) to give him a "word". Exodus 20-24
- C. God also gives Moses "the pattern" for Israel's future relationship with God, just as He gives the discipler insight into the kind of relationship He wants with the disciple. Exodus 25-30
- D. God expects the discipler to then build according to this "pattern" in the life of the disciple. Exodus 31-40
- E. God gives the disciple the Holy Spirit (pictured by Bazaleel) to be the best workman he can be. Exodus 31:1-5
- F. There are two major works Moses is accomplishing at Mount Sinai:
  1. He is giving Israel the Word of God, just as a discipler attempts to establish the disciple in the Word. Exodus 20-40
  2. He is giving Israel the guidelines for the Levitical priesthood, similarly to the way a mature Christian attempts to establish a young Christian in the work of the ministry. Leviticus 1-27
- G. There are two major lateral relationships Moses is trying to emphasize to Israel.
  1. The relationship of individuals to other individuals. (This pictures the discipler trying to establish the disciple in the fellowship of other Christians.)
  2. The relationship of individuals to the congregation of Israel. (This pictures the discipler attempting to establish the disciple in the structure of the local church.)

### **IV. THE SOJOURNING IN THE WILDERNESS - Numbers 1-13**

- A. Lessons and principles learned at Mount Sinai are being lived out continually. Numbers 1-9
- B. Israel, like the discipler, is now ready to move on toward the promised land. Numbers 10:11-13, 33-36
- C. During this time true spirit-filled leaders are beginning to be developed. Numbers 11:16

- D. Moses, like a good discipler, is delegating responsibility to allow the maturing process to continue. Numbers 11:24-30
- E. Note: Just like there is a mixed multitude with Israel, there are also people in the discipleship process that Satan uses to discourage the heart of the disciple. Numbers 11:1-6

**V. THE CROSSING INTO THE PROMISED LAND - Numbers 13-Deuteronomy 34**

- A. Israel, like a maturing Christian, must make a decision to take that step of faith to begin to truly walk in the promises of God. Numbers 13
- B. Like many Christians, however, the majority of Israel does not want to take that step because of the obstacles. Number 14
- C. Only a few, like Caleb and Joshua, are willing to put their faith into action. Numbers 14:6 - 10
- D. Just like Israel, sometimes in a church the choices of others can affect the life of a maturing Christian. Numbers 14:26 - 39
- E. Here are the realities of the decision to cross over into the promised land.
  - 1. Most people never make it. Numbers 14 - 19
  - 2. Some people do not want to cross, but they will still "go with the program". Numbers 32
  - 3. A few people do decide to trust God and take that step. Deuteronomy 4:1
- F. Moses, like the discipler, cannot take Israel (the disciple) any further - they must learn to walk with "Joshua".

**VI. THE POSSESSING OF THE PROMISED LAND - Joshua-2 Samuel**

- A. Israel crosses the Jordan River, in the same way a believer crosses that point of no return in his spiritual journey. Joshua 1 - 4
  - B. Israel, like a believer, comes to realize some pretty important truths before the battles begin. Joshua 5
    - 1. They realize where they have come from, and that God has rolled away that reproach. (Joshua 5:1 - 9)
    - 2. They realize the "manna" has ceased, and they are going to have to eat of the "fruit of the land". (Joshua 5:10 - 12)
    - 3. They realize that if victory is to occur, they need to be on the Lord's side. (Joshua 5:12 - 15)
  - C. Israel, like a Christian, gets some major victories. Joshua 6
-

- D. But sometimes, when sin goes unconfessed, defeats are experienced. Joshua 7
- E. When fighting the enemy, Israel and the believer learn some important truths. Joshua 9 - 24
  - 1. Compromise is not an option. (Joshua 9)
  - 2. Some battles must be fought before others. (Joshua 10)
  - 3. One cannot be slack in doing God's work. (Joshua 18)
- F. Israel, like many Christians, needs to exercise proper judgment and discernment, or else forward progress is all but stopped. Judges 1-21
- G. The issue of God's final authority and lordship must be forever settled; if spiritual maturity is to be achieved.
  - 1. If the wrong king is on the throne, the land can never be secured.  
*1 Samuel*
  - 2. If the right king is on the throne, the land will be not only secured from within, but also protected from without. *2 Samuel*
- H. Israel, like the Christian, needs to kill the remnant of the giants. 2 Samuel 21

## VII. THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE - I Kings 1-8

- A. Israel is finally established as a nation, in the same way a believer is now spiritually mature. I Kings 2:46
- B. At this point, God has dominion over both Israel and the believer. I Kings 4:24
- C. God has established peace on all sides round about Israel, in the same way He does with the mature Christian. I Kings 4:24
- D. People are looking to the Christian for answers, just as the world comes to Israel to hear God's wisdom. I Kings 4:34
- E. Israel, like the believer, is at rest, and is now ready to build. I Kings 5-6
- F. God's "temple" is furnished, and Israel (like the believer) is ready to reach the world for the Lord. I Kings 8:41-43
- G. The true mission now begins.

