

Discipling New Believers



4G Mentoring: Growing, Guiding, and
Guarding the Global Bride of Christ

Foreword

This document has been designed for use with Christian leadership development trainings using cell-phones, tablets, computers, TV connections, or projectors. This document is not designed as a printed book or large group presentation but rather a discussion guide for small or medium sized multi-language training groups. The graphics on each page are designed to ease cross-cultural communication issues when using a translator or training in a second language. We hope that this document helps facilitate discussions with leaders in both formal training situations and informal mentoring sessions in homes and coffee shops around the world. The copyright on this document allows you to freely distribute and even modify the content to meet your needs.

Table of Contents

(Quick Access Menu)



Introduction:

Preparing the Bride



A Framework for
Spiritual Growth



The Word, the Spirit,
And the Local Church



Discipleship
Takes Time



Scripture
Above Tradition



Teach all of
Scripture



Prioritize Obedience
Over Knowledge



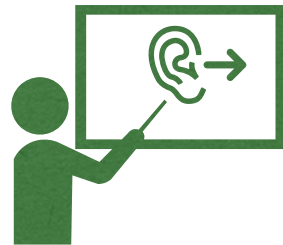
Our Authority for
Discipleship Is Jesus



Disciples
Of all Nations



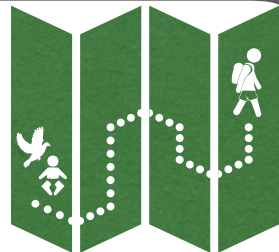
Teach Them
To Obey



Prepare a Set of Basic
Discipleship Lessons



New Testament
Pattern



Using Bible
Stories



Using Topical
Lessons



4G Discipleship
Model:

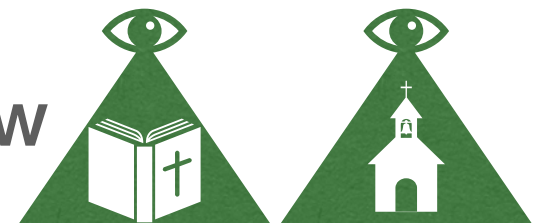
Initial Discipleship



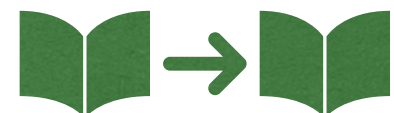
Basic Discipleship



Bird's Eye View



Continued Study



Desired Results:

The 4 Loves



6 Transformations
Of Discipleship



Transformed
Heart



Transformed Mind



Transformed
Affections



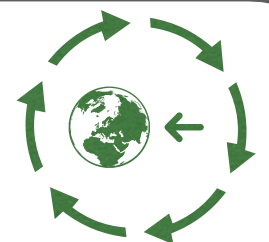
Transformed
Relationships



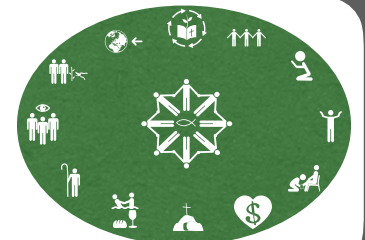
Transformed Will



Transformed
Purpose

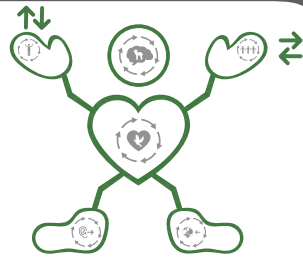


12 Signs of a
Healthy Church



Tools:

The Healthy Disciple



Church Health Diagram



Case Studies



Introduction

Preparing the Bride



*“Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, ‘Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and **his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure’—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, “Write this: **Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.**” And he said to me, ‘These are the true words of God.’” (Revelations 19:6-9)***

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, **and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.** Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” (Revelations 19:6-9)

Key Idea: Discipleship is meant to prepare us as a Bride to be presented pure and holy to Jesus, the Bridegroom.

A Framework for Spiritual Growth



*“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,** so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, **we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head,** into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it **builds itself up in love.**” (Ephesians 4:11-16)*

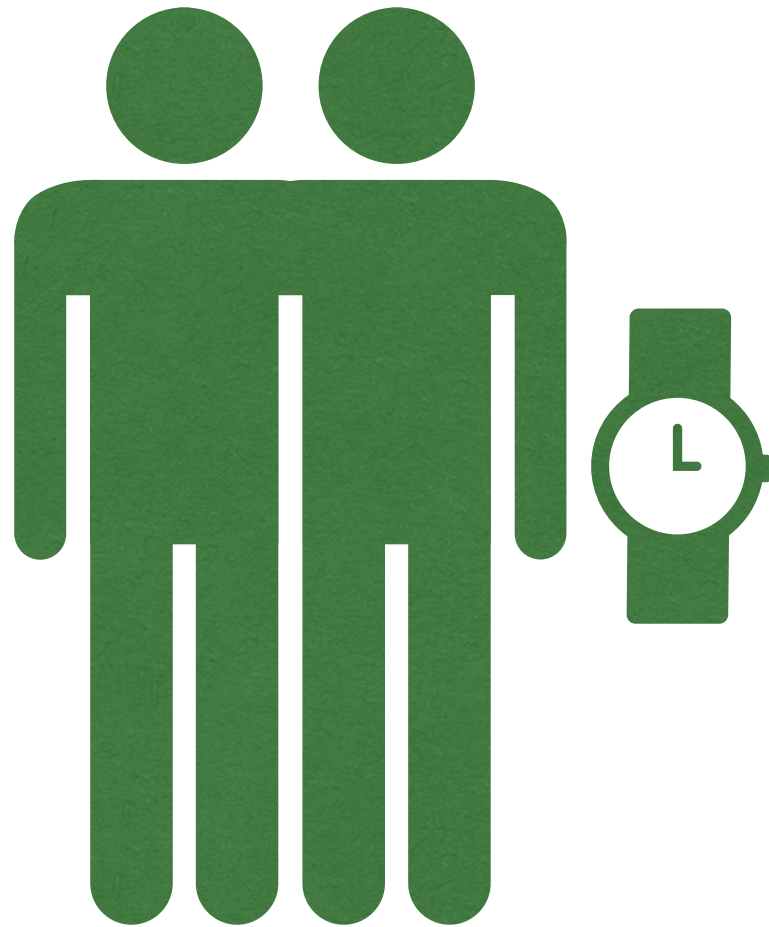
Key Idea: Basic discipleship help us build a framework for lifelong disciple that enables us to continually be growing up spiritually into the fullness of Christ.

The Word, the Spirit, and the Local Church



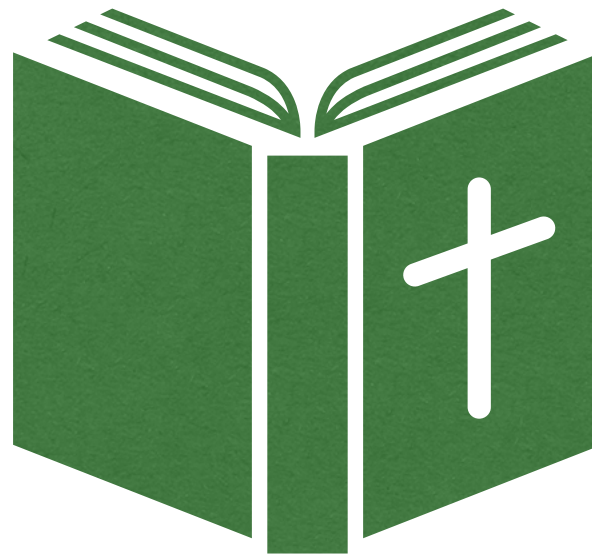
Key Idea: Discipleship happens through the Word, in the Spirit, and as part of a local Church.

Discipleship Takes Time



Key Idea: We cannot lead people through a discipleship course or book and assume that they are now mature Christians. True discipleship is a lifelong process and takes time and personal interaction from other members of the body of Christ.

Scripture Above Tradition



Ordinances



**Meeting
Spaces**



**Leadership
Styles**



**Worship
Styles**

*“Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ And he said to them, ‘Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, **“This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”** You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”* (Mark 7:1-7)

Key Idea: Scripture is binding on our lives but tradition is not. Useful traditions may develop within the bounds of scripture and may be useful for a time. But traditions are not authoritative in our faith and practice and should be discarded if they become hinderances to the growth of the Kingdom of God.

Teach all of Scripture (Both Old and New Testaments)



“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Key Idea: Teach all of the Scripture, including both the Old and New Testament, to give a full and healthy understanding of what God has done through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

Prioritize Obedience Over Knowledge (But Avoid Legalism!)

Obedience



Knowledge

“If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. **You are my friends if you do what I command you.**” (John 15:10-14)

*“So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And **immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, ‘He is the Son of God.’”** (Acts 9:17-20)*

Key Idea: We want people to obey what they know rather than waiting to obey until they feel they know enough. But be cautious not to communicate that we are saved by works - which results in “legalism”.

Our Authority for Discipleship Is Jesus



*“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,’” (Matthew 28:18-19)*

*“And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, ‘We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.’ But Peter and the apostles answered, ‘**We must obey God rather than men.**’” (Acts 5:27-29)*

Key Idea: Our authority to make disciples is not dependent on a denomination or a government but comes directly from Jesus.

