

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

40 Weeks of Intentional
Discipleship

Discipleship: Helping others follow Jesus.

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.”

Matthew 28:19-20

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Titus 2:11-14

Our prayer is that this guide will enable you to be intentional with helping others follow Jesus and allowing others to help you follow Jesus. We pray that you will grow in love, trust, and obedience and that you will experience the fullness of God's love. We pray you will become a disciple who makes disciples.



Digital Booklet

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D-Group FAQ

What are D-Groups?

D-Groups are closed Discipleship groups of 3-6 Christians of the same gender who meet regularly with the intention of accountability and equipping.

What will the D-Group meetings look like?

The D-Groups will meet weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly for between an hour and an hour and a half. It's beneficial to meet over coffee, a meal, or dessert, in the same location and time if possible.

It's not meant to be an extra thing on your already busy schedule. It's meant to be woven into your normal rhythm. The meetings will consist of accountability, equipping, and prayer. See "[*Weekly Rhythm Template*](#)" for the general flow and breakdown of the meeting.

What does it mean that the D-Groups are "closed" groups?

To optimize relational trust and effectiveness, these groups are not open for new members to join. Also, there is a standard for the group members to uphold. All members must commit to...

Sunday Morning Attendance, Small Group Attendance, D-Group Attendance, and Accountability

To maintain the integrity of the group, if a member of a group does not uphold the commitments required, that member will no longer be a part of the group.

D-Group Covenant

I will commit to the local church.

I will commit to small groups.

I will commit to participating in this D-Group.

I will commit to being held and holding other group members accountable.

I will commit to confidentiality, honesty, and transparency.

Date: _____

Member Signature: _____

Bible Reading Recommendations and Suggestions

Here are some recommendations for your reading plan:

You should have a plan that is primarily Scripture-based. Each day you do your devotion time and keep a journal of some sort. We recommend some version of the *4 Blocks method*, but it does not have to be this method. The key is to ensure that you are jotting down something as you do your devotion.

Helpful Tips

Whatever you pick should be primarily Scripture-based. While other people's thoughts and wisdom can be helpful, God's Word should be our emphasis. Avoid a plan that is someone else's commentary with a few verses tacked on to it.

Having a plan will help with consistency, and it will help with understanding the context of the passage. Don't use the "just randomly flip to a page and point" approach.

Reading Plan Suggestions

Work your way through a book of the Bible. Read a passage a day. It does not have to be a large passage, but it does need to be long enough to be a complete story/thought.

Suggested books

Genesis

Psalms

The Gospels

Paul's Letters

Other Reading Plans

Do a "Bible in a year" plan

Foundations

Foundations: New Testament Plan

Proverb a Day for a month

Read a chapter of a book of the Bible for a week.

Ex: Read John 1 every day for a week.

Do a YouVersion plan (The Bible Project has some great plans)

Use The Bible Project app to read through the Torah

Accountability

Being willing to be held accountable and to hold others accountable is crucial to the life of the follower of Jesus. We hold one another accountable in our **sin battles** and our **spiritual disciplines**.

Sin Battles

Scripture calls us to put “sin to death” (Col. 3:5), so we must fight, in light of grace, to identify sin, preach the gospel to our hearts, and repent of sin. The following questions are good for helping unveil hidden sins in our lives. To have optimum accountability, we should personally reflect on the sin in our own hearts. We would greatly benefit from asking ourselves these questions regularly, if not daily. These questions are also a great tool to ask one another in our weekly meetings to better help one another identify and fight sin.

Sample Questions

Have you had any external responses that might be indicators of sin in your heart?

Have there been any moments of friction this past week? (*disappointment, frustration, sadness, anxiety, fear, unsettling, etc.*) *Friction can often be an indicator of deeper sin.*

What is the root of the sin? What is the lie you are believing?

How does the truth of the gospel speak to that lie?

Is there anyone that you need to apologize to, ask for forgiveness from, or reconcile with?

Spiritual Disciplines

Spiritual disciplines are practices that help us grow in our love and trust of Jesus. They are not means by which we earn love, but they are avenues through which we can commune with God. There are many different practices that are considered spiritual disciplines. John Mark Comer gives nine practices: **Sabbath, Prayer, Fasting, Solitude, Scripture, Community, Service, Generosity, and Witness**. His book, *Practicing the Way*, and [website](#) have great resources including an assessment test to help cultivate healthy practices.

