Discipleship Ministry

Overview & Guidelines
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INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

The Lord has mandated that His church make disciples of all nations. He has promised His presence and authority in helping us fulfill this commission (Matthew 28:18-20). As believers, we are to entrust what we have learned “to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also” (II Timothy 2:2).

The discipleship ministry is designed to bring a believer to the point where he can reproduce what he has learned into others. Discipleship is much more than just gaining knowledge and doing an assigned lesson. Discipleship is becoming personally involved in someone’s life. It is modeling and teaching Christlikeness in every area of life. It is encouraging and challenging one another to apply the things that are learned. It is building relationships! (Cf. 1 Thessalonians 2:7-12) This requires a commitment that will take time and prayer. It may even mean denying yourself, which Jesus stressed was one of the costs of following Him (Mark 8:34-38). But it will be worth it as you do your part in fulfilling the great commission.

The curriculum used for the discipleship ministry is divided into three areas. The first phase is an introduction to discipleship. The core curriculum is Basic Discipleship. This study is designed to introduce the student to the Bible, and in particular, to acquaint him with the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. This study covers some of the basics that are necessary to help a person grow as a Christian.

The second phase focuses on Bible doctrine and character growth. The central curriculum is Basic Bible Doctrine. This is an exciting study, which will help lay a solid foundation for a person’s understanding of key Bible doctrines. Comprehending what the Bible teaches in these different areas is essential for the growth and maturity of the believer. We are to be teaching our disciples to observe all that Christ commanded (Matthew 28:20). Some of the subjects covered include studies on salvation, what the Bible teaches about itself, the Trinity, spiritual gifts, witnessing, and the Christian life. For a more in depth study in any one of these areas, other books are available. There are also a number of good books in this phase that focus on building godly character. These usually include a study guide, which is used in conjunction with the reading. See the attached book list, starting on page thirteen.

The goal of the third phase of discipleship is reproduction (2 Timothy 2:2). After a disciple has grown and matured, he is ready to invest what he has learned in someone else. The key curriculum is Basic Disciple Making. This study focuses on the method of our Lord Jesus as He went about making disciples.

Going through these three phases might take one year or several years, depending on each individual’s growth, but the goal of each disciple is to get to the point where he can be a disciple for Christ.
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY
STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The Bible As Our Foundation
The Bible is foundational in our ministry to change lives and help Christians grow in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We do not believe it is biblical nor useful to mix biblical truth
with humanistic theory or psychology in resolving life's many "ups and downs." The Holy Spirit's
power in the life of the believer who obeys the Word of God is sufficient to bring resolution or to help
persevere in the trials of life. (2 Timothy 3:16; Philippians 4:13)

We also believe that the teaching of solid biblical doctrine must be guarded and preserved in the
discipleship ministry as well as the entire ministry of the church body. This is why we must be careful
in appointing brothers and sisters to any position that involves a teaching ministry in the church. We
are exhorted in God's Word to persevere in sound doctrine. (1 Timothy 4:15-16) This is why all
disciplers must take and pass a doctrinal questionnaire.

With all of the above in mind, all curriculum and material used in the discipleship ministry must have
prior approval from the elder overseeing Adult Ministries. A list, which is a part of this manual, has
been developed for this purpose. If you have material or curriculum that is not on the list which you
would like to use, please talk to the elder of Adult Ministries before beginning to use it.

Fulfilling the Great Commission
As a church body, our primary purpose for existing is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ by "making
disciples." When one becomes a disciple, he is now expected to make a disciple. This is why the
"multiplication process" is foundational for this ministry. Discipleship begins with outreach or
evangelism. The Lord Jesus, who has all authority, commands us to “go...and make disciples” and
every discipler is expected to have this mandate of God before them continually. This is the goal we
are trying to accomplish (Matthew 28:18-20).
Disciple making is best defined as learning to be a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ. All believers are commanded to be involved in the disciple making process. It is a commitment of a discipler to meet with one or two believers of the same sex on a regular basis to encourage them and hold them accountable to become "doers of the Word, and not hearers only" (James 1: 22-26) in every area of their lives including but not limited to:

1. Learning how to love God and develop Christian character.
2. Learning how to be a godly husband, wife and/or parent.
3. Learning how to minister to others with the spiritual gift God has given them (Romans 12:3-21)
4. A commitment to grow in the knowledge and practice of the great doctrines of the Bible.
5. Reproducing and making disciples of others.

