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# Vision

From the beginning of Christianity, the natural overflow of being a disciple of Jesus has always been to make disciples of Jesus. "Follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt. 4:19). This was a promise: Jesus would take His disciples and turn them into disciple makers. And this was a command: He called each of His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey Him (Matt. 28:19-20). From the start, God's design has been for every single disciple of Jesus to make disciples who make disciples who make disciples until the gospel spreads to all peoples.

Yet we have subtly and tragically taken this costly command of Christ to go, baptize, and teach all nations and mutated it into a comfortable call for Christians to come, be baptized, and listen in one location. If you were to ask individual Christians today what it means to make disciples, you would likely get jumbled thoughts, ambiguous answers, and probably even some blank stares. In all our activity as Christians and with all our resources in the church, we are in danger of practically ignoring the commission of Christ. We view evangelism as a dreaded topic, we reduce discipleship to a canned program, and so many in the church end up sidelined in a spectator mentality that delegates disciple making to pastors and professionals, ministers, and missionaries.

But this is not the way it's supposed to be. Jesus has invited all of us to be a part of His plan. He has designed all of His people to know His joy as we share His love, spread His Word, and multiply His life among all of the peoples of the earth. This is the grand purpose for which we were created: to enjoy the grace of Christ as we spread the gospel of Christ from wherever we live to the ends of the earth. And this purpose is worth giving our lives to seeing it accomplished. It's worth it for billions of people who do not yet know the mercy and majesty of God in Christ. And it's worth it for you and me, because we were made to be disciples who make disciples until the day when we see the face of the One we follow, and together with all nations we experience His satisfaction for all of eternity.

- David Platt

The goal of this material is to have reproducible guide where disciples can learn their identity in Christ and then establish life patterns to enable them to immediately apply and make disciples of their own.

- Join the greater movement: Whenever you feel led to start a new group, email us at disciple@parkway.church to let us know who you plan to disciple so that we can celebrate all that God is doing and track how God is moving more broadly.
- Keep it simple: Depend on the Word of God, the Holy Spirit, and your own walk with the Lord. You know more than you think. And therefore, you need less than you think. No need to over-work or over-structure what is simply an ongoing relational investment.
- Customize appropriately: Discipleship is not a one size fits all, meaning those you disciple are going to come from different backgrounds and varying degrees of maturity. What you have here is a loose guide, not a script to stick to, so make sure you remain sensitive to where your disciples are at and adjust accordingly.
- Treat the timeline with flexibility: Even though the guide is written with 12 sessions as one week each, if your group is struggling with a concept and needs more time, please repeat these sessions as needed. The goal is not to complete this in "12 easy weeks" like a one-size-fits-all program. 12 sessions are a baseline, but your group's timeline should customize to the pace you need. If this takes 15 weeks, that's fine. If it takes 9 months, that's just as good.
- Expect your disciples to pass on to others what you model for them: There are plenty of great Bible studies to do if you just want to absorb more information. The goal of this guide is to get your disciples prepared to pass on what they learn as Disciple makers and multipliers.
- **Disciple in community:** The dynamic of 3-4 people interacting reduces the likelihood of perpetuating dependence. What you are trying to produce is an interdependent disciple maker who knows how to handle the Word as a self-feeder.
- Reinforce this fundamental concept: My IDENTITY as a disciple of Jesus Christ fuels my LIFE PATTERNS of following Jesus which reinforce my IDENTITY. People who don't know who they are get confused about what they do and why they are doing it.



## What is Discipleship at Parkway?

We launch gender-specific, closed groups of 3-5 followers of Christ or individual 1:1 meetings that gather on a regular basis for intentional spiritual transformation. After deep diving through our Mission Measure questions, disciples are ready and encouraged to provide the same experience for others, multiplying a lifestyle of following Jesus. 1.0 is perfect for newer believers or those exploring the faith, hungry for foundational basics about Christianity. 2.0 dives even deeper in a more extended experience of spiritual transformation for those growing in Christ. And 3.0 is a limited offering for high-level leaders who have experienced multiplication and are ready for the deepest challenges of discipleship.



**Disciple-Making & Multiplying** 



# Foundational Discipleship 1.0 at Parkway

We want all of our disciples and disciple-makers to know:

We also offer a discipleship guide called Discipleship 1.0 that covers more foundational concepts and practices. It is specifically tailored for newer believers or people who want to review more of the basics of the faith. It is also appropriate for a seeking "pre-Christian" who is exploring Christian faith concepts.

### In Discipleship 1.0 we look at concepts like:

- Security in our faith
- Victory over sin
- How to approach present temptation to sin
- New life in Christ
- What do I need to know to keep following Jesus?

And we introduce healthy spiritual disciplines at a foundational level to help each of us continue to go deeper with Jesus.

Help us spread the word for people who would benefit from Discipleship 1.0, and of course if you'd be interested in helping disciple someone through this contact, let us know!

And if you're beginning this discipleship process and finding early on that you might be better suited for a more foundational approach, please do not hesitate to shift into our 1.0 content instead. It wraps up in a way that dovetails into this guide smoothly, so an experience of 1.0 leading straight into 2.0 would be excellent.

# Planning each session with your disciples:

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

The goal for this section is to care for each other's souls and review the objective and commitment that was made during the previous session.

#### **Mutual Care:**

You want to hear how your disciple's life has been since the last meeting and how God has been working in their life.

- From our last meeting what do you want to celebrate from your life? Or what has been the best part of your week?
- From our last meeting what challenges have you been experiencing in your life? What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

#### Accountability in Love:

This section helps the disciple maker reinforce the truth that was taught in the last meeting and have loving accountability for the commitments/ goals that were made during the last meeting. It is crucial to have both "love" and "accountability." If you do not show love to your disciple when they fail to keep their commitments/ goals, then it can discourage them, and they might stop putting in the work. On the other hand, if you do not hold your disciple accountable then they are missing out on the opportunity to experience the full life that Jesus offers.

The goal is to have balance and celebrate your disciple when they fulfill commitments/ goals, but to also ask questions and encourage them when they do not. If your disciple does not fulfill their commitments/goals from the previous session, a couple of questions you can ask are:

- What distractions kept you from accomplishing your commitments/goals this week?
- How can I help you fulfill your commitments/goals this coming week? More than "I will pray for you," but actual action steps (texting reminders, emails, etc.)

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

The objective for this section is to look at God's word together in order to teach an identity of a disciple that leads to a specific life-pattern(s).

#### Group Study:

In this section, you and your disciple(s) will be looking further in depth into scripture and what the Bible says about a specific identity of a disciple, and how that identity leads to a specific life-pattern(s). Each section has at least 1 verse and a key point to teach your disciple(s).

#### **Practice:**

In this area, the disciple is challenged to practice what they have been learning so they can gain more confidence about being a disciple maker.

# How to use this Discipleship Guide

# 3. LOOK FORWARD (15-20 minutes)

The objective for this section is to guide your disciple(s) to take the knowledge they have received from the meeting and apply it to their life.

#### Following goals:

After you finish your practice, take time to help your disciple(s) set a goal before the next meeting. Help them learn to set SMART goals.