SMART Goals

Each week you should make SMART Goals to help build spiritual discipline and help fight sin. We must remember that everything we do flows from the gospel and be sure we do not slip into legalism. However, making SMART Goals is a good way to help build habits. SMART is an acronym that stands for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Based.

Specific: While broad goals are good for the big picture, long long-term growth goals, they are less effective for week-to-week goals. You should specify what you are going to do.

Measurable: The goal you make should be something that can be measured.

Attainable: It's easy to make big and lofty goals, but these are not always helpful because they leave us feeling overwhelmed. While the SMART Goal you set should be challenging, it should also be attainable.

Relevant: Your SMART Goal should relate to your overall goal.

Time-Based: You should have a set amount of time you will measure.

SMART Goal Examples

SMART Goal: *Set a timer for 5 minutes and pray for 5 days this week.*

Bad SMART Goal: *Pray more this week (not specific, measurable, or time-based) OR Spend 2 hours in prayer each day this week (not attainable)*

SMART Goal: *Pray for each person on my oikos map at least once this week.*

Bad SMART Goal: *Be better at evangelism (not specific, measurable, or time-based) OR Share the gospel with at least 100 people this week. (not attainable)*

SMART Goal: *Read one chapter of the Bible 5 days this week.*

Bad SMART Goal: *Read through all of Psalms this week (not attainable) OR Read one verse this week (not enough to push you)*

Weekly Rhythm Template

(60-90 minutes)

Quick Introduction and Prayer (no more than 10 minutes)

Spend some time doing a brief check-in for everyone's week and pray for your time together.

Accountability (30-40 minutes)

Sin Battle

Each group member will confess sin to one another, encourage one another with how the gospel speaks to that sin, and make SMART Goals for fighting sin.

Spiritual Disciplines

Each group member will evaluate the status of the spiritual disciplines in his or her life and make SMART Goals for continuing to build these disciplines. During this time, each group member will also share something that God has been teaching them in their devotion time in the Word throughout the week. Each group member will also recite the memory verse for the week during this time.

Prayer

Equipping (20-30 minutes)

Gospel Overview

Someone will give an overview of the gospel. This builds clarity and comfort in communicating the gospel. (Beginning in Week 2, the group member giving the Gospel Overview will use The Story taught the week before. Once every group member has overviewed The Story, the gospel can be overviewed in any way.)

Training Tool

Someone will review the previous week's tool and teach/overview a training tool during this time. The first 3 weeks are as follows: Week 1 - The Story, Week 2 - Reading the Story, and Week 3 - The Story Community. Following the first 3 weeks, any tool can be selected from the Training Tools page or some other resource. It will be helpful to revisit tools to help teach them (especially the tools from weeks 1-3).

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests (no more than 10 minutes)

Following Accountability and Equipping, the group will plan logistics for the next meeting such as roles, date/time/location, Memory Verse, etc. Conclude your time with prayer.

Week 1

Quick Introduction and Prayer

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

(The Story)

Training Tool

(The Story)

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 2

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

(The Story)

Training Tool

(Reading the Story)

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 3

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

(The Story)

Training Tool

(The Story Community)

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 4

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 5

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 6

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 7

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 8

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 9

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 10

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 11

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 12

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

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Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 13

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Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 14

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 15

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 16

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

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Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 17

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Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

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Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 39

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

Week 40

Accountability

Sin Battle and Spiritual Disciplines

Prayer

Equipping

Gospel Overview

Training Tool

Housekeeping and Prayer Requests

The Story

The Metanarrative of Scripture

Creation

In *Genesis 1-2*, God created all things. With each step of creation, God said it was good, and when God created mankind, he said it was very good. (*Genesis 1:31*) God created mankind to be special. *Genesis 1:27* says, “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Mankind bears the image of God. Man is unique and bears God’s qualities. Ultimately mankind bears the image of God because God has divinely appointed this to be so. This plays out in varying ways. Man has creative tendencies and a level of intelligence unmatched in the rest of creation. Man has the capacity for morality. God appoints man to have dominion over creation. Mankind is to cultivate the earth in a way that brings flourishing and life. (*Genesis 1:28-30*, *Psalms 115:14*)

The picture of *Genesis 1-2* is one that is ordered, whole. God’s relationship with man and the earth, and man’s relationship with the earth and one another is all as it should be... But this is not the world we live in now. We see elements of beauty and good, but we also see so much brokenness and evil. So what happened? How did we get here?

