



More Discipleship May 2024
Locations/Zoom Links & Prayer Call Instructions

Northern Tribes – Rev. Hampton Room 302 (Red) Thanksgiving

Dan (S-T); Asher (U-V); Naphtali (W-Z)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86548871071?pwd=bmo2RFJDdVlaTQyWUMyMzh4VmZxQT09>

Meeting ID: 865 4887 1071 Passcode: 257879 One tap mobile

+13462487799,,86548871071#,,*257879# US (Houston)

Southern Tribes – Dr. Ingram Room 301 (Orange) July 4th

Rueben (G-H); Simeon (K-L); Gad (I-J)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87927418517?pwd=BlPlsZf47HDaOgKLVZYjafYTKa60za.1>

Meeting ID: 879 2741 8517 Passcode: 896579

One tap mobile +13462487799,,87927418517#,,,,*896579# US (Houston)

Eastern Tribes – Rev. McMillan/Rev. Watkins Room 102 (Yellow) Juneteenth

Judah (A-B); Issachar (C-D); Zebulun (E-F)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86254893957?pwd=SWlSaVE2eEh3ci9iclUrRVdFTc9udz09>

Meeting ID: 862 5489 3957 Passcode: 778721

+13462487799,,86254893957#,,,,*778721# US (Houston)

Western Tribes – Rev. Johnson Room 101 (Green) Christmas

Ephraim (M-N); Manasseh (O-P); Benjamin (Q-R)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86523768273?pwd=b2Y1RzhQYkhkY0pFMEM3MEIXQkNBZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 2376 8273 Passcode: 373668

+13462487799,,86523768273#,,,,*373668# US (Houston)

Take this short survey to help us plan for an exciting study on
Discipleship.





Christianity Is a Team Sport

The church is God's team. Today some Christians think they can make disciples best without the church. They feel that the church (the corporate body) doesn't hold up its end. Because of this, they are sometimes tempted to quit the church and go the Christian life alone. But Christianity is a team sport. No matter how gifted or talented an individual is, he or she needs the church to be able to successfully make disciples and be a disciple. Because a "go it alone" philosophy is unbiblical. The church is part of God's design for disciple-making.

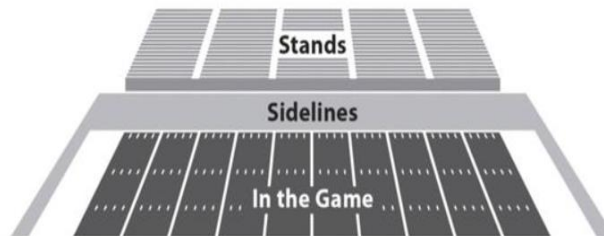
Read again Matthew 16:18: "I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (ESV). Jesus clearly tells us who is going to crush the gates of hell (the forces of evil). Check the one that is going to win the battle.

- Peter himself
- The twelve disciples
- The church

Sure, some parts of our faith can be accomplished on the individual level, but much of what the church is supposed to do can happen only when we function as a team. We can win (make disciples of all nations) only as a team.

The apostle Paul uses the human body to illustrate this principle. Read Romans 12:4-8 in the margin and write out how you think the church team functions like a body.

Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.



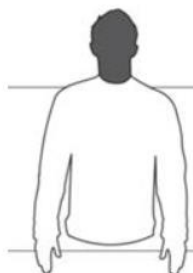
3. Put an "X" where you think you have been most of the last two years as a Christian who makes disciples. Have you been on the stands, on the sidelines, or in the game?



4. Look again at this week's key verses, Matthew 28:18-20 (see day 1). Have you memorized it yet? How has your understanding of making disciples changed?

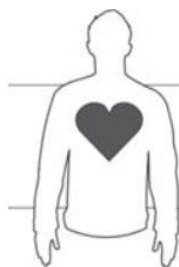
What is a Disciple? Read Matthew 4:19. This Scripture defines a disciple as one who 1) knows and follows Christ; 2) is being changed by Christ ; and 3) is committed to the mission of Christ.

Accepting Jesus' invitation to follow Him begins with realizing who He is. Following Jesus affects the disciple's thinking. This head-level change challenges everything from our worldview to our priorities. Peter, James, and John believed that Jesus was the Messiah. They were so convinced that they took a drastic step: They left everything to answer His call to follow Him. Are you convinced? Have you come to the place that you believe that Jesus is who He said He was? That God actually proved who Jesus was by resurrecting Him from the dead? If you haven't, you are still on the fence about following Him.



