

# Leadership Training

© 2017 Great Commission Cell Church  
All rights reserved.

*Leadership Training* is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License.

You may use this work for any purpose, commercial as well as non-commercial, as long as you do not claim that it is your own and you make digital copies available to those to whom you provide this work in written form at no extra cost.

Release: 1.0  
Date: 4/3/2017

<b>Scriptural Values</b>	<b>11</b>
Work in the harvest	11
Cells - know people and pray	12
Discipling - the Great Commission	12
Make disciples	12
Baptize	12
Observe	13
Raising up spiritual parents	13
Cells are spiritual families	13
Church is people, not a building	14
All saints do the work	14
Relationships of trust	14
Three kinds of relationships necessary	15
Paul	15
Barnabas	15
Timothy	15
We are built together	15

Expecting spiritual multiplication	15
Flexibility and creativity are important.	16
Build teams.	17
Four components of healthy teams	17
<b>Cell process</b>	<b>17</b>
Prayer: relationship with God	18
Pray as Jesus prayed	18
Receive a fresh infilling of the Spirit daily	18
Fast	18
Evangelism: relationship with the world	19
Discipleship: relationship with God's kingdom	20
Jesus, the model	21
<b>Biblical basis for Cell ministry</b>	<b>23</b>
God is a God of relationships	23
Noah	23
Jethro's advice to Moses	24
Israel	24
Jesus trained few	25
Cornelius and his household	26
Household of Mary, John Mark's mom	27
Philippian Jailor's household.	27
20/20 vision.	27
Paul's rented house	28
Home churches.	28
<b>Prayer: key to all ministry</b>	<b>30</b>
A leader's prayer life	30
Top priority	30
Guidance	30
Bible	30
Enjoy the word.	31
Get washed and cleaned by the word	32

Types of prayer	32
Adoration	32
Confession	32
Thanksgiving	33
Supplication	33
Two heavenly prayer ministries	34
Daily time affects others	34
Poisons adversely affecting leadership	35
Become "offense proof"	35
Practice his presence.	37
Intimacy with God	37
God's plan for intimacy	38
No shortcuts to intimacy	38
Jesus is our model	38
Examples of intimacy in the OT	39
Moses	39
David	39
God takes the initiative	40
Jehovah Nissi	40
Jehovah Jireh	40
Leaders work for God's good pleasure.	40
Fruitful ministry comes from intimacy with God.	40
Just relax, God is in control	41
What is this rest?	41
Communion with God changes us	41
We are better able to discern what God is saying	41
We will remember Jesus is with us	42
He will give us a vision	42
We will have communion with the Holy Spirit	42
He will help us surrender day by day	42
Relationship v. law	42
The fear of the Lord	43

What is it?	43
To stand in awe of His name	43
The fear of God means obedience	44
Fear of God will cause us to perfect holiness	44
Fear of God means to hate evil	45
To fear God is to NOT fear man	45
To fear God is to control our tongues	46
The Lord is the refuge of those who fear him	48
Ask for it	48
<b>Basic Cell Leadership</b>	<b>48</b>
Servant leadership	48
Jesus modeled servant leadership	48
Jesus taught servanthood.	49
Authority is limited	50
Meekness	50
Servant-leaders sow seeds of truth	51
Servant-leaders build relationships	51
Compassion a key to servant-leadership	52
The qualifications of a Cell Leader	53
True leaders serve with humility	53
New Cell leaders need cell ministry experience	53
Cell leaders should have a clear testimony	53
Cell leaders should have faith	53
Cell leaders should support the cell vision	54
Cell leaders should be enthusiastic	54
A cell leader should not be a new Christian	54
Wives of married Cell leaders must be in support	54
Cell leaders should give as the Lord leads	55
Cell leaders should be accountable	55
Cell leaders must be teachable and reliable	55
Cell leaders are NOT adequate in themselves	55
The responsibilities of a Cell Leader	57

Cell leaders pray for members	57
Bind evil, loose blessing	57
Cell leaders understand spiritual warfare	57
Prayer is powerful	57
Outside the meeting	58
Pray Scripture	58
Pray with assistant leader	60
Cell leaders train assistant cell leaders	60
Three types of assistant leaders	60
Train assistant leaders to pray	60
Model transparency and honesty	62
Trust takes time	62
Encourage, not control	62
Members depend on the Lord	63
Submit to Church leaders	63

**Spiritual Parenting** **63**

Spiritual Fathers	63
God is a God of families	63
Need for spiritual fathering	64
Experience	64
Babies, little children, young men and fathers	64
Dead in Sin	64
Characteristics	65
Needs	65
Babies	65
Characteristics	66
Needs	66
Little children	66
Characteristics	66
Needs	67
Young men and women	67
Characteristics	67

Needs	68
Spiritual fathers and mothers.	68
Characteristics	68
Needs	69
Spiritual parenting is long overdue	70
Spiritual reproduction.	70
Why the lack of spiritual parents?	70
Ignorance - the clergy-laity myth	70
Apathy	70
Insecurity	71
Hurts from the past	71
Lack of modeling	71
<b>Discipling process</b>	<b>71</b>
Let the Holy Spirit disciple them	71
Restraint comes from revelation	71
The word sanctifies them	72
Encourage them	72
Develop their gifts	72
Expect the best, accept the worst	73
Relational environment for discipleship	74
Teaching	74
Pastoring	74
Transparency	76
Accountability	79
Modeled life	81
Efficacy of the Cell Church	82
<b>Great commission</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Centrality of the Gospel</b>	<b>83</b>
Gospel means good news	84
The gospel answers 4 questions	84
How did we come to be?	84

What do we need?	84
What is God's provision for that need?	84
How do we accept that provision?	85
God, man, Christ, and response	85
God	85
All men have sinned against God	85
God sent Jesus to earth	85
Man's response	85
Oikos evangelism	85
What is oikos evangelism?	86
Four means to enter oikos	86
Common kinship	86
Common location	86
Common interests	86
Common vocation	86
Oikos evangelism in the bible	86
Evangelism Process	88
Process	89
Holy Spirit critical	89
Level One - serving	90
Level Two - sharing	90
Level Three - explaining	90
Level Four - commitment	91
Level Five -- connection	91
Level Six - incorporation	92
Holy Spirit	92
Baptism necessary to perform the mission	92
Source of every positive relationship	93
Spirit spreads His love	93
Spirit enables you	94
Serving	94
Method of the Master	95

For the Master	95
Reap what you sow	96
What is serving?	97
Stress Scale	97
Look for stress in others and ways to minister	98
Stressful events	98
Practical approach	98
Basics	99
Oikos	99
Serve	99
Share	99
Explain	99
Commitment	99
Cell Group	99
Leadership	100
Leadership commitment	100
Releasing disciples of Jesus into the harvest	100
Starting conversations about Jesus.	100
Accept people as they are	100
Four ways to share	100
Speak words of truth	100
Communicate your experiences to them	101
Preach the Gospel to them	101
Peter's sermon	101
Invite them to the Cell	101
<b>Leadership qualifications</b>	<b>101</b>
Overseer/deacon...	101
Overseer's wife/deacon's wife	102
Overseers	103
<b>Reasons for Cells</b>	<b>104</b>
God's will - everyone on Earth His disciple	104



Church must fulfill her ministry	104
<b>Cell leaders lead by...</b>	<b>105</b>
Acts 20:17-35	105
living as examples	105
serving	105
persevering	105
teaching	105
being missional	106
protecting the flock	106
being committed to the word	106
working hard	107
loving	107
<b>One another of the NT</b>	<b>107</b>
Be at peace	107
Love	107
Be devoted to	108
Honor	108
Live in harmony with	108
Stop passing judgment on	108
Accept	108
Instruct	109
Greet	109
Serve	109
Carry burden of	109
Be patient, bearing with in love	109
Be kind and compassionate to	109
Speak with songs, hymns, spiritual songs to	110
Submit to out of reverence for Christ	110
In humility consider better than yourself	110
Teach, Admonish	110
Encourage	110

Build up	110
Spur on toward love and good deeds	110
Do not slander	111
Do not grumble against	111
Pray for	111
Clothe yourself in humility toward	111
<b>Lead the cell to relationship</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Guarding discussion</b>	<b>112</b>
Helpful questions	112
Observation	112
Interpretation	112
Application	112
Dynamic	113
Practicalities	113
Examples	113
Clarification	113
Re-direction	113
Extension/open-ended	113
<b>Developing new leaders</b>	<b>113</b>
Identify a potential apprentice	113
Good heart - dedicated to the Lord	114
Filled with the Spirit and wisdom	114
Loves Jesus, loves the Church, loves the lost	114
Listens to others, includes others	115
Holds Scripture as ultimate	115
Virtuous and delegates responsibility	115
Humble	115
Able to teach	116
Not a recent convert	116
Attends regularly	116
Depends on God	116

Servant	116
Eager to serve the needs of others	116
Diligent	117
Approach	117

## Scriptural Values

Cell Churches are Relationship-centered, as opposed to Meeting-centered.

### Work in the harvest

Matthew 9:36-38 (WEB)

36. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and scattered, like sheep without a shepherd.

37. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

38. Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will send out laborers into his harvest."

Jesus was guided by the Holy Spirit to minister to this woman. As a result, her whole town was reached for the Kingdom.

John 4:35 (WEB)

35. Don't you say, 'There are yet four months until the harvest?' Behold, I tell you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, that they are white for harvest already.

Mark 1:17 (WEB)

17. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I

will make you into fishers for men.”

2 Timothy 4:5 (WEB)

5. But you be sober in all things, suffer hardship, do the work of an evangelist, and fulfill your ministry.

Cells - know people and pray

Matthew 9:38 (WEB)

38. Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will send out laborers into his harvest.”

John 4:39-42 (WEB)

39. From that city many of the Samaritans believed in him because of the word of the woman, who testified, “He told me everything that I did.”

40. So when the Samaritans came to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed there two days.

41. Many more believed because of his word.

42. They said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of your speaking; for we have heard for ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

## Discipling - the Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20 (WEB)

19. Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20. teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

### Make disciples

Here is the emphasis in the original language: Having gone, make disciples, baptizing..., teaching. The command is to

**make disciples.** Going, baptizing and teaching are things you must do to make disciples. Disciples are faithful, mature followers of Jesus who reproduce themselves in the lives of others.

## Baptize

Christian baptism, immersion in water for the remission of sins, is something in which we should educate new believers.

## Observe

Teach them to observe. Observe is a military term, meaning help them get it for themselves. We have to teach them to follow the Holy Spirit.

## Raising up spiritual parents

### Cells are spiritual families

Cells are spiritual families, where children are expected to grow up and become parents.

1 Peter 2:2 (WEB)

2. as newborn **babies**, long for the pure milk of the Word, that with it you may grow,

1 Corinthians 4:15-17 (WEB)

15. For though you have ten thousand tutors in Christ, you don't have many fathers. For in Christ Jesus, I became your father through the Good News.

16. I beg you therefore, be imitators of me.

17. Because of this I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every assembly.

1 John 2:12-14 (WEB)

12.I write to you, **little children**, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

13.I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, **young men**, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, little children, because you know the Father.

14.I have written to you, **fathers**, because you know him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

The Church consists of babies, little children, young men (and women) and fathers (and mothers).

Church is people, not a building

The church (ekklesiā = the assembly) is a group of people, not a building.