- Specific not just nebulous, abstract goals that may or may not ever happen.
- Measureable can you actually tell if you've made progress toward your goal?
- Achievable don't set yourself up for disappointment with impossible goals.
- Relevant does your goal directly relate to the topic at hand?
- Time-Bound is there a sense of urgency to accomplish your goal? a deadline?

Next, give your disciple(s) the following meeting's assignment. Briefly walk through the assignments so they understand exactly what needs to be done for the next meeting.

#### Fishing goals:

In the opening meeting, disciples will be taught the life pattern of B.L.E.S.S. (Begin with prayer, Listen with care, Eat together, Serve, Share your story and God's.) Each week, disciples will be asked to pray for the people on their F.R.A.N.C (Friends, Relatives, Acquaintances, Neighbors, Co-workers) lists and set a goal to increase their missional temperature. Disciples will also be asked to begin praying about who they would like to invite into a discipleship relationship.

#### Prayer:

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

# **Advance Preparation**

# **BEFORE SESSION 1**

# In preparation for our first meeting please take the time to read, think through and answer the following sections:

\*Leader remember from the "How to use this guide" to customize this section appropriately:

#### 1. What is Your Story

- Where did you grow up
- Family background
- Church background
- People of Influence
- Spiritual Journey
- Why did you decide to join this group

#### 2. The Invitation to Discipleship

#### Read Luke 5:1-11 then Matthew 4:18-20.

- What was Jesus' invitation?
- How did Simon (Peter) and Andrew respond?

#### 3. The Cost of Discipleship

#### Read Luke 14:25-33.

- What is the main point of what Jesus is saying in this passage?
- Why do you think Jesus said this?

#### 4. The Mission of Discipleship

#### Read Matthew 28:18-20

From this passage what is He telling His disciples to do?

#### 5. What is a Disciple

In your own words how would you define what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

# Vision for Disciple Making and Multiplying

"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

**OBJECTIVE:** To have biblical understanding of discipleship as well as an invitation into discipleship.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

### 1. Intro (20-30 minutes)

#### **Mutual Care:**

- Invite everyone to share their story. Leader goes first.
- Story elements:
  - Where did you grow up
  - Family background
  - Church background
  - People of Influence
  - Spiritual Journey
  - Why did you decide to join this group

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

#### Read Luke 5:1-11 then Matthew 4:18-20.

- What was Jesus' invitation?
- How did Simon (Peter) and Andrew respond?

#### Read Luke 14:25-33.

- What is the main point of what Jesus is saying in this passage?
- Why do you think Jesus said this?

#### Read Matthew 28:18-20

From this passage what is He telling His disciples to do?

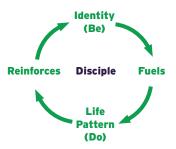
In your own words how would you define what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Here at Parkway Bible Church, we have chosen to define a disciple as: A person who follows Jesus by trusting and obeying Him and teaches others to do the same.



We believe that this Biblical definition leads us to understand who we are (identity) as a disciple of Jesus as well as develop specific (life-patterns) of obedience to Jesus.

Another way to say it is, "My IDENTITY as a disciple of Jesus Christ fuels my LIFE PATTERNS of following and obeying Jesus, and those LIFE PATTERNS reinforce my IDENTITY." People who don't know who they are get confused about what they do and why they are doing it.



Structurally, we will be following the Mission Measures of our church, as we aim to experience and multiply GenulNe Life in Christ:

- Are you IN the Word?
- Are you IN the Family?
- Are you IN the Trenches?
- Are you IN the Field?

We believe we will know when we are truly in alignment with our mission and seeking Genuine Life in Christ when we can answer these mission measure questions with a confident "yes." As such, we will be using them to guide the various topics we will explore in discipleship together.

#### 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

Each week as we come together to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, we will seek to set two goals. The first goal will revolve around our vertical relationship with Jesus which we will call our "Following goal." Our second goal which will deal with our horizontal relationships with those we are attempting to reach with the good news of Jesus and will be called our "Fishing goal."



#### Following goals:

- For next week read through and sign the disciple covenant (located on page 74).
- As a group select a book of the Bible to go through together beginning this week. As followers of Jesus we want to get to know Him better, and one of the best ways to do that is to spend daily time in His Word (The Bible) and talking with Him in prayer. Determine as a group what chapters you are going to read each week.
- As you select a book here are a few suggestions: The Gospel of John (great introduction to Jesus as well as depth of study), Ephesians (1st three chapters deal with our vertical relationship with God, and 2nd three chapters deal with our horizontal relationships with others), Acts (the early church), The Gospel of Mark (Jesus' life in action).

Utilize the S.P.E.C.K method for reading the Bible. As you read, consider journaling your response to these questions:

- Is there a Sin I need to confess and avoid?
- Is there a Promise I need to claim?
- Is there an Example to follow, or not to follow?
- Is there a Command to obey?
- Is there Knowledge about God I can gain?

#### Fishing goals:

- As Disciples of Jesus, we are called to have a positive impact for Jesus with people around us that are far from God. We consider this fishing for other people like the early disciples with Jesus.
- When we consider someone "far from God," it's true we don't know exactly where someone is spiritually. We're not attempting to judge someone's spiritual status of saved or not, we're simply observing that perhaps we might be able to help influence them to grow closer with Jesus.
- We use a tool to help you grow your capacity for fishing. Introduce BLESS & FRANC inventory (Missional Temp Inventory on page 69) and bring top section of FRANC back next meeting completed.

#### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

# **Diagnostic Question:** What is God saying to you through His Word?

#### Discipleship Diagnostic I:

Are you in the Word?

## Life Pattern: Studying God's Word

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." **2 Timothy 3:16** 

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of loving God that will fuel a life pattern of reading His Word and applying what it says.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to loving God by spending regular time in His Word and learning to apply what it says.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

#### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

#### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- Review Missional Temp Inventory. (Complete top half about FRANC.)

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

#### Group Study: Study the following passages together:

#### Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- Who gave mankind Scripture?
- How is the Bible useful for followers of Jesus?

#### Read Hebrews 4:12

 What does it mean that the Word of God active and alive? Why is this important?

#### Read John 8:31-32

- Who is speaking?
- What do Jesus' disciples do according to these verses?
- What can you do to know and obey Jesus' teachings?

#### **Practice:**

Continue teaching disciples how to study the Bible using the SPECK method of Bible study.

- Have someone read Matthew 4:1-11.
- Have someone retell the story as a synopsis.
- Take time to study the passage together.
- Is there a Sin I need to confess and avoid?
- Is there a Promise I need to claim?
- Is there an Example to follow, or not to follow?
- Is there a Command to obey?
- Is there Knowledge about God I can gain?

### 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

#### Following goals:

- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study 2 Peter 1:16-21.
- Work on memorizing 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

#### Fishing goals:

- Back on the Missional Temp Inventory, review your FRANC list, making any adjustments as needed.
- Continue filling out your temperature of how you're feeling missionally, and fill out the bottom section of potential BLESS steps you might take.
- Pray for who God would want you to BLESS in order to grow closer to Jesus, or even to invite into a discipleship relationship at the end of our meetings together.

#### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

# **Diagnostic Question:** What is God saying to you through His Word?

#### Discipleship Diagnostic I:

Are you in the Word?

