

# Discipleship Path

RIVER CHURCH - RiverChurchMovement.org



**Intro:** Thank you for being on the journey. Growing closer to God and living for Him requires us to be proactive. We can't sit back and expect to grow in spiritual maturity. It has been said, "We don't drift into discipleship." We have to take steps so we stay connected to God and other Christians for encouragement and accountability. This resource includes tangible areas for growing in Jesus. These areas require individual effort along with connection to others on this life-giving journey. The goal is for you to disciple another with this resource as you go through the list of 30 areas. This is the commission Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20 and the vision of River Church.

**How to Use This Resource:** Start at the top of the list, read the bullet, description and look up the Bible verses that follow. Think on the verses and spend some time praying (Thanking God, Asking for Help, Listening to His Voice). Most of the areas can be explored on your own, but we encourage you to do so with another Christian friend or in a small group for encouragement, conversation and accountability. Be sure to act on what you learn. Do a bullet a day or stretch it out to one a week giving time to apply what you are learning. Feel free to adapt this ideas to fit your season of life, time and schedule. Blessing on the journey. If we can help, please let us know.

## START HERE:

- **Assurance of Salvation** – Share your confidence in your salvation with another person (John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; 1 John 5:11-13; Jude 1, 24).
- **Specific Daily Time with God** – Have a daily time of prayer and Bible study each day (Genesis 19:27; Exodus 34:2,3; Psalm 5:3; Daniel 6:10; Mark 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:9).

- **Jesus is Lord** – Grow in allowing Jesus to control every area of your life (Luke 6:46; Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 1:2).
- **Obedying God** – Submit consistently to God's direction with a joyful heart (1 Samuel 15:22; Psalm 119:59-60; Job 17:9; John 14:21,23; John 15:10,14; James 4:17).
- **The Holy Spirit** – Experience the working of the Holy Spirit in your life (Zechariah 4:6; John 14:16-17; 15:26-27; 16:7-8,13-15; Romans 8:5-6,16-17,26; 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:13-14; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 5:18).
- **Faith** – Trust God with specific needs (Romans 4:20-21; Ephesians 6:16; Hebrews 11:6; 1 John 5:4).

## GROWING IN THE BIBLE AND PRAYER:

- **The Bible** – Learn to articulate your belief in the inspiration of Scripture (Psalm 19:7-11; Psalm 119:105, 160; Matthew 22:29; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)
- **Hearing the Bible** – Meditate on the Scriptures and apply their teachings to your life (Proverbs 28:9; Jeremiah 22:29; Luke 19:48)
- **Reading the Bible** – Intentionally read through the whole Bible taking your time (Deuteronomy 17:19; 1 Timothy 4:13; Revelation 1:3).
- **Bible Study** – Study specific sections of the Bible using various resources and tools (Ezra 7:10; Proverbs 2:1-5; Acts 17:11).
- **Bible Memory** – Regularly memorize and internalize portions of Scripture for recall (Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Psalm 37:31; Proverbs 7:1-3; Matthew 4:4; Colossians 3:16).
- **Meditation on the Bible** – Reflect on what you are learning about God and yourself because of Bible reading and study (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1; Jeremiah 15:16; Philippians 4:8).
- **Application of the Bible** – Apply the Bible to your life circumstances (Psalm 119:56-60; Luke 6:46-49; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; James 1:22-25).
- **Talking to God (Prayer)** – Pray daily on an ongoing basis (Matthew 6:6; 7:7; 21:22; John 17; Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; James 5:17; 1 John 3:22).

## **VICTORY OVER SIN IN YOUR LIFE:**

- **Dealing with Sin** – Be willing to share areas of sin with another for accountability and develop a plan of action to overcome specific temptations and sin (Mark 14:38; Romans 13:14; Ephesians 6:10-20; Colossians 3:9-10; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 John 1:9).
- **Winning over Sin** – Resist sin consistently, so you grow in your connection with the Lord in holiness (Isaiah 41:13; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 15:57).
- **Separating Ourselves from Sin** – Avoid sin by taking specific steps (Romans 6:12-14; Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 2 Timothy 2:19-22; James 1:12; 1 John 1:5-2:2; 1 John 2:15-16).
- **Rejecting Satan (our enemy)** – Stand against the enemy and help others do the same (Isaiah 14:12-15; Matthew 4:4; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 2:11; 4:3-4; 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 4:4).

## **CONNECTING WITH THE CHURCH:**

- **Time with Believers** – Be consistent in local church worship attendance and other fellowship opportunities with Christians (Psalm 122:1; Acts 2:42; Hebrews 10:24,25; 1 John 1:3).
- **Giving Financially** – Give your money regularly and sacrificially to God's work (Proverbs 3:9-10,27; 11:24-25; Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 8:9; 9:6-8; Galatians 6:6).

## **CONSISTENT LIVING IN JESUS:**

- **Love** – Show love, concern and compassion toward others with action (John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7; 15:13; 1 John 3:17-18; 1 John 4:7-21).
- **Speaking** – Demonstrate control over your tongue so encouragement is consistent (Psalm 71:15; Proverbs 18:6-7; 26:20; Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 4:6; James 1:26; 3:1-12).
- **The Use of Time** – Develop the ability to manage time and schedule well with healthy boundaries and margins (Psalm 90:10,12; Proverbs 31:27; Ecclesiastes 3:1; Romans 13:11; Ephesians 5:15-17; James 4:14).

- **The Will of God** – Seek and follow God's direction in your life (Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 15:22; John 16:13; Romans 12:1-2).
- **Forgiveness** – Accept God's forgiveness and be willing to forgive others as Jesus forgave you (Psalm 32:1; Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15; 1 John 1:9)

## **SHARING YOUR FAITH WITH OTHERS:**

- **Sharing your Story (Testimony)** – Write down and share how you came to trust Jesus as Savior and how you are living for him today (Luke 8:38-39; John 9:25; Acts 26:1-23; 1 John 1:3).
- **Sharing Our Faith** – Initiate sharing the about Jesus with others (Proverbs 28:1; 11:30; John 4; Acts 8:35; Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Colossians 1:28-29; 2 Timothy 4:1-2).
- **Following Up to Sharing Faith** – Encourage those with whom you have shared Jesus in discipleship (Colossians 1:28; 2 Timothy 1:3; 2:2; 3 John 4).
- **Becoming a World Christian** – Show interest and concern for the whole world coming to know Jesus as their Savior and Lord (Isaiah 6:8; Matthew 9:35-28; 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 20:21; Acts 1:8).
- **Jesus is Coming Back** – Be encouraged and secure in your understanding that Jesus is returning to establish His Kingdom, but he is starting today (John 14:2-3; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 John 3:2-3; Revelation 19:11-16).
- **Disciple Others** - Invest your life in others to help them grow as a follower of Jesus so they do the same. Use the areas in this resource (Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Timothy 1:13-14).

## **DISCIPLESHIP MODEL**

*These are stages of developing in discipleship and leadership.*

1. Stage 1: **Example** - "I do, you watch" (live your life of faith in front of others)
2. Stage 2: **Teacher** - "I do, you help" (involve others in the journey of faith)
3. Stage 3: **Coach** - "You do, I help" (give control to others so they grow)
4. Stage 4: **Delegator** - "You do, I watch" (give up control, let them lead)