Matthew 16:18 (WEB)

18.I also tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my assembly, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

Acts 20:20 (WEB)

20.how I didn't shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly and from house to house,

All saints do the work

The saints are called to do the work of ministry. All believers must be **released and empowered** to teach, pastor, train, and evangelize.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (WEB)

11.He gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, shepherds and teachers;

12.for the perfecting of the saints, to the work

of serving, to the building up of the body of Christ,

## Relationships of trust

Strong relationships in cells means strong relationships in the entire Church.

Three kinds of relationships necessary

Paul

Those who oversee us. Paul was an overseer of the churches which he started and nurtured to maturity.

Barnabas

Peers in ministry and leadership. Barnabas traveled with Paul and helped him start churches.

Timothy

Children ready to train for future leadership. Timothy was as a child to Paul, imitating him and working with him to shore up and encourage the churches.

We are built together

1 Peter 2:5 (WEB)

5.You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:16 (WEB)

16.from whom all the body, being fitted and knit together through that which every joint supplies, according to the working in measure of each individual part, makes the body increase to the building up of itself in love.

## Expecting spiritual multiplication

Train as many assistant leaders as possible as you prepare for future cell growth.

Genesis 1:28 (WEB)

28. God blessed them. God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Acts 6:1, 7 (WEB)

1. Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, a complaint arose from the Hellenists against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily service.

7. The word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly. A great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Acts 9:31 (WEB)

31. So the assemblies throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace, and were built up. They were multiplied, walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

## Flexibility and creativity are important.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (WEB)

17. Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

18. But we all, with unveiled face seeing the glory of the Lord as in a mirror, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Empower God's people. Jesus promised we would do greater works than he did. As a leader, do nothing someone else can do.

John 14:12 (WEB)

12. Most certainly I tell you, he who believes in



me, the works that I do, he will do also; and he will do greater works than these, because I am going to my Father.

2 Timothy 2:2 (WEB)

2.The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same things to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

## Build teams.

We are created to be interdependent, not independent or dependent.

2 Thessalonians 1:1 (WEB)

1.Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the assembly of the Thessalonians in God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ:

1 Corinthians 12:28 (WEB)

28.God has set some in the assembly: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracle workers, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, and various kinds of languages.

Amos 3:3 (WEB)

3.Do two walk together, unless they have agreed?

## Four components of healthy teams

- Common vision
- Common values
- Common process
- God-given healthy relationships

# Cell process

The cell process is built around three basic relational values.

## Prayer: relationship with God

Psalms 103:7 (WEB)

7.He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the children of Israel.

Have a daily appointment with God. No shortcuts. He is a relational God.

## Pray as Jesus prayed

Luke 11:1-4 (WEB)

1.When he finished praying in a certain place, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

2.He said to them, "When you pray, say, 'Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

3.Give us day by day our daily bread.

4.Forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'"

## Receive a fresh infilling of the Spirit daily

Matthew 4:4 (WEB)

4.But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'"

Ephesians 5:18 (WEB)

18.Don't be drunken with wine, in which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

## Fast

Fasting is an important part of Christianity. Fast when you are spiritually dry and to hear from God in a special way.

Matthew 6:16-18 (WEB)

16."Moreover when you fast, don't be like the hypocrites, with sad faces. For they disfigure their faces, that they may be seen by men to be fasting. Most certainly I tell you, they have received their reward.

17.But you, when you fast, anoint your head, and wash your face;

18.so that you are not seen by men to be fasting, but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you.

## Evangelism: relationship with the world

Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil and to seek and save that which is lost.

1 John 3:8 (WEB)

8.He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. To this end the Son of God was revealed: that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Luke 19:10 (WEB)

10.For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost."

See people through the eyes of Jesus; share your testimony every chance you get.

2 Timothy 4:5 (WEB)

5.But you be sober in all things, suffer

hardship, do the work of an evangelist, and fulfill your ministry.

Cells and churches will die if they are not reaching out.

## Discipleship: relationship with God's kingdom

Matthew 28:16-20 (WEB)

16. But the eleven disciples went into Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had sent them.

17. When they saw him, they bowed down to him, but some doubted.

18. Jesus came to them and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

19. Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20. teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Mark 3:14 (WEB)

14. He appointed twelve, that they might be with him, and that he might send them out to preach,

A disciple is a learner, an apprentice. Timothy was a disciple.

Acts 16:1-3 (WEB)

1. He came to Derbe and Lystra: and behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewess who believed; but his father was a Greek.

2. The brothers who were at Lystra and Iconium gave a good testimony about him.

3. Paul wanted to have him go out with him, and he took and circumcised him because of

the Jews who were in those parts; for they all knew that his father was a Greek.

2 Timothy 2:2 (WEB)

2. The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same things to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

Study so you can impart basic truths of Scripture. God wants everyone working in His kingdom.

Jesus, the model

Compare the two portions of Scripture. In particular, compare the sections identified with bolded numbers across the two.

Luke 14:26-33 (WEB)

26. “**(1)** If anyone comes to me, and doesn’t disregard his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, **(2)** and his own life also, he can’t be my disciple.

27. **(3)** Whoever doesn’t bear his own cross, and come after me, can’t be my disciple.

28. **(4)** For which of you, desiring to build a tower, doesn’t first sit down and count the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it?

29. Or perhaps, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, everyone who sees begins to mock him,

30. saying, ‘This man began to build, and wasn’t able to finish.’

31. Or what king, as he goes to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand

to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

32. Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an envoy, and asks for conditions of peace.

33. So therefore **(5)** whoever of you who doesn't renounce all that he has, he can't be my disciple.

Philippians 2:5-11 (WEB)

5. Have this in your mind, which was also in Christ Jesus,

6. **(1)** who, existing in the form of God, didn't consider equality with God a thing to be grasped,

7. but **(2)** emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men.

8. And **(4)** being found in human form, **(5)** he humbled himself, **(3)** becoming obedient to the point of death, yes, the death of the cross.

9. Therefore God also highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name,

10. that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth,

11. and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus was a model for us, so we would know what a disciple is and how to live like one.

# Biblical basis for Cell ministry

## God is a God of relationships

Genesis 1:26 (WEB)

26. God said, "Let's make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Genesis 2:18 (WEB)

18. Yahweh God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make him a helper comparable to him."

## Noah

The relationships of Noah and his family were critical to escaping the flood.

Genesis 7:1 (WEB)

1. Yahweh said to Noah, "Come with all of your household into the ship, for I have seen your righteousness before me in this generation."

Genesis 7:5-7 (WEB)

5. Noah did everything that Yahweh commanded him.

6. Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the earth.

7. Noah went into the ship with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, because of the floodwaters.

## Jethro's advice to Moses

Exodus 18:13-26 (WEB)

13. On the next day, Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from the morning to the evening.

14. When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did to the people, he said, "What is this thing that you do for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand around you from morning to evening?"

15. Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God.

16. When they have a matter, they come to me, and I judge between a man and his neighbor, and I make them know the statutes of God, and his laws."

17. Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you do is not good.

18. You will surely wear away, both you, and this people that is with you; for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to perform it yourself alone.

19. Listen now to my voice. I will give you counsel, and God be with you. You represent the people before God, and bring the causes to God.

20. You shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and shall show them the way in which they must walk, and the work that they must do.

21. Moreover you shall provide out of all the people able men which fear God: men of truth, hating unjust gain; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

22. Let them judge the people at all times. It shall be that every great matter they shall



bring to you, but every small matter they shall judge themselves. So shall it be easier for you, and they shall share the load with you.

23.If you will do this thing, and God commands you so, then you will be able to endure, and all these people also will go to their place in peace.”

24.So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law, and did all that he had said.

25.Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

26.They judged the people at all times. They brought the hard causes to Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

## Israel

Israel was naturally broken into tribes, clans and families. A person's identity was in his relationship to his family groups.

Joshua 7:16-18 (WEB)

16.So Joshua rose up early in the morning and brought Israel near by their tribes. The tribe of Judah was selected.

17.He brought near the family of Judah; and he selected the family of the Zerahites. He brought near the family of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was selected.

18.He brought near his household man by man, and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was selected.

Judges 6:14-15 (WEB)

14.Yahweh looked at him, and said, “Go in this your might, and save Israel from the hand of Midian. Haven’t I sent you?”

15.He said to him, "O Lord, how shall I save Israel? Behold, my family is the poorest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house."

## Jesus trained few

Jesus ministered to many, but trained a few. The early Church followed the same pattern of discipleship and spiritual family life.

### Acts 2:41-47 (WEB)

41.Then those who gladly received his word were baptized. There were added that day about three thousand souls.

42.They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and prayer.

43.Fear came on every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

44.All who believed were together, and had all things in common.

45.They sold their possessions and goods, and distributed them to all, according as anyone had need.

46.Day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart,

47.praising God, and having favor with all the people. The Lord added to the assembly day by day those who were being saved.

## Cornelius and his household

God did not just reach Cornelius, but his household (oikia) as well.

Acts 10:24 (WEB)

24.On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends.

Acts 10:44-48 (WEB)

44.While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the word.

45.They of the circumcision who believed were amazed, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was also poured out on the Gentiles.

46.For they heard them speaking in other languages and magnifying God. Then Peter answered,

47.“Can anyone forbid these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just like us.”

48.He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay some days.

Household of Mary, John Mark's mom

Acts 12:12 (WEB)

12.Thinking about that, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John who was called Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying.

Philippian Jailor's household.

Acts 16:30-34 (WEB)

30.brought them out, and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

31.They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your

household.”

32.They spoke the word of the Lord to him, and to all who were in his house.

33.He took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes, and was immediately baptized, he and all his household.

34.He brought them up into his house, and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, with all his household, having believed in God.

20/20 vision.

We need to minister publicly (large gathering, large meeting) and from house to house (cell meeting, discipleship meeting).

Acts 20:20 (WEB)

20.how I didn't shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly and from house to house,

Paul's rented house

Acts 28:30-31 (WEB)

30.Paul stayed two whole years in his own rented house and received all who were coming to him,

31.preaching God's Kingdom, and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance.

Home churches.

Romans 16:3-15 (WEB)

3.Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

4.who for my life, laid down their own necks; to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the assemblies of the Gentiles.

5.Greet the assembly that is in their house.

Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who is the first

fruits of Achaia to Christ.

6.Greet Mary, who labored much for us.

7.Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives and my fellow prisoners, who are notable among the apostles, who were also in Christ before me.

8.Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord.

9.Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved.

10.Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus.

11.Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet them of the household of Narcissus, who are in the Lord.

12.Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who labor in the Lord. Greet Persis, the beloved, who labored much in the Lord.

13.Greet Rufus, the chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

14.Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers who are with them.

15.Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.

Colossians 4:15 (WEB)

15.Greet the brothers who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and the assembly that is in his house.

The first dedicated church buildings were built in 323AD. Much of the known world was evangelized by then, but the phenomenal growth stopped at that time.

*It seems our focus on buildings and church programs has caused us to lose the simplicity and the power*

*experienced by the early Church. But it is not too late to get back to that power.*

## Prayer: key to all ministry

### A leader's prayer life

#### Top priority

A leader's number one priority is to spend time with the Father and minister to the Lord. There are no substitutes for time alone with God. Every leader should have a daily time spent with the Lord.

Psalms 5:3 (WEB)

3.Yahweh, in the morning you shall hear my voice. In the morning I will lay my requests before you, and will watch expectantly.

#### Guidance

Pray for guidance. Ask the Lord to speak, and expect Him to speak. Then listen, like your life depends on it.

