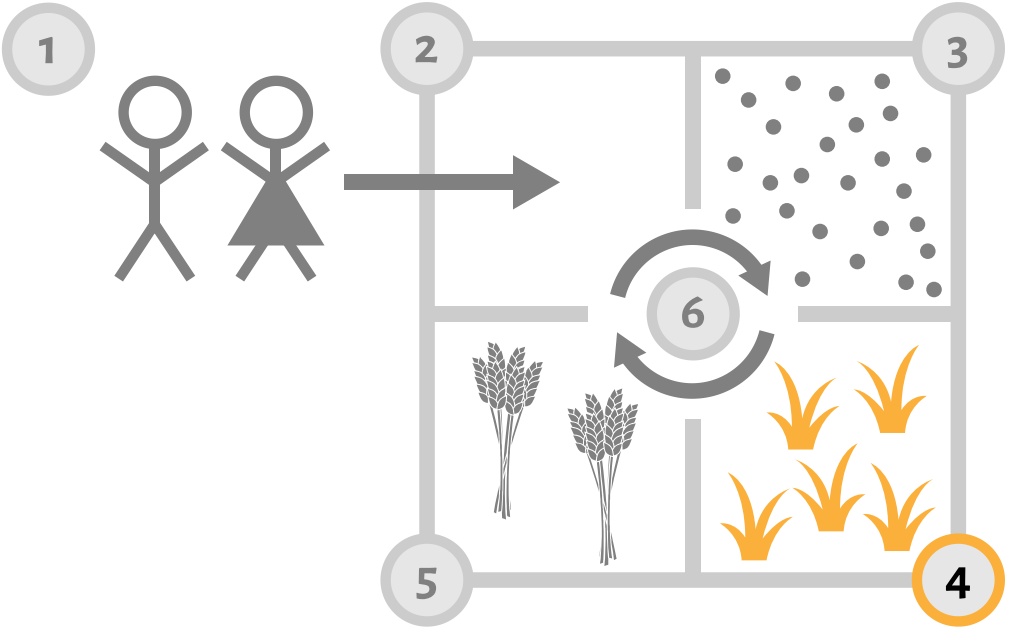


DISCIPLESHIP



We are called as followers of Jesus to make disciples of all nations. In order to see the kingdom of God grow, we must be committed to discipleship.

Especially with new followers of Jesus, we must be ready to lead others to be like Jesus more and more.

We should teach people who believe in Jesus to obey his commands.



Matthew 28:18-20:

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Every follower of Jesus should make disciples. Making disciples includes baptizing people who profess belief in Jesus. Making disciples also includes teaching people who profess belief in Jesus to obey all that Jesus commanded.

What commands could we teach people who believe in Jesus?

Acts 2:37-47:

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the



apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with

all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

From these verses, we can know some of what the first followers of Jesus did. We can teach others to do these same practices. From other places in the Bible, we know that these practices are commanded by Jesus for his followers. We can teach followers of Jesus to obey these commands from Jesus. Seven commands we can teach are:



**Repent
and believe**



Be baptized



Pray



**Make
disciples**



Love



**Receive the
Lord's Supper**



Give

How can we teach these commands of Jesus?

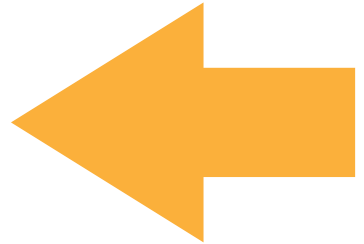


Outlines to help teach these commands to others follow. First it is useful to introduce a general plan for times of discipleship and a simple method for understanding the Bible.

In each time of discipleship, it is helpful follow a general guideline consisting of three parts. These three parts are:

1 **Looking back**

In this time, you are caring for one another, worshipping together, and keeping one another accountable for any commitments that have been made.



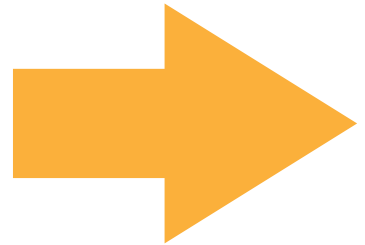
2 Looking up

In this time, you are introducing a new command from Jesus or leading a study of the Bible. Each person should be given enough biblical content to obey and pass on.



3 Looking ahead

In this time, you are preparing each person to pass on what they have experienced and commissioning them to carry out commitments that are made.



Having a simple method for understanding and discussing verses of the Bible is also helpful for each time of discipleship. A good method begins with discussing the following four questions:

- 1 What do we learn about God?**
- 2 What do we learn about man?**
- 3 What should we not do?**
- 4 What should we do?**

These questions help us understand and discuss verses from the Bible with others. As we answer these questions, we should point to specific parts of the text which show our point. Not every question will always be applicable. After answering these questions, we can discuss the main point of the verses and any questions that arise.

For Kingdom Growth

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Many thanks to all who have contributed to this material for kingdom growth. Your service in the Lord is never in vain.