# *Life Pattern:* Prayer and Depending on the Holy Spirit

"We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives." **Colossians 1:9** 

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of listening for God that will fuel a life pattern of Prayerful Spirit-Dependence.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to loving God by cultivating continual communication with Him that depends on His Spirit in all areas of my life.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

#### Mutual Care:

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

#### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- Review the bottom half of your Missional Temp Inventory, the section on BLESS.

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss the study homework for 2 Peter 1:16-21

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

# Group Study: Study the following passages together:

#### Read Matthew 6:5-13

- Where does Jesus say to pray? Why is this important?
- Why does Jesus say, "Do not heap up empty phrases"?
- Do you see a progression in Jesus' prayer? What order does he use? (Example: Jesus starts with praise to God.)

- How would you describe your prayer life? (consistent, occasional, rarely, never) And why would you describe it that way? (ex. What has helped your prayer life or distracted you?)
- When you look at how Jesus instructed his disciples to pray what could it look like for you to use this progression in how you normally pray?

#### Read Colossians 1:9-12

- The NIV translates the end of v.9 to read, "We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives." Based off of Paul's prayer here in 9-12 what does the Spirit produce in our lives?
- From what we see here, what are the benefits of living prayerful Spirit- Dependent lives vs. selfwilled independent lives?

#### **Practice:**

- Take time to creatively pray the Lord's Prayer together (ex. break the prayer up into parts and have each individual pray for those specific parts, or have group members share specifically where they could use prayer in the particular areas of the Lord's prayer, like "Give us our daily bread," or "lead us not into temptation.")
- Review the A.C.T.S. model of prayer. How intentional are you about balance in your prayer life vs. lingering on asking God for things?

#### **3. LOOK FORWARD**

#### (15 minutes)

#### Following:

- In light of what we have just learned what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Determine a set aside time for daily prayer and stick to it.
  - Develop your own prayer list and work through it this week.
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study Psalm 96.

#### Fishing:

- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship at the end of our meetings together.

#### **Prayer:**

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

# **Diagnostic Question:** What is God saying to you through His Word?

#### Discipleship Diagnostic I:

Are you in the Word?

## Life Pattern: Worship

"Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." **Romans 12:1** 

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of seeking God's Word in a life pattern of worship.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to loving God by living a life of worship to Him.

#### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

#### Mutual Care:

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

#### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- What were your goals last week with regard to prayer & how did they go?
- What was a BLESS goal you had last week and how did it go?

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss the study homework for Psalm 96

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

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# Group Study: Study the following passages together:

#### Read Matthew 18:20

- Who is speaking in this passage?
- Why is it important to understand that Jesus is present when believers gather together?

#### Read Psalm 22:22-31

- According to these verses, are people praising God privately or in a large crowd?
- Who all will bow down before the Lord?
- What praises are being said about God in these verses?

#### Read Romans 12:1-2

• What could it look like to apply these verses in your life?

#### Read Colossians 3:15-17

- According to verse 15, what are believers called to?
- What should dwell richly in believers when they gather?
- Who are believers singing psalms, hymns and songs to?

#### Practice:

- As a group answer this: "What do . vou love about God and whv?"
- What does it look like to cultivate . a private, individual practice of worship? Consider a variety of means, e.g. meditating on God's Word, being out in God's creation, extending His mercy to people in need, listening to worship music, etc.
- What is the value and importance of corporate worship alongside others? How does this participate in your continual spiritual growth?

### **3. LOOK FORWARD** (15 minutes)

#### Following goals:

- In light of what we have just learned what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Attend worship gathering weekly.
  - Pray with my spouse about attending worship weekly.
  - Memorize Matthew 18:20.
- Read the assigned group Bible . reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study Acts 8:26-40.

#### Fishing goals:

- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Pray for who God would want • you to invite into a discipleship relationship at the end of our meetings together.
- Take time to review your Missional Temperature Inventory and rate yourself

#### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

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# *Diagnostic Question:* What are you doing about what God has said to you through His Word?

#### Discipleship Diagnostic I:

Are you in the Word?

## Life Pattern: Believing and Baptism

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of looking to God that fuels a life pattern of believing and life change.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit that I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead, and because of that belief I commit to life change as an act of obedience to Jesus, symbolized through baptism.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

#### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

#### Accountability in Love:

Review the value and impact of corporate worship from last week

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- What was a BLESS goal you had last week and how did it go?

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

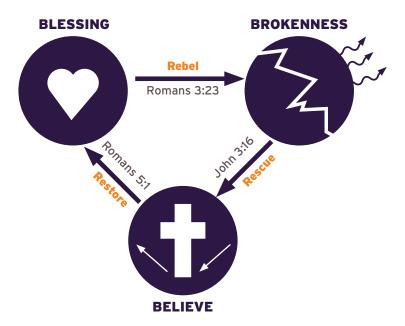
**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss the study homework for Acts 8:26-40

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

#### **Review God's Story:**

Draw out the 3 Circles as you give the presentation. Use a white board or blank paper.





#### Keys for God's story:

- In the beginning God's intent was to bless mankind with perfect relationship.
- But mankind rebelled (believing the lie that God was holding out on us). As a result this world and mankind's relationship with God was broken, which is why we experience brokenness in the world around us. (Romans 3:23)
- But because of God's love, He sent His son Jesus to rescue us by dying for our sins of rebellion and rising from the dead in order to fix our brokenness. (John 3:16)
- By repenting of our sin and believing in Jesus we are rescued and restored into a right relationship with God. (Romans 5:1)

#### **Keys for Your Story:**

On a separate document write down "your story" of how Jesus has impacted your life. Share your life before Jesus and how your life has been impacted since you became a follower of Jesus as follows...





#### Your Story (Before Christ)

Share in a few sentences what your life was like before you came to believe Jesus died on the cross for your sins and rose from the dead.

Questions & Thoughts to help you think through this...

- Where did you find your satisfaction?
- What was your motivation/purpose in life?
- Did you experience a lack of peace, purpose, significance?

#### Your Story (After Christ)

Write down "your story" of how Jesus has impacted your life by sharing how He brought you to Himself and how He has changed your life since becoming a follower of Him.

Questions & Thoughts to help you think through this...

- How did you come to a point of trusting in Jesus to rescue you? Describe the circumstances that led you to give your life to Jesus and allow Him to be in control.
- How are you motivated to live differently now?
- What changes have you seen in your life?
- How do you daily follow Jesus now?
- Briefly but clearly, share the joys and difficulties of following Jesus.

Now that you have completed your story, what are 1 to 2 words or terms you could use to summarize your life? This helps you be prepared to share your story in as little as 30 seconds.

Before Christ:	 
After Christ:	

#### Group Study: Baptism

#### Read Matthew 28:18-20

List the 3 things Jesus tells disciples to do:

1	
2.	
3.	

#### Read Romans 6:4

Based off of these last two passages what is baptism and why is it important?

- Jesus commanded it.
- Baptism symbolizes a person being identified with Jesus.

Have you been baptized before? If not would you be willing to take that step? (Leader, if one of your disciples is interested in being baptized, please have them contact the church office at 512-990-7777)

### 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

#### Following goals:

- Write out the Your Story section we discussed earlier.
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study 2 Timothy 2:20-26.