Psalms 143:8-11 (WEB)

8.Cause me to hear your loving kindness in the morning, for I trust in you. Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, for I lift up my soul to you.

9.Deliver me, Yahweh, from my enemies. I flee to you to hide me.

10.Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.

11.Revive me, Yahweh, for your name's sake. In your righteousness, bring my soul out of trouble.

#### Bible

Read and study the Bible. It is full of living power.

Psalms 119:18 (WEB)

18.Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things out of your law.

Psalms 119:105 (WEB)

105.NUN Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light for my path.

Matthew 4:4 (WEB)

4.But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'"

Matthew 6:11 (WEB)

11.Give us today our daily bread.

1 Peter 2:2 (WEB)

2.as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, that with it you may grow,

Hebrews 4:12 (WEB)

12.For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Enjoy the word.

Psalms 119:16 (WEB)

16.I will delight myself in your statutes. I will not forget your word.

Get washed and cleaned by the word

Ephesians 5:26 (WEB)

26.that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word,

# Types of prayer

## Adoration

This is the purest kind of prayer, totally for God.

1 Chronicles 29:11 (WEB)

11.Yours, Yahweh, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty! For all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, Yahweh, and you are exalted as head above all.

Psalms 8:1-9 (WEB)

1.For the Chief Musician; on an instrument of Gath. A Psalm by David. Yahweh, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens!

2.From the lips of babes and infants you have established strength, because of your adversaries, that you might silence the enemy and the avenger.

3.When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have ordained;

4.what is man, that you think of him? What is the son of man, that you care for him?

5.For you have made him a little lower than the angels, and crowned him with glory and honor.

6.You make him ruler over the works of your hands. You have put all things under his feet:

7.All sheep and cattle, yes, and the animals of the field,

8.the birds of the sky, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes through the paths of the seas.



9.Yahweh, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### Confession

To confess means to "agree together with" God about your sin and about his word. We confess our sin, and we confess the word of God as truth.

Psalms 66:18 (WEB)

18.If I cherished sin in my heart, the Lord wouldn't have listened.

1 John 1:9 (WEB)

9.If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Romans 10:9 (WEB)

9.that if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

### Thanksgiving

Ephesians 5:20 (WEB)

20.giving thanks always concerning all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to God, even the Father;

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (WEB)

18.In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus toward you.

### Supplication

To supplicate is to ask for something, earnestly and humbly.

Daniel 10:12 (WEB)

12.Then he said to me, "Don't be afraid, Daniel; for from the first day that you set your

heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard. I have come for your words' sake.

Matthew 7:7 (WEB)

7."Ask, and it will be given you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened for you.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 (WEB)

1.I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and givings of thanks be made for all men:

2.for kings and all who are in high places, that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and reverence.

Two heavenly prayer ministries

Two prayer ministries before God's throne: Intercession (ministry of Jesus) and accusation (ministry of satan). We can't engage with Jesus by accusing; we have to intercede.

Daily time affects others

Our daily time with the Lord affects others. Nothing is more important than hanging out with God daily and reaching others for Christ. Everything else is wood, hay and stubble. As Elijah listened to the Lord, he learned he needed to train Elishah and other prophets.

1 Corinthians 3:11-12 (WEB)

11.For no one can lay any other foundation than that which has been laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12.But if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay, or stubble,

1 Kings 19:16 (WEB)

16.Anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi to be king

over Israel; and anoint Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah to be prophet in your place.

## Poisons adversely affecting leadership

Poisons which can paralyze and eventually destroy Christian leadership.

- unbelief
- discouragement
- apathy
- taking offense

Become "offense proof"

Matthew 13:57 (WEB)

57.They were offended by him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and in his own house."

Matthew 18:7 (WEB)

7."Woe to the world because of occasions of stumbling! For it must be that the occasions come, but woe to that person through whom the occasion comes!

Luke 7:23 (WEB)

23.Blessed is he who finds no occasion for stumbling in me."

John 16:1 (WEB)

1."I have said these things to you so that you wouldn't be caused to stumble.

Release those you are offended with. "The way you catch a monkey is quite simple. What you do is put a large, heavy jar with a mango or banana in it out in the open. The jar has a

very small neck. Soon enough, a monkey will come along and stick his hand inside to grab the fruit. When he tries to draw his hand out he can't. The hand with the fruit is too large for the neck of the jar. The monkey could easily let go of the bait and escape, but they never do. Even when he sees the catcher with his net, he'll jump up and down and squeal ferociously, but he won't let go of the fruit. He simply can't. It's quite beyond his power. No one knows why, but that's the way it is, and that's how they catch the monkey." (Indian Children's fable). The same is true with offense.

Matthew 6:12 (WEB)

12. Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors.

Matthew 6:14-15 (WEB)

14. "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

15. But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Mark 11:24-26 (WEB)

24. Therefore I tell you, all things whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you have received them, and you shall have them.

25. Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father, who is in heaven, may also forgive you your transgressions.

26. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your transgressions."

Hebrews 12:15 (WEB)

15. looking carefully lest there be any man who falls short of the grace of God, lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and many be defiled by it,

Luke 23:34 (WEB)

34.Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing." Dividing his garments among them, they cast lots.

Romans 12:18 (WEB)

18.If it is possible, as much as it is up to you, be at peace with all men.

Read Num 5:11-29. If others continue to be offended and lie about us, we need to drink the cup. The Lord will vindicate us. The NT way of drinking the cup of bitterness is to ask the Lord to bless them.

Matthew 5:44 (WEB)

44.But I tell you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you,

Practice his presence.

Proverbs 3:6 (WEB)

6.In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (WEB)

17.Pray without ceasing.

We can only learn to do what the Father shows us if we get in His presence and let Him show us.

John 5:19 (WEB)

19.Jesus therefore answered them, "Most certainly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father doing. For

whatever things he does, these the Son also does likewise.

## Intimacy with God

### God's plan for intimacy

Hosea 2:19 (WEB)

19.I will betroth you to me forever. Yes, I will betroth you to me in righteousness, in justice, in loving kindness, and in compassion.

Loving-kindness 250 times in OT => belonging together.

Jeremiah 2:11-13 (WEB)

11.Has a nation changed its gods, which really are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which doesn't profit.

12."Be astonished, you heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid. Be very desolate," says Yahweh.

13."For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the spring of living waters, and cut out cisterns for themselves: broken cisterns that can't hold water.

### No shortcuts to intimacy

Hebrews 11:6 (WEB)

6.Without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to him, for he who comes to God must believe that he exists, and that he is a rewarder of those who seek him.

John 17:3 (WEB)

3.This is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and him whom you sent, Jesus Christ.

## Jesus is our model

John 5:17 (WEB)

17. But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, so I am working, too."

## Examples of intimacy in the OT

### Moses

Exodus 24:12 (WEB)

12. Yahweh said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and stay here, and I will give you the stone tablets with the law and the commands that I have written, that you may teach them."

### David

1 Samuel 30:6 (WEB)

6. David was greatly distressed; for the people spoke of stoning him, because the souls of all the people were grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters; but David strengthened himself in Yahweh his God.

Psalms 6:6 (WEB)

6. I am weary with my groaning. Every night I flood my bed. I drench my couch with my tears.

Psalms 131:1-2 (WEB)

1. A Song of Ascents. By David. Yahweh, my heart isn't arrogant, nor my eyes lofty; nor do I concern myself with great matters, or things too wonderful for me.

2. Surely I have stilled and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me.

Psalms 51:4 (WEB)

4. Against you, and you only, I have sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight; that you may be proved right when you speak, and justified when you judge.

## God takes the initiative

God took the initiative to reveal himself to his people.

Deuteronomy 14:2 (WEB)

2. For you are a holy people to Yahweh your God, and Yahweh has chosen you to be a people for his own possession, above all peoples who are on the face of the earth.

## Jehovah Nissi

Exodus 17:15 (WEB)

15. Moses built an altar, and called its name "Yahweh our Banner".

## Jehovah Jireh

Genesis 22:14 (WEB)

14. Abraham called the name of that place "Yahweh Will Provide". As it is said to this day, "On Yahweh's mountain, it will be provided."

Leaders work for God's good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13 (WEB)

13. For it is God who works in you both to will and to work, for his good pleasure.

- Don't feel you need to fix everything to keep everyone happy.
- Don't feel you can never make a mistake.
- Don't feel guilty if you are not always busy.
- Don't have unrealistic expectations of yourself.



Fruitful ministry comes from intimacy with God.

Mark 6:31 (WEB)

31.He said to them, "You come apart into a deserted place, and rest awhile." For there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.

Just relax, God is in control

Hebrews 4:9-10 (WEB)

9.There remains therefore a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

10.For he who has entered into his rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from his.

What is this rest?

- Surrender.
- Fulfillment in Him.
- Motivated by love.

1 Timothy 1:5 (WEB)

5.but the goal of this command is love, out of a pure heart and a good conscience and sincere faith,

Galatians 5:13 (WEB)

13.For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only don't use your freedom for gain to the flesh, but through love be servants to one another.

Communion with God changes us

We are better able to discern what God is saying

Jeremiah 23:18 (WEB)

18.For who has stood in the council of Yahweh, that he should perceive and hear his word? Who has listened to my word, and heard it?

We will remember Jesus is with us

Matthew 11:28-29 (WEB)

28."Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.

29.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.

He will give us a vision

Habakkuk 2:1-3 (WEB)

1.I will stand at my watch, and set myself on the ramparts, and will look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

2.Yahweh answered me, "Write the vision, and make it plain on tablets, that he who runs may read it.

3.For the vision is yet for the appointed time, and it hurries toward the end, and won't prove false. Though it takes time, wait for it; because it will surely come. It won't delay.

We will have communion with the Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 13:14 (WEB)

14.The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, God's love, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

He will help us surrender day by day

Psalms 46:10 (WEB)

10."Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth."

Relationship v. law

Exodus 20:18-20 (WEB)

18.All the people perceived the thunderings, the lightnings, the sound of the trumpet, and

the mountain smoking. When the people saw it, they trembled, and stayed at a distance.

19.They said to Moses, "Speak with us yourself, and we will listen; but don't let God speak with us, lest we die."

20.Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid, for God has come to test you, and that his fear may be before you, that you won't sin."

Hebrews 12:25 (WEB)

25.See that you don't refuse him who speaks. For if they didn't escape when they refused him who warned on the earth, how much more will we not escape who turn away from him who warns from heaven,

## The fear of the Lord

What is it?

To fear the Lord is to reverence and trust Him. It is the beginning of wisdom.

Proverbs 9:10 (WEB)

10.The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom. The knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

To stand in awe of His name

Malachi 2:5 (WEB)

5."My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him that he might be reverent toward me; and he was reverent toward me, and stood in awe of my name.

Isaiah 9:6 (WEB)

6.For to us a child is born. To us a son is given; and the government will be on his shoulders. His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

Prince of Peace.

Psalms 33:8 (WEB)

8.Let all the earth fear Yahweh. Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

The fear of God means obedience

Genesis 22:12 (WEB)

12.He said, "Don't lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

Fear of God will cause us to perfect holiness

We will walk in fear of Him because we will give an account.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (WEB)

1.Having therefore these promises, beloved, let's cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Romans 14:12 (WEB)

12.So then each one of us will give account of himself to God.

2 Corinthians 5:10 (WEB)

10.For we must all be revealed before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive the things in the body according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Revelation 22:12 (WEB)

12."Behold, I come quickly. My reward is with me, to repay to each man according to his work.