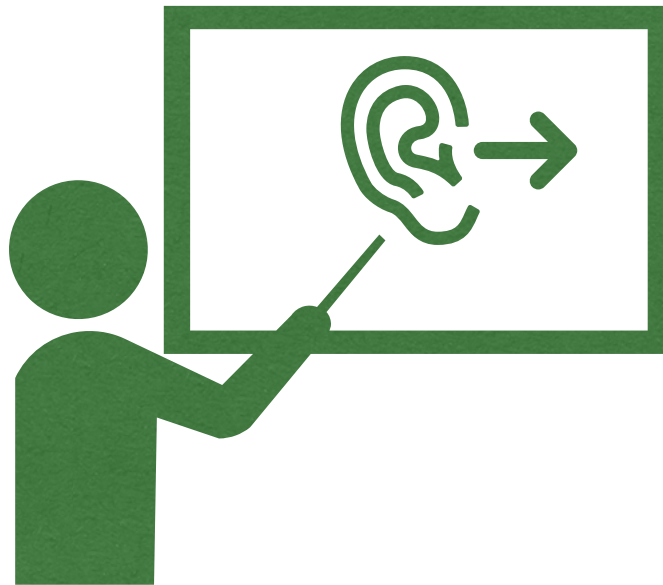
Disciples of all Nations



***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,” (Matthew 28:19)*

Key Idea: The command is to go, we are to make disciples along the way.

Teach Them To Hear and Obey

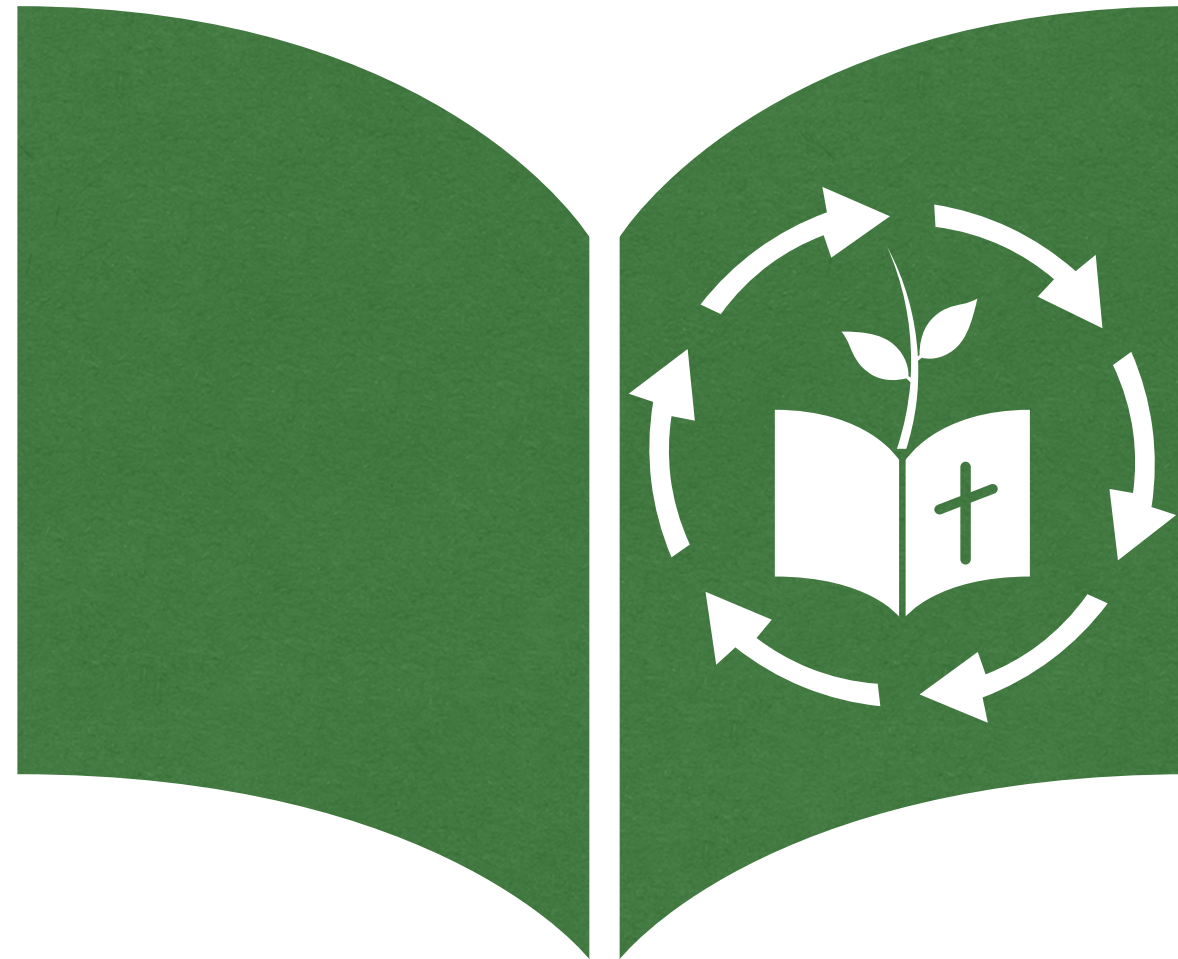


“...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

*“But **be doers** of the word, and **not hearers only**, deceiving yourselves.” (James 1:22)*

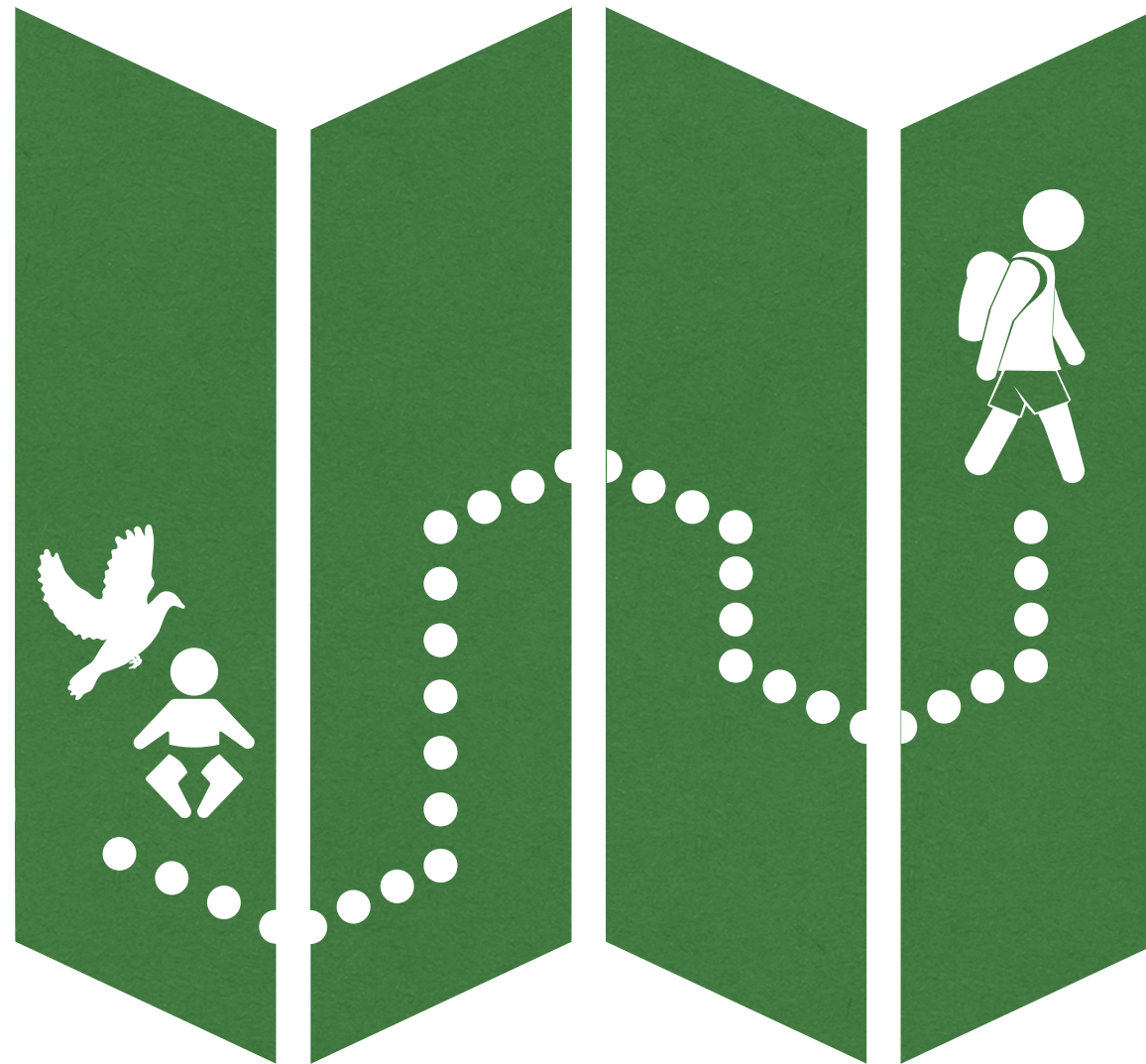
Key Idea: We are not just to teach for knowledge but we are to teach new believers to obey all of the commands of Christ.

Prepare a Set of Basic Discipleship Lessons



Key Idea: Prepare a set of basic discipleship lessons ready to teach so that when someone comes to Christ you already know what to do in the next step. This also helps set a reproducible pattern of discipleship for others.

