



HIGH IMPACT  
CHURCH

# **SESSION 1**

# **OVERVIEW**

## **At the end of our time together you will...**

- ✔ Have a clear understanding of how to make disciples.
- ✔ Meet with God to evaluate how you, as a pastor, are living as a disciple.
- ✔ Have an outline to teach to your congregation.
- ✔ Access free resources to help you grow as a pastor.

**THE NUMBER ONE CORRELATION BETWEEN CHURCHES  
THAT GROW AND CHURCHES THAT DO NOT GROW IS THE  
WILLINGNESS OF THE CHURCH LEADERSHIP TO GO  
OUTSIDE ITSELF AND GET HELP.**

# 1. REVIEWING THE BASICS

- A. Timeless Truth: The World is in desperate need for RECONCILIATION and TRANSFORMATION.
- B. The Church has always been God's PLAN A to change the world. There is no PLAN B.

C. The Church, dependent on God's truth and the power of the Holy Spirit, has the solutions for the moral decay and spiritual darkness that pervade our world.

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-16).



Pastor, YOU are in the CENTER of God's plan to provide salt and light to the world.

## 2. WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY

- A. Tragic Truth: There is a growing DISCIPLESHIP DEFICIT in today's church.
- B. Our evangelism progress has not been matched by a corresponding discipleship focus.

- J.I. Packer – “Christianity ... is 3,000 miles wide and ½-inch deep.”
- Dallas Willard – “The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heartbreaking needs, is whether those who... are identified as ‘Christians’ will become disciples –students, apprentices, practitioners – of Jesus Christ, learning from Him how to live the life of the Kingdom of Heaven and to bring it into every corner of human existence.”
- Lausanne research – The greatest need in the global Church in 2024 is discipleship.

C. Our focus on church growth has often been at the expense of CHURCH HEALTH.

D. How we usually measure church growth: ATTENDANCE, OFFERINGS and BUILDINGS - has promoted the discipleship deficit.

# **3. HOW JESUS MEASURES CHURCH SUCCESS & WHAT THE EARLY CHURCH DEMONSTRATED (ACTS 2-5)**

**LOST PEOPLE ARE COMING TO CHRIST.**

**The Great Commission**

“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

(Matthew 28:18-20)

**FOUND PEOPLE ARE GROWING TO MATURITY.**

## **The Great Commandment**

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”  
Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

(Matthew 22:36-40)

**MEETING SIGNIFICANT NEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY.**

**The Great Compassion**

“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers or sisters of Mine, you did it to Me.’”

(Matthew 25:34-40)

**WHEN A CHURCH LIVES OUT THESE THREE  
CHARACTERISTICS, IT BECOMES A HIGH  
IMPACT CHURCH.**

# 4. WHAT TYPE OF DISCIPLE IS FOUND IN A HIGH IMPACT CHURCH?

THE PROFILE OF A MATURE DISCIPLE = ROMANS 12

Who we want our people to “**BE**”

- Surrendered to God – Romans 12:1
- Separate from the World's Values – Romans 12:2
- Sober Self-Assessment – Romans 12:3-8
- Serving in Love – Romans 12:9-13
- Supernaturally Responding to Evil with Good – Romans 12:14-21

# 5. WHAT TYPE OF PROCESS IS USED IN A HIGH IMPACT CHURCH?

THE PATHWAY TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY = B.I.O.

