

## Discipled by the Word

### 1. Goal of Discipleship

#### a. Spiritual Formation

- i. Being formed to the image of God through Jesus by the Spirit
- ii. **Two** types of formation

#### 1. **InFormation**: going to school

- a. Education appealing to rationale, logic and understanding.
- b. Dependent on my effort.
- c. Makes me dependent on the Church/teacher.
  - i. High chair relationship
- d. Collection of facts about who, what, where, when, and how.
- e. Double-edged sword
  - i. Creates bible scholars
  - ii. How has knowing how much a shekel is worth in today's currency led you to follow Jesus, serve and love your neighbors or die to self?
  - iii. Makes you smart, does it make you useful?
  - iv. John 5:39-40 & Matthew 23:23-24
- f. Can lead to isms if it is the goal:
  - i. Pragmatism
  - ii. Legalism
  - iii. Measure-ism
- g. Learning should fuel the fire for the goal.

#### 2. **TransFormation**: Residency

- a. Dependent on the Holy Spirit
- b. Surrender to the Way of Jesus
- c. Lean into God's process, not simply collecting answers:
  - i. Discovering applicable truths in God's Word
    1. "Why is this important?"
    2. "Do I feel convicted by this?"

- ii. Respond to revelation through application (Repent)
  - 1. “What am I going to do now that I know God’s truth?”
- iii. The goal is to become who God is leading and empowering you to be.
- iv. “According to Jesus, the point of the scriptures is that they reveal the source of truth and life.”

## **2. Definitions of Discipleship**

- a. “Making disciples introduces people to God, who loves and understands them, helps them understand who they are and they can be, helps them apply God’s transforming truths, and releases them as prepared, confident, and skilled to live their best life ever on earth.” – Doug Burrier
- b. The goal of the process of discipleship is to move a believer from church-dependent to Holy Spirit-dependent.
- c. A disciple looks like a follower of Jesus, not simply a scholar. Their why for what they do is not duty or imitation, but because of who they are becoming in response to God’s revealed truth for life.

## **3. Steps towards discipleship**

- a. Celebrate your goals
  - i. Option 1: attendance, participation, and course completion.
  - ii. Option 2: life change and multiplication
- b. Utilize one-on-one for effective discipleship.
  - i. Want efficiency? Invite 3-5 people to meet at the same time
    - 1. Have 1 leader. This is not a small group.
- c. Commit to weekly meetings for 12 months
  - i. Feast on the entire Bible for that time
  - ii. Homework: Read and highlight eternal, applicable truths
  - iii. Group time: Share highlights, answer “Why?” and “Now what?”

- d. What can we learn from Socrates?
  - i. A 5-step method.
    1. Wonder/Receive – listen to what they say
    2. Reflect – summarize what you understood them to say
    3. Refine & Examine – Ask for evidence to support and find assumptions, thoughts and facts. Discover “Why?”.
    4. Restate what they have discovered after examination.
    5. Repeat the process to drill down.
  - ii. Question-driven method, teaches thinking and listening to God, rather than just getting answers.
  - iii. Get to the “Why is this important?” to convict and compel.