



fellowship  
BIBLE CHURCH

# DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

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## VISION OF DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

To foster the spiritual growth of every disciple at Fellowship so they become more Christ-like in every way possible. (Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 1: 2-8; 1 Corinthians 4:15--17)

## WHAT IS THE WIN OF DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY? **Spiritual Maturity.**

Our how is to see generations of spiritually mature disciples making other spiritually mature disciples.

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **Disciple:** a disciple is someone who knows and follows Christ, is being changed by Christ, and is committed to the mission of Christ. (Matthew 4:19)
- **Disciple-maker:** a mature follower of Christ who helps a younger disciple grow toward spiritual maturity. (Colossians 1:28-29)
- **Disciple-making:** the relational and intentional process by which a disciple develops from a state of spiritual immaturity into a state of spiritual maturity. (Colossians 2:6-7; Ephesians: 4:11-16)
- **Discipleship:** a lifetime journey of obedience to Jesus resulting in knowing Him deeply, reflecting Him authentically, and sharing Him intentionally. (2 Timothy 4:6-8; Hebrews 11:39-12:1)
- **Spiritual maturity:** the point in time where a person is able to reproduce the disciple-making process in the life of another individual. (John 20:21; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-2)

## PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

**Principle #1:** Relational – one life impacting another in an environment of grace and truth. (Mark 3:13-15; John 17:6-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-12)

**Practice:** Build healthy relationships based on, authenticity, transparency, vulnerability and accountability, while engaged in an environment that is accepting, caring, safe, and challenging.

**Principle #2:** Transformational - there is an expectancy of continuing life change. (Roman 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

**Practice:** Create learning and practical experiences that promote life change which emulates Christ-likeness in thoughts and words, and in character and conduct.

**Principle #3:** Missional & Generational: disciples make disciples, reproducing multi-generations of Christ followers. (Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Timothy 2:2)

**Practice:** Teach and model the importance of spiritual multiplication as God's means of expanding His kingdom.

**Principle #4:** Biblical – a reasoned understanding of the truth of scripture and living it out daily. (John 14: 15, 23; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Timothy 2:15)

**Practice:** There is always an open Bible between the disciple-maker and his or her disciple.

**Principle #5:** Gospel-Centered – disciples are made and matured by the Gospel. (Ephesians 2:8:10; Philippians 1:3)

**Practice:** Enable and encourage a disciple to never stop learning, relating to, and communicating the gospel.

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## **APPENDIX 1: DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES**

Discipleship is not about resources. It is about relationships. Therefore, resources are always secondary to the relationship, and resource choices should be made in light of the individual and his/her needs.

### **A Default Resource Path**

That being said, a default resource path at Fellowship Bible Church will provide a common path for those who are being discipled. This default resource path will also take some of the pressure off the discipler by giving him/her ready-made discipleship curricula. This default resource path is by no means the only set of resources to be used and, in many cases, depending on the individual other resources should be used. But, if there are no clear pressing needs, these resources should serve as the "go-to" for the discipler.

For those who are new Christians: "The Five Basic Assurances"

For those who are taking their first steps into Discipleship: "Solid: Foundations for Following Jesus"

For Men Seeking an On-Going Discipleship Relationship: High Quest

For Women Seeking an On-Going Discipleship Relationship: High Quest OR Life Ready Woman

Other Approved Resources

### **Systematic Theology:**

- Grudem, Systematic Theology

## **Theology Proper (the Character of God):**

- Tozer, Knowledge of the Holy
- Packer, Knowing God

## **Gospel Theology and Identity:**

- Keller, Prodigal God
- Bridges, Transforming Grace

## **Overview of the Bible:**

- Roberts, God's Big Picture
- Clowney, The Unfolding Mystery

## **Apologetics:**

- Keller, The Reason for God
- Keller, Making Sense of God

## **Discipleship:**

- Coleman, The Master Plan of Evangelism
- Dodson, Gospel-Centered Discipleship

## **Marriage:**

- Eggerich, Love and Respect
- Keller, The Meaning of Marriage

## **Preparing for Marriage:**

- Henderson, Chasing Foxes

## **Money:**

- Alcorn, The Treasure Principle

## **Women's Resources:**

- Anderson, Steps to Freedom, Victory over Darkness, Bondage Breaker
- McGee, The Search for Significance
- Yeakley, The Gentle Art of Discipling Women: Nurturing Authentic Faith in Ourselves and Others
- Smith, Seamless – An overview of major biblical events

**Facial Hair:**

- Gates, The Larry Gates Manual for Masculine Mustache Growth

**A Resource Approval Process**

Of course, you do not need approval to read widely and to use resources from a number of different theological streams. However, if you would like to use a resource not on this list during a Fellowship Discipleship Meeting, we would ask that you get that resource approved.

This will involve bringing the resource that you wish to use to a resource point person. That resource person will skim the resource and research the author/resource reviews and then give/withhold approval.

**APPENDIX 2: SUBJECT SPECIFIC PERSONAL RESOURCES (Available Upon Requests)**