What we want our people to “**DO**”

- BEFORE GOD Daily
- IN COMMUNITY Weekly
- ON MISSION 24/7



# SUMMARY

## WHAT JESUS CALLS US TO DO

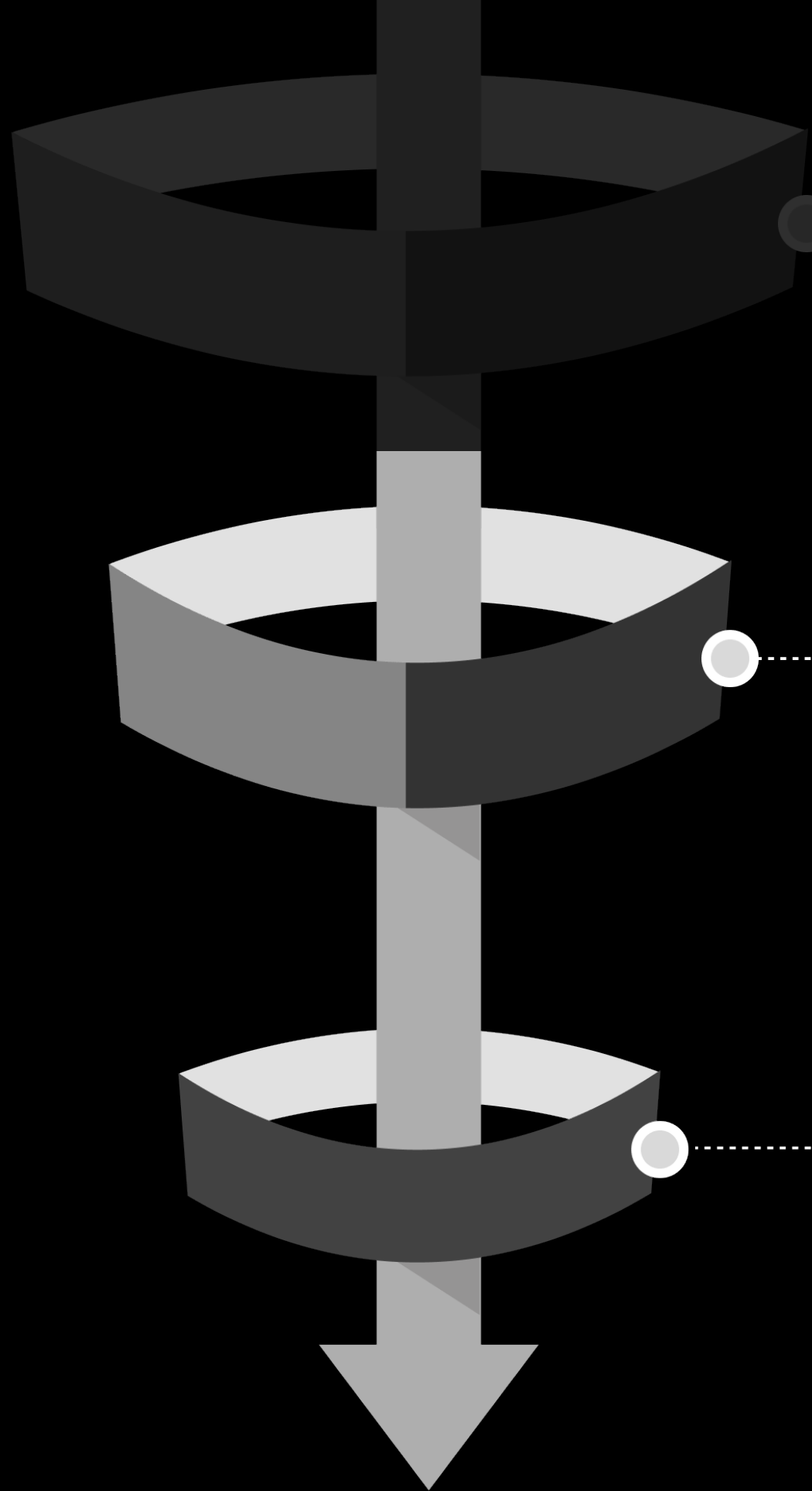
- Great Commandment (Matthew 22)
- Great Commission (Matthew 28)
- Great Compassion (Matthew 25)

## WHAT A HEALTHY CHURCH LOOKS LIKE

- Lost People Coming to Christ
- Found People Growing Into Maturity
- Meeting Deepest Needs in Community