New Testament Pattern (Of Discipleship)



Key Idea: There is a fairly clear pattern of discipleship in the New Testament that helps us to bring the Bride to full maturity.
(See charts on next 2 pages)

			ROMANS	EPHESIANS	COLOSSIANS	1 PETER
Gospel of Salvation (Grace)			1:2-4, 14-17; 1:18-4:25; 16:25-27	2:1-10; 3:6	1:5b-6, 13-23; 2:13-15	1:9-12, 18-20; 2:21-25; 3:18-22
	God (Holy, Wrathful, Loving, All Knowing, All Powerful, Eternal, Creator, Righteous, Fair, Merciful, Perfect)		1:18-20; 2:4-5, 11; 3:25-26; 5:8; 11:33-36; 16:27	1:3-10, 20-21; 2:3-4, 7, 10; 3:10-11, 14-15, 20-21; 4:6; 5:6, 20; 6:9	1:12-13, 19-20; 3:6, 10 (See section on Jesus)	1:2-3, 8; 2:8-9; 4:19; 5:10-11
	All are sinners and deserve wrath and hell (Judgment)		1:18-3:20	2:1-3, 11-12; 4:17-19; 5:5-14	1:21; 2:13; 3:5-6	1:18; 2:24-25; 4:3-6, 18
	Jesus (Son of God, Descendent of David/Abraham, Died on the Cross, raised from the dead so our sins forgiven, Messiah and Lord, Head of the Church, Coming Judge)		1:3-4; 3:21-26; 4:24-25	1:7,10,19-23; 2:5,13-17; 4:15-16, 32; 5:2	1:13-22, 27-29; 2:3,9-10,13-15	1:3, 7, 18-20; 2:21-25; 3:18-22
	Response of Faith in Jesus Christ (belief and repentance)		1:17; 3:22-30; 4:1-25; 9:30-33; 10:6-13, 17	1:13; 2:8; 3:12	1:23; 2:5, 12	1:5, 7-8, 21; 2:6-7
	Can't save ourselves/not by works/ Must give up all other (past) ways		1:20-25; 2:14-3:20; 3:27-28; 4:4-8; 7:1-25;11:6	2:1-9	2:8-23	4:3-4
Results of our Salvation (in Christ)			4:16; 5:1-21; 6:1-23; 7:1-25; 8:1-17, 26-39	1:3-14, 18-20; 2:5-7, 13-22; 3:6,12	1:12-14, 20, 22, 27 (Christ in you); 2:10-15; 3:1, 12; 4:12	1:1-2, 3-5; 2:4-10
	Who we are <u>in</u> Christ and what we have <u>in</u> Christ		4:16; 5:1-11; 6:1-8; 8:1, 28-39	1:3-14, 18-20; 2:5-7, 13-22; 3:6	1:12-14,20,22,27;2:10-15;3:1,3-4,11,12	1:1-2, 3-5; 2:4-10
		All sins forgiven (Holy and Blameless) (Made righteous before God)	3:21-26; 4:5-8, 24-25; 5:1, 8-11;16, 18-19; 6:6-7, 22	1:3-8; 2:4-5	1:14, 21-22; 2:13-14	2:24; 1:2-5, 8-9, 18-19
		Baptism (immersed) in Christ	6:3-4	4:5;	2:12	3:20-21
		Receive the Spirit (Power) (Guarantee of our salvation / inheritance)	2:29; 5:5; 7:6; 8:1-17, 26-27; 15:13, 19	1:13-14, 19-20; 2:18,22; 3:16; 4:30; 5:18; 6:10	1:11, 29	1:2, 5, 12; 4:14
		Inheritance (Eternal Life) as a Child of God	3:22-23;4:16;5:18,21;6:23;8:11-39	1:5, 11, 14, 18; 2:6-7, 19	1:5, 12, 27	1:3-5, 13; 2:9-10
	Contrast old life (way) with new life (Transferred from Satan's power to Christ's Kingdom)		5:12-21; 6:20-23; 7:1-25	2:1-22	1:13; 2:8-10, 13-23; 3:7-10	1:3-5, 18; 2:10
	Eagerly awaiting Christ's Return (Hope of Coming Age)		8:23-25; 13:11	1:9-10, 14, 18; 4:4	1:5, 27; 3:4	1:4-5, 13; 4:7
	God's Faithfulness and Sovereign Plan		8:28-11:36	1:4-12; 2:10; 3:9-11	1:12, 17-20, 26-27; 2:17,19	1:1-2; 2:8-9; 3:22; 4:19
	Suffering and Persecution		5:3-5; 8:18-22; 12:12, 14-21	3:13;	1:11, 24; 2:1-2	1:6-7;2:19-24;4:1,4-5,12-19;5:9-10
Walk accordingly /according to the Spirit (Contrasted with walking according to the flesh / old way of life)			6:11-8:14; 12:1-2; 13:13	4:1, 17-24; 5:15-18	3:1-5	2:11-12; 3:15; 4:1-3
	Do not let sin reign/offer self to God (Dead to sin/self)		6:1-14; 8:4-8, 12-14; 12:1-2	4:17, 23; 5:15	3:1-3	2:11-12, 24; 3:15; 4:1-3
	Obedience (Slave to Righteousness; Submit)		1:5; 6:15-23; 8:7; 15:18; 16:19,26	2:10; 4:16	1:22b, 25; 3:3	1:2, 14, 22
	Mind - renew mind, focus mind above (Spirit's desires)		8:5-8; 12:2	4:23;	3:1-2	1:13; 4:7

			ROMANS	EPHESIANS	COLOSSIANS	1 PETER
How to Live the Christian Life, a worthy life (Life of Love)			12:1-15:13	4:1-6:9	1:10-12; 3:1-4:6	1:13-3:17; 5:6-9
	Know God's Will		12:2;	5:17; 1:17	1:9-10; 4:12	4:2;
	Humility		12:3, 16	4:2;	3:12	3:8; 5:5-6
	The Church and Spiritual Gifts (including unity)		12:4-8	1:22-23;2:19-22;3:10;4:4-16;5:25-33	1:18, 24; 2:2	4:10-11; 5:1-4
	Loving Others; Share with those in need		12:9-13; 13:8-10; 15:25-29; 16:1-2	1:15; 4:2, 16; 4:23-5:7	1:4, 8; 2:2; 3:12-14	1:8, 22; 2:17; 3:8; 4:8-9
	Faith		1:16-17; 12:3; 14:23	1:15; 3:12, 17; 6:16	1:4-5; 2:7	1:5; 5:9
	Joy in Hope		8:17-25; 12:12; 15:4, 12-13	1:18; 4:4	1:5, 23, 27	1:3-4, 8, 13, 21; 3:5, 15; 4:13
	Put off, Put on (Put aside, Clothe) [Lists]		13:12-14	4:22-5:7; 6:13-18	3:5-17	2:1-3; 5:5
	Attitude: Teach (Speak), Sing, Thank, Submit		Sing-15:9-12;Th-14:6;Sub-13:1-5	5:4, 19-21	1:3-4, 12; 2:7; 3:15-18; 4:2	4:1; Submit-2:13; 3:1, 5-6; 5:5
	Relationships - at peace		12:14-21	4:2-6; 5:22-6:9	3:18-4:1	2:13-3:17
		Husband/Wife		5:22-33	3:18-19	3:1-7
		Parent/Children		6:1-4	3:20-21	
		Employee/Employer (Master/Slave)		6:5-9	3:22-4:1	2:18-21
		Believers relationships to one another	12:14-21; 14:1-15:9	4:2-3	3:12-15; 2:2	2:17; 3:8; 5:9
		Believers/Non-believers	12:14-21	5:8-14	4:5-6	2:12, 15-16; 3:1-2, 15-16
		Government	13:1-7			2:13-17
	Spiritual Warfare		13:12;	6:10-20; 2:2; 3:10	1:16; 4:2-4,12-13; 2:1,8-10,15,18,20	5:8-9
Word of God (Scripture)			4:23; 15:4	1:13; 5:26; 6:17	1:5, 25; 3:16	1:23-25
Prayers			1:9-10; 8:26; 12:12; 15:30-33	1:15-20; 3:14-21; 6:18-20	1:3, 9-12; 4:2-4, 12	3:7; 4:7
Sharing the Gospel (Evangelism and Missions)			1:11-14; 10:14-17; 15:19-24; 16:26	3:7-8; 6:19-20	1:7, 25-27; 4:3-6	3:15-16
	Condition of unbelievers & heart ache for them		9:1-3; 10:1	2:1-3, 11-12; 4:17-19; 5:5-14	1:21; 2:13; 3:5-7	2:7-8
	Going to the Unreached (where Christ is not known)		1:11-14; 10:14-17; 15:19-24; 16:26		1:7; 4:3-6, 12-13	
Warning to stay away from divisive and false teachers			16:17-19	4:14-15	2:4, 8, 16-23	2:7-8

Using Bible Stories (Exegetical)



Exegetical - go where the story or text leads you instead of trying to read your opinion or viewpoint into the story.

Key Idea: People from different cultures learn best through different forms of communication but all cultures naturally communicate effectively through stories. Good discipleship helps people learn to pull out important information from Bible stories.