A Servant Of Christ

The mark of a servant of Christ is the ability of a believer to "not only look to (our) own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Philippians 2:4). Disciplers are believers who desire to serve others and are committed to learning how they may "decrease, so that Christ may increase in their lives" (Matthew 16:24-26). They are willing to take on the awesome responsibility, with the help of God, to shepherd and minister to their disciples. By setting this example, their disciples will in turn minister "one to another."
QUALIFICATIONS AND DESCRIPTION
OF THE DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

I. QUALIFICATIONS FOR DISCIPLESHIP

A. As a discipler, you will be expected to complete the following qualifications:

1. Agree with the Doctrinal Statement of the church. Any differences in conviction should be noted on your form before turning them in to the church. Minor differences are not significant, but must be noted.

2. Faithfully attend Worship services at the church (Sunday school, morning and evening worship services and a home fellowship group).

3. Prayerfully become a member of Community Bible Church.

4. Show basic understanding of Biblical and theological truth by passing a doctrinal test.

5. Manifest a stable, consistent Christian lifestyle.

6. Demonstrate a teachable and submissive spirit.

7. Has been discipled or is being discipled.

B. As a disciple

1. A regular attender of church services

2. Has demonstrated a commitment to be discipled by meeting consistently with his discipler and fulfilling minimum standards and requirements. Evaluation will be made by the discipler in four weeks to determine whether or not the individual is ready to be discipled.
II. **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Being a discipler is a great responsibility for which the Lord will hold you accountable. Your commitment entails the following responsibilities:

A. Understanding and applying the biblical material, being taught, to your life.

B. Being diligent in attending all discipler training meetings.

C. Demonstrating love and compassion to your disciple and holding him accountable for:
   1. Preparation and study for each lesson.
   2. Attendance of each meeting on a weekly basis. If your disciple fails to meet with you, you are expected to call him immediately to find out what happened.
   3. Achieving personal goals he has shared and asked you to hold him accountable to fulfill.

D. Ask the assistance of the discipleship coordinator in resolving any kind of difficult problem with your disciple. Biblical counseling is available.

III. **THE DESIGN OF THE MINISTRY**

The design of discipleship is not solely to increase Bible knowledge. Discipleship and maturity is more than transmitting facts to another person or persons. The program is designed to assist the discipleship maturity process in a number of ways.

A. It gives the disciple opportunity to discover for himself truth from the word of God.
B. It assists the disciple in developing a regular disciplined reading and study of the word of God.

C. It ensures a regular contact with another person with whom an open relationship can be developed where there is prayer and sharing of trials, victories, and mutual encouragement.

D. It provides through the discipler a model in the Christian life which is so essential to developing qualities of growth.

E. It can develop confidence in the disciple, having seen it modeled by his discipler, to go on and disciple someone else himself.

IV. **Specific Goals to Pray and Work for**

A. To lead the disciple to acknowledge (confess) their faith publicly. (If they have not done so already)

1. To give them assurance of their salvation.

2. To follow Christ's directive in being baptized.

B. To exemplify application of biblical principles of Christian living in one's daily life style.


2. Memorization of the Word.

3. To manifest a consistent prayer life.
4. To practice evangelism as a way of life.

C. To build Christian character (faithfulness, patience, love, giving, etc).

D. To become part of a local body of believers.

1. To see the need and to become faithful in attending the meetings of this local church (Sunday School, morning and evening worship service, and a home fellowship group).

2. To accept some ministry responsibility in an area of service.

E. To get them to the point where they can disciple someone else.

V. **THE DESCRIPTION OF THE MINISTRY**

A. Meet together once a week for about 90 minutes.

B. Your meetings should include these three areas.

1. Fellowship and sharing - 20 minutes.

   a. The goal is to get to know and build a strong relationship.

   b. Control direction of conversation by asking questions.