## WHAT A HEALTHY DISCIPLE LOOKS LIKE

- Surrendered
- Separate
- Self-Assessment



## WHAT A HEALTHY CHURCH LOOKS LIKE

Lost People Coming to Christ  
Found People Growing Into Maturity  
Meeting Deepest Needs in  
Community

## WHAT A HEALTHY DISCIPLE LOOKS LIKE

Surrendered  
Separate  
Self-Assessment  
Serving  
Supernaturally

## HOW TO MAKE HEALTHY DISCIPLES

Before God  
In Community  
On Mission

# **6. THE WAY FORWARD**



The greatest need in the church today is for Christians to live like Christians.

A. A church will rise and fall on the SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP of its pastors and the STRENGTH of its disciples.

B. As a pastor, you cannot be effective at making disciples until you:

- MEASURE success the way Jesus measures it (3 characteristics)
- Have a CLEAR picture of what a disciple looks like
- Develop a PROCESS and PLAN to make disciples in your church

# INTERACTION

- What one point in this session spoke to your heart the most?
- Which of these three areas does your church live out the best?
  - Lost people coming to Christ?
  - Believers growing into maturity?
  - Meeting some of the most significant needs in the community?
- Which one of these does your church struggle with the most?  
Why?

**SESSION 2**

**A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK OF  
DISCIPLESHIP**

# 1. THE NEED

- A. The Great Commandment, Great Commission and Great Compassion show us how to measure church health.
- B. Romans 12 shows us **WHAT** a disciple looks like, so our next question should be “HOW do we make them?”
- C. People do not spontaneously grow into mature believers. A BELIEVER is not automatically a DISCIPLE.

**RELATIONSHIP****A ROMANS 12 (MATURE) DISCIPLE:****A TYPICAL (IMMATURE) BELIEVER:**

God

Surrendered to God

God provides helpful suggestions to consider

World

Separate from the world's values

Losing the battle of sex, status and salary

Self

Sober in self-assessment

No idea about spiritual identity or giftedness

Believers

Serving in love

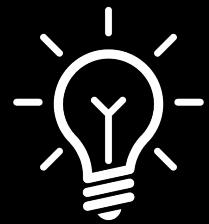
Attending church programs

Non-Believers

Supernaturally responding to evil with good

Eye for an eye; lack of love

D. Jesus' focus was on making DISCIPLES to change the world, not getting DECISIONS (Luke 9:23-25).



**A disciple is an ordinary person who follows the person and teaching of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

- E. Becoming a disciple requires an INTENTIONAL DECISION to follow Jesus' life and teaching.
- F. Becoming a disciple requires a **PATH** and **PROCESS** to grow into spiritual maturity.
- G. As pastors, we must turn our good intentions to make disciples into ACTION with a PLAN.

## 2. JESUS' INVITATION

A. Jesus promised an ABUNDANT LIFE starting TODAY.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.** (John 10:10)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but **have eternal life.** (John 3:16)

**This is eternal life,** that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. (John 17:3)

“**Come to Me,** all who are weary and heavy-laden, and **I will give you rest.** Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For **My yoke** is easy and My burden is light.”

(Matthew 11:28-30)

B. We must COME to Jesus and LEARN from Him if we are to experience the life He promises.

<b>OUR RESPONSIBILITIES</b>		<b>JESUS PROMISES</b>
<b>To Come</b>	→	Rest, Peace, Acceptance
<b>Take His Yoke</b> Upon Us • Submit to His Teaching • Imitate His Lifestyle	→	Be gentle and patience with us as we learn a new way of living
<b>Learn From Him</b> • Practice His Ways • Walk His Same Path • Do What He Did	→	Rest for our souls (our very core of being) and a calling that fits us and fulfills us