Using Topical Lessons (Systematic Theology and Worldview)

Example: “Lets look at four verses that talk about judging others:

1. Matthew 7:1-3
2. 1 Corinthians 5:12-13
3. James 4:11
4. James 2:12-13



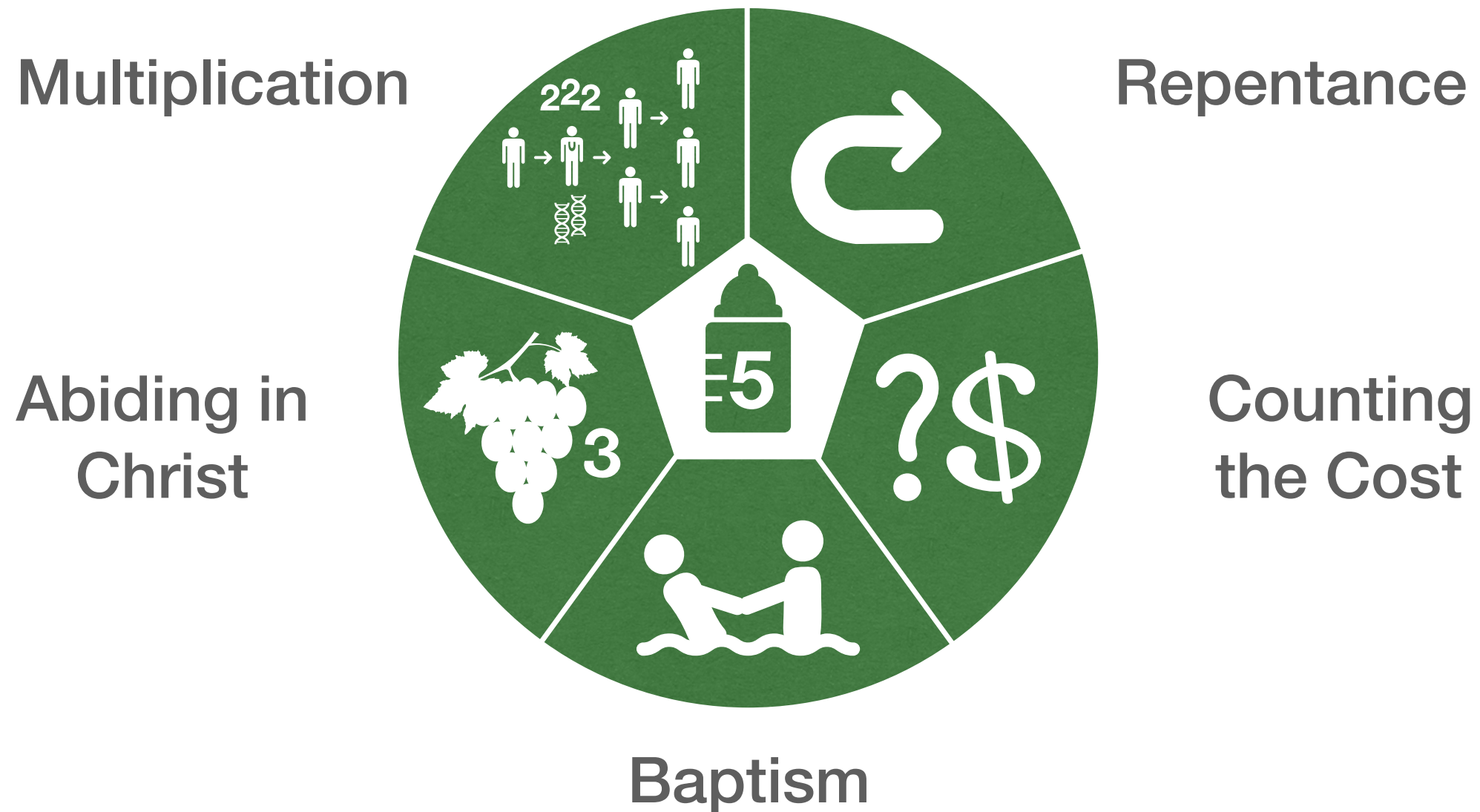
Topical/Systematic - examine a theological topic by looking at all of the verses in the Bible on that topic.

Key Idea: Bible stories teach specific theological points but it is also important for disciples to develop a systematic view of all of scripture (by topic) and to learn to interpret every story or passage through the lens of all of scripture. This helps us to develop a truly biblical worldview.

4G Discipleship Model

***Adapted from T4T and Big One**

Initial Discipleship (Milk - First Few Days or Weeks)



Key Idea: Initial discipleship lessons are things that a new believer needs to know within the first few days or weeks after becoming a believer. Days are preferable to weeks!

Basic Discipleship (Meat - Long Term)

10 Steps (20 Lessons)

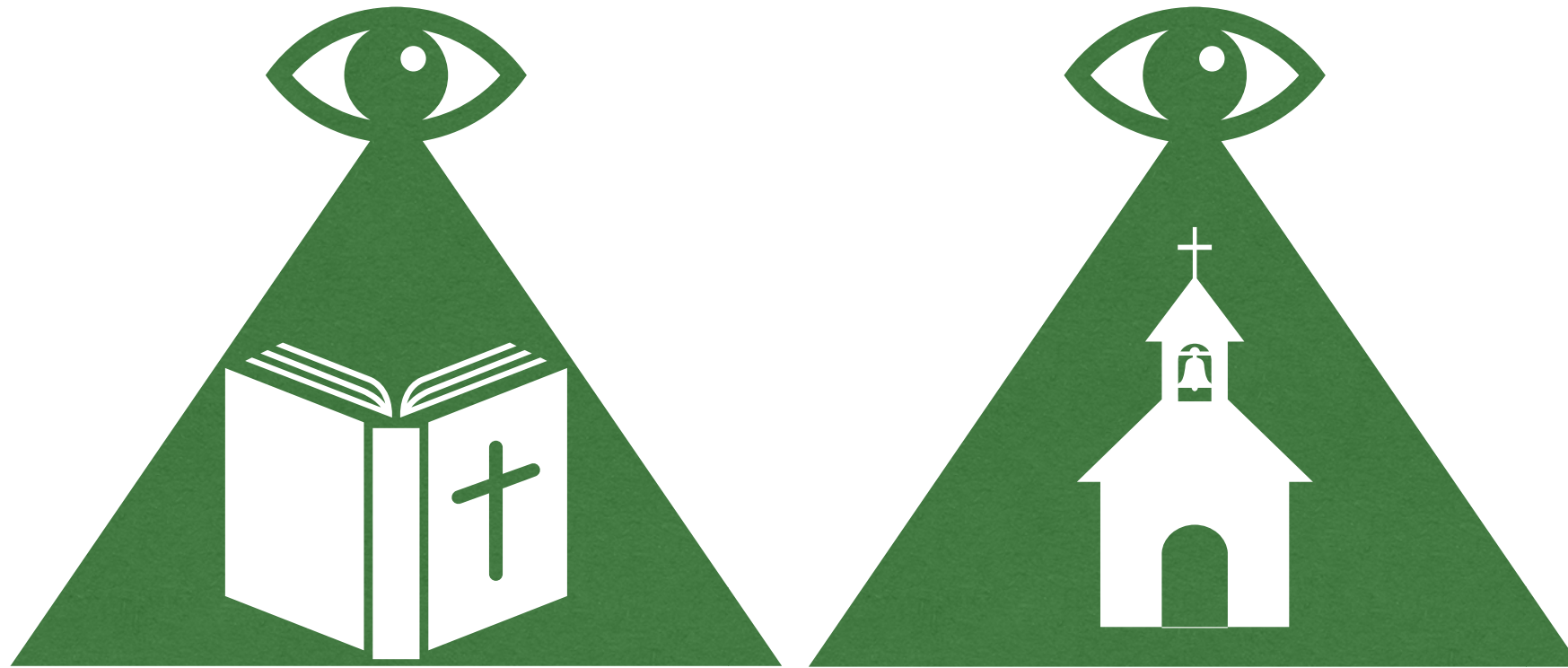
1. Identifying with the Death of Christ
2. New Birth
3. New Family
4. Learning to Speak
5. Learning to Feed Yourself
6. New Clothes
7. Learning to Stand
8. Learning to Walk
9. Developing the Characteristics of Christ (Love and Hope)
10. Towards Maturity



Key Idea: Basic discipleship is a spiritual growth process that helps people leave behind their old way of life and to grow up into full maturity in Christ.

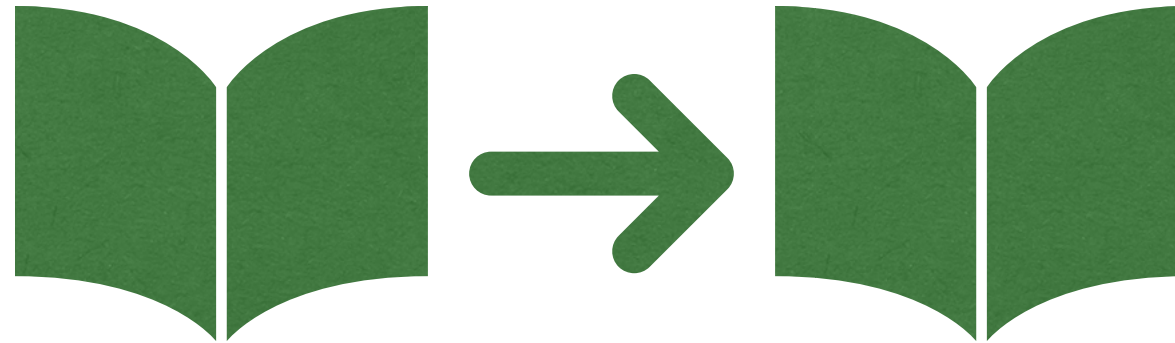
Bird's Eye View

(The Bible and Church History)



Key Idea: The two Bird's Eye View lessons give an overview of the Bible and Church History. This helps people to grasp the bigger picture of what God has been doing in all of history and to develop a consistent biblical worldview.

Continued Study



James - Character

Titus - Church Planting

Luke - the Gospel

Acts - Church Formation and Multiplication

Genesis - Foundational Theology

Exodus - Foundational Theology

Key Idea: After the Bird's Eye View lessons we encourage groups to continue on to study the books of James, Titus, Luke, Acts, Genesis and Exodus using the pattern they have developed in the Basic Discipleship study. This may take up to 5 years. After finishing these books we encourage the group to prayerfully consider which books they should study next.