Fall

Genesis 3 abrasively interrupts the creation narrative. In *Genesis 3* we are introduced to a rebellious talking snake that disrupts the ordered creation. The serpent spins lies and deception in an attempt to make them disobey the one prohibition God gave to the first couple. In *Genesis 2:16-17* it says, “The Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘From any tree of the garden you may freely eat; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for on the day that you eat from it you will certainly die.’” The serpent twisted the words of God to deceive the woman. He wanted her to believe God was holding out on them, that God did not have what was best for them in mind. That God was lying. (*Genesis 3:1-5*) Ultimately, the woman and the man bought the lie of the Enemy and ate the fruit initiating rebellion against God. (*Genesis 3:6*) They wanted to dictate what was right and wrong. They wanted to be their own gods. This sin sent them into shame, and they hid from God. (*Genesis 3:7*)

When God found them and addressed them, he spelled out the consequences of their actions. Where there was once flourishing and life, now there will be death. Where there was once abundance, there will be scarcity. Everything was in order, as it should be, but now everything is broken. Man's relationship with God, the earth, and with one another is fractured. (*Genesis 3:14-19*) We do not have to look hard to see the effects of *Genesis 3*. Everywhere we look there is brokenness, anxiety, shame, depression, violence, and death. Mankind's rebellion has left us spiritually dead and separated from God, the Author of Life. *Genesis 3* seems unbelievably hopeless, but is it actually hopeless?

Rescue

Buried in the brokenness of *Genesis 3*, there is a seed of hope. In *Genesis 3:15* God says to the serpent, "*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*" God promises an offspring of the woman, literally a seed, a male descendant, that would strike the head of the serpent while his heel would be struck by the serpent. This is a promise of a boy who would, though be struck by Evil, would ultimately defeat Evil. It is an inkling of hope in an otherwise dark chapter.

Later in *Genesis 3* we see God clothe Adam and Eve with the skin of an animal. (*Genesis 3:21*) Their own work to cover their shame with fig leaves was insufficient, but God in his grace covers their nakedness with an animal's skin. This act, the sacrificial death of an innocent life to cover the shame of another, points to the hope of ultimate rescue from our sin and shame that comes through the sacrificial death of the only truly innocent life.

With every baby boy that is born after the Fall there is a hope that he could be the promised seed of *Genesis 3* to ultimately defeat Evil. But the hope that comes with the birth of each boy quickly fades as each one proves to be a broken sinner in need of rescue. All throughout the Old Testament, there is a thread of hope of the One who would rescue mankind from ultimate death. This hope is finally realized in the person and work of Jesus. God took on flesh and dwelt among us. (*John 1:14*) He humbled himself to be born of a woman. Jesus, the Christ, the Anointed One, is truly God and truly man. Jesus, the promised seed, lived completely innocent in every way, was crucified on a Roman cross paying the penalty for sin, and he rose from the grave victorious over sin and death. (*Philippians 2:6-8*) Jesus was struck by Evil, but his death and resurrection ultimately defeated Evil. His innocent sacrifice covers the sin and shame of all who put their trust in him for rescue.

Restoration

For all who trust in Jesus, we are restored. There is instant restoration and future restoration. There is instant restoration of the relationship between the follower of Jesus and God which is called justification. (*Romans 5:1*) This means that God no longer sees the individual as a sinner deserving of his just wrath, but rather, he sees the individual as innocent and blameless. Rather than seeing sin, God sees the imputed righteousness of Jesus. (*2 Corinthians 5:21*) Thus, at conversion, there is instant spiritual restoration.

The follower of Jesus is also in the process of being sanctified. The moment an individual trusts in Jesus and is saved, God's Spirit comes and indwells that person. (*1 Corinthians 3:16*) Scripture talks about God regenerating the hearts of his people. His Spirit begins to change the person's desires. His Spirit empowers the person to walk in obedience to the commands of God. (*Ezekiel 36:26-27*) Ultimately, the Holy Spirit shapes a person to look increasingly more like Jesus, and this process is called sanctification. Total restoration comes at glorification. Though Christians are made to look more and more like Jesus in this life, they never reach perfection until the next life.

There will be a day when Jesus will return and make all things new. He will cast final judgment on evil, and he will fully restore his Bride, the Church. Every follower of Jesus will be fully restored with a glorified body, and there will be a new heavens and new earth. God will dwell with his people for eternity, and there will be no more sin, no more tears, and no more death. Fully restored, followers of Jesus will worship their redeeming God for all eternity. (*Revelation 21:1-4*)

Reading the Story

4 Blocks Guide

14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

Text: Textual Matters

The Bible is a compilation of *sacred writings* (v.15) from many different human authors. Each passage was written at a specific time for specific people. For this reason, context is important.

