

DISCIPLESHIP 101 GUIDE



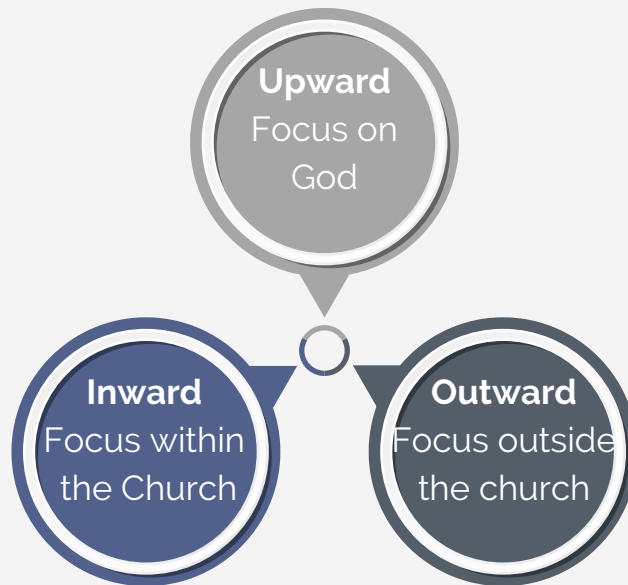
A **DISCIPLE** is a person who is being **changed** by **Christ** and is **committed** to **following** Him and **His mission**.

As Christ Changes us, we, in turn, become more mature. This maturity manifests as a growing desire to love and serve God and others and leads us to become disciple makers who carry on the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 16-20). When we talk about making disciples, we are talking about making **disciple-making disciples!**

Disciples are called to be:

- church-loving
- self-feeding
- faith-sharing
- world-serving.

Another way to look at it is that a disciple ought to focus their **hearts, minds, and hands** in three ways: **upward, inward, and outward.**



IN A
NUTSHELL

Believer/Convert



Disciple



Disciple Maker

Each level calls for **greater faith** and commitment, **yields greater intimacy** with Jesus and **produces a greater impact** on others.

No stage of discipleship is more important than any other. **All** are loved by God and welcome into His Kingdom.

The path is depicted as linear, to show progression, but it is often **cyclical**. The general idea is that disciples grow and **mature over time**.

BIBLICAL
BASIS

The word *disciple*, or some variation, appears **266** times in the New Testament! Look up and pray over some key passages related to discipleship. Here's a start:

Luke 19:11-27
 Luke 14: 26-28, 33
 Luke 17:10
 John 8:31-32
 John 13:35
 John 15

Matt 6:21, 24, 33
 Matt 25: 14-30
 Matt 26:19
 Matt 28:16-20
 1 John 2:4

Acts 13:52
 Rom 12:2
 Gal 5:22-23
 Eph 4:16
 1 Cor 4:15
 2 Tim 2:2

Here are some examples of each focus? Where can you improve?
What else can you think of?

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Practice Upward Focus

- Read God's Word daily
- Memorize God's Word
- Write out key passages & meditate on God's Word for application
- Have a daily prayer time
- Have a prayer request list for people & their requests
- Pray daily to be filled with the Holy Spirit
- Keep a journal and record how the Lord is at work around me
- Regularly practice fasting from food & other areas for my spiritual development
- Regularly disconnect from the world & connect to Jesus in solitude
- Try daily to listen and follow the still small voice of Jesus

Practice Inward Focus

- Meet weekly in a small group with other believers
- Have discovered my spiritual gift
- Use my spiritual gift to build up the church
- Pray daily for other believers
- Guard against the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes & the pride of life.
- Confess my faults, sins, & shortcomings to other believers.
- Not involve in gossip against other believers
- Not hold a grudge or offense toward any person
- Regularly clear up hurts & offenses toward other believers
- Pray daily with my family or for my family

Practice Outward Focus

- Have a prayer list for people who don't know Christ & pray for their salvation
- Seek relationships with people who don't know Christ
- Listen 1st to what unbelievers have to say
- Plan to eat with people who don't know Christ
- Seek to use my spiritual gift to serve others outside the church
- Pray for opportunities to show & share the Gospel
- Prepare a simple explanation of the Gospel to share with others as God opens doors
- Seek to become a blessing & serve the poor and under-resourced in my community
- Seek to build bridges with people who have hurt me and to love them like Christ

There are three people at work in any discipling situation: The Holy Spirit, The Disciple, and the one doing the discipling.

DEEPER DIVE

Stage	Holy Spirit's Role	Discipler's Role
Spiritually Dead	Prevenient & Convicting Grace	Proclaim; then persuade as ready to accept Jesus
ACCEPTS JESUS!	Justifying Grace	Affirm
Spiritual Infant (Believer/maybe Disciple)	Sanctifying Grace	Follow-up
Spiritual Child & Young Adult (Disciple)	↓	Cultivate
Spiritual Parent/Grandparent (Disciple Maker)	↓	↓

Discipler's Role Help a person in their spiritual journey.

Diciple's Role Be willing to be engaged & have a hunger for change.

God's Role (as the Holy Spirit) There are things God alone is responsible for in helping people develop spiritually. God is who transform's lives and creates lasting change.