Desired Results

The 4 Loves



*“And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?’ And he said to him, ‘You shall **love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall **love your neighbor as yourself**. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’” (Matthew 22:35-40)*

*“A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)*

*“But I say to you, **Love your enemies** and pray for those who persecute you” (John 13:34-35)*

Key Idea: We want to develop disciples that practice the four “love” commands of Jesus: love God, your neighbor, other believers, and your enemies.

6 Transformations of Discipleship

Transformed:

- Heart
- Mind
- Affection
- Relationships
- Will
- Purpose



Key Idea: We want to develop disciples who demonstrate the six transformations of a disciple of Christ: transformed heart, mind, affections, relationships, will, and purpose.

Transformed Heart



“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.” (Ezekiel 36:26)

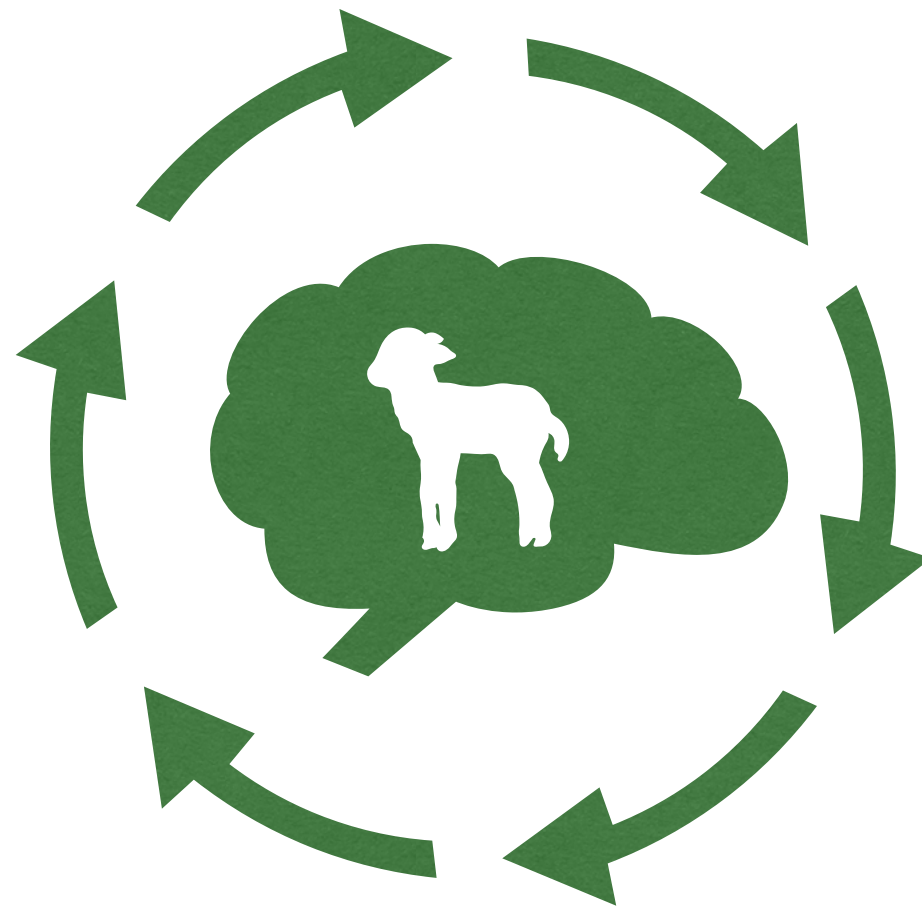
*“Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.**’ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?’ Jesus answered, ‘**Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.** Do not marvel that I said to you, “You must be born again.” The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” (John 3:1-8)*

*“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, **he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit**, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.” (Titus 3:4-8)*

Also Hebrews 10:15-17, 1 Peter 1:3-9, 22-25

Key Idea: Disciples are spiritually born again; God has forgiven their sin and God’s Spirit now lives within them and is transforming them.

Transformed Mind



*“And you shall **love the Lord your God** with all your heart and with all your soul and **with all your mind** and with all your strength.” (Mark 12:30)*

“The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.” (1 Corinthians 2:14-16)

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2)

Also Luke 24:44-47, Ephesians 4:17-24, Colossians 3:1-17

Key Idea: Disciples are biblically minded; they believe what the Bible says and are being transformed to have the mind of Christ.

Transformed Affections



*“But **seek first the kingdom of God** and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33)*

*“And he said to him, “You shall **love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.** This is the great and first commandment.” (Matthew 22:37-38)*

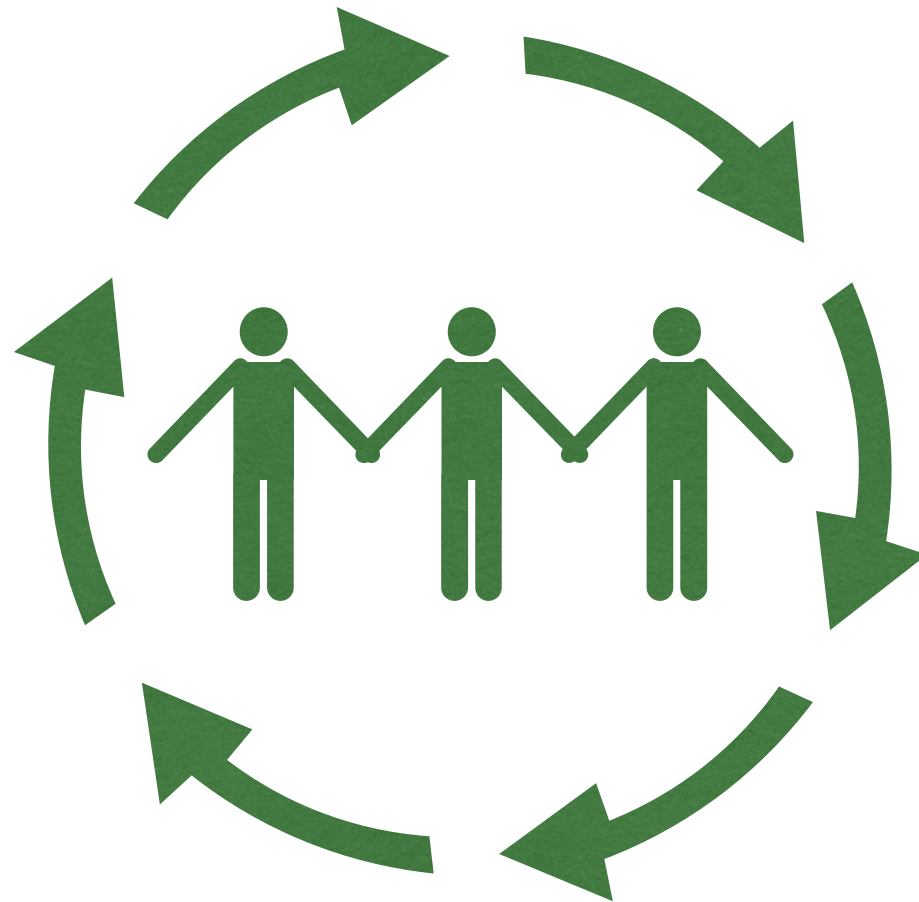
*“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. **Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.**” (Matthew 10:34-39)*

*“No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve God and money.**” (Luke 16:13)*

Also, John 12:25-26, Philippians 4:8, 1 John 2:15-17

Key Idea: Disciples seek God's glory and increasingly grow to love what God loves, value what God values, and hate what God hates.

Transformed Relationships



*“A new commandment I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)*

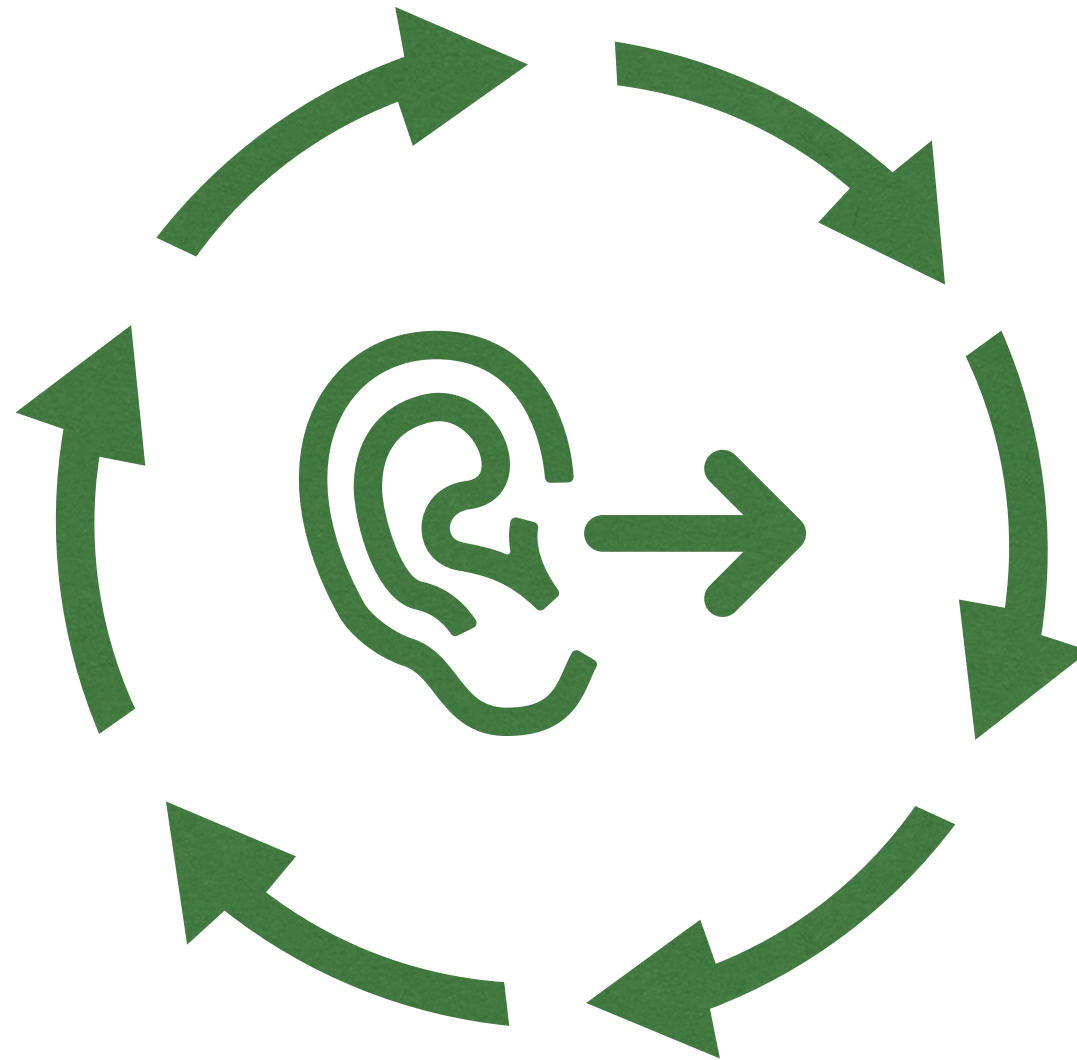
*“And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall **love your neighbor as yourself.**” (Matthew 22:37-39)*