Just like any other written work, it is important to look at the literary elements of whatever passage you are studying. The Bible has several different genres such as narrative, prophecy, poetry, proverbs, letters, etc. Knowing the genre shapes how you interpret the passage. Passages will also have themes that are consistent throughout the book. Authors will repeat words to add emphasis and key the reader to an idea. They will also use metaphors and symbolism to enhance understanding.

All of Scripture is breathed out by God (v.16). Though there are many human authors, God is the ultimate Author. The Bible is one unified story with many parts. When engaging Scripture, we must understand that every individual passage is a part of God's bigger story which can be summarized as Creation, Fall, Rescue, Restoration.

Examination:

Summarize the Passage

Who wrote this book? Who is the intended audience? What is the historical setting?

What genre is this book?

Where in the Biblical timeline does this passage fall? What has happened leading up to this passage?

Are there any cultural elements that are different from our modern culture?

Are there any significant literary elements in the passage?

Are there any repeated words or phrases?

What book themes are in the passage? What biblical themes or references are in the passage?

Man: Man's Condition and Nature

If Scripture is aimed at *teaching, reproof, correction, training, and to complete* (v.16-17), then the implication is that we are broken and incomplete. If Scripture is purposed to *make us wise for salvation* (v.15), then the implication is we need salvation. Every passage we read will show us the fallen nature of mankind and creation.

Examination:

How do we see mankind's condition in this passage? What echoes of the Fall do we see? What in this passage makes our hearts say "This is not how it is supposed to be"? How do we see that we are incomplete?

Are there any sins, human limitations, suffering, evil, death, etc. in this passage? Make it personal: How do we see this in our context? How does this play out in your life?

God: God's Nature and Redemption

God is the ultimate author, and Scripture is his primary way of revealing himself to us. He is the hero, so every passage unveils his character to us. God is beyond our understanding and comprehension. He is an everlasting well and eternity is not long enough for us to learn all we can know about him, but God, in his grace, reveals Himself to us through His Word.

All of Scripture is intended *to make us wise for salvation through faith in Jesus* (v.15). It shows us our need for salvation, and all Scripture shows us how we can have salvation through faith in Jesus. All of the Bible is one unified story that flows to, through, and from God's redemptive work through Jesus. For this reason, we cannot hope to fully understand a passage, unless we see how it points us to salvation through faith in Jesus.

Examination:

What do we learn about God's character from this passage? What parts of God's nature are on display?

How does this passage show us salvation through faith in Jesus?

Questions to help see how the passage points to Jesus:

Does the passage explicitly mention Jesus' redeeming work?

How does this passage fit into the overarching story of Scripture? Creation, Fall, Rescue, Restoration
How can you trace God's revealed character to the cross?
What redemptive themes does this passage have that echo the cross?

Action: Grace Driven Life Change

Scripture *teaches, reproveth, corrects, trains, and completes us* (v.16-17). The truths seen in Scripture shape how we think, what we say, and what we do. It is transformative. God, through his Holy Spirit, shapes and conforms us to the image of Christ through his Word.

Examination:

Are there any explicit commands we should obey?

Are there any examples we should follow?

If what the passage says is true of man/God, what are the logical actions that should follow?

How do the actions of the passage play out in your context?

The Story Community

Elements of the Church

37 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?" 38 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. 39 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." 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. (Acts 2:37-47)

Salvation

Peter in *verse 38* , after proclaiming the truth of the gospel, calls the people to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus to receive forgiveness and the Holy Spirit. The Church at its core is a people, not a building or program. The Church is the Bride of Jesus. (*Ephesians 5:25-27*) It consists of all who have repented from their sin and believed in Jesus. All who trust in Jesus are forgiven of their sins and are saved from the wrath of God. This is the foundation of what it means to be the Church.

Baptism

In *verse 38*, we see Peter call the people to be baptized. Jesus commands his disciples to be baptized after they have put their faith in him (*Matthew 28:19*). Baptism is not an issue of salvation, but it is important. Baptism is a public proclamation of the inward working of salvation through faith in Jesus. It identifies the person with Jesus. Being immersed in and raised from the water is symbolic of dying with Jesus and rising to new life with him. It also symbolizes being

cleansed of sin. (*Romans 6:3-11*) It also identifies the person with the people of Jesus. Baptism is symbolic, and it's an act of obedience.