Discipleship involves a head-level change:
A disciple knows who Christ is and makes a decision to follow Him.

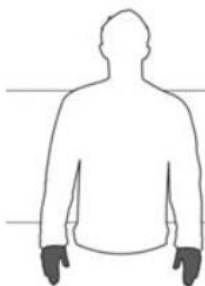
A disciple is one who is being changed by Jesus. He is making us into someone different. He changes hearts, which means our attitudes and priorities begin to shift. This kind of change is supernatural and is evidenced by a love for God and for others. The Holy Spirit is making us into relational people with an eternal perspective. God intends to use these relationships to lead a broken world to the transforming power of Jesus.



Discipleship involves a heart-level change:
A disciple is being changed by Christ.

A Disciple's Hands

When we know Christ, we start to look at people differently. As we spend time with Jesus as our head (our "boss"), we begin to have a change of heart that leads to a change in how we use our hands. We want to serve God wherever He has placed us. This means that our abilities, gifts, and learned skills are all empowered and on call for the Lord's mission of making disciples of all nations.



Discipleship involves a hands-level change:
A disciple is committed to the mission of Christ.

Summary and Profile of Each Stage of Spiritual Growth

General Characteristics of the Stage

Spiritual Stage	
Dead	Unbelieving Rebellious
Infant	Ignorant Confused Dependent
Child	Self-centered, self-absorbed Idealistic Prideful Low view of self Interdependent

Young Adult	Action/service-oriented Zealous God-centered Others-centered Mission-minded but incomplete in his or her understanding Independent
Parent	Intentional Strategic Reproduction-minded Self-feeding Mission-minded Team-minded (unity matters) Dependable

Review

- Everyone starts out spiritually dead.
- The spiritually dead are characterized by unbelief and rebellion.
- Listening to people helps us identify what stage they are in. This is referred to as "the phrase from the stage."

Review

- The second stage of spiritual growth is infancy.
- Spiritual infants are characterized by ignorance, confusion, and dependency.
- Physical age, education, and life experiences do not exempt anyone from entering the Christian life as an infant.
- Spiritual infants need individual attention to thrive.

Review

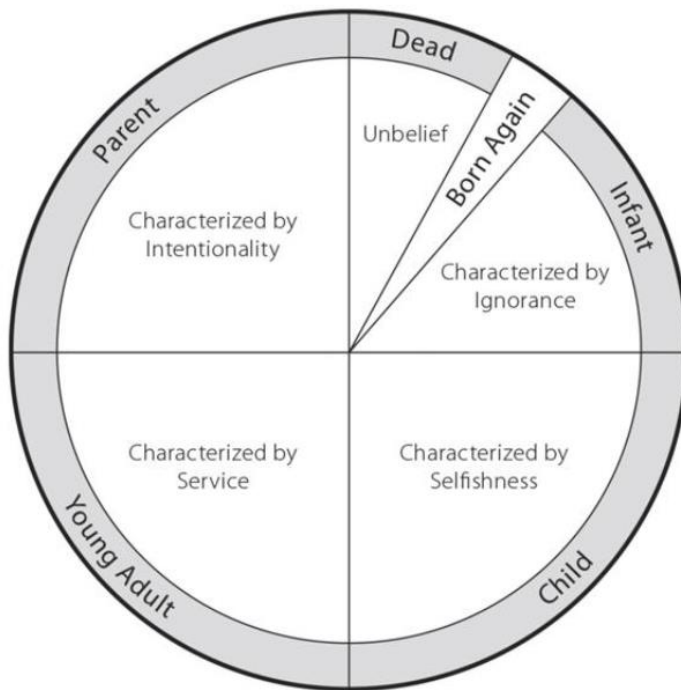
- The third stage of spiritual growth is childhood.
- Spiritual children are typically self-centered, idealistic, and prone to struggle with a balance in their confidence.
- Don't fall into the trap of misjudging spiritual maturity by time one spends in church.

Review

- The fourth stage of spiritual growth is the young adult stage.
- Spiritual young adults are characterized by a change from being focused on self to being focused on God and others.
- Spiritual young adults begin to see that God shaped them for a purpose and their priorities begin to change.

Review

- The final stage of spiritual growth is parenthood.
- Spiritual parents are characterized by the ability to reproduce disciples.
- They are able to feed themselves from God's Word.
- Spiritual parents need encouragement and accountability.



Notes

on Wednesdays



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