# 3. A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR DISCIPLE-MAKING

A. Coming to Jesus is an EVENT and a lifelong JOURNEY of learning to follow His EXAMPLE and His TEACHING.

- The Event = Salvation (John 3:16, Romans 5:1-5)
- The Process = Discipleship (Matthew 4:19, Luke 9:23-25)
- The Person = “THE PATH” (John 14:6)

B. Jesus PRACTICED “The Way” of living in dependency on the Spirit and submission to the Father.

- He came “**Before God**” Daily (Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16, 9:18, 28, 11:1)
- He did life “**In Community**” (Mark 3:13, John 13)
- He was “**On Mission**” 24/7 (Mark 10:45, Luke 19:10)

C. Jesus TAUGHT His disciples what was required to experience the supernatural life He gave them. (John 10)

Come BEFORE GOD  
(John 15)



**ABIDE** in Christ.  
(John 15:1-11)

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Do life IN COMMUNITY  
(John 13, John 17)



**LOVE** each other  
(John 15:12-17)

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Be ON MISSION  
(Matthew 28:18-20)



**WITNESS** to the world  
(John 18-27)

D. Until we grasp the heart of God and the WHY of discipleship, we will be destined to methods and programs that lead to discouragement, legalism, or self-righteousness.

## **GOD'S DESIRE IN THE GARDEN**

Genesis (1-2)

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### **A Family** (Before God)

Children "like Him" to reflect His glory  
& be their father

Goal = to know Him

### **A Friendship** (In Community)

To do life together

Goal = to love Him

### **A Partner** (On Mission)

To fulfill a mission & co-create

A future together of beauty & life

Goal = to serve Him

## **GOD'S FULFILLMENT IN NEW HEAVEN & NEW EARTH**

Revelation (21-22)

### **A Perfect Family**, marriage supper of the Lamb -

Christ's love for His bride, the Church.

### **A Perfect Community** to do life with God on a

perfect earth with no sin or death.

### **A Future Mission** of ruling and reign with Christ to co-

create and fulfill God's eternal purposes and fulfill our  
deepest joy forever.

E. Jesus rescued and restored God's original heart's desire and provided "A Way" for redeemed people to become children of God.

“For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven.” (Colossians 1:13-20)

- KNOW Him intimately as “our Father” – (Before God)
- LOVE Him & experience His love “as friends” – (In Community)
- SERVE Him as partners to help fulfill His eternal purposes to reconcile all things to Him – (On Mission)



**DON'T MISS THIS:** Before God, In Community and On Mission is the Jesus model for discipleship.

# 4. OUR OPPORTUNITY

A. The Church has embraced and TAUGHT these “Truths” for generations, but have not PRACTICED what Jesus *actually did* to experience the supernatural life of joy, love and peace that He offers.

B. To seek first His Kingdom and righteousness, pastors must have a plan to equip their church to practice:

- Coming BEFORE GOD Daily = To Know
- Doing Life IN COMMUNITY Weekly = To Love
- Being ON MISSION 24/7 = To Serve

C. Jesus promise: “Every student when he is fully trained will be just like his teacher.” (Luke 6:40)

D. The ‘discipleship deficit’ can be erased and Christians can live like Christians when we...

- Stop “Trying hard to be good Christians”
- Start “Training in the ways of Jesus”

...so we will experience the LIFE and POWER of Jesus in every relationship and circumstance.

# INTERACTION

- What one idea challenged you the most in this session?
- Which of these three practices do you believe your church members are living out the best?
  - Before God Daily
  - In Community Weekly
  - On Mission 24/7
- Which one of these does your church struggle with the most?  
Why?

**SESSION 3**

**BEFORE GOD**

# **PRACTICE #1 - COME BEFORE GOD DAILY**

## **Goals for this session:**

### **1. Personal Application for Every Pastor**

- To meet God daily through His Word and prayer.
- To practice the presence of God throughout your day.

