**Foundations for Discipleship**

1. **Introduction to The Foundations for Discipleship** 
   1. Why discipleship matters?
      1. Discipleship matters because it is the primary responsibility given to the Church by Jesus.

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

*-Matthew 28:18-20*

* + 1. A Church that is not actively discipling others is ultimately failing to fulfill its call.
  1. What will our discipleship ministry look like?
     1. **Focused on spiritual and emotional health**

*22A joyful heart is good medicine,*

*but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.*

*-Proverbs 17:22*

*23 Keep your heart with all vigilance,*

*for from it flow the springs of life.*

*-Proverbs 4:23*

* + - 1. Spiritual health is connected to emotional health
      2. When someone is unbalanced emotionally, they cannot be stable and/or growing spiritually
      3. When we identify and address emotional impairments, we can guide others toward spiritual health

*13 A glad heart makes a cheerful face,*

*but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed.*

*-Proverbs 15:13*

*Notes:*

* + - * 1. We are **not** counselors, but we do give counsel

*22 Without counsel plans fail,*

*but with many advisers they succeed.*

*-Proverbs 15:22*

* + - * 1. All counsel is in agreement with the Scriptures
        2. All counsel is given in confidentiality
        3. When necessary, referrals are made to licensed counselors for the well-being, spiritual and emotional health of the one being discipled
    1. **Intentionally engaging individuals with the purpose of guiding them toward:**
       1. A deeper understanding and desire for Christ

*2 My soul thirsts for God,*

*for the living God.*

*When shall I come and appear before God?*

*-Psalm 42:2*

* + - 1. A better understanding of themselves

*16 How much better to get wisdom than gold!*

*To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.*

*-Proverbs 16:16*

* + - 1. A clearer picture of God’s plan for their lives

*11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

*-Jeremiah 29:11*

* + - 1. Understanding their need for becoming part of a discipleship group

*17 A friend is always loyal,*

*and a brother is born to help in time of need.*

*-Proverbs 17:17(NLT)*

* + - 1. Introduction into the fellowship of the corporate body

*25 …not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

*-Hebrews 10:25*

* + - * 1. We do this through:

Prayer

*18 …praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, 19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.*

*-Ephesians 6:18-20*

The Word of God

*8 The precepts of the LORD are right,*

*rejoicing the heart;*

*the commandment of the LORD is pure,*

*enlightening the eyes;*

*9 the fear of the LORD is clean,*

*enduring forever;*

*the rules of the LORD are true,*

*and righteous altogether.*

*10 More to be desired are they than gold,*

*even much fine gold;*

*sweeter also than honey*

*and drippings of the honeycomb.*

*-Psalm 19:8-10*

Building relationships

Man was built for relationships

With God

With others

Without healthy relationships man suffers and will not live a full and abundant life

*18 Then the LORD God said, “****It is not good that the man should be alone****; I will make him a helper fit for him.”*

*-Genesis 2:18*

*3 That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have* ***fellowship with us****; and indeed our* ***fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ****.*

*-1 John 1:3*

1. **Foundation for Discipleship** 
   1. **Vision Statement** 
      1. how we identify and express to others, who we are and where we are headed
      2. need *vocal* and *visible* reminders
         1. ***Love Christ. Love others. Lead change.*** 
            1. When we *actively* love Jesus, we will *appropriately* love others, and *effectively* lead change in people’s lives

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

*-John 13:34-35*

*20 If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.*

*-1 John 4:20*

* + - * 1. Why people need change

For salvific purposes

For practical purposes

*12 There is a way that seems right to a man,*

*but its end is the way to death.*

*-Proverbs 14:12*

* + - * 1. Why love is the key to change

*…love covers a multitude of sins.*

*-1 Peter 4:8*

* 1. **Definition of a Disciple**
     1. Anyone who is willing to engage in consistent conversation about Jesus, God, and the Bible

*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.*

*-Matthew 5:6*

* + - 1. **Believers**
      2. **Non-believers**
      3. **Skeptics**
         1. Why we open discipleship to all people

Because all people are important to God

*32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.*

*-Ezekiel 18:32*

*9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.*

*-2 Peter 3:9*

* + 1. Our method of Discipleship will be both:
       1. **Evangelistic** 
          1. Make an eternal difference
       2. **Edifying**
          1. Make a practical difference

*2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

*-1 Peter 2:2-3*

* 1. **Non-negotiables**
     1. Ideas, principles, and practices that cannot be negotiated as part of the discipleship process
     2. These set the expectations, boundaries, and trajectory of Discipleship and help to create a practice that is fluid, effectual, and easily replicated
        1. **All discipleship must be one-on-one**

*30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And the invited Philip to come up and sit with him.*