## Fear of God means to hate evil

Proverbs 8:13 (WEB)

13.The fear of Yahweh is to hate evil. I hate pride, arrogance, the evil way, and the perverse mouth.

Proverbs 16:6 (WEB)

6.By mercy and truth iniquity is atoned for. By the fear of Yahweh men depart from evil. Pride and self-sufficiency mar our perception of our sin.

Acts 26:20 (WEB)

20.but declared first to them of Damascus, at Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, doing works worthy of repentance.

Luke 7:47 (WEB)

47.Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.”

## To fear God is to NOT fear man

Isaiah 11:2-3 (WEB)

2.Yahweh’s Spirit will rest on him: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yahweh.

3.His delight will be in the fear of Yahweh. He will not judge by the sight of his eyes, neither decide by the hearing of his ears;

Proverbs 29:25 (WEB)

25.The fear of man proves to be a snare, but whoever puts his trust in Yahweh is kept safe.

Galatians 1:10 (WEB)

10.For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? For if I were still pleasing men, I wouldn't be a servant of Christ.

Psalms 32:5 (WEB)

5.I acknowledged my sin to you. I didn't hide my iniquity. I said, I will confess my transgressions to Yahweh, and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah.

Proverbs 23:17 (WEB)

17.Don't let your heart envy sinners; but rather fear Yahweh all day long.

Psalms 86:11 (WEB)

11.Teach me your way, Yahweh. I will walk in your truth. Make my heart undivided to fear your name.

To fear God is to control our tongues

James 1:26 (WEB)

26.If anyone among you thinks himself to be religious while he doesn't bridle his tongue, but deceives his heart, this man's religion is worthless.

James 3:1-12 (WEB)

1.Let not many of you be teachers, my brothers, knowing that we will receive heavier judgment.

2.For we all stumble in many things. Anyone who doesn't stumble in word is a perfect person, able to bridle the whole body also.

3.Indeed, we put bits into the horses' mouths so that they may obey us, and we guide their

whole body.

4.Behold, the ships also, though they are so big and are driven by fierce winds, are yet guided by a very small rudder, wherever the pilot desires.

5.So the tongue is also a little member, and boasts great things. See how a small fire can spread to a large forest!

6.And the tongue is a fire. The world of iniquity among our members is the tongue, which defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature, and is set on fire by Gehenna.

7.For every kind of animal, bird, creeping thing, and sea creature, is tamed, and has been tamed by mankind;

8.but nobody can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

9.With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men who are made in the image of God.

10.Out of the same mouth comes blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

11.Does a spring send out from the same opening fresh and bitter water?

12.Can a fig tree, my brothers, yield olives, or a vine figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh water.

Proverbs 10:19 (WEB)

19.In the multitude of words there is no lack of disobedience, but he who restrains his lips does wisely.

Proverbs 18:8 (WEB)

8.The words of a gossip are like dainty

morsels: they go down into a person's innermost parts.

Proverbs 26:20 (WEB)

20.For lack of wood a fire goes out. Without gossip, a quarrel dies down.

The Lord is the refuge of those who fear him

Proverbs 14:26 (WEB)

26.In the fear of Yahweh is a secure fortress, and he will be a refuge for his children.

Ask for it

Cry out to God for the fear of the Lord, and he will put it in your heart.

Jeremiah 32:40 (WEB)

40.I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from following them, to do them good. I will put my fear in their hearts, that they may not depart from me.

Hebrews 13:21 (WEB)

21.make you complete in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Basic Cell Leadership

### Servant leadership

Jesus modeled servant leadership

Philippians 2:5-7 (WEB)

5.Have this in your mind, which was also in Christ Jesus,

6.who, existing in the form of God, didn't consider equality with God a thing to be



grasped,  
7.but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men.

John 13:1-5 (WEB)

1.Now before the feast of the Passover, Jesus, knowing that his time had come that he would depart from this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

2.During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,

3.Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he came from God, and was going to God,

4.arose from supper, and laid aside his outer garments. He took a towel and wrapped a towel around his waist.

5.Then he poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Jesus taught servanthood.

Matthew 20:25-28 (WEB)

25.But Jesus summoned them, and said, "You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

26.It shall not be so among you, but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.

27.Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your bondservant,

28.even as the Son of Man came not to be

served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

## Authority is limited

Servant-leaders must understand the boundaries of their leadership.

2 Corinthians 10:12-16 (WEB)

12.For we are not bold to number or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But they themselves, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, are without understanding.

13.But we will not boast beyond proper limits, but within the boundaries with which God appointed to us, which reach even to you.

14.For we don't stretch ourselves too much, as though we didn't reach to you. For we came even as far as to you with the Good News of Christ,

15.not boasting beyond proper limits in other men's labors, but having hope that as your faith grows, we will be abundantly enlarged by you in our sphere of influence,

16.so as to preach the Good News even to the parts beyond you, not to boast in what someone else has already done.

## Meekness

Servant-leaders are teachable and easily entreated.

2 Chronicles 10:7 (WEB)

7.They spoke to him, saying, "If you are kind to these people, please them, and speak good words to them, then they will be your servants forever."

Galatians 6:7 (WEB)

7. Don't be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

1 Corinthians 11:1 (WEB)

1. Be imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ.

## Servant-leaders sow seeds of truth

Mark 4:3-8 (WEB)

3. "Listen! Behold, the farmer went out to sow,  
4. and as he sowed, some seed fell by the road, and the birds came and devoured it.

5. Others fell on the rocky ground, where it had little soil, and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of soil.

6. When the sun had risen, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

7. Others fell among the thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

8. Others fell into the good ground, and yielded fruit, growing up and increasing. Some produced thirty times, some sixty times, and some one hundred times as much."

## Servant-leaders build relationships

Mark 3:14 (WEB)

14. He appointed twelve, that they might be with him, and that he might send them out to preach,

Mark 6:7 (WEB)

7. He called to himself the twelve, and began to send them out two by two; and he gave them authority over the unclean spirits.

1 Timothy 1:5 (WEB)

5.but the goal of this command is love, out of a pure heart and a good conscience and sincere faith,

1 John 3:18 (WEB)

18.My little children, let's not love in word only, or with the tongue only, but in deed and truth.

Ephesians 4:16 (WEB)

16.from whom all the body, being fitted and knit together through that which every joint supplies, according to the working in measure of each individual part, makes the body increase to the building up of itself in love.

## Compassion a key to servant-leadership

Matthew 25:40 (WEB)

40."The King will answer them, 'Most certainly I tell you, because you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Matthew 9:36 (WEB)

36.But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and scattered, like sheep without a shepherd.

## Encourage others

Servant-leaders encourage others. It takes time to mature.

Hebrews 3:13 (WEB)

13.but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called "today", lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Hebrews 5:14 (WEB)

14. But solid food is for those who are full grown, who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern good and evil.

## The qualifications of a Cell Leader

True leaders serve with humility

1 Peter 5:5 (WEB)

5. Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to the elder. Yes, all of you clothe yourselves with humility, to subject yourselves to one another; for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

New Cell leaders need cell ministry experience

1 Timothy 3:10 (WEB)

10. Let them also first be tested; then let them serve if they are blameless.

New Cell leaders serve as assistant leaders first. Then if they are proven to the task, they can serve as cell leaders.

Cell leaders should have a clear testimony

2 Timothy 1:12 (WEB)

12. For this cause I also suffer these things. Yet I am not ashamed, for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed to him against that day.

Cell leaders should have faith

Romans 14:23 (WEB)

23. But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because it isn't of faith; and whatever is not of faith is sin.

Acts 6:5 (WEB)

5. These words pleased the whole multitude.

They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch;

Romans 10:17 (WEB)

17.So faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Cell leaders should support the cell vision

1 Corinthians 1:10 (WEB)

10.Now I beg you, brothers, through the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfected together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Cell leaders should be enthusiastic

Revelation 3:19 (WEB)

19.As many as I love, I reprove and chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent.

Colossians 3:23 (WEB)

23.And whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord, and not for men,

A cell leader should not be a new Christian

1 Timothy 3:6 (WEB)

6.not a new convert, lest being puffed up he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

Wives of married Cell leaders must be in support

Leadership is difficult at the best of times. A married cell leader must have the support of his or her spouse. They must be in full agreement that this is what the Lord wants them to do.

Cell leaders should give as the Lord leads

Matthew 6:21 (WEB)

21.for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Cell leaders should be accountable

Hebrews 13:17 (WEB)

17.Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they watch on behalf of your souls, as those who will give account, that they may do this with joy, and not with groaning, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Cell leaders must be teachable and reliable

2 Timothy 2:2 (WEB)

2.The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same things to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

Cell leaders are NOT adequate in themselves

Exodus 3:10-12 (WEB)

10.Come now therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh, that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

11.Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

12.He said, "Certainly I will be with you. This will be the token to you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain." God promises to be with you.

Joshua 1:9 (WEB)

9.Haven't I commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Don't be afraid. Don't be

dismayed, for Yahweh your God is with you wherever you go.”

Judges 6:13-16 (WEB)

13.Gideon said to him, “Oh, my lord, if Yahweh is with us, why then has all this happened to us? Where are all his wondrous works which our fathers told us of, saying, ‘Didn’t Yahweh bring us up from Egypt?’ But now Yahweh has cast us off, and delivered us into the hand of Midian.”

14.Yahweh looked at him, and said, “Go in this your might, and save Israel from the hand of Midian. Haven’t I sent you?”

15.He said to him, “O Lord, how shall I save Israel? Behold, my family is the poorest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.”

16.Yahweh said to him, “Surely I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man.”

Jeremiah 1:6-8 (WEB)

6.Then I said, “Ah, Lord Yahweh! Behold, I don’t know how to speak; for I am a child.”

7.But Yahweh said to me, “Don’t say, ‘I am a child;’ for you must go to whomever I send you, and you must say whatever I command you.

8.Don’t be afraid because of them, for I am with you to rescue you,” says Yahweh.

2 Corinthians 12:9 (WEB)

9.He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore I will rather



glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest on me.

## The responsibilities of a Cell Leader

Cell leaders pray for members

The Cell leaders must provide a prayer covering for the Cell group members.

Galatians 4:19 (WEB)

19. My little children, of whom I am again in travail until Christ is formed in you—

Bind evil, loose blessing

Cell leaders have the authority to bind evil and loose a blessing.

Matthew 18:18 (WEB)

18. Most certainly I tell you, whatever things you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever things you release on earth will have been released in heaven.

Cell leaders understand spiritual warfare

Ephesians 6:12 (WEB)

12. For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world's rulers of the darkness of this age, and against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Prayer is powerful

2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (WEB)

3. For though we walk in the flesh, we don't wage war according to the flesh;

4. for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the throwing down of strongholds,

## Outside the meeting

Some prayer requests should be handled outside of the cell meeting.

## Pray Scripture

Cell leaders can pray specific scriptures for cell members.

Philippians 1:9-11 (WEB)

9.This I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment,

10.so that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense to the day of Christ,

11.being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Colossians 1:9-12 (WEB)

9.For this cause, we also, since the day we heard this, don't cease praying and making requests for you, that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

10.that you may walk worthily of the Lord, to please him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God,

11.strengthened with all power, according to the might of his glory, for all endurance and perseverance with joy,

12.giving thanks to the Father, who made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light,

Ephesians 1:15-21 (WEB)

15.For this cause I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you,

and the love which you have toward all the saints,  
16.don't cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers,  
17.that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him,  
18.having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of his calling, and what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,  
19.and what is the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to that working of the strength of his might  
20.which he worked in Christ, when he raised him from the dead and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places,  
21.far above all rule, authority, power, dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come.