*“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, **Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,** so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?” (Matthew 5:43-47)*

**Also: Luke 6:27-36, John 15:12-17, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Romans 13:8-10, Galatians 5:13-26, Ephesians 4:1-6, 1 John 3:11-18, 4:7-21*

Key Idea: Disciples of Jesus love one another sacrificially and love their fellow man as themselves.

Transformed Will



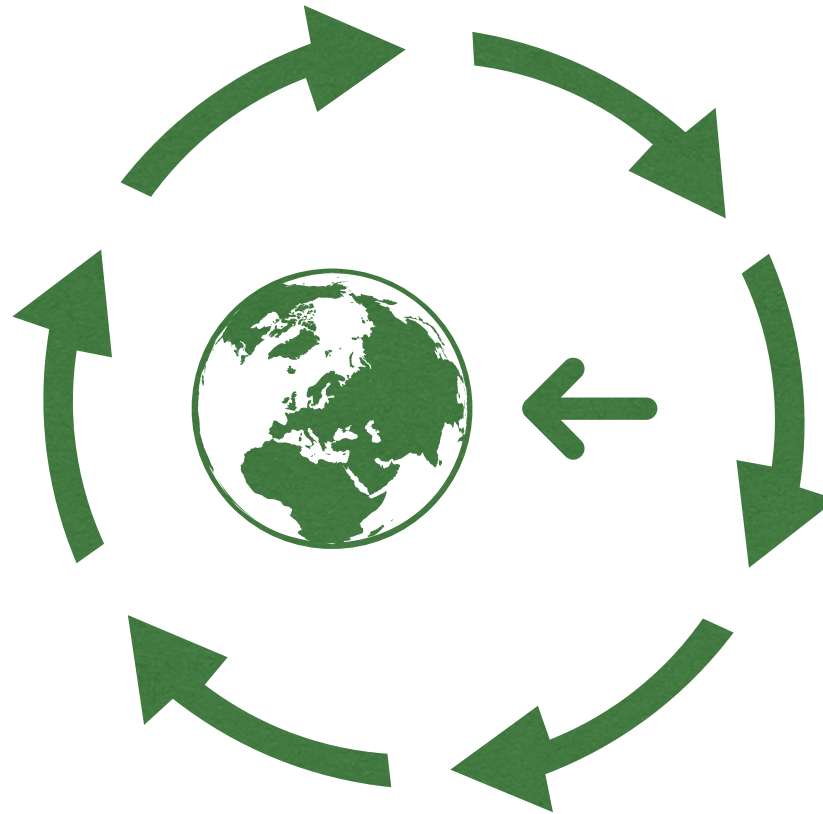
“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”
(John 14:15)

“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” (1 John 5:2-5)

***Also: James 1:22-25, Matthew 28:19-20**

Key Idea: Disciples are humbly obedient; what they hear from God they do. They strive to obey all of the commands of Christ.

Transformed Purpose



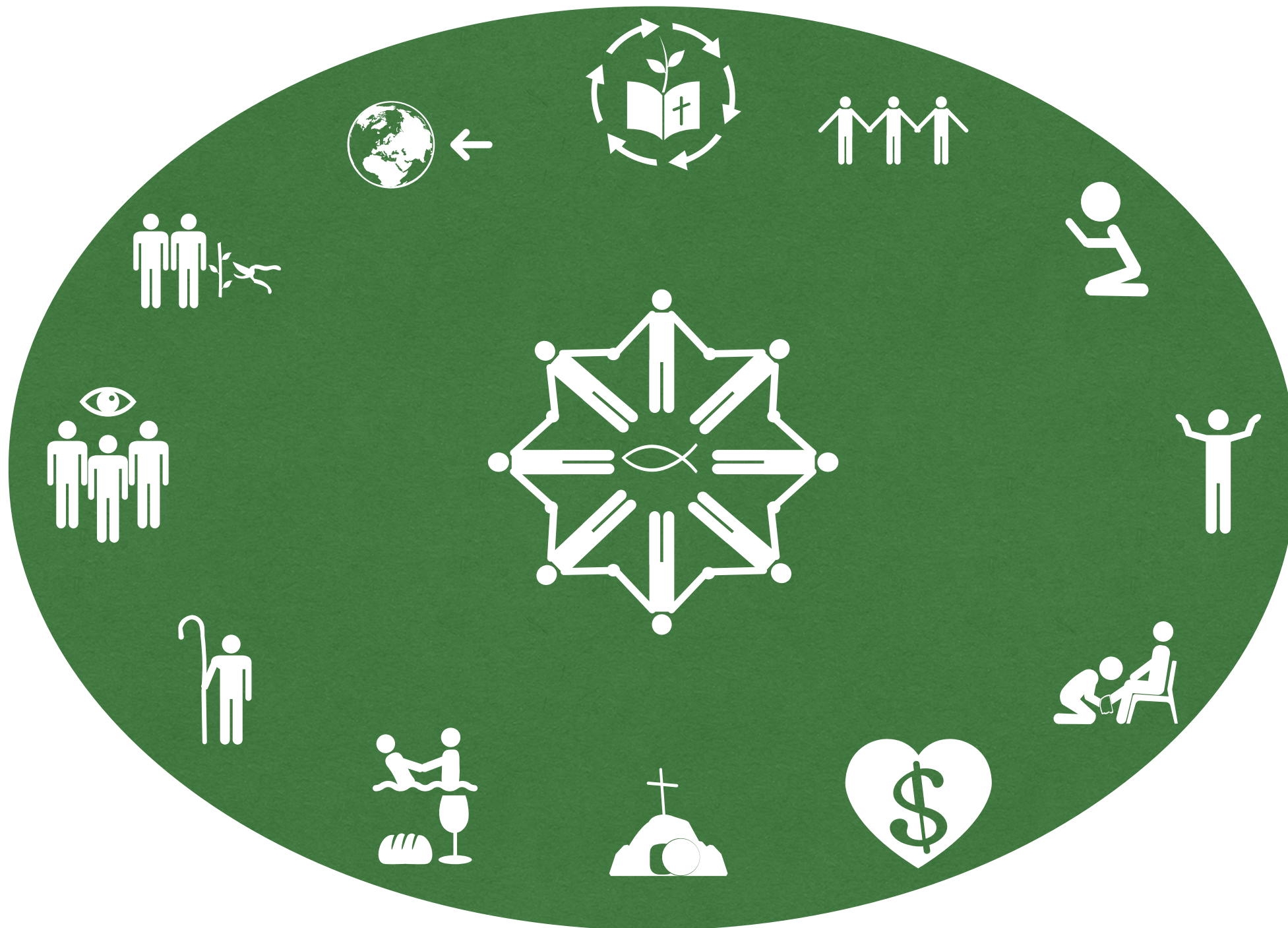
*“And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **Go therefore and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’” (Matthew 28:18-20)*

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and **you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**” (Acts 1:8)*

*Also: Luke 24:44-49, John 20:21

Key Idea: Disciples are committed to the Great Commission to make disciples who will make disciples until all of the nations have heard.

12 Signs of a Healthy Church



We want to disciple in a way that helps people to play a fruitful role in a healthy church.