*-Acts 8:30-31*

*But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.”*

*-John 8:9-11*

* + - * 1. We believe that one-on-one engagement creates a safe atmosphere in which people feel free to share their personal challenges, find someone to confide in, and have the best opportunity for spiritual and emotional growth
      1. **There must be commitment on the part of the individual being discipled**

*Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.*

*-1 Corinthians 10:12-13*

* + - 1. **Once per week meeting** (exceptions can be made for illness, emergencies, planned vacations)
      2. **6-12 month commitment**
      3. **The Gospel of John is the course of study**

*Now Jesus did many other signs vin the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*

*-John 20:30-31*

* + - * 1. We believe that John’s Gospel gives a clear picture of the Person of Jesus, how the unregenerate man has hope in the Gospel, and demonstrates what it means to truly follow Christ; therefore, we will lead others through John, in an effort to help them connect with Christ in such a way, that they hunger and thirst for a genuine and impactful relationship with Him
      1. **Discipleship relationships are to be created between members of the same sex and be age appropriate**
         1. No men discipling women (vice versa)
         2. No one under the age of 18

This is the job of our Children and Youth Ministries Staff!

* 1. **Spiritual Disciplines**
     1. Spiritual Disciplines are practices that we **model**, teach, and expect of those who are being discipled
        1. ***Consistent Prayer***

*Pray without ceasing.*

*-1 Thessalonians 5:17*

* + - 1. ***Daily Scripture Reading***

*How can a young man keep his way pure?*

*By guarding it according to your word.*

*With my whole heart I seek you;*

*let me not wander from your commandments!*

*I have stored up your word in my heart,*

*that I might not sin against you.*

*-Psalm 119:9-11*

* + - 1. ***Biblical Meditation***

*This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*

*-Joshua 1:8*

* + - 1. ***Giving***

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

*-Romans 12:1*

* + - * 1. Time/talents and gifts

*4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

*-1 Corinthians 12:4-7*

Serve in the Church

Serve outside of the Church

* + - * 1. Resources

Money

Anything tangible that can be used to express the love of Christ to others (Acts 4:34-35)

*There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.*

*-Acts 4:34-35*

* 1. **Marks of a Growing Disciple** 
     1. These are characteristics that help us to identify those who are on the path of being a follower of Christ
        1. ***Possess a teachable spirit and are willing to be led***

*But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom1 you learned it.*

*-2 Timothy 3:14*

* + - 1. ***Have a hunger for God, and pursue Him through a growing implementation of our Spiritual Disciplines***

*You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.*

*-Jeremiah 29:13*

* + - 1. ***Growing passion to see others enter a relationship with Jesus*** (Exodus 32:32)

*But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.*

*-Exodus 32:32*

* + - 1. ***Goal of becoming an effective leader of others*** (2 Timothy 2:1-2)

*You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 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 2:1-2*

* 1. **Stages of Discipleship** 
     1. These “stages” are tools we use to evaluate where an individual is in the process of discipleship

Diagram

Description automatically generated

* + - 1. **Awakening**
         1. The point in life when someone’s mind and heart are opened to the reality of God and their inherent need/desire for Him

See: John 4:1-42

This woman was trapped deeply in sin and was attempting to satisfy her thirst for God with illicit pleasures

She was burdened by guilt and shame, which prevented her from a genuine understanding of God and His truth

When she met Jesus, she was awakened to the truth about God and her deep desire for genuine relationship with Him

* + - 1. **Pursuit**
         1. When a person’s heart longs for answers and fulfillment, and they begin pursuing a deeper understanding of God and His truth
         2. Acknowledging the desire for answers and seeking them out through Bible study and prayer with a Disciple-leader
         3. Integration into a discipleship group
         4. Taking questions, problems, doubts, and hurts to God for resolution, direction, and healing

**Prayer:** Praying is the opportunity to take your situation, your feelings, and your emotions before Jesus

**Process:** When you choose to be vulnerable with God. You speak to Him exactly what you are feeling and ask that He give you answers and solutions to your problems

**Praise:** No matter the answer and/or solutions God gives, you make the choice to praise Him anyway, knowing that He loves you and has your best interest in mind

* + - 1. **Growth**
         1. When the disciple is growing and beginning to allow their faith to impact their decision and others

Obedience to the Word

*If you love me, you will keep my commandments.*

*-John 14:15*

Actively loving Christ by loving and serving others

*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

*-John 13:34-35*

* + - 1. **Confrontation**
         1. Spiritual attack begins. The euphoria of conversion and rapid growth fade, and the disciple is now confronted with the challenges of the intersecting of the spiritual journey and past and present choices

Most people never get through this stage

If they do not find help quickly, they eventually leave the church

*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

*-1 Peter 5:8*

* + - * 1. Questioning your faith, eternal security, God’s love, your circumstance
        2. Resistance to discipleship
        3. Eight core emotions become deeper
        4. Prayer, Process, Praise is key!
      1. **Return**
         1. With the help of Holy Spirit and Disciple-leader the person refocuses on his/her pursuit, and begins dealing with hinderances to growth