Ephesians 3:14-19 (WEB)

14.For this cause, I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
15.from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,  
16.that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, that you may be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner person,  
17.that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, to the end that you, being rooted and grounded in love,  
18.may be strengthened to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and

height and depth,  
19.and to know Christ's love which surpasses  
knowledge, that you may be filled with all the  
fullness of God.

Pray with assistant leader

Cell leaders pray regularly with their assistant leader and  
overseer.

Matthew 18:19 (WEB)

19.Again, assuredly I tell you, that if two of  
you will agree on earth concerning anything  
that they will ask, it will be done for them by  
my Father who is in heaven.

Cell leaders train assistant cell leaders

2 Timothy 2:2 (WEB)

2.The things which you have heard from me  
among many witnesses, commit the same  
things to faithful men, who will be able to  
teach others also.

Three types of assistant leaders

- Developmental - someone being trained for future leadership.
- Perpetual - someone who is not really being groomed as a leader, but who provides stability and continuity to the new cell.
- Catalyst - Five-fold minister or leader in the Church who supports the Cell leader.

Train assistant leaders to pray

Luke 11:1-13 (WEB)

1.When he finished praying in a certain place,  
one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us  
to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

2.He said to them, "When you pray, say, 'Our  
Father in heaven, may your name be kept

holy. May your Kingdom come. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

3. Give us day by day our daily bread.

4. Forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

5. He said to them, “Which of you, if you go to a friend at midnight, and tell him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,

6. for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him,’

7. and he from within will answer and say, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I can’t get up and give it to you’?

8. I tell you, although he will not rise and give it to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence, he will get up and give him as many as he needs.

9. “I tell you, keep asking, and it will be given you. Keep seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened to you.

10. For everyone who asks receives. He who seeks finds. To him who knocks it will be opened.

11. “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, he won’t give him a snake instead of a fish, will he?

12. Or if he asks for an egg, he won’t give him a scorpion, will he?

13. If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?”

## Model transparency and honesty

2 Corinthians 12:9 (WEB)

9.He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest on me.

Show them by our lives rather than just telling them

1 Corinthians 11:1 (WEB)

1.Be imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ.

## Trust takes time

Ephesians 4:16 (WEB)

16.from whom all the body, being fitted and knit together through that which every joint supplies, according to the working in measure of each individual part, makes the body increase to the building up of itself in love.

## Encourage, not control

Cell leaders are called to encourage not to control. The cell leader's leadership is limited in these ways:

- He cannot deviate in any way from scripture.
- He cannot assume the guiding role of the holy spirit in the life of another believer. every believer must ultimately here from God for himself.
- He cannot act contrary to the values and guiding principles set by the leadership team of his local church.
- He cannot misuse his role of leadership by being abusive manipulative or self-serving.

Members depend on the Lord

Encourage cell members to depend on the Lord, not cell leadership or other people.

Colossians 1:28 (WEB)

28. We proclaim him, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus;

Submit to Church leaders

Cell leaders submit to the leadership in the Church, as those in the cell submit to them.

- Cell leaders are pastors in the cell (12-15 people max).
- Cell leaders have Cell Coach they submit to (5 cells max, 60-75 people max).
- Cell coaches have zone pastor they submit to (5 cell disciplers max, 25 cells max, 250-300 people max).
- Zone pastors have senior pastors they submit to (5 zone pastors max, 125 cells, 1250-1500 people max).
- Finally, everyone submits to everyone else, as is proper in the Lord.

## Spiritual Parenting

### Spiritual Fathers

God is a God of families

Ephesians 3:14-15 (WEB)

14. For this cause, I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15. from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named,

Need for spiritual fathering

1 Corinthians 4:15-17 (WEB)

15. For though you have ten thousand tutors in

Christ, you don't have many fathers. For in Christ Jesus, I became your father through the Good News.

16. I beg you therefore, be imitators of me.

17. Because of this I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every assembly.

### Experience

You can be a father regardless of your experience. Fathering starts in the Cell Group.

### Babies, little children, young men and fathers

Of course, the scripture here is referring to baby and girl children, young women and men, and mothers and fathers.

Ephesians 2:1 (WEB)

1. You were made alive when you were dead in transgressions and sins,

1 Peter 2:1-2 (WEB)

1. Putting away therefore all wickedness, all deceit, hypocrisies, envies, and all evil speaking,

2. as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, that with it you may grow,

1 John 2:12-14 (WEB)

12. I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

13. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, little children, because you know the Father.

14. I have written to you, fathers, because you



know him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

### Dead in Sin

At the first stage, the person is dead in their sins. The love of Jesus and of people melts their hardness and brings them to salvation.

### Characteristics

Hard heart, unbelief and rebellion. Probably living in the kinds of sin which will destroy their lives. Must be loved into the Kingdom of God.

- Doesn't believe in the supernatural
- Believes in many forms of the supernatural
- Doesn't believe in God
- Believes in many gods, all with the same importance
- Anger toward "hypocrite" Christians
- They are fine as they are; they don't need to change
- Living lives of immorality, greed, dishonesty

### Needs

- A relationship with a mature believer
- Jesus modeled for them
- Answers to questions, evidence of Christianity
- An explanation of the Gospel
- An invitation to receive Christ

### Babies

Babies have been newly born-again, spiritually. They are excited about their new relationship with God, and they will typically announce their new status to anyone who will listen. They tend to make messes because of their ignorance and

lack of wisdom. They learn to put away evil and crave the pure milk of the word, that they may grow.

#### Characteristics

- Ignorance about how to live, what the Scripture says, the purpose of God in their lives
- Ignorance or frustration about the Church or Christianity
- Willingness to define themselves as the culture would
- Unrealistic expectations of other Christians
- Worldly perspective about life with some spiritual truth mixed in
- Mixing other religions with Christianity, often unawares

#### Needs

- Individual attention from a spiritual parent
- Protection and care
- Have the word explained to them
- Have the habits of a believer explained and modeled to them

#### Little children

Little children are growing in Christ. They have learned the basics about the faith, and know the language and concepts. They still act childish and occasionally are rebellious. They often do the right things for the wrong reason. They know their sins are forgiven and they know the Father.

#### Characteristics

- Excitement over deep relationships
- Appreciation of how God changed them
- Believe feelings are most important, which leads to spiritual highs and lows
- Lack of wisdom about how to use Scriptures
- Belief that people are not caring enough
- Mimic mature Christians, often just to get praise
- Serve others as long as the benefits outweigh the costs
- Enthusiastic about new teachings

- Confusion and black-and-white stances on complex issues due to incomplete Biblical knowledge
- Know more about what Christians say than what the word says

#### Needs

- Help them become part of a spiritual family
- Help them feed themselves spiritually
- Teach them who they are in Christ
- Model for them having a relationship with Christ
- Appropriate expectations concerning other believers
- Teach them of their gifts and how to use them on the body of Christ
- Help them understand they need character before they can truly lead and to resist independence

#### Young men and women

Young men and women have grown much and often look like adults. They are eager to serve and eager to love people. They have much to learn about responsibility and reproducing themselves. They are learning to have a God-centered focus and an other-centered focus. They have won some battles, and are settling into the warfare which will characterize their adult lives. They have overcome the wicked one and know the word of God abides in them.

#### Characteristics

- Desire to serve for the good of others and the glory of God
- Feel responsible for how others respond to the gospel message
- Desire to serve but not strategic about training others
- Naive about how well other Christians are doing
- Black and white about what should happen in a church

## Needs

- Help finding ministry
- Spiritual parent who will debrief them about the ministry experience
- Ongoing relationships with other believers that offer encouragement and accountability
- Help establishing healthy boundaries for their time and money
- Guidance regarding appropriate expectations
- Assistance in identifying their gifts
- Help navigating complex ministry situations

## Spiritual fathers and mothers.

Spiritual parents are able to assess the needs of spiritual children at all levels and bring them to the next level of maturity. They accept children where they are and love them to full maturity. They take an active, intentional role in the lives of others, birthing the spiritual dead into the kingdom, and raising children to the place of full parenting. They have a strategy and a purpose to building in the lives of others. Parents take responsibility for babies, children and young men and women. We are all created to become spiritual parents. The Church of God needs to take up this mantle.

## Characteristics

- Think in terms of teams rather than individuals
- Have a coaching mindset
- Want to see people they work with mature and become fellow workers, not dependent on them anymore, but co-laborers
- Think strategically about how to help younger believers take the next steps in their development

## Needs

- A team to work with
- An invitation and some direction
- To be released and supported
- Ongoing relationships with co-laborers

Philippians 2:22 (WEB)

22. But you know the proof of him, that as a child serves a father, so he served with me in furtherance of the Good News.

1 Thessalonians 2:11 (WEB)

11. As you know, we exhorted, comforted, and implored every one of you, as a father does his own children,

1 Timothy 1:2 (WEB)

2. to Timothy, my true child in faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Titus 1:4 (WEB)

4. to Titus, my true child according to a common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.

Philemon 1:8 (WEB)

8. Therefore though I have all boldness in Christ to command you that which is appropriate,

## Spiritual parenting is long overdue

Malachi 4:6 (WEB)

6.He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”

Luke 1:17 (WEB)

17.He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to prepare a people prepared for the Lord.”

Jeremiah 31:13 (WEB)

13.Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance; the young men and the old together; for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

## Spiritual reproduction.

Cell groups are not a program, but an opportunity for Spiritual fathers and mothers to train children.

## Why the lack of spiritual parents?

Ignorance - the clergy-laity myth

Acts 17:30 (WEB)

30.The times of ignorance therefore God overlooked. But now he commands that all people everywhere should repent,

Apathy

Revelation 3:19 (WEB)

19.As many as I love, I reprove and chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent.

## Insecurity

2 Timothy 1:7 (WEB)

7. For God didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.

## Hurts from the past

2 Timothy 4:16-17 (WEB)

16. At my first defense, no one came to help me, but all left me. May it not be held against them.

17. But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, that through me the message might be fully proclaimed, and that all the Gentiles might hear. So I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

## Lack of modeling

# Discipling process

## Let the Holy Spirit disciple them

John 5:17 (WEB)

17. But Jesus answered them, "My Father is still working, so I am working, too."

The Father is already working. Find out what He is doing, and cooperate with it.

## Restraint comes from revelation

New Christians must cultivate a relationship with God. First, revelation.

Proverbs 29:18 (WEB)

18. Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; but one who keeps the law is blessed.

It is the Holy Spirit's job to convict of sin, not ours.

John 16:8 (WEB)

8. When he has come, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment;

The restraint a new Christian needs to obey God's word will come from his relationship with God.

## The word sanctifies them

John 17:15-17 (WEB)

15. I pray not that you would take them from the world, but that you would keep them from the evil one.

16. They are not of the world even as I am not of the world.

17. Sanctify them in your truth. Your word is truth.

## Encourage them

New Christians need continual encouragement. Barnabas reached out to Saul (Paul) as no one else did. Also, get them connected with other sin the Church.

Acts 9:26-27 (WEB)

26. When Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join himself to the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.

27. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles, and declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.

## Develop their gifts

Barnabas recruited Paul because of his gifts.

Acts 11:25-26 (WEB)

25. Barnabas went out to Tarsus to look for



Saul.