#### Fishing goals:

- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Memorize the 3 circles illustration. Come ready to share it with the group.

#### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s)

# DISCIPLESHIP DIAGNOSTIC CHECKPOINT

Before moving onto Diagnostic II, please look through these checkpoints and verify that group participants are actively living out these concepts and practices. If not, please lead with vision through the need to continue reviewing these principles until they are truly put into practice.

We want to avoid blindly pushing forward and leaving these principles in the dust, as true discipleship reflects genuine life change and implementation of new patterns, beliefs, and practices.

#### Discipleship Diagnostic I: Are you in the Word?

- Disciples have a respect and love for God's Word and are practicing regular time in it, with the ultimate goal of daily time.
- Disciples are cultivating an active, daily, and constant prayer life, and their practice of prayer reflects depth and balance.
- Disciples see themselves in proper placement with respect to God's true position as worthy of all worship, and they desire to worship God with more and more of their lives.
- Disciples regularly practice joining together with other believers in corporate worship.
- Disciples understand and can articulate their own story of salvation & how they came to a saving faith in the gospel.
- Disciples either have been baptized previously or are willing to prayerfully consider it now.

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# Diagnostic Question: How are you prioritizing authentic relationships?

Discipleship Diagnostic II:

Are you in the Family?

## Life Pattern: Authentic Community with Others

"Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart..." **1 Peter 1:22** 

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of growing in community that will fuel a life pattern of authentic fellowship with other believers.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to loving followers of Jesus by growing together with them in a genuine and authentic way.

#### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

#### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

#### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Share your 1-2 words that summarize your "before & after Christ" story.
- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- Invite someone in the group to share the 3 Circles Illustration.

\*Leader: be sure to set a gracious environment and give feedback.

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss study homework for 2 Timothy 2:20-26.

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

# Group Study: Study the following passages together:

#### Read Matthew 7:3-5

- What is Jesus' main point?
- Do you ever struggle with this? If so, how?

#### Read Colossians 3:12-15 and Ephesians 4:1-3

- What commands does Paul give in these verses?
- Out of these commands where do you see an opportunity to ask Jesus to help you put them into practice?

#### Read Hebrews 3:12-13 and 10:24-25

- What does the writer of Hebrews instruct believers to do?
- What do these verses say about our need for one another?

#### **Practice:**

- One of the greatest ways to prioritize authentic relationships is to take part in community through one of Parkway's Life Groups. They provide a place where you connect relationally to others, grow spiritually in a group setting, and practice living on mission with others alongside you.
- Another practice that helps your relationships develop authenticity is to explore accountability conversations. This is where we discuss areas where you're struggling or finding spiritual, emotional, or physical challenges. And then, through loving support and prayer, we help nudge you toward progress in those areas. This group could provide accountability for you, but if not here, prayerfully seek this in your life somewhere.

### 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

#### Following goals:

- In light of what we have discussed today, what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Consider expressing to someone else how you value them as a relationship in your life.
  - Commit to joining a Life Group or pursuing a relationship of accountability with a trusted friend.
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study Ephesians 4:11-16.

#### Fishing goals:

- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Review the 3 Circles illustration, ready to share with the group.
- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship.

#### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up requests.



### Diagnostic Question: What risks have you taken recently for others' good and your growth?

### Discipleship Diagnostic II:

Are you in the Family?

### Life Pattern: Genuine Relationships

"For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing." **2 Corinthians 2:15** 

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an increasing awareness of those near us that are far from God that will fuel a life pattern of practicing genuine relationships.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to taking risks in my nearby relationships to positively impact others for the sake of the gospel.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- How did your goal go with regards to a next step of practicing authentic community?
- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- Invite someone in the group to share the 3 Circles Illustration.

\*Leader: be sure to set a gracious environment and give feedback

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss the study homework for Ephesians 4:11-16.

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

# Group Study: Study the following passages together:

### Read 2 Corinthians 2:14-17

- What is Paul's main point?
- What is the "aroma" that the culture around us has of Christ-followers today? How can your "aroma" of representing Jesus be different?



### Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-6:10

- How have you experienced reconciliation with God? What would it look like to offer that same experience to others?
- Who are some people in your life that need reconciliation with God?
- What are some of the risks Paul was willing to take in order to minister to others and draw them closer to God? Can you imagine being content with such extremes if it helped others toward the gospel?

### **Practice:**

- Have you experienced "riskfree" relationships where you or another has taken so much precaution to not risk offense, it has led to isolation or inauthenticity? Why is this?
- Think about your FRANC list, specifically of those who you're close with: friends, family, coworkers - people that are in daily life with you. What risks are you willing to take for the sake of their greater good? Where's the line...what risks feel too great to take? Consider Ephesians 4:15 - speaking the truth in love. Have you been willing to risk conflict in order to relay God's righteousness and love to others?
- How do you actually experience growth in your willingness to represent Jesus to others? How does it affect your faith & trust in Him? How does it improve your relationship with the other person?

### 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

### Following goals:

- In light of what we have discussed today, what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Consider taking a step toward reconciliation in a relationship where there has been conflict or tension.
  - Consider sharing what you love about Jesus and His love for you with someone in your daily life who is far from God.
  - Memorize Ephesians 4:15-16.
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study 1 Corinthians 12:12-31.

### Fishing goals:

- Make sure your FRANC list is up to date with anyone in your life that has shifted since you first prayed through it. What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Continue to review the 3 Circles illustration, ready to share it.
- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship.

### Prayer

 End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

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# DISCIPLESHIP DIAGNOSTIC CHECKPOINT

Before moving onto Diagnostic III, please look through these checkpoints and verify that group participants are actively living out these concepts and practices. If not, please lead with vision through the need to continue reviewing these principles until they are truly put into practice.

We want to avoid continuing forward and leaving these principles in the dust, as true discipleship reflects genuine life change and implementation of new patterns, beliefs, and practices.

### Discipleship Diagnostic II: Are you in the Family?

- Disciples understand and can articulate the value of relational connectedness, and they are actively connected with a non-trivial number of authentic relationships in life.
- Disciples are part of a Life Group already, or they are willing to prayerfully consider joining a Life Group.
- Disciples are practicing vulnerability and receiving support and care through accountability with at minimum one other person.
- Disciples have developed a FRANC list and are actively praying for people far from God.

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# Diagnostic Question: How are you using your gifts for God's glory?

Discipleship Diagnostic III:

Are you in the Trenches?

### Life Pattern: Self-Awareness and Spiritual Gifting

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." 1 Corinthians 12:7

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an increasing awareness of the ways God has wired us that will fuel a life pattern of recognizing areas of gifts, skills, strengths, and passions.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to taking the time to know – with humility – what I bring to the table from gifts and skills God has given me, along with my passions and experiences.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Did you take any risks this past week for the sake of another person's good...and was there growth for you from this?
- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- Invite someone in the group to share the 3 Circles Illustration.

\*Leader: be sure to set a gracious environment and give feedback

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss homework with 1 Corinthians 12:12-31.

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.
- According to this Scripture, why does God give us gifts from the Spirit? For what purpose?