• **Discipleship (all Forms of Teaching) (Acts 2:42)**



• **Fellowship (Acts 2:42, 44, 4:32)**



• **Prayer (Acts 2:42)**



• **Worship (Acts 2:47)**



• **Service/Ministry (Acts 2:44-45)**



• **Giving (Acts 2:44-45; 2 Corinthians 9:7)**



• **Evangelism (Acts 2:47)**



• **Ordinances (Acts 2:41, 42, 46)**



• **Leadership (Acts 2:42, 1 Timothy 3:3-13, 1 Peter 5:1-4)**



• **Membership (Commitment) (Acts 2:47, Romans 12:4-5)**



• **Accountability and Church Discipline (James 5:16,
Matthew 18:15-17, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13, John 15:2)**



← • **Missions (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8)**



*“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.” (Acts 2:41-47)*



*“Each one must **give** as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

*“**For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,** so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” (Romans 12:4-5)*



*“The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an **overseer must be** above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)*



*“So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: **shepherd the flock** of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.” (1 Peter 5:1-4)*



*“Therefore, **confess your sins to one another** and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” (James 5:16)*

*“If your brother sins against you, **go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone.** If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. **But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you,** that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. **If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church.** And if he refuses to listen even to the church, **let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.**” (Matthew 18:15-17)*



*“I wrote to you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people—not at all meaning the sexually immoral of this world, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world. But now **I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler—not even to eat with such a one.** For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? **God judges those outside. “Purge the evil person from among you.”** (John 15:2)*

*“Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit **he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.**” (John 15:2)*



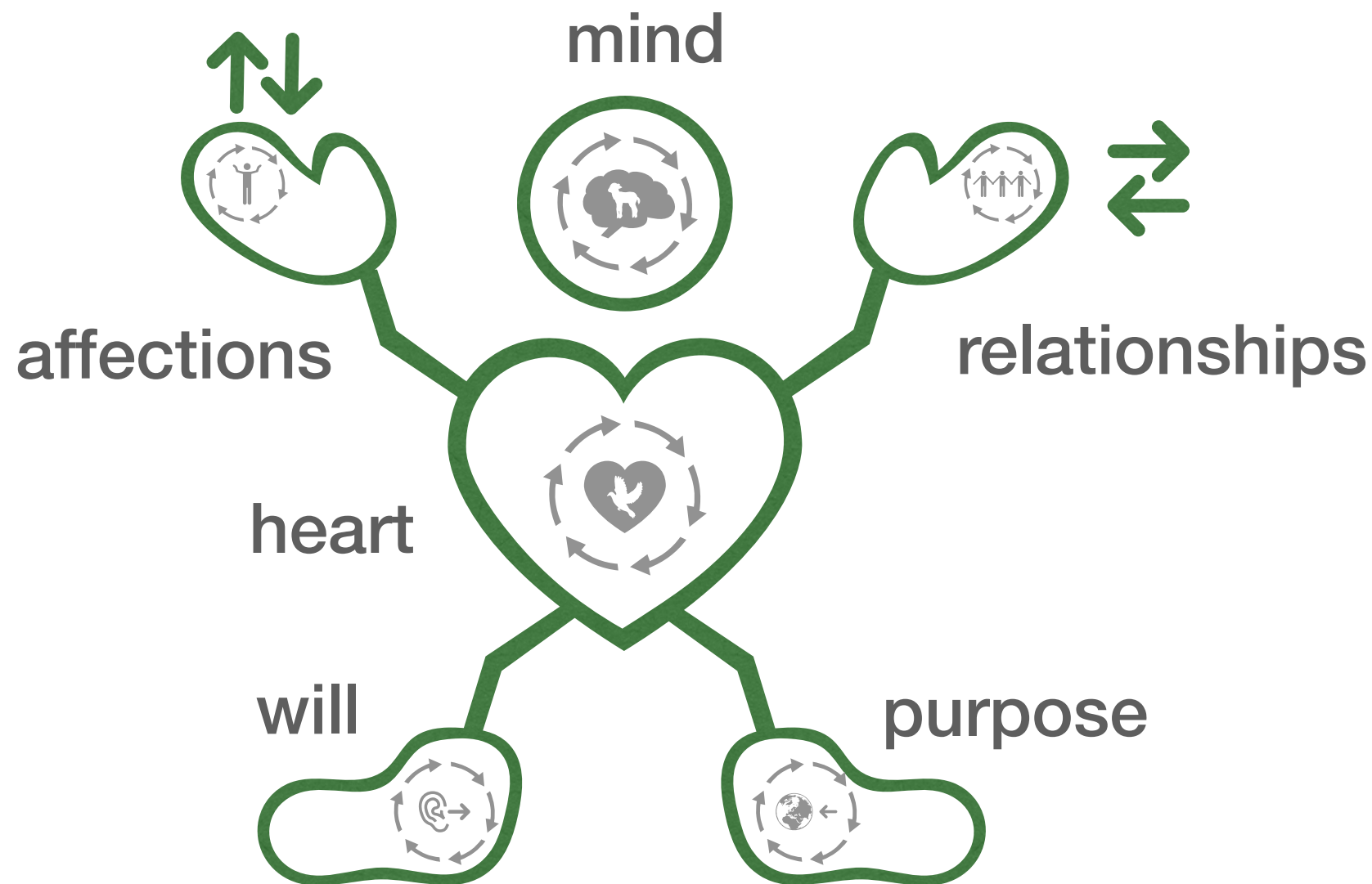
*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will **be my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and **to the end of the earth.**” (Romans 12:4-5)*

*“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.’” (Matthew 28:18-20)*

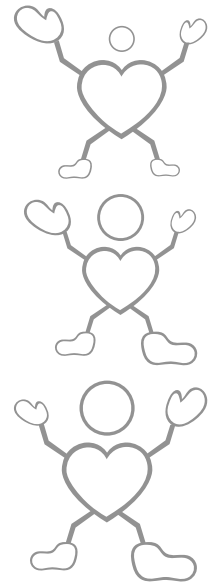
Key Idea: Biblical discipleship is a lifelong process that takes place within the context of the local church. Part of discipleship is learning to be a fruitful part of a healthy church.