      (1) Identify needs
(2) Evaluate progress

2. Memory review and discussion of lesson- 60 minutes.
   a. Go over memory verses
   b. Prepare for each lesson by developing a lesson plan
      (1) know the point and purpose of each lesson
      (2) ask questions to stimulate thought

3. Prayer - 10 minutes

C. Build Your Relationship.

1. Get to know them (birth date, phone number, children, spouse, job, hobbies, etc.)

2. Once a month do something extra (shopping, dessert, crafts, etc.), be creative.

3. Participate in the same Home Fellowship Group.
# APPROVED LIST OF MATERIAL

## PHASE ONE DISCIPLESHIP MATERIAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/ Author or Publisher</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Discipleship/ Cornerstone Books (REQUIRED)</td>
<td>Salvation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totally True/ Youth for Christ</td>
<td>Salvation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Basic Discipleship is required to finish this phase

## PHASE TWO DISCIPLESHIP MATERIAL

### DOCTRINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/ Author or Publisher</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Bible Doctrine/ Cornerstone Books (REQUIRED)</td>
<td>Basic Bible Doctrine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Get the Most From God’s Word/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowing Scripture/ R. C. Sproul</td>
<td>Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truth &amp; Power/ J. I. Packer</td>
<td>Bible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battle For The Beginning/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Creation vs Evolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attributes of God, The/ A.W. Pink</td>
<td>Attributes of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Here is Your God/ Robert A Morey</td>
<td>Attributes of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love of God, The/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Love of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowing God/ J. I. Packer</td>
<td>God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pleasures of God, The/ John Piper</td>
<td>God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pursuit of God, The/ A.W. Tozer</td>
<td>God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sovereignty of God, The/ A.W. Pink</td>
<td>Sovereignty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>God in the Manger/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Incarnation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glory of Christ, The/ John Owen, R. J. K. Law</td>
<td>Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Sufficiency in Christ/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Price for a People/ Tom Wells</td>
<td>Atonement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Points of Calvinism, The/ David Steele &amp; Curtis Thomas</td>
<td>Salvation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regeneration/ Steve Fernandez</td>
<td>Salvation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TULIP/ Duane E Spencer</td>
<td>Salvation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctrine of Election, The/ Steve Fernandez</td>
<td>Election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptism and Fullness/ John R. W. Stott</td>
<td>Holy Spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliverance and Spiritual Warfare/ Steve Fernandez</td>
<td>Spiritual warfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Meet the Enemy/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Spiritual Warfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Encounters/ David Powlison</td>
<td>Spiritual Warfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Role, Responsibility, &amp; Recognition of Elders/ S Fernandez</td>
<td>Eldership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biblical Church Discipline/ Daniel E Wray</td>
<td>Church Discipline</td>
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</table>
PHASE TWO DISCIPLESHIP MATERIAL

CHARACTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/ Author or Publisher</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Mother’s Legacy/Geanne Hendricks</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Mothering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Steadfast Heart/ Elyse Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alone With God/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attitudes of a Transformed Heart/Elyse Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becoming a Titus 2 Woman/ Martha Peace</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Training Younger Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becoming A True Woman/Nancy Leigh DeMoss</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Living in the Home/Jay Adams</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Christian Living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desiring God/ John Piper</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Pursing Pleasure in God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discipline of Grace/ Jerry Bridges</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disciplines of a Godly Woman/ Barbara Hughes</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disciplines of a Godly Man/Kent Hughes</td>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Spiritual Disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essential Truths of the Christian Faith/ R. C. Sproul</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God/ J. I. Packer</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Evangelism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellent Wife/ Martha Peace</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Beyond Reason/ A. W. Tozer</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith Works/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Sanctification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Love/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found: God’s Will/ John MacArthur</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Will of God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit of Her Hands, The/Nancy Wilson</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>God: Coming Face to Face with His Majesty/ J. MacArthur</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>God’s Words/ J. I. Packer</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Key of Prayer, The/ Charles Spurgeon</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helper By Design/Elyse Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Her Name is Woman/ Gien Karssen</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidden Smile of God, The/ John Piper</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Can I Be Sure I’m a Christian?/ Donald Whitney</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Assurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Pray/ R. A. Torrey</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Gave Dating a Chance/ Jeramy Clark</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Dating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Kissed Dating Goodbye/ Joshua Harris</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Dating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Know the Truth/ Bruce Milne</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Know What You Believe/ Paul Little</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Know Why You Believe/ Paul Little</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idols of the Heart/ E. Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Idolatry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Legacy of Sovereign Joy, The/ John Piper Both
Life Principles from the Women of the Bible/ Barber, et al Women Christian Living
Life in the Father’s House/ Wayne Mack Both Christian Living
Overcoming Fear, Worry and Anxiety/E. Fitzpatrick Women
Praying Successfully/ Charles Spurgeon Both Prayer
Point Man/ Steve Farrar Men Disciplines
Power of Integrity/ John MacArthur Both Integrity
Practice of Godliness/ Jerry Bridges Both Godliness
Pursuit of Holiness/ Jerry Bridges Both Holiness
Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ/ John Piper Both
Self-Confrontation/ Biblical Counseling Foundation Both Overcoming Sin
Shepherding a Child's Heart/ Tedd Tripp Both Child Training
Spiritual Disciplines For the Christian Life/ Don Whitney Both Spiritual Disciplines
Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church/ Donald Whitney Both Participating in the church
Spiritual Leadership/ Oswald Sanders
Spiritual Mothering/ Susan Hunt Women Training Younger Women
Thoughts for Young Men/ J. C. Ryle Men
Transforming Grace/ Jerry Bridges Both Christian Living
Trusting God/ Jerry Bridges Both God’s Sovereignty
Ultimate Priority, The/ John MacArthur Both Worship
Ultimate Questions/ John Blanchard Both
Valley of Vision/ Arthur Bennett Both Prayer
Walking With God/ J. C. Ryle Both Trials, Christian Living
What Angels Wish They Knew/ Alistair Begg Both
Whose Money Is it Anyway?/ John MacArthur Both Money
Withhold Not Correction/ Bruce Ray Both Child Training
Womanly Dominion/Mark Chansky Women
Worldly Saints/ Leland Ryken Both Puritans/ Disciplines
You Can Trust the Bible/ Erwin Lutzer Both
Your Home a Place of Grace/ Susan Hunt Women