### **Group Study:**

Study the following passages together:



### Read Romans 12:1-8

What is Paul's main point in vv. 1-2? How is offering ourselves to God an act of worship?

 How does the humility of not thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought relate with your study work from 1 Corinthians 12?

# Read 1 Corinthians 13, the continuation of your study passage in Chapter 12.

- How do you see a potential misuse of Spiritual Gifts in exaltation of self?
- How do we allow love to govern and guide our implementation of our gifts and wiring?

### **Practice:**

- The Biblical accounts of spiritual gifts happen in an easy-to-remember pattern: 4-4-12-12 (Ephesians 4, 1 Peter 4, Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12). Looking across some of these lists and considering any experiences you've had, what would you say 1, 2, or 3 of your spiritual gifts might be?
- When you consider your personality wiring, how your behavior styles tend to operate, even abilities and skills God's given you naturally or that you've honed over time...how do any of these have the potential to positively impact God's kingdom?

- Are there particular things you're passionate about that God could leverage for the building up of the body? Are there people groups or life stages you're particularly fired up about? Have there been any special issues, life challenges, or major wins you've been through that play into helping others?
- Consider your current life circumstances - where you live (your neighborhood, school system, community), where you work (particular workplace dynamics), opportunity you may have with family nearby. What are open doors in your life where you might be able to impact others for Jesus?
- All together, these previous four categories (Gifts + Wiring + Passions & Experiences + Current Circumstances) create a unique blend and a "sweet spot" that God has designed for you, ways He might uniquely set the table in your life to use you for the good of others and His Kingdom. Pray for these opportunities to rise up to the surface in your life!

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### 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

### Following goals:

- In light of what we have discussed today, what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Reflect further on the "sweet spot" of God's design we talked about, make notes, and come back with a plan to take some next steps.
  - Ask someone you trust where they see potential in you to be utilized for God's kingdom. What do they see in your wiring, gifts, opportunities, etc.?
  - Memorize 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.
- Take a Spiritual Gifts inventory this week: a free one is available at <u>discoveryour.gifts</u>
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study Philippians 2:1-11.

### Fishing goals:

- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Have you been able to utilize the 3 Circles gospel illustration yet? Set a goal for an opportunity to share this over this coming week.
- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship.

### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

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# *Diagnostic Question:* Where are you finding joy in serving others?

## Life Pattern: Serving Others

"But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all." Mark 10:43-44

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of serving sacrificially that will fuel a life pattern of humble servanthood.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to leveraging all that God has given me to serve others joyfully.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- What were your goals for last week and how did they go?
- What was your BLESS goal from last week and how did it go?

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss the study homework for Philippians 2:1-11.

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

# Group Study: Study the following passages together:

### Read Mark 10:42-45

- According to Jesus, how does someone become great?
- According to these verses, what example did the "Son of Man" set for believers?

Discipleship Diagnostic III:

Are you in the Trenches?



### Read Ephesians 4:7-13

- In v. 12, what is the purpose of God giving us specific and individual gifts? Who are the saints?
- What "work of ministry" has God placed before you in this season?

### Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

- Do you see the priority of others over self here, like in Philippians 2?
- How should believers use the gifts that God has given them?

### **Practice:**

- When you choose to engage and serve others, God uses you to make an eternal impact on them. It is a counter-cultural, intentional decision to put others first before yourself. And it truly has a ripple effect that can last a lifetime and even help point others to an eternal destiny with Jesus.
- Impacting others by serving also is part of God's plan and intent for your own spiritual journey. Even though on the surface, serving others appears to be for their benefit, it just so happens that it stretches you, grows you, surrounds you with community of like-minded people in serving, and so much more. You will find that serving is a two-way street, and it impacts you just as much for spiritual growth!
- There are lots of opportunities to serve and places where you can make an impact, both within the church and outside of it. Within

the church, it truly does take the ministry of the saints (Ephesians 4) working together to make God's church happen. Consider a ministry of your church where you might be able to plug in. And then beyond the church, there are so many opportunities to care for others individually and show up for people's needs... or to join a ministry that shows compassion to others without expecting them to show up at a church on a Sunday. Can this group help you find a place that matches your wiring and heartbeat?

# 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

### Following goals:

- In light of what we have just learned what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Connect with a leader in a ministry at church to explore serving.
  - Find practical ways to serve others in your home/ neighborhood.
  - Consider memorizing Mark 10:45.
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study Acts 4:32-5:11.

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### Fishing goals:

- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship.
- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?

### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).



### Diagnostic Question: Where are vou finding joy in serving others?

## Life Pattern: Generosity and Stewardship

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of sacrificial generosity that will fuel a life pattern of giving beyond yourself.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to living the life of a steward of God's resources rather than an owner.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

### Mutual Care:

- . What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most . challenging or difficult part of vour week?

### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- What were your goals for last • week and how did they go?
- What was your BLESS goal from • last week and how did it go?

### **2. LOOK UP** (30 minutes)

Review aroup Bible Study: Discuss the study homework for Acts 4:32-5:11.

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- . What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

### Group Study: Study the following passages together:

### Read Matthew 6:19-21

- . What does this passage teach about our hearts?
- What are the contrasts the passage makes of treasure laid up on earth vs. heaven?
- What does the passage teach • about eternal rewards? Who do the treasures laid up in heaven benefit?
- What does the passage teach . about eternal perspective?

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Discipleship Diagnostic III:

Are <u>you in</u> the Trenches?

### Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

- What strikes you from this passage?
- What could it look like to model this early church and Jesus in our current context and in our personal lives?

### **Practice:**

A steward is someone entrusted with a resource of value, to caretake and preserve that resource on behalf of someone greater, the ultimate owner of that resource. When we act as a steward, it begins with a recognition that what we have...we didn't truly deserve or earn. God as our ultimate authority and sovereign owner of everything has chosen to give us those things. Consider the resources vou've been entrusted with: is vour stance on them more closed-fisted. with a mindset of "this is mine, and I'm keeping it close" - or is it more open-handed, with a mindset of "this is the Lord's, and I will utilize it with generosity to benefit His kingdom?"

Stewardship of our treasures and resources goes beyond - but includes - our financial resources. Think about what other resources you are called to steward well. Make an extensive list and share things that particularly are near and dear to your heart.

Financial giving back is a long practice to which God has called His followers - supporting the work of ministry that He is doing in your midst. There is no magic number, and the church isn't looking over your shoulder at what you're giving. But are you participating in giving back? The ministry God has been inviting you into - and ministry you've no doubt benefitted from – relies on the generosity and stewardship of God's people.

# 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

### Following goals:

- In light of what we have just learned what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Examine your spending to determine where your heart is.
  - Begin praying (with your spouse if married) about how you might invest more in the Kingdom.
  - Consider memorizing Matthew 6:21.
  - Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study Romans 10:9-15.
- Fill out Disciple-multiplication temperature inventory. (Just the P category. See on p. 75)

### Fishing goals:

- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship.
- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?

### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

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# DISCIPLESHIP DIAGNOSTIC CHECKPOINT

Before moving onto Diagnostic III, please look through these checkpoints and verify that group participants are actively living out these concepts and practices. If not, please lead with vision through the need to continue reviewing these principles until they are truly put into practice.