Tools

The Healthy Disciple

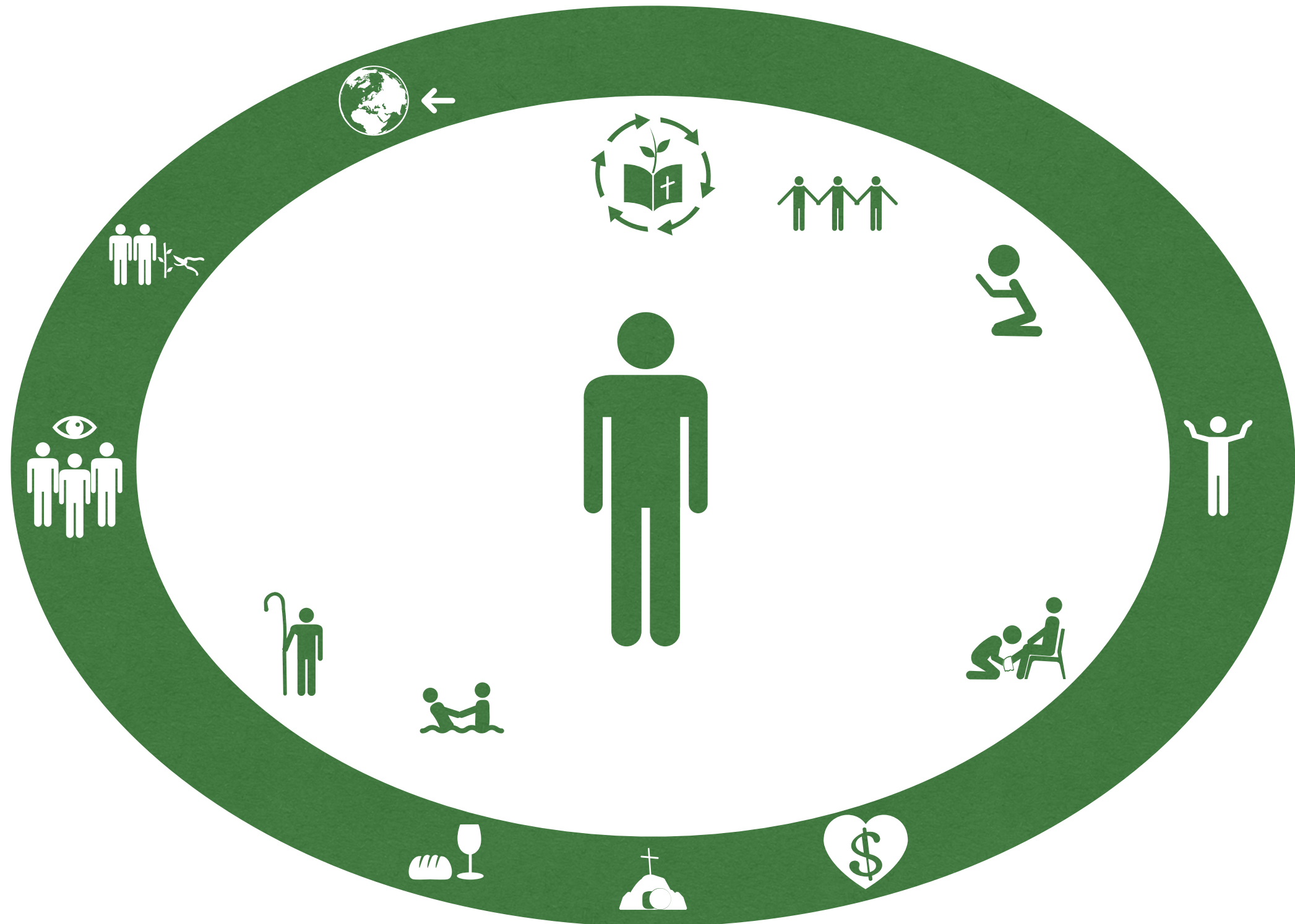


Unhealthy Disciple

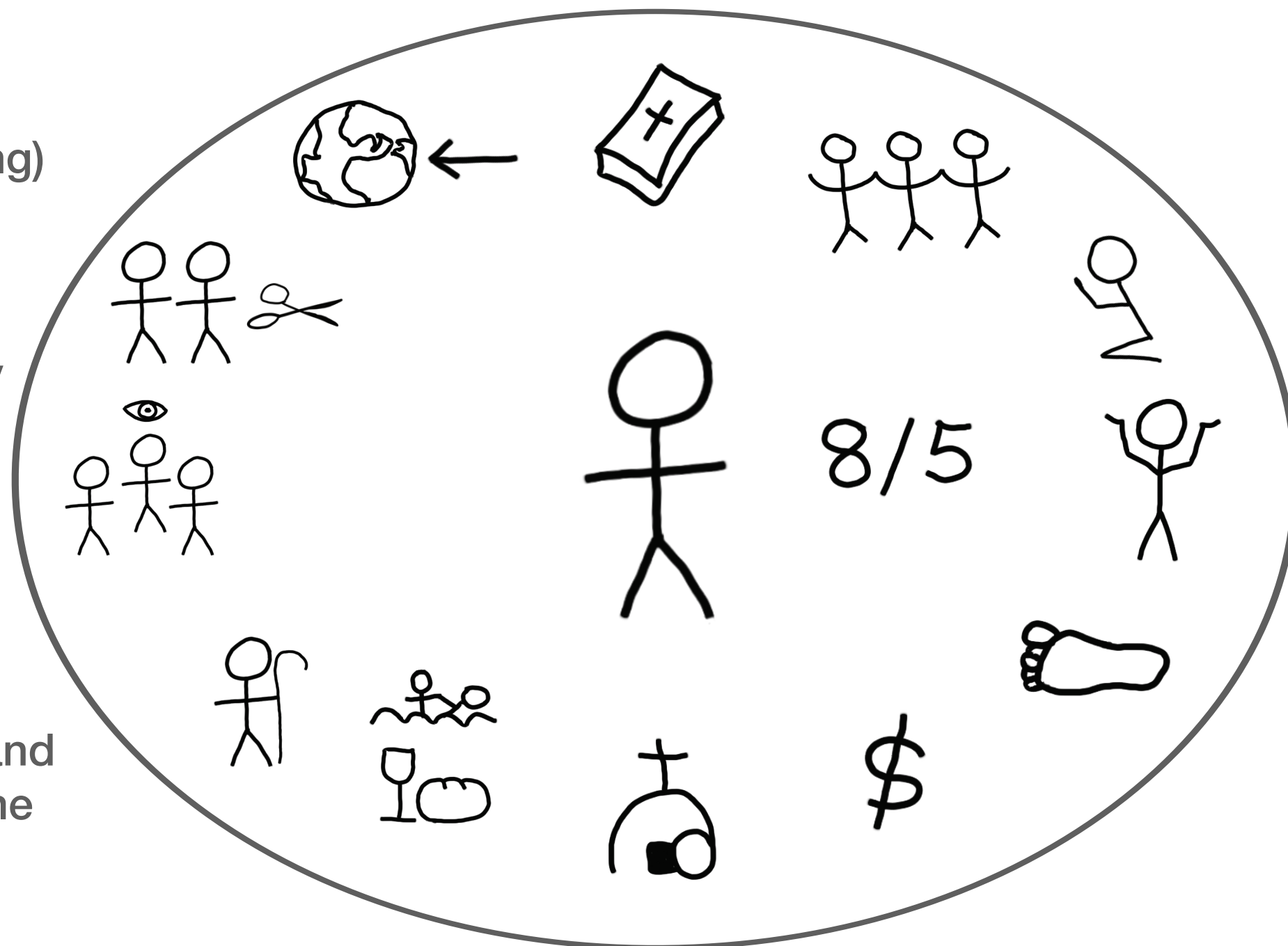


Key Idea: Use the Healthy Disciple drawing to assess your own health as a disciple. Do you have smaller growth in some areas than other areas? What do you need to do to fix this problem?

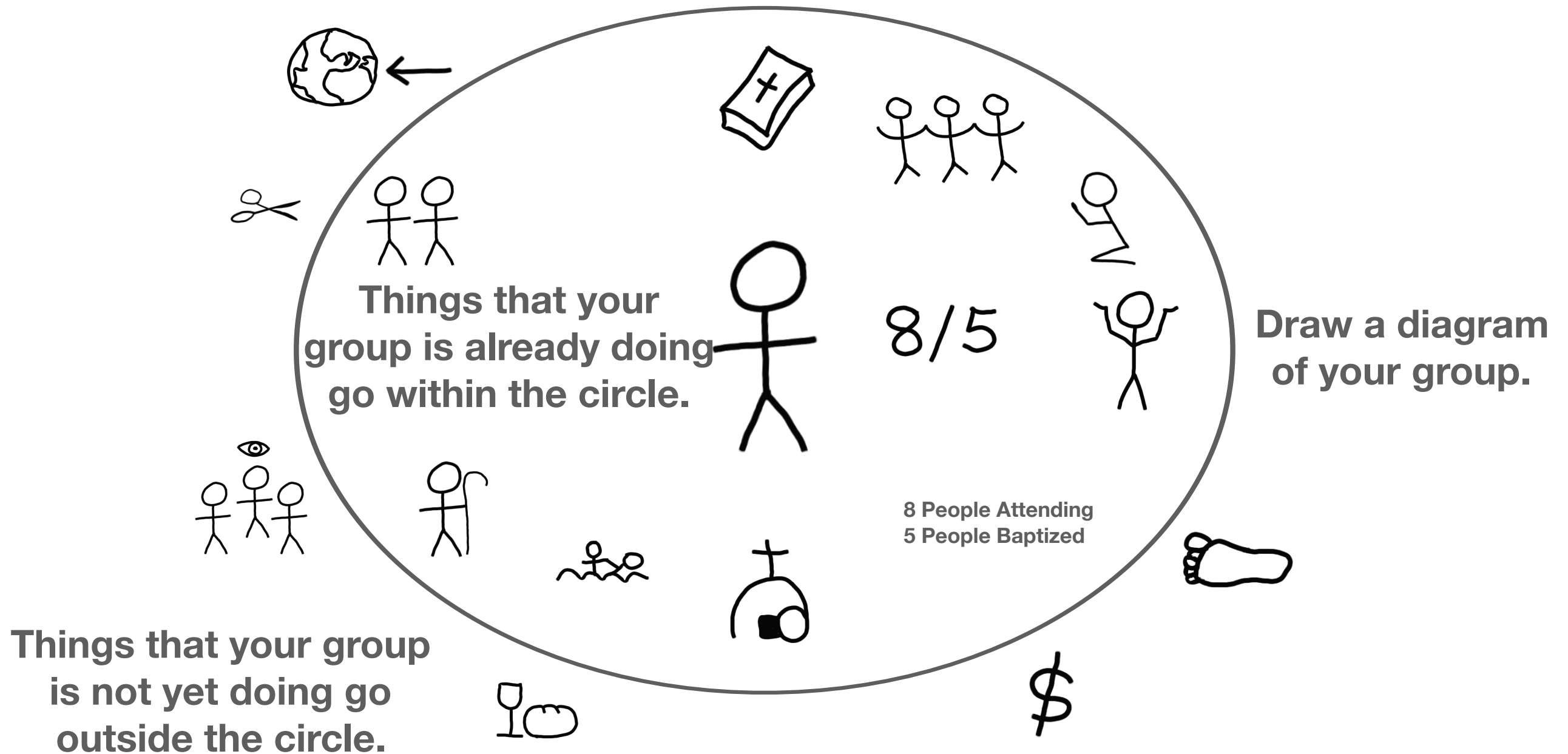
Church Health Diagram



- Discipleship (all forms of teaching)
- Fellowship
- Prayer
- Worship
- Service/Ministry
- Giving
- Evangelism
- Ordinances
- Leadership
- Membership (commitment)
- Accountability and Church Discipline
- Missions



The Church Health Diagram below helps us to see the health of our group and to begin making adjustments to help our group become a healthy church.

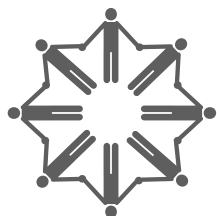


Key Idea: Use the Church Health Diagram to gauge the health of your group and devise ways of changing unhealthy patterns.

Case Study 1



A friend says that he is a believer, that he has been baptized, and that he goes to church on holidays - sometimes. Although no one knows the heart of another person, is there any outward sign that this person is truly a disciple of Christ? What needs to happen in the life of this person? Use scripture to justify your answer.

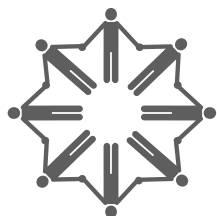


**Break up into groups and discuss.
(suggested time - 10 minutes)**

Case Study 2



A person recently became a believer and was baptized. What will you do to provide basic discipleship for this person?

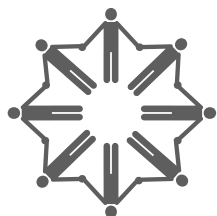


**Break up into groups and discuss.
(suggested time - 10 minutes)**

Case Study 3



An acquaintance recently became a believer and was baptized but now says that he does not want to meet for discipleship. He says that he can learn about Jesus just from reading his Bible at home. Is he correct? Use scripture to justify your answer.

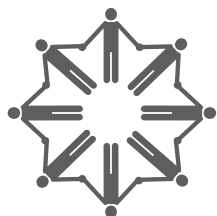


**Break up into groups and discuss.
(suggested time - 10 minutes)**

Case Study 4



You sit down with your group members and together draw out the Church Health Diagram. You see that your group is doing well in many areas but are still struggling with Evangelism, Baptism, Giving, and Missions. What should your group do next?

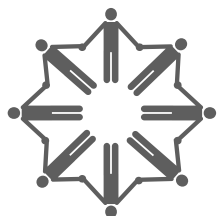


**Break up into groups and discuss.
(suggested time - 10 minutes)**

Case Study 5



Your group is now almost finished with Basic Discipleship but someone brings a new friend to the group meeting who is not yet a believer. What should you do next?



**Break up into groups and discuss.
(suggested time - 10 minutes)**



4G Mentoring: Growing, Guiding, and
Guarding the Global Bride of Christ