### **2. Church Application for Every Church**

- To come before God with God's people in worship.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

WHY GOD'S PEOPLE NEED TO DEVELOP THIS PRACTICE MORE THAN EVER BEFORE — “THE CRISIS OF IDENTITY”

A. The Good News: Jesus' life & teaching answer this question definitively

- We are **the children** of God. – John 1:12, Luke 11:1
- The New Testament emphatically teaches that **through Christ** we have become the “beloved children of God.” – Romans 8:15-16, Galatians 5:26, Ephesian 1:5, 1 John 3:1-2

B. The Bad News: Most Christians do not share much family resemblance

- Knowledge “**about**” God ≠ knowledge “**of**” God – John 17:3
- We have believed Jesus’ teaching about “sonship” but have not followed His practice of sonship.



**We become most like those with whom we spend the most time. – 1 John 3:2, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Proverbs 13:20**

## 2. WHAT DID JESUS PRACTICE?

- A. His highest priority was knowing and pleasing His Father.  
– John 4:34, 5:19, 30
- B. He habitually memorized and meditated on God's Word.  
– Matthew 4:4
- C. He habitually “slipped away” to a private place to pray.  
– Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16, 6:12, 11:1

# 3. WHAT DID JESUS TEACH?

- A. Our relationship with the Lord is determined by our response to His Word. – Mark 4, Luke 8, Matthew 13
- B. Our view of God in prayer will determine our intimacy and answers. – Luke 11:1-11
- C. Our **obedience to God's Word** is the prerequisite to experiencing His love and presence. – John 14:21
- D. Abiding is the goal! – John 15:1-11 → **Joy** is the result!

# 4. HOW TO COME BEFORE GOD PRIVATELY:

A. Make a daily appointment with Jesus - Set time, place, and a plan.

B. It's a habit to develop =

☑ Duty

☑ Discipline

☑ Delight

## C. Practice Solomon's Advice. – Proverbs 2:1-5

- |   |               |                       |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|
| <p><sup>1</sup> My son, if you will receive My words<br/>And treasure My commandments within you,</p> | <p>○————→</p> | <p>Be Intentional</p> |
| <p><sup>2</sup> Make your ear attentive to wisdom,<br/>Incline your heart to understanding;</p>       | <p>○————→</p> | <p>Be Teachable</p>   |
| <p><sup>3</sup> For if you cry for discernment,<br/>Lift your voice for understanding;</p>            | <p>○————→</p> | <p>Be Passionate</p>  |
| <p><sup>4</sup> If you seek her as silver<br/>And search for her as for hidden treasures;</p>         | <p>○————→</p> | <p>Be Diligent</p>    |
| <p><sup>5</sup> Then you will discern the fear of the LORD<br/>And discover the knowledge of God.</p> | <p>○————→</p> | <p>Be Transformed</p> |

# 5. HOW TO PRACTICE THE PRESENCE OF GOD THROUGHOUT YOUR DAY

— COLOSSIANS 4:1-4, 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

A. Take one truth, promise, or verse from your time with God and “chew” on it throughout the day.

☑ Meditation

☑ Application

☑ Transformation

☑ Success

B. Joshua 1:8, Psalm 1:1-3

C. Practice ongoing conversations in your mind with God when alone in the car, waiting in line, while in a deep conversation and you need wisdom, even in meetings. In every situation ask, “God, what are you up to here?”

## 6. PERSONAL EVALUATION (LUKE 6:40)

- A. Life change, bearing fruit, being used by God can only happen when the supernatural life of Jesus is flowing into your life and heart by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- B. The Holy Spirit takes the written Word and makes it the Living Word in your mind and heart empowering new desires, breaking old habits, and manifesting the love of God in your experience.

C. Coming before God daily does not earn His favor, or magically change your life...it positions you to receive God's grace and know Jesus and see Jesus for who He really is.

D. As you spend time with Him you will become progressively more like Him, think like Him, feel what He feels, and do what He would do if He lived in your body – which He does.