The Word

Verse 42 says the people of Jesus “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching...” The apostles were the followers of Jesus whom he appointed with authority to carry out his Words. All of Scripture, the God-breathed Word of God, points to salvation through faith in Jesus. (*2 Timothy 3:14-17*) For this reason, a church must be grounded by the Word of God. God’s Word must be the ultimate authority.

Fellowship

Not only were the people of Jesus devoted to the apostles’ teaching, in *verse 42* we see they were devoted to one another. They had a genuine love for one another. Christians are not just saved to God, but they are saved to a people. The people of Jesus are a family all having been ransomed by the blood of Jesus. (*Romans 12:5*) This gives them a deep love for one another. (*John 13:34*) There is genuine community and fellowship among believers.

Communion

Also in *verse 42*, we see the people of Jesus devoted to breaking of bread. This language reminds us of Jesus at the Last Supper:

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Jesus calls his followers to remember him through partaking in this meal. Taking of the bread and the cup is a tangible way for Christians to remind themselves of the gospel. It is symbolic, but it’s more than just a symbol. It’s an act of worship.

Prayer

The final thing we see the people of Jesus devoted to in *verse 42* is the prayers. The people of Jesus walk with a great dependence on God. They are given over to individual and corporate prayer. They pray with one another, for one another, for themselves, and for the world around them.

Worship

In *verse 43* we see there is an awe among the people of Jesus. It says later in *verse 47* that they praise God. Christians are in constant worship. They worship Jesus in their day-to-day lives, and they worship together at appointed times. Not only is worship a posture of life for Christians but it is also expressed through singing. In *Colossians 3:16*, Paul admonishes the church saying, “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*” The people of Jesus sing praises to God because he is worthy, and as they sing praises to God corporately, they are also encouraging one another with the truths of God.

Generosity

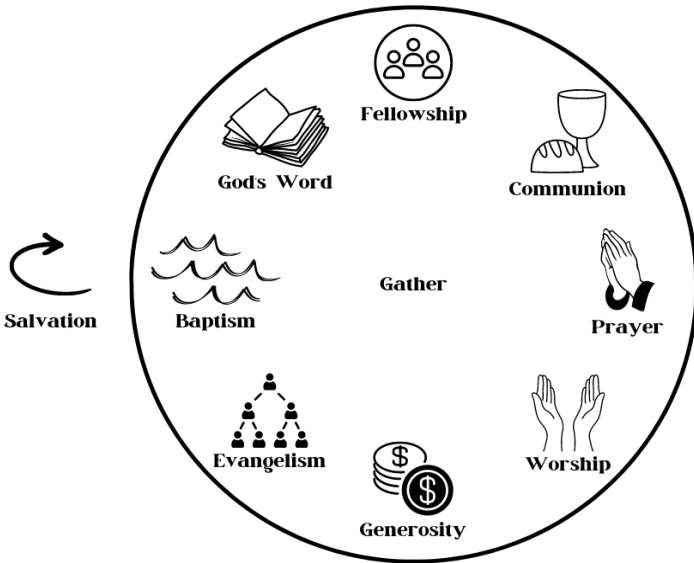
Verses 44-45 display a radical generosity among the people of Jesus. They shared everything together. They even sold possessions to help care for those in their midst and for the community around them. This generosity stems from a familial relationship of brothers and sisters. Christians are not to give out of obligation, but they are to give out of the generosity of their hearts.

Evangelism

Chapter 2 ends in *verse 47* with the exponential growth of the church. Each day, people who were dead in sin and far from the Lord were repenting of their sins and trusting in Jesus for salvation. They were joining the people of Jesus. Christians are to have an evangelistic heart. Jesus commands his followers to make disciples of all nations (*Matthew 28:19-20*).

Gather

Verse 46 says the people of Jesus gathered in the temple and in their homes. They had natural community with one another as they met in homes and lived life together, and they had intentional gatherings. The Church is global and timeless, and local and particular. The people of Jesus gather on the Lord’s day to study the Word, practice the ordinances (baptism and communion), and to sing. The people of Jesus gather together. They are not bound by ethnicity, gender, age, or any other factor. (*Revelation 7:9*) To do all of the elements discussed, Christians must gather together in a localized community of believers.



Training Tools

Discipleship and Personal Growth

[Personal Assessment of Spiritual Disciplines](#)

This is a resource that helps you think through and assess your spiritual disciplines and better make SMART Goals to grow in these disciplines.