Disciple is ready to begin the hard work of fully experiencing God

Deconstruction of preconceived conceptions and allowing God to illuminate truth and guide toward understanding and acceptance

Disciple will learn to love the journey

* + - 1. **Victory** 
         1. Disciple is spiritually and emotionally healthy and living an active and abundant life in Christ

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

*-Galatians 2:20*

No longer controlled by emotions

Guided by the Spirit’s purpose for our emotional experience

Functioning consistently in the realm of spiritual and emotional health

1. **Understanding the Emotional Element** 
   1. **The Eight Feelings**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gift** | **Feeling** | **Impairment** |
| The cry within us that alerts us to pain and drives us to seek relief | **Hurt** | Resentment |
| Reveals the love and/or value of something that is lost or missed | **Sadness** | Self-pity |
| Demonstrates our desire and need for relationship with God and others | **Loneliness** | Apathy |
| Alerts us to danger, allows us to experience risk, drives us toward faith | **Fear** | Anxiety or Rage |
| Shows the presence of passion and hunger for life | **Anger** | Depression or Perfectionism |
| Awakens us to humility. Allows us to ask help from God and others | **Shame** | Toxic shame, Pride, Self-Rejection, Rage |
| Compels us to change by recognizing that we have done wrong. Moves us toward seeking forgiveness from God and others | **Guilt** | Toxic shame, Pride |
| Allows us to experience the fullness of life and have abundant joy | **Glad** | Happiness, Escaping the pain of experiencing your feelings |

Taken from the book *The Voice of the Heart* by Chip Dodd, Sage Hill Resources

* + 1. We are emotional beings
       1. Created by God to use our emotions so that we can experience a full and healthy life
       2. If we ignore the heart:
          1. Our hearts will hope for and settle for less
          2. Value of ourselves will be based on our achievements
          3. Act out of obligation instead of passion
          4. Will forsake being vulnerable with God and others, which will lead to a life of emotional isolation and spiritual malnourishment
          5. Live a life not based upon truth
       3. When our emotions are out of balance our lives are out of balance (particularly our spiritual lives)
          1. **Example:** Cain’s murder of Abel

*1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD.” 2 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So* ***Cain was very angry****, and* ***his face fell****. 6 The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but* ***you must rule over it****.”*

*8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. 9 Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know;* ***am I my brother’s keeper?****” 10 And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. 11 And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. 12 When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” 13 Cain said to the LORD, “****My punishment is greater than I can bear****. 14 Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, hand whoever finds me will kill me.” 15 Then the LORD said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. 16 Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.*

*-Genesis 4:1-16*

Cain did wrong and when confronted:

Felt guilt and shame

Being isolated from God because of his sin he felt lonely, which fueled a sense of spiritual apathy

Spiritual apathy turned to jealousy and resentment toward his brother

Resentment turned to anger

His anger led to fear that he would never be accepted by God

Fear caused him to lash out in rage, taking the life of his brother

The act of murdering his brother brought gladness, or a sense of relief from not having to face what he was truly feeling inside

Once confronted and held accountable by God, Cain became sad and turned to self-pity

Cain’s issue was that he did not understand his feelings. Instead of listening to what they were telling him, he buried them and experienced the impairment of those feelings instead of the gift

God was the object of Cain’s anger

Abel was the object of Cain’s unbalanced emotional response

Many lives were destroyed

Had Cain dealt with his guilt and shame in a healthy way, by recognizing truth and asking for forgiveness, the entire situation could have been avoided

* + - 1. It is imperative that we understand the power of feelings and help others learn to navigate them, so that they can live full and healthy lives
  1. **The emotions of Jesus**
     1. Hurt

*47 While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, 48 but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?”*

-Luke 22:47-48

* + 1. Sadness

*33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. 34 And he said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” 35 Jesus wept.*

*-John 11:33-35*

* + 1. Loneliness

*50 And they all left him and fled.*

*-Mark 14:50*

* + 1. Fear

*37 And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.”*

*-Matthew 26:37-38*

* + 1. Anger

*13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. 15 And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16 And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”*

*-John 2:13-17*

* + 1. Shame and Guilt

*46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”*

*-Matthew 27:46*

* + 1. Glad

*21 And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 And behold, ha Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” 23 But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” 26 And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” 27 She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28 Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.*

*-Matthew 15:21-28*

1. **Where to Begin**
   1. Engaging in Conversation
      1. Just be friendly!
         1. John 4
      2. When speak authentically and demonstrate genuine concern you will make meaningful connections
   2. Inviting them to the table
      1. Offer to buy a them a cup of coffee, coke, tea, etc.
      2. If they take you up on the offer for a free cup, they will most likely take you up on the offer to sit and talk
      3. Find a common ground through which to make a personal connection
   3. Discipleship Meeting
      1. Ask if they would like to schedule a time to get together and talk about what God has to say about life, being a parent/grandparent, our purpose in life, etc.
      2. If they say no, it’s okay!