26. When he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they were gathered together with the assembly, and taught many people. The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

Acts 15:37-40 (WEB)

37. Barnabas planned to take John, who was called Mark, with them also.

38. But Paul didn't think that it was a good idea to take with them someone who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia, and didn't go with them to do the work.

39. Then the contention grew so sharp that they separated from each other. Barnabas took

Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus,

40. but Paul chose Silas and went out, being commended by the brothers to the grace of God.

## Expect the best, accept the worst

Love and accept new believers. Be there for them if (when) they crash and burn. Babies have soiled diapers; children make messes. Young people make wrong decisions. It is the job of parents to accept regardless.

## Relational environment for discipleship

If you study the book of Acts, you will see that the core value of the disciples in the New Testament church was relationship. First, relationship with God, and then with others. They lived with each other, discipling each other. Paul didn't just disciple Timothy and Silas, but they disciplined Paul. They all walked together in relationship, knit together and loving one another. This is why Paul could boldly tell others to imitate him. He was knit with people who helped him live the things of God out in his life. There are several

components needed to provide this kind of relational environment for discipling.

## Teaching

New believers need foundational truths in their lives. Get the Great Commission Cell Church *Basic training for Christians* and the *Foundations of Faith* Bible studies for this purpose.

John 17:17 (WEB)

17. Sanctify them in your truth. Your word is truth.

Matthew 4:4 (WEB)

4. But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.'"

Ephesians 6:17 (WEB)

17. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

## Pastoring

Spiritual babies, children and young adults need spiritual parents in their lives teaching and directing them. They all tend to make bad decisions, they tend to be selfish and need the lifestyle of Christianity modeled for them. Babies and children do not understand spiritual warfare and need parents to fight for them while they learn to fight for themselves. Spiritual parents are needed to shepherd them in the path in which they should walk.

John 10:10 (WEB)

10. The thief only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.

1 Peter 5:8 (WEB)

8. Be sober and self-controlled. Be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, walks around like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Psalms 41:9 (WEB)

9. Yes, my own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who ate bread with me, has lifted up his heel against me.

John 18:7-8 (WEB)

7. Again therefore he asked them, "Who are you looking for?" They said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

8. Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. If therefore you seek me, let these go their way,"

Ezekiel 34:2-5 (WEB)

2. "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy, and tell them, even the shepherds, 'Thus says the Lord Yahweh: "Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Shouldn't the shepherds feed the sheep?"

3. You eat the fat. You clothe yourself with the wool. You kill the fatlings, but you don't feed the sheep.

4. You haven't strengthened the diseased. You haven't healed that which was sick. You haven't bound up that which was broken. You haven't brought back that which was driven

away. You haven't sought that which was lost, but you have ruled over them with force and with rigor.

5. They were scattered, because there was no shepherd. They became food to all the animals of the field, and were scattered.

## Transparency

We all need people who can take our hands and pull us along in the things of God. We need people who can model for us authentic, real, and accepting behaviors. And we need to know that those people are real and are living out the power of the Christian life in front of us. Spiritual parents do not try to pretend they are something they are not. They are past the insecurities of the young adult stage, and allow others to see them for who they really are. Jesus was the best model of transparency we have in the Bible.

John 11:35 (WEB)

35. Jesus wept.

Mark 11:15-16 (WEB)

15. They came to Jerusalem, and Jesus entered into the temple, and began to throw out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and overthrew the money changers' tables, and the seats of those who sold the doves.

16. He would not allow anyone to carry a container through the temple.

Mark 14:33-34 (WEB)

33. He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be greatly troubled and distressed.

34. He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here, and watch."

John 12:27 (WEB)

27. "Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say? 'Father, save me from this time?' But I came to this time for this cause.

Matthew 11:20 (WEB)

20. Then he began to denounce the cities in which most of his mighty works had been done, because they didn't repent.

Mark 6:6 (WEB)

6. He marveled because of their unbelief. He went around the villages teaching.

Mark 8:21 (WEB)

21. He asked them, "Don't you understand yet?"

Matthew 26:39 (WEB)

39. He went forward a little, fell on his face, and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me; nevertheless, not what I desire, but what you desire."

Matthew 17:17 (WEB)

17. Jesus answered, "Faithless and perverse generation! How long will I be with you? How long will I bear with you? Bring him here to me."

John 12:36-37 (WEB)

36. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become children of light." Jesus said these things, and he departed and hid himself from them.

37. But though he had done so many signs before them, yet they didn't believe in him,

Hebrews 12:3 (WEB)

3. For consider him who has endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, that you don't grow weary, fainting in your souls.

Mark 8:34-35 (WEB)

34. He called the multitude to himself with his disciples, and said to them, "Whoever wants to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

35. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake and the sake of the Good News will save it.

## Accountability

The next logical step from transparency is accountability. So, you have been honest about where you are and what you are struggling with. Accountability helps you take the next

step and work out God's prescription for the wrong behavior. We all need accountability, because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. There are even times when we all need attitudes and perspectives challenged and confronted. Often, people will try to reject this. "Don't judge me," is a common refrain in our culture. But this is not Biblical. It is the sin-loving nature that doesn't want to change and become like Jesus. And the answer to the sin-loving nature is to put it on the cross. You can't be a follower of Jesus if you don't mortify the flesh with its passions.

Proverbs 27:6 (WEB)

6. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; although the kisses of an enemy are profuse.

Hebrews 3:12-13 (WEB)

12. Beware, brothers, lest perhaps there might be in any one of you an evil heart of unbelief, in falling away from the living God;

13. but exhort one another day by day, so long as it is called "today", lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

John 8:44 (WEB)

44. You are of your father, the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and doesn't stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks on his own; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.

James 5:19-20 (WEB)

19. Brothers, if any among you wanders from the truth and someone turns him back,  
20. let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Galatians 6:1-2 (WEB)

1. Brothers, even if a man is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; looking to yourself so that you also aren't tempted.  
2. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Colossians 3:5 (WEB)

5. Put to death therefore your members which are on the earth: sexual immorality, uncleanness, depraved passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Luke 14:26 (WEB)

26. "If anyone comes to me, and doesn't disregard his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he can't be my disciple.

## Modeled life

Humans are not made to just read about something in a book and, voila, they have it. Some things can be taught, but some things need to be caught. Living the Christian life is not always easy. There are times we all need Jesus with skin on in our lives, people who will show us how to live the way



Jesus wants us to live. Spiritual parents know how to model the Christian life for others.

Philippians 3:17 (WEB)

17. Brothers, be imitators together of me, and note those who walk this way, even as you have us for an example.

2 Thessalonians 3:7-9 (WEB)

7. For you know how you ought to imitate us. For we didn't behave ourselves rebelliously among you,

8. neither did we eat bread from anyone's hand without paying for it, but in labor and travail worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you,

9. not because we don't have the right, but to make ourselves an example to you, that you should imitate us.

1 Timothy 4:12 (WEB)

12. Let no man despise your youth; but be an example to those who believe, in word, in your way of life, in love, in spirit, in faith, and in purity.

Hebrews 13:7 (WEB)

7. Remember your leaders, men who spoke to you the word of God, and considering the results of their conduct, imitate their faith.

3 John 1:11 (WEB)

11. Beloved, don't imitate that which is evil, but that which is good. He who does good is of God. He who does evil hasn't seen God.

## Efficacy of the Cell Church

**Note that all the things necessary to provide an environment for discipleship are best provided in the Cell.** If the Cells have spiritual parents who model, guide, teach, correct, love and serve the members of the Cell, this will produce an environment where people grow quickly. Hence, we can quickly take people from spiritual babies to spiritual parents and create a culture of people who reproduce themselves in the lives of others.

## Great commission

The great commission, through the testimony of the four evangelists, proposes to us **the last and definitive commandment of Jesus in history**, while still on the earth. Indeed, He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem to be filled with the Spirit, but they obeyed that and were filled with the Spirit. The Great Commission is to be understood as **his spiritual testament, the last and most important task that He wants to entrust to us**: the expansion of his kingdom.

Matthew 28:18-20 (WEB)

18.Jesus came to them and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth.

19.Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20.teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Mark 16:15-18 (WEB)

15.He said to them, “Go into all the world, and preach the Good News to the whole creation.

16.He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who disbelieves will be condemned.

17.These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out

demons; they will speak with new languages;

18.they will take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it will in no way hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

This scripture in Matthew could be translated "Having gone into the world, make disciples, teaching them and baptizing them. **The emphasis is on making disciples.** For too long the Church has focused on making converts and allowing them to remain spiritual children.

## Centrality of the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-9 (WEB)

1.Now I declare to you, brothers, the Good News which I preached to you, which also you received, in which you also stand,

2.by which also you are saved, if you hold firmly the word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

3.For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

4.that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

5.and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

6.Then he appeared to over five hundred brothers at once, most of whom remain until now, but some have also fallen asleep.

7.Then he appeared to James, then to all the

apostles,

8. and last of all, as to the child born at the wrong time, he appeared to me also.

9. For I am the least of the apostles, who is not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the assembly of God.

## Gospel means good news

### The gospel answers 4 questions

How did we come to be?

Were we created? if so, who made us, and to whom are we accountable? The Gospel begins from the position that we were created, and we owe the Creator our allegiance. Our Creator has a say in our destiny.

What do we need?

What is our problem? In other words, are we in trouble, and if so, why? The Gospel shows we are in trouble. We have a nature that is bent on sinning, and we have no way to get out from underneath that nature.

What is God's provision for that need?

What is God's solution to that problem? How has He acted to

save us from it? The Gospel teaches that Jesus, the Son of God, fully deity Himself, came to earth to break the power of sin over our lives. He came to save us from sin.

How do we accept that provision?

How do I come to be included in that salvation? What makes this GOOD NEWS for me?

### God, man, Christ, and response

God

God is the all wise, all powerful Creator.

Revelation 4:11 (WEB)

11. "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, the Holy

One, to receive the glory, the honor, and the power, for you created all things, and because of your desire they existed, and were created!"

All men have sinned against God

Romans 3:23 (WEB)

23.for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God;

God sent Jesus to earth

Romans 5:8 (WEB)

8.But God commends his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Man's response

Only one response from man is appropriate: repent, confess Jesus as Lord and believe in Him.

Acts 2:38-39 (WEB)

38.Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39.For the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all who are far off, even as many as the Lord our God will call to himself."

Romans 10:9 (WEB)

9.that if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

## Oikos evangelism

What is oikos evangelism?

It is the strategy of using our existing relationships to evangelise.

Acts 10 and 11.

Acts 10:24 (WEB)

24. On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends.

Four means to enter oikos

Common kinship

Those who are in your family are part of your oikos.

Common location

Those living near you, in your same geography, are part of your oikos.

Common interests

Those having similar interests or hobbies are part of your oikos.

Common vocation

Those with whom you interact regularly throughout the week, including office mates, business associates, clients, etc., are part of your oikos.

**Every Christian must be an evangelist of his own Oikos.**

Oikos evangelism in the bible

Luke 8:36-39 (WEB)

36. Those who saw it told them how he who had been possessed by demons was healed.

37. All the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them, for they were very much afraid. Then he entered into the boat and returned.

38. But the man from whom the demons had gone out begged him that he might go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying,

39. "Return to your house, and declare what great things God has done for you." He went his way, proclaiming throughout the whole city

what great things Jesus had done for him.

Luke 5:27-32 (WEB)

27.After these things he went out, and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax office, and said to him, "Follow me!"