## THE FOUR GOALS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Taking an intentional approach in seeing the four goals of discipleship achieved in the life of the believer, ensures that discipleship actually happens. The completion of a discipleship curriculum is not the ultimate proof that someone was disciplined. Being established in these four biblical goals produces spiritual growth that is visible and provides confirmation that the believer has been disciplined.

---

**GOAL 1: ESTABLISH THE BELIEVER IN THE WORSHIP OF GOD.**

---

A. Defining worship.

**Gen 22:5** And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.

---

---

---

**Key point:** True worship always takes place in the context of sacrifice.

B. Worship is the purpose of the believer's life.

**Pro 16:4** The LORD hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.

**Rom 11:36** For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

**1 Cor. 10:31** Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

**Rev 4:11** Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

---

---

---

**Key point:** The believer is established in the Worship of God when they genuinely believe worshipping Him is at the center of their existence.

C. The goals of worship.

1. To express exclusive devotion to God.

**Exo 20:1** And God spake all these words, saying, **2** I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **3** Thou shalt have no other gods before me. **4** Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: **5** Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; **6** And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

---

---

---

2. To express unconditional devotion to God.

**Job 1:20** Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, **21** And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD. **22** In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

---

---

---

3. To express continual adoration and praise to God.

**Psa 35:28** And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness and of thy praise all the day long.

**Psa 44:8** In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.

**Psa 71:24** My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.

---

---

---

4. To express worship in spirit and truth to God.

**John 4:23** But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. **24** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

---

---

---

5. To express worship through producing fruit to God.

**John 15:8** Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

---

---

---

**Key point:** A true worshipper of God finds constant preoccupation with these goals.

---

**GOAL 2: ESTABLISH THE BELIEVER IN THE WORD OF GOD.**

---

- A. The believer's sustenance.

**Ezk 2:7** And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they are most rebellious. **8** But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.

**Mat 4:4** But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

**1 Tim. 4:6** If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

---

---

---

**Key point:** When the believer is established in the Word of God, they will feed on the Word of God regularly.

---

B. The believer's final authority.

**Psa 19:8** The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. **9** The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**Psa 119:128** Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.

**Psa 119:133** Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

**Psa 138:1** I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee. **2** I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

---

---

---

**Key point:** When the believer is established in the Word of God, their views and direction are determined by the Word of God.

C. The believer's love.

**Psa 1:1** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. **2** But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. **3** And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

**Psa 119:97** O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

**Rom 7:22** For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: **23** But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

---

---

---

**Key point:** When the believer is established in the Word of God, they have an adoration for the Word of God.

**GOAL 3: ESTABLISH THE BELIEVER IN THE LOCAL CHURCH.**

---

A. The believer's structure.

**Mat 16:18** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**Eph 4:11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: **13** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: **14** That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; **15** But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: **16** From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

**1 Tim. 3:15** But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

---

---

**Key point:** The local church is of vital importance to the health and development of the believer.

B. The believer's family.

**Luke 8:19** Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press. **20** And it was told him by certain which said, Thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to see thee. **21** And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.

**1 Cor. 1:10** Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

**1 Cor. 12:13** For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

---

---

**Key point:** Relationships within the local church, become the preeminent earthly relationships for the believer.

---

C. The believer's responsibility.

**2 Cor. 9:6** But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. **7** Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

**1 John 3:16** Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. **17** But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

---

---

---

**Key point:** Believers who are established in their local church, refuse to simply attend.

**GOAL 4: ESTABLISH THE BELIEVER IN MINISTRY.**

---

A. The believer's gifting.

**1 Pet. 4:10** As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **11** If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

---

---

---

**Key point:** Believers who are established in ministry, reconcile that they have an obligation to faithfully use their spiritual gifts for the edifying of the Body of Christ.

B. The believer's equipping.

**1 Thes. 3:1** Wherefore when we could no longer forbear, we thought it good to be left at Athens alone; **2** And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith: **3** That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

---

---

---

**Key point:** The local church is to be the primary equipping agent for ministry.

C. The believer's emptying.

**Mar 10:45** For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

**2 Cor. 4:10** Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. **11** For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. **12** So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

**Php 2:6** Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: **7** But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: **8** And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

---

---

---

**Key point:** Believers who are established in ministry, develop a selfless heart attitude.