We want to avoid continuing forward and leaving these principles in the dust, as true discipleship reflects genuine life change and implementation of new patterns, beliefs, and practices.

### Discipleship Diagnostic III: Are you in the Trenches?

- Disciples understand and can articulate the purpose of spiritual gifts in the building up of the body, and they have an awareness of their own particular wiring and gifts.
- Disciples understand the value and importance of serving others and making an eternal impact for Christ.
- Disciples have either already started serving within or outside the church, or they are investigating serving in ministry.
- Disciples understand that everything is the Lord's, and we are only stewarding the gifts and resources He has given us, and their attitudes reflect this.
- Disciples are participating in financial giving to the work of ministry following the leading of the Holy Spirit with regard to the amount.



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# **Diagnostic Question:** Who are you currently BLESSing?

### Discipleship Diagnostic IV:

Are you in the Field?

### Life Pattern: BLESS Missional Living

"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

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of living missionally that will fuel a life pattern of practicing BLESS where you live, work, and play.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to living missionally by living out God's mission for this world.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

### Mutual Care:

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- What were your goals last week and how did they go?
- How does the P column of your Disciple Multiplication Inventory look?

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

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**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss homework with Romans 10:9-15.

• Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.

 What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.

### Group Study:

### Read Acts 1:8

- Who do believers need to tell about Jesus?
- What are believers given to help them to be witnesses?

### Read Acts 17:24-27

- When it says that God determined the allotted periods and boundaries of our dwelling places, what does this mean for where you live, work, & play?
- How can you be more intentional with God and with people around you, knowing that it is all part of His greater plan?

### Read Colossians 4:2-6

- What does Paul pray for?
- What does it look like to actively live this prayer out? And how have you experienced this in your life? What barriers have you faced?

### **Practice:**

- Synthesizing together the various discussions we've had about living on mission and your work developing your FRANC list and BLESS practices, let's put these concepts together into a Personal Mission Statement.
- Could you articulate in a succinct way: what is God's calling on your life when it comes to the reason you exist and the potential impact you might have on others for the sake of His Kingdom?
- Make it your own use your own words and share with one another. It's ok to borrow concepts from each other!

# 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

### Following goals:

- In light of what we have just learned what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Memorize Acts 1:8.
  - Meet 2 neighbors by hanging out in the front yard this week.
  - Share my Personal Mission Statement with 3 people I'm close with (family, friends, colleagues, etc.)
- Read the assigned group Bible reading for the week.
- In preparation for next meeting study 2 Timothy 2:1-7

### Fishing goals:

- Pray for who God would want you to invite into a discipleship relationship.
- Begin to invite people on your FRANC list into a discipleship relationship.
- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?

### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is, and lifting up requests.



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# Diagnostic Question: Who is God prompting you to disciple next?

### Life Pattern: Reproducing Discipleship

"...and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2

**OBJECTIVE:** To develop an identity of a disciple-maker that will fuel a life pattern of disciple multiplication.

**COMMITMENT:** I commit to living the life of a disciple-maker that multiplies the investment made into me.

### 1. LOOK BACK (20-30 minutes)

#### **Mutual Care:**

- What has been the best part of your week?
- What has been the most challenging or difficult part of your week?

### Accountability in Love:

Following and Fishing Goals

- Review group Bible reading from past week. (What impacted you from your time with God in His Word?)
- What were your goals for last week and how did they go?
- What was your BLESS goal from last week and how did it go?
- Review Disciple-multiplication temperature inventory.

### 2. LOOK UP (30 minutes)

**Review group Bible Study:** Discuss homework for 2 Timothy 2:1-7.

- Read the passage again / retell it in your own words.
- What stood out to you most in this passage? Discuss your observations.
- What does this passage have to do with discipleship?
- How many generations of disciples are listed in this passage?
- Why does that matter & what does it teach us about how we make disciples?

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Discipleship Diagnostic IV:

Are you in the Field?

### **Group Study:**

### Read Matthew 4:18-20.

- What was Jesus' invitation?
- How did Simon (Peter) and Andrew respond?

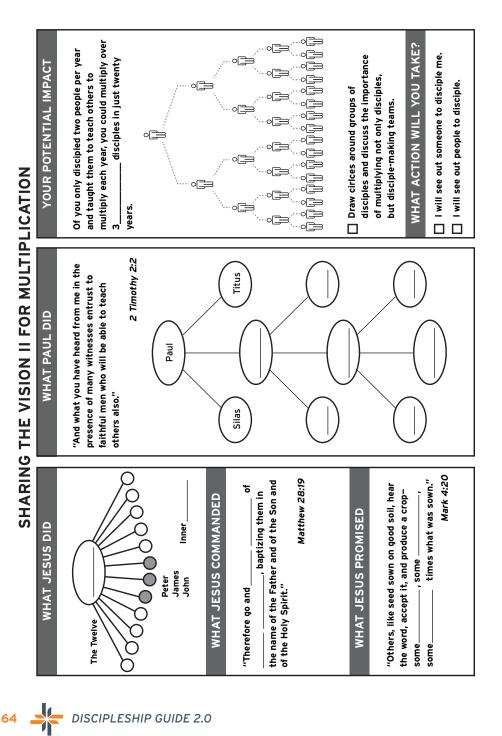
### Read John 1:35-51.

- What did Jesus tell Philip to do when he found him?
- What did Andrew and Philip do after they started following Jesus?

### Read Matthew 28:18-20

- From this passage what is he telling his disciples to do?
- What authority does He have to tell them to do this?
- What does it look like to have an identity as a disciple maker that leads to a life pattern of disciple multiplication?
- Assuming you have the next 20 years to invest in disciple multiplication, what could be the impact of your life? How many disciples could you see living in the wake of your life? Take a look at your potential.





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### **Practice:**

- Here at Parkway Bible Church our vision is to reach every man, women, and child in greater Austin and beyond with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and we believe that we do that by making and multiplying disciples. So.....
- Who is in your sphere of influence that God may be leading you to invite into a discipleship relationship?
- Take time as a group to brainstorm:
  - Who could you disciple?
  - How would you invite them into this? (There are tips for this under General Tips in the appendix.)
  - When could you begin?

# 3. LOOK FORWARD (15 minutes)

### Following goals:

- In light of what we have just learned what is one goal you could make for this upcoming week? For example...
  - Create a disciple-making strategy. (Determine who you could begin discipling.)
  - Consider memorizing 2 Timothy 2:2.
  - Spend time with God in His Word every day this week.
- Create a coaching and meeting plan moving forward. (See coaching strategy page in appendix.)

### Fishing goals:

- What is one goal you could set to BLESS your FRANC list this week?
- Invite people from your FRANC list into a discipleship relationship and begin.

### Prayer

End each week by praying for your disciple(s), thanking God for how He has been working in their life, praising God for who He is and lifting up the requests of your disciple(s).

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# DISCIPLESHIP DIAGNOSTIC CHECKPOINT

Before bringing things to a close, please look through these checkpoints and verify that group participants are actively living out these concepts and practices. If not, please lead with vision through the need to continue reviewing these principles until they are truly put into practice.