28.He left everything, and rose up and followed him.

29.Levi made a great feast for him in his house. There was a great crowd of tax collectors and others who were reclining with them.

30.Their scribes and the Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?"

31.Jesus answered them, "Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick do.

32.I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Luke 19:9 (WEB)

9.Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this house (oikos), because he also is a son of Abraham.

John 1:44-45 (WEB)

44.Now Philip was from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and Peter.

45.Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, wrote: Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

John 4:50-53 (WEB)

50.Jesus said to him, "Go your way. Your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.

51.As he was now going down, his servants met him and reported, saying "Your child

lives!”

52. So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. They said therefore to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour, the fever left him.”

53. So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” He believed, as did his whole house.

Romans 16:3-16 (WEB)

3. Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

4. who for my life, laid down their own necks; to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the assemblies of the Gentiles.

5. Greet the assembly that is in their house. Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who is the first fruits of Achaia to Christ.

6. Greet Mary, who labored much for us.

7. Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives and my fellow prisoners, who are notable among the apostles, who were also in Christ before me.

8. Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord.

9. Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved.

10. Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus.

11. Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet them of the household of Narcissus, who are in the Lord.

12. Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who labor in the Lord. Greet Persis, the beloved, who labored much in the Lord.

13. Greet Rufus, the chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

14. Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers who are



with them.

15. Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.

16. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The assemblies of Christ greet you.

## Evangelism

### Process

#### Holy Spirit critical

Evangelism impossible if entrusted only to human strength. In fact, after his resurrection, Jesus did not send his disciples to preach immediately, but commanded them not to leave Jerusalem and to await the Holy Spirit. You must be filled with the Spirit, pray to the Spirit, and allow Him to guide your steps in evangelism. Bringing people to full maturity is a long-term work involving sweat, blood and tears. **There are no shortcuts.** But we are all called to do this. We will talk more about the Holy Spirit's role after the Process section.

When evangelism passes through the habitual relationships of Oikos, it attains maximum efficiency following these, six levels.

#### Level One - serving

When we serve other people, we are in fact serving Jesus Christ. That is the way we serve him - by serving others. As we serve those around us who are lost, we build bridges of friendship that can later carry the Gospel.

#### Level Two - sharing

As we gain their trust and confidence, our lost friends are then more receptive to the Gospel. It is in the natural setting of relationships that evangelism is most effective. At this point, we want to share our testimony and the facts of the

Gospel as clearly and lovingly as possible. Sharing our faith with those around us should be the desire of our hearts.

### Level Three - explaining

Once we have shared the gospel with someone, many questions may arise. We must be ready to “give an answer for the hope that is within us.” Certain obstacles that prevent a person from accepting Christ must be dealt with. Fears, misconceptions, academics - all must be handled intelligently and with care.

These top three levels involve working with people in the first stage of discipleship. In this stage, they are spiritually dead, and our job is to work with them lovingly and graciously to see them come to life in Jesus.

#### Ephesians 2:1 (WEB)

1. You were made alive when you were dead in transgressions and sins,

#### Revelation 20:14 (WEB)

14. Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

#### John 3:3-5 (WEB)

3. Jesus answered him, “Most certainly, I tell you, unless one is born anew, he can’t see God’s Kingdom.”

4. Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb, and be born?”

5. Jesus answered, "Most certainly I tell you, unless one is born of water and spirit, he can't enter into God's Kingdom.

#### Level Four - commitment

As we serve those around us, share the Gospel, and remove obstacles from the path of acceptance, there comes the time to draw our friend to a commitment to Jesus Christ (entrusting their lives to him). Entrusting oneself to Christ in fact produces a radical change in one's own life. Jesus said to follow him and he would make us fishers of men. We need to learn how to close the net. Sometimes this is the most difficult part, and yet, it is the most important.

#### Level Five -- connection

Having made an initial commitment, the person now becomes a member of the cell-body, where that commitment is deepened by entering relationships with others in the body. The end result of this process is taking the new believer through the Foundations of Faith. Here the person is being connected to the body and connected to Christ.

#### Level Six - incorporation

Leading persons from the cell to the church is an easy process. Having identified their gifts, they are encouraged to seek ministry.

In these next three levels of discipleship, we are bringing a person from a newly born baby (stage 2), through the child stage (stage 3), through the young adult stage (stage 4) and finally through to full maturity, where they are reproducing themselves in the lives of others (stage 5).

# Holy Spirit

## Baptism necessary to perform the mission

Acts 1:4-8 (WEB)

4. Being assembled together with them, he commanded them, "Don't depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which you heard from me.

5. For John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6. Therefore when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, are you now restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

7. He said to them, "It isn't for you to know times or seasons which the Father has set within his own authority.

8. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you. You will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth."

## Source of every positive relationship

The Holy Spirit is the person of the godhead who abides in us. He gives us the new relationship with the Father and can proclaim that Jesus is the Lord in our lives.

1 Corinthians 12:3 (WEB)

3. Therefore I make known to you that no man speaking by God's Spirit says, "Jesus is accursed." No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," but by the Holy Spirit.

Galatians 4:6 (WEB)

6. And because you are children, God sent out the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, "Abba, Father!"

### Spirit spreads His love

The Spirit's presence in the heart of believers allows them to live in love for each other, acting according to the commandment of Jesus

Ephesians 4:1-6 (WEB)

- 1.I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk worthily of the calling with which you were called,
- 2.with all lowliness and humility, with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- 3.being eager to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- 4.There is one body and one Spirit, even as you also were called in one hope of your calling,
- 5.one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- 6.one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all, and in us all.

Romans 14:15-19 (WEB)

- 15.Yet if because of food your brother is grieved, you walk no longer in love. Don't destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.
- 16.Then don't let your good be slandered,
- 17.for God's Kingdom is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.
- 18.For he who serves Christ in these things is

acceptable to God and approved by men.  
19. So then, let's follow after things which make for peace, and things by which we may build one another up.

### Spirit enables you

Only insistent prayer and explicit invocation of the gift of the Holy Spirit and His charismatic force will make you effective in sharing the gospel.

Acts 4:24-31 (WEB)

24. When they heard it, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, "O Lord, you are God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

25. who by the mouth of your servant, David, said, 'Why do the nations rage, and the peoples plot a vain thing?

26. The kings of the earth take a stand, and the rulers take council together, against the Lord, and against his Christ.'

27. "For truly, in this city against your holy servant, Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together

28. to do whatever your hand and your council foreordained to happen.

29. Now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness,

30. while you stretch out your hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of your holy Servant Jesus."

31. When they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were gathered together. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

# Serving

Galatians 5:13 (WEB)

13.For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only don't use your freedom for gain to the flesh, but through love be servants to one another.

## Method of the Master

We need to be a servant is because it was modelled and commanded by Jesus.

Mark 10:45 (WEB)

45.For the Son of Man also came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Philippians 2:5-8 (WEB)

5.Have this in your mind, which was also in Christ Jesus,

6.who, existing in the form of God, didn't consider equality with God a thing to be grasped,

7.but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men.

8.And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, yes, the death of the cross.

John 13:3-5 (WEB)

3.Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he came from God, and was going to God,

4.arose from supper, and laid aside his outer garments. He took a towel and wrapped a towel around his waist.

5.Then he poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe

them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Matthew 20:25-28 (WEB)

25.But Jesus summoned them, and said, "You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.

26.It shall not be so among you, but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant.

27.Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your bondservant,

28.even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### For the Master

Our work for the Lord is service, and the reward is according to the work.

Romans 12:11 (WEB)

11.not lagging in diligence; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

Luke 6:38 (WEB)

38."Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be given to you. For with the same measure you measure it will be measured back to you."

### Reap what you sow

The law of the harvest says that when you sow, you will always reap.



## What is serving?

Proverbs 3:27 (WEB)

27. Don't withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do it.

Luke 17:10 (WEB)

10. Even so you also, when you have done all the things that are commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants. We have done our duty.'"

Romans 14:17 (WEB)

17. for God's Kingdom is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (WEB)

7. Let each man give according as he has determined in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion. for God loves a cheerful giver.

## Stress Scale

Unchurched people are most responsive to a change in life-style (i.e., becoming Christians and responsible church members) during periods of transition. People in a personally stable situation, with few complications or unusual interruptions, are not as often open to radical departure from their established life-styles.

Look for stress in others and ways to minister

Stressful events

- Death of a spouse
- Divorce
- Marital Separation

- Death of a close family member
- Marriage
- Fired from work
- Pregnancy
- Sex difficulties
- Addition of family
- Business readjustment
- Change in financial status
- Death of a close friend
- Mortgage or loan over \$100,000
- Son or daughter leaving home
- Trouble with in-laws
- Spouse starting to work
- Trouble with the boss
- Change in work hours and/or conditions
- Change in residence

### Practical approach

Make an oikos list - a list of people who are in your lives to one extent or another. Ascertain where they are spiritually.

- Not interested in Jesus
- Open to hearing the good news of Jesus
- Understands the gospel, but has obstacles
- Ready to make a decision to accept Jesus
- Christian, but not growing
- Growing Christian
- Mature Christian

### Basics

#### Oikos

- Household, neighbor, work colleagues, professional contacts, other cell members
- List and intercede for those in your oikos
- Use the relationships you have. Believe God for opportunities to minister.

## Serve

Build bridges of friendship through serving.

Matthew 25:40 (WEB)

40. "The King will answer them, 'Most certainly I tell you, because you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Have a servant's heart.

## Share

- Share Jesus and the facts of the Gospel.
- Write down and memorize your testimony.
- Share your testimony.

## Explain

- Here, you answer any question the potential convert has.
- Answer is always Jesus in some form. His love heals and stabilizes.
- Deal with fears, misconceptions, hurts. Soothe the wound.

## Commitment

- Here, you close the net and carry out the commission of Jesus.
- Gently lead the person to initially accept Jesus as Lord.

Proverbs 16:3 (WEB)

3. Commit your deeds to Yahweh, and your plans shall succeed.

## Cell Group

- Foundations
- Spiritual Deliverance
- Evangelism training
- Mentoring and Pastoring
- Building leaders (disciples)

## Leadership

### *Leadership commitment*

#### *Releasing disciples of Jesus into the harvest*

2 Timothy 2:2 (WEB)

2.The things which you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit the same things to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

#### Starting conversations about Jesus.

- Listen
- Look people in the eyes
- Smile and be cordial
- Ask "how", "why" or "when" questions
- Do not express judgments
- Be alert to opportunities
- Be friendly to everyone
- Be of service to others
- Be patient
- Give honest opinions
- Be attentive to areas of need and stress
- It is the Lord who will open doors in His time

## Accept people as they are

### Four ways to share

#### Speak words of truth

John 1:29 (WEB)

29.The next day, he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

#### Communicate your experiences to them

John 1:41 (WEB)

41.He first found his own brother, Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah!" (which is, being interpreted, Christ).

Preach the Gospel to them

*Peter's sermon*

Acts 2:14-39

*Invite them to the Cell*

## Leadership qualifications

1 Timothy 3:1-13 (WEB)

- 1.This is a faithful saying: someone who seeks to be an overseer desires a good work.
- 2.The overseer therefore must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sensible, modest, hospitable, good at teaching;
- 3.not a drinker, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;
- 4.one who rules his own house well, having children in subjection with all reverence;
- 5.(but how could someone who doesn't know how to rule one's own house take care of God's assembly?)
- 6.not a new convert, lest being puffed up he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.
- 7.Moreover he must have good testimony from those who are outside, to avoid falling into reproach and the snare of the devil.
- 8.Servants, in the same way, must be reverent, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for money,
- 9.holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.
- 10.Let them also first be tested; then let them serve if they are blameless.
- 11.Their wives in the same way must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, and faithful in all things.

