

The Discipleship Pathway

We want every person to Connect to God, Grow Together, Make Disciples, and Serve the World. You may wonder what that looks like for you in a practical sense, so we put our mission into action in what we call “The Discipleship Pathway.”

As a member of First Baptist Church, we want you to be involved in 4 specific areas of our church:

1. We want you to come to **Connect God** more in a weekly worship service as Pastor Bruce teaches the Bible.
2. We want you to **Grow Together** in a weekly Bible Study Group as you navigate life with others, guided by God’s Word.
3. We want God’s Word to take root in you and spread to others as you **Make Disciples** in a yearly D-Group of 3-5 men or women.
4. We want you to join God’s work to **Serve the World** through missions, evangelism, and volunteering.



Simple Process

The Pathway is a simple process for a couple of reasons. First, the pathway maximizes and leverages three groups that almost every person who has been to an evangelical church is already familiar with: the worship gathering; Sunday School; and serving/missions. The pathway helps add value to these gatherings by seeing them as an important part of a more comprehensive strategy.

Also, with the simple addition of D-Groups, the Pathway can be the skeleton for a more holistic approach because D-groups help keep focus on accountable relationships.

Easily Understood

Members can easily understand the pathway because they already are familiar with and know the purposes of a worship gathering, Sunday School, and serving. When casting vision you must help volunteers and members realize the value of the step they are already a part of and then challenge them to find accountability in a discipleship group or to take the next step.

If they are already part of a Life Group and a D-Group, the next step would be to replicate by leading a D-Group.

Effectively Communicated

It is so easy to pull out a napkin or a sheet of paper and visually illustrate the Pathway, explaining the benefit of each of the three groups and how they help to grow one spiritually. It would be simple to assess where the potential for spiritual growth is by asking a simple question like, ***“Where are you on the Pathway?” and “How are you finding value by being part of these groups?”***

Tim Stewart