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

# 7. PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR PASTORS

- A. Use your SERMONS to constantly direct people to be in God's Word for THEMSELVES.
- B. Getting people to spend time with God is the most important thing you can do as a pastor. When people are spending time with God, the church naturally grows.

- C. Everything in this session can serve as an outline for you to teach your people about why it is important to come Before God daily.
- D. Share testimonies from your own life (and others) about how you are hearing from God.
- E. Provide TOOLS to help people come before God, i.e. The Bible App, Biblegateway.com, etc.
- F. Provide TRAINING in how to study the Bible.



**RESOURCE FOR YOU:** Download '**Daily Discipleship with Chip.**'

**Instructions:** Open your camera on your phone and point it towards this QR code. Do NOT take a photo! On your screen, yellow brackets will appear on the QR code and a website will appear below it. Click on the website. This will take you to a website page where you can view and download these resources.

G. Live before God yourself. You must BE the person you want people to BECOME. Your LIFE is your MESSAGE.

# INTERACTION

- God wants to spend time with you! How are you personally doing with your time with God?
- What do you think is the greatest challenge that keeps you from spending the time you need Before God each day?

**SESSION 4**

**IN COMMUNITY**

# PRACTICE #2

## TO DO LIFE “IN COMMUNITY” WEEKLY

### Goals for this session:

1. To practice a mindset of servanthood in all relationships.
2. To participate in vulnerable, in-depth relationships with fellow believers for mutual support and accountability.
3. To discover and deepen one's spiritual gifts to build up the body and grow in Christ-like character.
4. Develop a church culture characterized by serving in love through multiplying small groups.

# 1. UNDERSTANDING THE NEED

A. The #1 relationship problem in our world is LONELINESS.

- Humanity was made in the image of a RELATIONAL God.  
(Genesis 1:26)
- Even in the best ENVIRONMENT – It's not good to be ALONE.  
(Genesis 2:18-23)
- Sin broke our RELATIONSHIP with God and each other.  
(Genesis 3:8-12)

# 2. WHAT IS BIBLICAL COMMUNITY?

A. Biblical community is SHARED LIFE with God and each other.

ACCOMPLISHED by Christ.  
(Ephesians 2:14-20)



One new body,  
Jew & Gentile

ENABLED by the Spirit.  
(1 Corinthians 12:12-13)



Baptized into a new family,  
one body

EXPERIENCED with each other.  
(Acts 2:42)



Met together, “koinonia,” had all  
things in common

B. Biblical community goes beyond SOCIAL connection to a FAMILY commitment.

- We have been ADOPTED by God. (Romans 8:14-16)
- Addresses our fear of REJECTION – you BELONG! (Romans 12:4-5)
- Address our insecurity – you are NEEDED! (Romans 12:6-8)

# 3. HOW DID JESUS PRACTICE BIBLICAL COMMUNITY?

- A. He INVITED people into His personal world. (John 1:37-39)  
“Come and see.”
- B. He considered others more important than Himself –  
He SERVED. (Mark 10:45, Philippians 2:5-8)
- C. He chose 12 to live “with Him” in close proximity –  
a SMALL GROUP. (Mark 3:14)

D. He loved, forgave, inspired, affirmed, reproved, and prayed with and for them while sharing His dreams, hurts and challenges – a TRUE FRIEND. (John 15:15)

E. Jesus NEEDED people in His life to fulfill His mission.  
(Matthew 26:37-38)

# 4. WHAT DID JESUS TEACH ABOUT BIBLICAL COMMUNITY?

- A. Greatness is achieved by HUMILITY and SERVANTHOOD; not power and prestige. (Luke 22:24-30)
- B. God's BLESSING and favor come when we put other's needs first. (John 13:1-18)
- C. Love is measured by SACRIFICE, not emotions or words. (John 15:13-14)

- D. Biblical community of love provides HOPE and a WITNESS to the world that Jesus' claims are true. (John 13:34-35, 17:21)
- E. Biblical community SEEKS OUT those who most people leave out. (Matthew 25:34-46)