[How to Preach the Gospel to Yourself](#)

The gospel is what frees us ultimately and daily. We must regularly preach the gospel to ourselves to help us better rest in Jesus.

[Idol inventory](#)

John Calvin said, "The human heart is an idol factory." We constantly make other things the center of our worship. This resource is helpful for identifying idols, seeing their insufficiency, and seeing how God is better than anything else. It helps us with the core of discipleship which is right worship of God.

Evangelism

[Oikos Map](#)

This tool helps organize and think through those in your life that are far from God. It is useful for intentional prayer and evangelism.

[Three Circles](#)

This is a tool that is a simple way to explain and share the gospel.

[15 Second Testimony](#)

Often times you only have a short amount of time to share with people the hope you have in Christ. This is a helpful resource for simply sharing how Jesus has changed your life and beginning a gospel conversation.

[Person of Peace](#)

When sharing the gospel, there are many who will reject the message, but there are also many whom God's Spirit has been working on their heart and are ready to embrace the gospel. This resource is helpful for identifying these people.

[House of Peace](#)

This is a helpful resource for looking for those who may be receptive to the gospel when entering into a new community or season of life.

Four Worldview Questions

These four questions can be used to help begin gospel conversations.

How did the world come into existence?

What's wrong with the world?

Is there any hope of fixing the problems of the world?

What is your purpose in life?

The Story

This is a helpful resource for sharing the gospel with others. It tells of God's great story and helps begin gospel conversations.

Gospel Opportunities Transitions

This resource helps train how to turn everyday conversations into gospel conversations.

Romans Road to Salvation

The Book of Romans is rich. There are many verses that can be memorized and used as a path to explain the gospel.

Scripture Memorization Bank

Psalms 91:1	Psalms 1	Ephesians 3:20
Hebrews 12:1-2	Psalms 23	Ephesians 2:8
Romans 3:23	Hebrews 10:24-25	Ephesians 4:29
Romans 5:8	Colossians 3	Isaiah 41:10
Romans 6:23	Romans 12:2	2 Corinthians 9:8
Galatians 2:20	Colossians 1:17	2 Corinthians 5:21
Romans 8:1	Ephesians 2:10	1 John 4:10
Philippians 4:6-7	Psalms 73:25-26	Psalms 118: 5-8
Galatians 5:1	Romans 8:31-32	1 John 1:9
John 10:10	1 Thessalonians 5:9-10	1 Thessalonians
Mark 8:35-36	Hebrews 4:15-16	5:16-18
Isaiah 26:3	Psalms 100	Deuteronomy 8:3
Isaiah 40:31	Mark 12:30-31	Lamentations 3:22-23
Matthew 6:33-34	Luke 16:13	John 14:6
Matthew 7:13-14	John 13:34-35	Romans 8:38-39
Matthew 16:24-26	Galatians 6:9-10	1 Corinthians 1:18
Galatians 5:22-23	Ephesians 1:7	2 Corinthians 5:17
Philippians 2:3-4	Titus 2:11-14	Philippians 1:6
Philippians 4:4-8	James 1:2-4	Titus 3:5
Hebrews 11:1	Psalms 16:5-6	Proverbs 3:5-6
Psalms 119:105	Isaiah 41:13	Psalms 16:11

Resources

The vast majority of this guide has been compiled from several different resources. Much of the material from this guide and the sources used were introduced by Dr. George Robinson, a Professor of Global Disciple Making at Southeastern Baptist Seminary (SEBTS). A major resource introduced by Dr. Robinson is an organization called *No Place Left* (NPL). NPL is a ministry that exists to multiply "disciples, churches, leaders, and movements until there is #noplaceleft." The Story, The Story Community, and many of the training tools are pulled directly or modified from NPL. Other training tools from Dr. Robinson's Personal Discipleship course include the Personal Assessment of Spiritual Disciplines, How to Preach the Gospel to Yourself, Idol Inventory, and Gospel Opportunities. Pastor Robby Gallaty's *Replicate Ministries* has also played a role in the formation of this guide.

The 4 Blocks interpretation method also pulls from various sources including: the Sword Method found in No Place Left's resources, the *7 Arrows* method created by Matt Rogers and Donny Mathis, Bryan Chapell's *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*, Robert L. Plummer's *40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible*, *Engaging Exposition* written by Daniel L. Akin, Bill Curtis, and Stephen Rummage, and *7 Steps of Interpretive Study* from Dr. Dwayne Milioni's Biblical Exposition I course at SEBTS.