We want to avoid continuing forward and leaving these principles in the dust, as true discipleship reflects genuine life change and implementation of new patterns, beliefs, and practices.

### Discipleship Diagnostic IV: Are you in the Field?

- Disciples are maintaining and updating their FRANC list according to dayto-day living, and they are remaining sensitive to the Lord's placement of people in their lives.
- Disciples understand and can articulate the steps of BLESS, and their attitudes are open to and have a growing, increasing missional temperature about BLESSing those around them.
- Disciples are actively putting BLESS steps into practice and seeing fruit of those efforts.
- Disciples understand and feel a personal ownership over reproducing discipleship into the next generation.
- Disciples have a plan in place and names in mind to invite into a discipleship relationship.

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## Appendix

## Missional Temperature Inventory

Name:	Date:				
People far from (	God in my sphei	res of influence	l pray for re	gularly	(FRANC):
Friends					
Relatives					
Acquaintances _					
Neighbors					
Co-workers					
My Current Missi	ional Temperatu	ıre:			
1 2 Apathy • Unaware • Disobedient • Hostility	3 4 Growing Passion • Growing Awareness • Desire & Prayer • Build Relationships	5 6 Growing Practice • Learn Methods • Trying & Improving • Conversations • Invitations	7 8 Growing Im • God Uses • People Be in Jesus	You	10 Convergence • High Impact • Recognized Leader
BLESS	What I plan to temperature	o do to raise my one degree:	r missional	Dead	line
<b>B</b> egin to Pray					
Listen					
Eat					
<b>S</b> erve					
Share					



Scan for additional downloadable inventories

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## **General Tips:**

- It is essential to have a clearly stated commitment before starting the discipling relationship. The goal is to become a disciple of Jesus Christ by understanding our identities and life patterns. The commitment is to enter and complete a process that helps you to become a disciple maker and multiplier.
- Additionally, it is important for people to "begin with the end in mind". We all start off as New Believers, then grow to be Disciples, and then to become reproductive Disciple Makers. To become a Disciple Maker, we are setting the high bar of becoming a person who has embraced the idea that we are no longer consumers trying to become a better person, but one who is living for others in the name of Jesus Christ.

### How do I extend grace to people who are unable to finish?

When issues arise, talk with the person individually and see if the issue is a barrier to fulfilling his/her commitments. If the person cannot or will not keep his/her commitments, lovingly invite them out of the process and state that it would be better to start again at a later date. This does not mean that they are a failure or a bad person, it just means that following Christ is serious and if our ultimate goal is to make disciples, we need to focus our time and efforts on those who are available and committed to become disciple makers. We are not rejecting them; we are just making sure we prioritize making disciples who make disciples.

# How do we help our disciples make The Ask to their future disciples?

- Who should I select to disciple?
  - People who are Faithful, Available, Teachable, Strategic (FATS). You believe they will be willing to commit to disciple others because of your time together with them.
- What should I say to invite them into the process?
  - I want to invite you to join me plus 2-3 others on a life-on-life journey to discover together our full identity as we follow Jesus.
  - We will meet and learn together more of what it means to:

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- Our time together will help us develop our identity and create life patterns as Christian men/women while strengthening our role as a Husband/Wife, Father/Mother, Friend, and at Work.
- Before you quickly say yes, the commitment is for you to become a disciple maker by following Jesus' command known as The Great Commission.
- This means after we finish, you will identify 2-3 people to go through this journey together, and they will commit to eventually identify 2-3 other people to develop as disciple makers following the Biblical example in 2 Timothy 2. I am excited to see how God is going to grow us and work in and through our time together!

### Advice from other Disciple-Makers:

- From the start, introduce the two foundational disciplines: The daily quiet time and Missional Temperature and cover these two things every week.
- Remind people repeatedly that this is not a program, this is a lifestyle.
- Be a multiplication champion! Finish every session with this statement: "When YOU are discipling your next people..."
- Create an opportunity for experiential learning. (ex. Prayer walk each other's neighborhoods, invite your disciples and their families over for dinner, find a way to serve somewhere as a group together.)
- Cover the process in prayer, then pray over it more, and finish it off with more prayer!
- Discipleship is far more than going through material, it's life-on-life and highly relational. As I follow Jesus, I am available to walk through life's challenges with my disciples and impart the Lord's wisdom as the Holy Spirit reveals.
- The connection to each other is often more life-changing than the content of what is discussed.
- Do not rush the process -- backtrack to past sections when needed.
- Commit to prayer about who God wants you to disciple.
- Group members need time to get to know each other so that there is authenticity and vulnerability (ex. Share testimonies). Each member needs to be reminded of their redemption and passion for Christ so that their identity flows naturally and is not a forced list of things to do.



- Be prepared to dive deeper into topics as needed: "How to Study the Bible", "How to share your faith", "Work-life Ministry," etc.
- People are not ready to reproduce unless they themselves are healthy. Make sure you shepherd people well.
- Communicate frequently this process is about Disciple-Making not just discipleship. The principle of multiplication needs to drive what we are doing.
- Keep it regular, relational, and reproducible.
- Have a strong accountability partner that can serve as a sounding board and encourager as you lead others in a disciple-making journey.
- Follow through, follow through, follow through.
- You are not finished with your personal connection and shepherding of anyone you disciple until they have reproduced themselves.

## **Guidelines for Discipleship with Students**

### If you are either

a) an adult interested in discipling students (Middle School or High School young adults)

b) a student beginning discipleship with a younger peer

... here are some guidelines and requests to respect families and create a foundation of trust from the outset.

- 1. When discipling students, it's essential to communicate to the parents of students the time and location of your meeting plans.
- 2. Parents are the primary disciple-makers of their children, and they want and deserve to know what their child is learning. With this in mind, please attempt to communicate the content of discipleship lessons with parents. You can simply overview the main ideas and concepts of each lesson.
- Particularly for students in the disciple-maker role, check in regularly (e.g. monthly) with anyone who discipled you or is providing ongoing coaching to talk through challenges or celebrations.
- 4. Stay curious. When we lead others to Jesus, it's easy to feel in charge and like we have all the answers someone else needs. Great disciplemakers remember to stay curious by asking lots of questions to better understand those they are leading, to get what they are uniquely going through.

## **Disciple Covenant**

The purpose of this covenant is to express our shared convictions as a discipleship group. It should serve as a guardrail that provides trajectory and focus. It reminds us of the commitments we have made to Jesus and each other. It describes how we plan to live out our faith in the context of an intentionally Jesuscentered community.

By participating in this group, I agree with the following statements:

- I want to grow as a disciple of Jesus and learn how to honor and emulate him as a disciple maker.
- I understand that I am committing to attending every meeting, arriving on time, and completing the assignments.
- I understand that the mission of this group is to help each other become more like Jesus. The discipleship process is based upon Jesus, his teachings, and his method of making disciples.
- I commit to get to know God better through his Word in this process. I will complete my reading assignments and prayerfully ask God to reveal himself to me.
- I recognize that in order to grow as a follower of Jesus, I must openly share my life with this group- the good, the bad, and the ugly. I will disclose secrets,

confess sins, and ask the group to help me overcome the areas of my life that have yet to be surrendered to the lordship of Jesus.