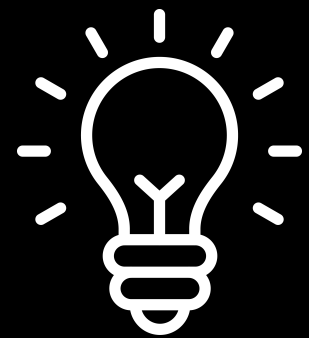
# 5. HOW TO DO LIFE IN COMMUNITY

- A. Go into training daily to develop a servant's ATTITUDE in every relational environment.
- B. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:5)
- C. Start or join a small group that is serious about PRACTICING the "ONE ANOTHERS" commanded in the New Testament.

- Be devoted to one another in mutual love. (Romans 12:10)
- Accept one another. (Romans 15:7)
- Serve one another in love. (Galatians 5:13)
- Be kind and compassionate to one another. (Ephesians 4:32)
- Forgive one another. (Colossians 3:13)
- Bearing with one another in love. (Ephesians 4:2)

**(CONTINUED...)**

- Admonish one another. (Colossians 3:16)
- Live in harmony with one another. (Romans 12:16)
- Bear one another's burdens. (Galatians 6:2)
- Spur one another to love and good deeds. (Hebrews 10:24)
- Love one another. (John 1:33-35)



**DON'T MISS THIS:** These commands cannot be fulfilled in a large group.

D. Review the following questions flowing out of **Romans 12:9-13** to discern your “NEXT STEPS” to grow in community.

• *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. (Romans 12:9)*

- Is the “REAL ME” showing up in my relationships or a “projection” of what I want others to see?
  - Am I authentic?
  - Am I pure?

- *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; (Romans 12:10)*
- Am I “MEETING REAL NEEDS” in people’s lives or only “superficial ones” that are convenient?
  - Am I devoted to others?
  - Do I put others first?

- *not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; (Romans 12:11)*
  - Am I doing kind acts "FOR JESUS" or to "please people" and gain their approval?
    - What's my motivation?
    - Am I passionate or passive?

- *rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. (Romans 12:12-13)*
- Am I serving others in “MY STRENGTH” or the power of the Holy Spirit?
  - Do I have an upward focus – joy?
  - Do I have an inward focus – burnout?

# 6. PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR PASTORS

The 3 primary purposes of the pastor are to preach and teach God's Word, develop leaders, and shepherd the flock through holistic small groups.

- A. Make a commitment to developing SMALL GROUPS as your life-change, disciple-making strategy in the church (2 Timothy 2:2).

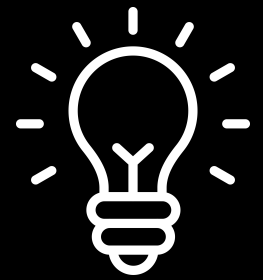
B. PREACH A SERMON SERIES about the value of community at least once per year.

- The book of Acts through the lens of small groups
- The “one another” passages in the New Testament

C. Find that KEY LEADERS . Do not add this to your responsibilities!

D. Provide regular, on-going training to your small group leaders. Goal: De-centralize “shepherding” to these leaders. Small groups can be the LEADERSHIP ENGINE for your church.

E. Provide CURRICULUM to guard doctrine.



**DON'T MISS THIS:** We can't do this life alone!

# INTERACTION

- Jesus had Peter, James, and John to support Him. Do you have yours? What are some ways that you can find and deepen these relationships in your life?
- What are the obstacles you are facing to build community in your congregation?

**SESSION 5**  
**ON MISSION**

# PRACTICE #3

## TO BE ON MISSION 24/7

### Goals for this session:

#### 1. Personal Application

To develop a habitual “outward focus” on the needs of others to demonstrate Christ’s love and compassion; building bridges to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### 2. Church Application

The church body mobilized to meet the deepest needs in the community as ambassadors of Christ sharing the message of reconciliation.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

A. Every human being asks at some point in their life: What's my purpose? Why am I here?

- Recent research on the malaise and mental health crisis among the next generation is a “lack of purpose.”
  - Solution: Every person in your church needs to understand, and live out, their MISSION, beginning with you.