12. Let servants be husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

13. For those who have served well gain for themselves a good standing, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

## Overseer/deacon...

- without reproach
- husband of one wife
- temperate
- sensible
- modest
- hospitable
- good at teaching
- not a drinker or addicted to wine
- not violent
- not greedy for money
- gentle
- not quarrelsome
- not covetous
- rules own house well
- not a new convert
- good reputation
- reverent
- not double-tongued
- tested, and serve only if they pass the test

## Overseer's wife/deacon's wife

- reverent
- not slanderers
- temperate
- faithful in all things

Titus 1:5-10 (WEB)

5. I left you in Crete for this reason, that you would set in order the things that were lacking and appoint elders in every city, as I directed you,

6.if anyone is blameless, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, who are not accused of loose or unruly behavior.

7.For the overseer must be blameless, as God's steward, not self-pleasing, not easily angered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain;

8.but given to hospitality, a lover of good, sober minded, fair, holy, self-controlled,

9.holding to the faithful word which is according to the teaching, that he may be able to exhort in the sound doctrine, and to convict those who contradict him.

10.For there are also many unruly men, vain talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,

## Overseers

- blameless
- husband of one wife
- having children who believe
- not accused of loose or unruly behavior
- not self-pleasing
- not easily angered
- not given to wine
- not violent
- not greedy for dishonest gain
- given to hospitality
- lover of good
- sober minded
- fair
- holy
- self-controlled
- holding to the faithful word
- able to exhort in sound doctrine and convict those who contradict

# Reasons for Cells

## God's will - everyone on Earth His disciple

2 Corinthians 10:12 (WEB)

12.For we are not bold to number or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But they themselves, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, are without understanding.

## Church must fulfill her ministry

- Evangelization through relationships better fulfills the ministry.
- Only when the Church fulfills her ministry will all the needs of the people be met.
- The Church's priority is to fulfill the Great Commission.

2 Peter 3:9 (WEB)

9.The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness; but he is patient with us, not wishing that anyone should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Evangelization and discipleship must therefore be considered absolute priorities.

- All Christians are ministers

## Cell leaders lead by...

### Acts 20:17-35

living as examples

Acts 20:18 (WEB)

18.When they had come to him, he said to them, "You yourselves know, from the first day



that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you all the time,

1 Corinthians 11:1 (WEB)

1.Be imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ.

### serving

Acts 20:19 (WEB)

19.serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears, and with trials which happened to me by the plots of the Jews;

Mark 10:45 (WEB)

45.For the Son of Man also came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

### persevering

Acts 20:19 (WEB)

19.serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears, and with trials which happened to me by the plots of the Jews;

Acts 20:23 (WEB)

23.except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions wait for me.

Acts 20:29-30 (WEB)

29.For I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

30.Men will arise from among your own selves, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

## teaching

Acts 20:20 (WEB)

20.how I didn't shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly and from house to house,

Acts 20:27 (WEB)

27.for I didn't shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

## being missional

Acts 20:24 (WEB)

24.But these things don't count; nor do I hold my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to fully testify to the Good News of the grace of God.

## protecting the flock

Acts 20:28-30 (WEB)

28.Take heed, therefore, to yourselves, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the assembly of the Lord and God which he purchased with his own blood.

29.For I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

30.Men will arise from among your own selves, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

## being committed to the word

Acts 20:32 (WEB)

32.Now, brothers, I entrust you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build up, and to give you the inheritance among all

those who are sanctified.

working hard

Acts 20:34-35 (WEB)

34.You yourselves know that these hands served my necessities, and those who were with me.

35.In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring you ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

loving

Acts 20:35 (WEB)

35.In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring you ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

## One another of the NT

Be at peace

Mark 9:50 (WEB)

50.Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, with what will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Love

John 13:34 (WEB)

34.A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also love one another.

## Be devoted to

Romans 12:10 (WEB)

10. In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to one another; in honor preferring one another;

## Honor

Romans 12:10 (WEB)

10. In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to one another; in honor preferring one another;

## Live in harmony with

Romans 12:16 (WEB)

16. Be of the same mind one toward another. Don't set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Don't be wise in your own conceits.

## Stop passing judgment on

Romans 14:13 (WEB)

13. Therefore let's not judge one another any more, but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block in his brother's way, or an occasion for falling.

## Accept

Romans 15:7 (WEB)

7. Therefore accept one another, even as Christ also accepted you, to the glory of God.

## Instruct

Romans 15:14 (WEB)

14. I myself am also persuaded about you, my

brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish others.

## Greet

Romans 16:16 (WEB)

16.Greet one another with a holy kiss. The assemblies of Christ greet you.

## Serve

Galatians 5:13 (WEB)

13.For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only don't use your freedom for gain to the flesh, but through love be servants to one another.

## Carry burden of

Galatians 6:2 (WEB)

2.Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

## Be patient, bearing with in love

Ephesians 4:2 (WEB)

2.with all lowliness and humility, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

## Be kind and compassionate to

Ephesians 4:32 (WEB)

32.And be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving each other, just as God also in Christ forgave you.

## Speak with songs, hymns, spiritual songs to

Ephesians 5:19 (WEB)

19.speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; singing and making

melody in your heart to the Lord;

## Submit to out of reverence for Christ

Ephesians 5:21 (WEB)

21.subjecting yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.

## In humility consider better than yourself

Philippians 2:3 (WEB)

3.doing nothing through rivalry or through conceit, but in humility, each counting others better than himself;

## Teach, Admonish

Colossians 3:16 (WEB)

16.Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.

## Encourage

1 Thessalonians 4:18 (WEB)

18.Therefore comfort one another with these words.

## Build up

1 Thessalonians 5:11 (WEB)

11.Therefore exhort one another, and build each other up, even as you also do.

## Spur on toward love and good deeds

Hebrews 10:24 (WEB)

24.Let's consider how to provoke one another to love and good works,

## Do not slander

James 4:11 (WEB)

11. Don't speak against one another, brothers. He who speaks against a brother and judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge.

## Do not grumble against

James 5:9 (WEB)

9. Don't grumble, brothers, against one another, so that you won't be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door.

## Pray for

James 5:16 (WEB)

16. Confess your offenses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is powerfully effective.

## Clothe yourself in humility toward

1 Peter 5:5 (WEB)

5. Likewise, you younger ones, be subject to the elder. Yes, all of you clothe yourselves with humility, to subject yourselves to one another; for "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

## Lead the cell to relationship

- As the leader of your group, your responsibility is always to seek to provide a model for others to imitate
- Take a genuine interest in people
- New group, new relationships - help people get to

know each other

- Make meetings relational
- Be aware of the issues that pertain to season of life

## Guarding discussion

- Don't allow people to confess anyone's faults (particularly their spouse's) but their own.
- Don't allow doctrinal discussion to become divisive or argumentative.
- Don't entertain negative attitudes toward the church, leadership or other people.
- Don't allow one person's continual problem to be the focus of the group.

## Helpful questions

### Observation

How can I effectively and creatively lead the group to observe what the text says?

### Interpretation

How can I lead the group to understand what the text means?

### Application

How can I lead the group to apply the text to their life?

### Dynamic

How can I facilitate effective discussion which leads to understanding and application?

### Practicalities

How can I facilitate the group meeting time in order to encourage deepening relationships?



## Examples

### Clarification

“Could you restate what you said?”

### Re-direction

If someone is leading the discussion on a tangent, bring it back, “Thanks for your thoughts on that. I wonder if anyone else...” (restate your question).

### Extension/open-ended

- “Could you expound on that?” “What do you think about what Heather said?” “Has anyone else ever felt conviction in this area?” “What did you do?” “How did you respond?”
- What do the truths taught mean to you here and now?
- How does knowing this truth about God make a difference in your life? How can you apply this truth?
- What are the implications of this to you and me?
- What must change in your life now that you understand this?
- Is there a command in this passage that we are required to obey?
- What example can we follow here?
- Where have you seen yourself fall short in these areas and how should you cultivate change?

## Developing new leaders

### Identify a potential apprentice

Good heart - dedicated to the Lord

1 Samuel 16:6-12 (WEB)

6. When they had come, he looked at Eliab, and said, “Surely Yahweh’s anointed is before him.”

7. But Yahweh said to Samuel, “Don’t look on his face, or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for I don’t see as

man sees. For man looks at the outward appearance, but Yahweh looks at the heart.”

8. Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Yahweh has not chosen this one, either.”

9. Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. He said, “Yahweh has not chosen this one, either.”

10. Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. Samuel said to Jesse, “Yahweh has not chosen these.”

11. Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your children here?” He said, “There remains yet the youngest. Behold, he is keeping the sheep.”

Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”

12. He sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with a handsome face and good appearance. Yahweh said, “Arise! Anoint him, for this is he.”

Filled with the Spirit and wisdom

Acts 6:3 (WEB)

3. Therefore select from among you, brothers, seven men of good report, full of the Holy Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

Loves Jesus, loves the Church, loves the lost

John 14:15 (WEB)

15. If you love me, keep my commandments.

John 15:12 (WEB)

12. “This is my commandment, that you love one another, even as I have loved you.

John 17:8 (WEB)

8. for the words which you have given me I have given to them, and they received them,

and knew for sure that I came from you. They have believed that you sent me.

### Listens to others, includes others

James 1:19 (WEB)

19. So, then, my beloved brothers, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger;

Romans 15:1 (WEB)

1. Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

### Holds Scripture as ultimate

2 Timothy 3:16 (WEB)

16. Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness,

### Virtuous and delegates responsibility

Exodus 18:25 (WEB)

25. Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

### Humble

James 4:6 (WEB)

6. But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

### Able to teach

1 Timothy 3:2 (WEB)

2. The overseer therefore must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sensible, modest, hospitable, good at teaching;

## Not a recent convert

1 Timothy 3:6 (WEB)

6. not a new convert, lest being puffed up he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.

## Attends regularly

Hebrews 10:25 (WEB)

25. not forsaking our own assembling together, as the custom of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

## Depends on God

John 4:34 (WEB)

34. Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.

## Servant

Mark 10:42-45 (WEB)

42. Jesus summoned them, and said to them, "You know that they who are recognized as rulers over the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43. But it shall not be so among you, but whoever wants to become great among you shall be your servant.

44. Whoever of you wants to become first among you, shall be bondservant of all.

45. For the Son of Man also came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

## Eager to serve the needs of others

Romans 12:9-13 (WEB)

9. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil. Cling to that which is good.

10. In love of the brothers be tenderly affectionate to

one another; in honor preferring one another;  
11. not lagging in diligence; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;  
12. rejoicing in hope; enduring in troubles; continuing steadfastly in prayer;  
13. contributing to the needs of the saints; given to hospitality.

## Diligent

Romans 12:8 (WEB)

8. or he who exhorts, to his exhorting; he who gives, let him do it with generosity; he who rules, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

## Approach

- Invite the potential apprentice to consider it.
- Once there is agreement by the individual to become an apprentice, share with the group that this individual is being recognized as being the group co-leader and is being trained for future Small Group leadership.
- Give the new apprentice all the responsibilities and privileges of group leadership as you train him or her to lead.