- I commit to confidentiality. What is said in the group stays in the group.
- I understand that I will take direct, unfiltered feedback. I will do everything in my power to receive it in love and be transformed by it. I will avoid defensiveness, realizing that when I defend myself, I forfeit the opportunity to grow. I am committed to being open to examine myself, my personality, my past, my habits, and the way I treat people.
- I will not give unsolicited advice or try to solve someone else's problems during group meetings.
  I will listen attentively while others share and will respond when and if the person sharing requests feedback from me.
- I will pray for every member of this group.
- I commit to actively BLESS (Begin with prayer, Listen with care, Eat together, Serve, Share my story and God's story) my spheres of influence.
- I commit myself, to at some time in the future when Jesus lets me know that I am ready, becoming a disciple maker and forming a group like this myself.

Signature:

Date:



## **Disciple-Multiplication Temperature Inventory**

The purpose of this Temperature inventory is for you to have a tool to evaluate how you and your disciple-downlines are growing as a disciple, disciple-maker, and disciple-multiplier. This tool is meant to glean insight by identifying areas of current strength as well as areas to focus for growth. It is for assessment and not for legalistic ranking or comparison and should be handled with humility and grace.

After each statement give a rating of 1-5 (1 is low and 5 is high) assessing yourself personally (P), your disciples (D), and if applicable their disciples (D2). Use this tool to have an open discussion on strengths and ways to improve.

Are you in the Word?	Р	D	D2
Can articulate their story & God's story			
Lives a balanced, well-paced life prioritizing a relationship with Jesus			
Regularly participates in corporate worship			
Growing in Christ-likeness			
Are you in the Family?	Ρ	D	D2
Actively involved in a Life Group			
Has accountable relationships			
Intentional with others (e.g. encouragement, confession, forgiveness)			
Are you in the Trenches?	Р	D	D2
Invests time, talents, & treasures to serve their family			
Invests time, talents, & treasures to serve the church			
Invests time, talents, & treasures to serve in other spheres of influence			
Are you in the Field?	Ρ	D	D2
Is praying over a FRANC list regularly			
Actively BLESSing that FRANC list			
Looking for & taking opportunities to share the gospel			
Has been discipled by someone else & is discipling others			
Has a clear picture of their disciples' celebrations & challenges			

### **Commissioning Disciples**

At the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, he commissioned his disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that He had commanded. Our desire is to follow Jesus by commissioning our disciples to go and do as we have done with them.

We see incredible value in doing this publicly through a special disciple commissioning because:

- Publicly declaring your intent to disciple for the rest of your life is transformational in itself.
- Like Baptism, Communion, Marriage Vows, like many other spiritual rites of passage into adulthood, there is something very valuable about making public commitments.
- Public Commissioning lends a seriousness to the commitments we make.
- Public Commissioning and making "vows" to continue discipleship invites others to witness your commitment to both God and the other people present.
- Public Commissioning celebrates the accomplishment in a special way.

Because this is our desire, we will intentionally gather regularly to publicly celebrate and commission new disciple-makers. We want to encourage you as disciples and disciple makers to make every effort to attend these when possible so that we can continue build momentum, cast vision, and collectively commission disciple makers together.

## **Coaching Your Disciples**

### Strategy:

Your ultimate goal in making disciples is to obey the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, that the gospel would reach the whole world. This will be accomplished to the extent that we successfully obey who Jesus has called us to be and do what Jesus has called us to do.

Your immediate goal is to successfully launch those you have discipled until they have discipled their own people as disciple makers. This will probably look different with each discipleship group you launch because of differing maturity levels. To ensure your success, it is important to create and ongoing coaching relationship where you know well the condition of those you have sent out. That is the purpose of the Disciple-Multiplication temperature inventory. It is meant to be used as a tool in your ongoing coaching relationship with your disciples.

### Milestones:

- Your first milestone is accomplished when your disciples can effectively articulate their identity statements and life patterns.
- Your second milestone is when your disciples have selected and scheduled their first meeting with THEIR disciples.
- Your third milestone is accomplished when they successfully reproduce.

### Here are a few coaching options to consider:

### Option 1:

- You have concluded these sessions and your disciples have identified and invited their disciples into a discipleship relationship and are ready to begin.
- Make sure they are aware of and invited to the next Disciple Commissioning service.
- Stop meeting with them on a weekly basis and launch them to meet with their disciples. Have them email us a disciple@parkway.church to let us know who they will be discipling.
- Encourage them to read The Disciple Makers Handbook by Bobby Harrington and Josh Patrick.
- Meet with your launched disciples 1x month or every other month checking in on their discipleship temperature.
- Feel free to stop meeting with them once they have reproduced. Consider checking in on a quarterly or bi-annual basis.

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### Option 2:

- You have concluded these sessions and your disciples have identified their disciples that they would like to invite, but you sense they could use a little more help to get going.
- Have them email us a disciple@parkway.church to let us know who they will be discipling.
- Consider meeting every other week with them while they meet every week or every other week with their disciples.
- Use the same structure you have been using with them, except in the "look up" time, evaluate their previous week with their disciples by asking, "What are your disciples' current celebrations and challenges?" Based off of their responses, use that time to help coach them forward.
- As a group you could read and discuss The Disciple Makers Handbook by Bobby Harrington and Josh Patrick.
- When you feel it is appropriate adjust to option 1 meeting schedule.

### **Option 3:**

- You have concluded these sessions, but your disciples are not ready to be launched.
- Email us a disciple@parkway.church to let us know where you are at.
- Keep meeting together weekly using the same format that except use The Disciple Makers Handbook by Bobby Harrington and Josh Patrick. As one of the following goals as well as the content that you cover during your look up section. There are questions at the end of each chapter.
- As you feel appropriate with the group consider adjusting to option 1 or 2. Remember the goal is to reproduce and multiply. It will always be easier and more comfortable to just keep meeting.

## Appendix

### Resources to help you go deeper

### Are you in the Word?

- Emotionally Healthy Spirituality by Pete Scazzero
- Counterfeit God's by Tim Keller
- A Praying Life by Paul Miller
- Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster
- Awe by Paul Tripp
- Desiring God by John Piper
- Knowing God by J.I Packer
- The Jesus I Never Knew by Philip Yancey

### Are you in the Family?

- Emotionally Healthy Relationships by Pete Scazzero
- Emotionally Healthy Church by Pete Scazzero
- Boundaries by Henry Cloud & John Townsend

### Are you in the Trenches?

- The Treasure Principle by Randy Alcorn
- On Being a Servant of God by Warren Wiersbe & Jim Cymbala
- Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands by Paul Tripp
- More by Todd Wilson

### Are you in the Field?

- The Art of Neighboring by Pathak and Runyon
- Missional Renaissance by Reggie McNeal
- Center Church by Tim Keller
- B.L.E.S.S. by Dave Ferguson and Jon Ferguson
- The Disciple Makers Handbook by Bobby Harrington and Josh Patrick
- Lost Art of Disciple Making by LeRoy Eims
- Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman
- Discipleshift by Jim Putman
- Spiritual Multiplication in the Real World by Bob McNabb

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