NOTE: Basic Bible Doctrine, one doctrinal book and one character book from the above lists are required to finish phase two

**PHASE THREE DISCIPLESHIP MATERIAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/ Author</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Disciple Making/ Cornerstone Books</td>
<td>Evangelism/Discipleship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Call to Prayer/ J. C. Ryle</td>
<td>Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Plan of Evangelism, The/ Robert E. Coleman</td>
<td>Evangelism/Discipleship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words to Winners of Souls/ Horatius Bonar</td>
<td>Evangelism/Discipleship</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: All four books are required to finish this phase
DISCIPLER’S MONTHLY EVALUATION

Your Name: ____________________________ Evaluation for: ________________ (Month)

Disciple’s Name: ________________________ Date: ________________________

DISCIPLER’S PREPARATION

1. Did you pray consistently for your disciple each week? YES NO
2. Did you see or call him/her to encourage each week? YES NO
3. Did you prepare for each session by:
   a. Memorizing the verse(s)? YES NO
   b. Completing the lesson booklet? YES NO
   c. Making a lesson plan? YES NO

DISCIPLESHIP MEETING

1. Did you meet each week? YES NO
2. Have they completed the lessons? YES NO
3. Did they memorize the verses? YES NO
4. Did you pray with your disciple each week? YES NO
5. How far have you gotten in the study booklet? Lesson _________ of ________.

DISCIPLESHIP EFFECTS

1. Have you received any answered prayer for your disciple? YES NO
2. Has your disciple received any answered prayer? YES NO
3. Is your disciple active in church? YES NO
4. Is your disciple building relationships with other believers? YES NO

DISCIPLESHIP NEEDS
Questions/problems/comments:
DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

ACCOUNTABILITY & UPDATE FORM

NAME: ______________________ DATE: ______________

1. Do you attend the following weekly (Sunday morning, Sunday evening, Sunday school, Home Fellowship Group)? If not, please explain.

2. Please list those whom you are currently discipling & how often you meet each month. If you are not discipling someone, would you like to start?

3. Please list the material you are going through and any material you have completed in the last six months.

4. List those you have stopped discipling in last six months and explain why you are no longer meeting.

5. Please list any problems, hindrances or comments you might have.
DOCTRINAL STATEMENT AGREEMENT FORM

_______ I agree with the doctrinal statement of Community Bible Church

_______ I disagree with the doctrinal statement of Community Bible Church in the following areas: (Please list what you disagree with and briefly explain your position)

NAME: __________________________ DATE:______________