- Ministering to “felt needs” is important, but a diet of only “felt need” will lead people to focus on THEMSELVES rather than the MISSION.

# 2. QUICK REVIEW AND CONTEXT

## 3 FACTS ABOUT US WHO PLACED OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

A. We have a new standing BEFORE God.

- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:1)

B. We received the Holy Spirit and are IN a new community.

- For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” (Romans 8:15)

C. We are given a new assignment, to be ON mission.

- And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” (Matthew 4:19)

# 3. JESUS CLEARLY STATED HIS MISSION.

- For the Son of Man has come to **seek and to save** that which was lost. – Luke 19:10
- For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to **give His life a ransom for many.** – Mark 10:45

# 4. JESUS MODELED HIS MISSION.

A. He had COMPASSION on the multitudes.

- Seeing the crowds, HE FELT COMPASSION ON THEM, because they were distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd. – Matthew 9:36
- HE SPOKE THE TRUTH IN LOVE. – John 3 (Nicodemus)

- He met people where they were and showed grace and acceptance without compromising truth. – John 4 (woman at the well), Matthew 9:10-17 (eats with tax collector)
- HE BOLDLY DECLARED THE GOSPEL despite hostility, rejection and persecution. – John 10 (good shepherd message)

# 5. JESUS GAVE HIS DISCIPLES AND US A GLOBAL MANDATE!

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)

- **The Truth**

We are under orders by the king of kings to make disciples of all nations.

- **Perspective**

You are the greatest Christian some people will ever know and meet.

# 6. GOD HAS GIVEN US A SUPERNATURAL MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION AND TRANSFORMATION

(2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-21)

A. OUR MOTIVATION – For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. v.14

B. OUR MISSION– And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. v.15

C. OUR NEW PERSPECTIVE – So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! v.16-17

D. OUR ROLE – All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. v.18-21

E. OUR CALLING – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. - Ephesians. 2:10

- **The Truth**

We each have the unspeakable privilege and a unique calling as God's representative to implore everyone to be reconciled to God.

- **Perspective**

The power is in the MESSAGE not the messenger. – Romans 1:16

God has a UNIQUE mission for each of us. – Romans 12:4-5

God has prepared a special good work: for each of us to fulfill through our talents and spiritual gifts. There is only one YOU!  
– Ephesians. 2:10

# 7. GOD HAS EQUIPPED US FOR AN INVISIBLE WAR!

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.

(Ephesians 6:10-12, 18)

- **The Truth**

We are battling for the souls of men, women, and children in this life and the next.

- **Perspective**

Where prayer prevails POWER falls.

# 8. PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR PASTORS

1. Do not expect your people lead people to Christ if you are not doing it. Who are 3 people you are going to target?
2. Do you know your spiritual gifts? First discover yours and then help your people discover theirs.
3. Lead your church to reach outside itself. What step of faith will you take to meet some of the deepest needs in your community?



**THE REAL YOU:** When people operate within their gift area and passion, they will go far beyond anything you would ask of them. To help you with this, you and your congregation can access our free, online spiritual gifts assessment called The Real You. ([TheRealYou.org](http://TheRealYou.org))

**Instructions:** Open your camera on your phone and point it towards this QR code. Do NOT take a photo! On your screen, yellow brackets will appear on the QR code and a website will appear below it. Click on the website. This will take you to a website page where you can view and download these resources.

# INTERACTION

- What area of your responsibilities are you presently feeling thoroughly overwhelmed in or ungifted for?
- What are some of the biggest needs you see in your community? Discuss some ways you might find and empower some of the underutilized leaders in your church to meet these needs.



HIGH IMPACT  
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