1. **Discipleship Modules**
   1. Understanding the flow of the first three meetings
      1. **First Meeting**
         1. **Share your story** (no more than 10 minutes)
            1. Be vulnerable
            2. Explain why your relationship with Jesus matters to you
            3. Let them know that they matter; you are being intentional about building a relationship with them
         2. **Listen and Learn** 
            1. Give the majority of the time to the one being discipled to speak, share their story
         3. **Pay attention to what they say**
            1. listen for things that will give you insight into their circumstance, as well as their spiritual and emotional health, especially in regards to their salvation or need for a relationship with Jesus
            2. make mental notes!

We cannot lead the ones we are investing in toward spiritual and emotional health if we do not know where they are struggling

* + - 1. **Ask Leading questions**
         1. Be careful not to “give them the answers”

People learn better as they discover answers for themselves

* + - * 1. Begin addressing their concerns, thoughts, statements made to you as they shared their story, by asking Leading questions

Example: *“You said that you grew up in a home where you dad was always busy with work and didn’t spend much time building a relationship with you. How do you think that has affected you as an adult? How do you think that has influenced the way you think about God/Jesus?”*

* + - * 1. As they share their answers, lead them to the Scriptures

**Do not** dismiss their feelings or perception of their circumstance

Guide them to the answers Scripture gives to their situation (if you cannot do this at the time, let them know that you will be looking for Scriptures that will address their questions/concerns/circumstance)

If applicable ask them what they think about what the Scriptures say about the questions/concerns/circumstances they have communicated

Remember that you can always circle back to these questions during another meeting, so PRIORITZE

* + - 1. **Set a limit**
         1. No more than an hour, unless they request to stay longer
         2. Do not want to burn them out and discourage a second meeting

The purpose here is to generate interest and to **leave them wanting more**

* + - 1. **Pray!** 
         1. Always pray with the person you are discipling at the end of each meeting
         2. Ask permission to pray about any of the things brought up while you were listening to their story and/or their answers to your leading questions
         3. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bless your time together
      2. **Set a time for the next meeting**
         1. Be as flexible as you can; **being flexible lets them know that they matter to you**
    1. **Second Meeting**
       1. **Circle back** 
          1. cover topics/questions that were raised in the initial meeting
          2. share how you have prayed over these issues
          3. ask for an update and listen

if applicable share Scriptures that you found while researching that speak to the issues/questions previously identified

* + - 1. **Invite them to study the Bible together** (specifically the Gospel of John)
         1. Discuss why John’s Gospel will be beneficial (see ***iii*** under “Non-Negotiables” on our Foundation for Discipleship)
         2. If the answer is “no”, don’t press

Ask if they would like to get together to continue building a relationship

Again, be flexible

* + - 1. **Open Up**
         1. Conversation

Share something God is doing/showing (keep it short)

Ask what God is doing in their life/anything they may be struggling with

LISTEN!

Pay attention to their body language

* + - 1. **Encourage**
         1. Let them know you value your time with them
         2. Encourage the individual to prepare for the next meeting by reading and meditating over the first section of John 1

Or, demonstrate excitement for your next meeting

If you show interest, they will too!

* + - 1. **Pray!**
         1. Always pray with the person you are discipling at the end of each meeting
         2. Ask permission to pray about any of the things brought up while you were listening to their story and/or their answers to your leading questions
         3. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bless your time together
      2. **Set a time for the next meeting**
         1. Be as flexible as you can; **being flexible lets them know that they matter to you**
    1. **Third Meeting and Following**
       1. **Circle back** 
          1. cover topics/questions that were raised in the initial meeting
          2. share how you have prayed over these issues
          3. ask for an update and listen
       2. **Open Up**
          1. Conversation

Share something God is doing/showing (keep it short)

Ask what God is doing in their life

LISTEN!

* + - * 1. the Word

Remember that this is not about indoctrination but about discovering Jesus in a personal way and sharing life together

Before giving your thoughts ALWAYS ask them to give their thoughts on what the passage means to them

ALWAYS guide back to the Gospel

How does this passage emphasize our need for a Savior?

How does this passage demonstrate the salvific work of Christ?

How is God calling us to obey?

* + - 1. **Pray!**
         1. Always pray with the person you are discipling at the end of each meeting
         2. Ask permission to pray about any of the things brought up while you were listening to their story and/or their answers to your leading questions
         3. Pray for the Holy Spirit to bless your time together
      2. **Set a time for the next meeting**
         1. Be as flexible as you can; **being flexible lets them know that they matter to you**