

**CCSBA Focus on Discipleship**

On September 4<sup>th</sup> Rick Warren wrote the following about discipleship.

“God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in love — like Christ in everything” (Ephesians 4:15, The Message).

God wants you to grow up: “We are not meant to remain as children” (Ephesians 4:14, Phillips).

Your heavenly Father’s goal for you is to mature and develop the characteristics of Jesus Christ, living a life of love and humble service. Sadly, countless Christians grow older but never grow up. They’re stuck in perpetual spiritual infancy, remaining in diapers and booties. The reason is because they never intended to grow. Spiritual growth is not automatic; it takes an intentional commitment. You must want to grow, decide to grow, make an effort to grow, and persist in growing.

Discipleship is the process of becoming like Christ, and it always begins with a decision: “Follow me and be my disciple,” Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him” (Matthew 9:9, NLT). When the first disciples chose to follow Jesus, they didn’t understand all the implications of their decision. They simply responded to Jesus’ invitation.

That’s all you need to get started: Decide to become a disciple.

It should be clear that no church grows unless there is good discipleship. Somewhere, and at some time, the church has lost Jesus’ focus of making disciples and replaced it with something else. To be sure, there are many characteristics of one who is a disciple of Jesus. They share their faith, are united and active with the church, read and study the Word at home, stand on the truths of Scripture rather than the perspectives and practices of the world, pray – in private and with great intensity, and intentionally are on the go looking for ways to make more disciples of Jesus.

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

- 9 NATHAN KIRKLEY
- 12 LONNY MITTAG
- 13 GEORGIA STEPHENS
- 14 DANIEL BRAY
- 17 LINDA EMMONS
- 24 ELDON WHEELIS

**CCSBA CHURCH PRAYER FOCUS**

**Twin Springs**



Roger Mayo, Pastor

**Friendship**



Lonny Mittag, Pastor

**Broseley FBC**



Steve Mayo, Pastor

**PRAY FOR THESE PASTOR-LESS CHURCHES**

**Northside Bernie  
Center Hill  
Bloomfield FBC**

**Harviell FBC  
New Hope  
Lone Hill**

Calendar for November & December

- Nov. 4 Disaster Relief Appreciation Day**
- Nov. 9-10 Revitalization Training**
- Nov. 14-18 Milwaukee Mission Trip**
- Nov. 21 CCSBA Offices Closed at Noon*
- Nov. 22-23 CCSBA Offices Closed*
- Dec. 1 Pastor/Spouse/Staff Christmas Banquet  
PBFBC**
- Dec. 11 Executive Board Meeting 7PM at the BSU**
- December 24-25 CCSBA Offices Closed*

CCSBA Office Hours

8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Thursday  
8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday

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Ministry Team

Jim Gentry, DOM (ph: 870-219-2355)

Sandy Arnold, Office Assistant

Daniel Bray, BSU Director

**2019 Disaster Relief Training**

March 1-2 Macon, MO

April 5-6 Diamond, MO

September 13-14 Dexter, MO

October 4-5 Warsaw, MO

Contact Bob Stark at 573-300-3192

[www.mobaptist.org/dr](http://www.mobaptist.org/dr) [disasterrelief@mobaptist.org](mailto:disasterrelief@mobaptist.org)

CCSBA Financial Status

Sept. 01, 2018 – Oct.30, 2019

Budget to date	Contributions received
\$ 19, 076.94	\$ 19,158.85

**CCSBA Focus on BSU**

The Student Work Committee had the pleasure of awarding Emma Parsley a \$500 scholarship through the Hubert Porter Memorial Scholarship at our Annual Meeting in October. Emma has been active in the BSU, has been on several mission trips with the BSU and her church, Puxico FBC. She is studying to become a teacher.

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The BSU will be attending CROSS conference in

Louisville, KY on January 2-5. This is great conference dedicated to equipping the next generation to serve in international missions. The cost for each student will be \$100. If your church or members of your church are interested in providing scholarships for a student to go please contact Daniel or Sandy.

**Discipleship, cont.**

In making disciples though, many believe becoming a disciple of Jesus is just a product of attending church, of occasionally reading the Bible, or of attending some kind of class/workshop. However, none of those things on their own will produce a disciple. Yet, that was Jesus’ command to us – “Go and make disciples”.

Warren points out very well that “spiritual growth is not automatic”. So, many in our churches today remain spiritually immature, perpetually stuck in “spiritual infancy”. I’ve heard it often said, “When I die I hope the good Lord will have mercy on me and allow me to enter Heaven.” What? And that coming from someone who has been in church for 40, 50, 60 years or more. That is not just spiritual infancy, but complete spiritual uncertainty. That’s not a person who has become a disciple of Jesus, in spite of spending years in church. A real disciple knows their eternity is sealed in Jesus and thus, they live like Jesus daily until their very last breath.

There is as well a cost to being Jesus’ disciple. He said, “So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.” (ESV) By true discipleship – being a disciple and making disciples – the Father is glorified. “By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.” (Jn 15:8 NKJV) To make disciples, you must first be a disciple.

**Decide to become a disciple!**

*“If you’re a believer in Jesus Christ, and you have the Holy Spirit in you, the Bible says that you are a necessary part of the church and that your church is actually hurting if you are not doing your part.”*  
Francis Chan



*"Being a Christian is more than just an instantaneous conversion – it is a daily process whereby you grow to be more and more like Christ." Billy Graham*

Tom Mallot sharing about Disaster Relief.

Tom recently spent 3 weeks working with MO DR in North Carolina and is headed to Florida this weekend. Pray for Tom and all the other DR volunteers serving faithfully for the glory of Christ. This service truly is a manifestation of "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and strength. And love your neighbor as yourself."

You can participate in Disaster Relief by praying, giving, and/or going. Get involved today!

