

# **VISION FOR A MINISTRY OF DISCIPLESHIP**

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# RELIGION OR RELATIONSHIP?

Christianity is a  
personal relationship with God  
through His Son Jesus Christ...

It is not a religion!

# RELIGION OR RELATIONSHIP?

The person who has an intimate,  
personal relationship with God

has the following characteristics:

- Spends time in the Word daily
- Has daily fellowship with God through personal prayer



- Has a lifestyle of sharing his faith with others
- Participates in mutual edification with other believers

- Shows growth in demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit
- Cares for new believers and makes disciples

- Has a firm commitment to live in obedience to God
- Is in the process of moving forward toward spiritual maturity

# RELIGION OR RELATIONSHIP?

The person who is  
practicing a religion

has the following characteristics:

- Likes to keep busy with activities in the community and the church

- His/Her life shows  
very little of the transformation  
described in 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Normally only obeys God when it is to his/her benefit

# RELIGION OR RELATIONSHIP?

Many people who go to church  
look like this fellow:



# RELIGION OR RELATIONSHIP?



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# BUILD CHURCHES OR MAKE DISCIPLES?

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus said,  
*“I will build my church.”*

Today many think He said,  
*“go and build a church building.”*

# BUILD CHURCHES OR MAKE DISCIPLES?

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus said,  
*“Go, make disciples of all nations!”*

Today many think He said,  
*“Go, build church buildings in all nations!”*

# BUILD CHURCHES OR MAKE DISCIPLES?

The responsibility of God is  
*to build His church.*

Our responsibility is  
*to make disciples.*

# BUILD CHURCHES OR MAKE DISCIPLES?

If we obey God and make disciples,  
*He will use them to build His church.*

If we just build church buildings,  
*they will fill up with religious people  
who only want to be entertained.*

**BUILD CHURCHES OR  
MAKE DISCIPLES?**

**WHAT DID GOD  
COMMAND US TO DO?**

# SO WHAT IS THE PLAN?

If your goal is  
zero, you will  
reach it every  
time.



**If you have too many goals,  
you will never accomplish any  
of them.**





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← **SENDING** →



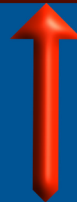
**DEVELOPING**



**EQUIPPING**



**ESTABLISHING**



**EVANGELISM**

# EVANGELIZE

Follow me,  
And I will make you  
fishers of men.

**Matthew 4:19**

If evangelism is not a part of  
Your regular lifestyle...  
I don't know who you are following,  
But it **IS NOT**  
the Lord Jesus Christ.

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# OUR MESSAGE

- God loves you, but your sin has separated you from God.
- Your transgression has condemned you to eternal death.
- Jesus died for you on the cross to pay the penalty of your sin and to save you from eternal death.
- Jesus rose from the dead and offers you eternal life in Him.
- Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved.
- Repent and turn to God. True faith will produce a changed life.

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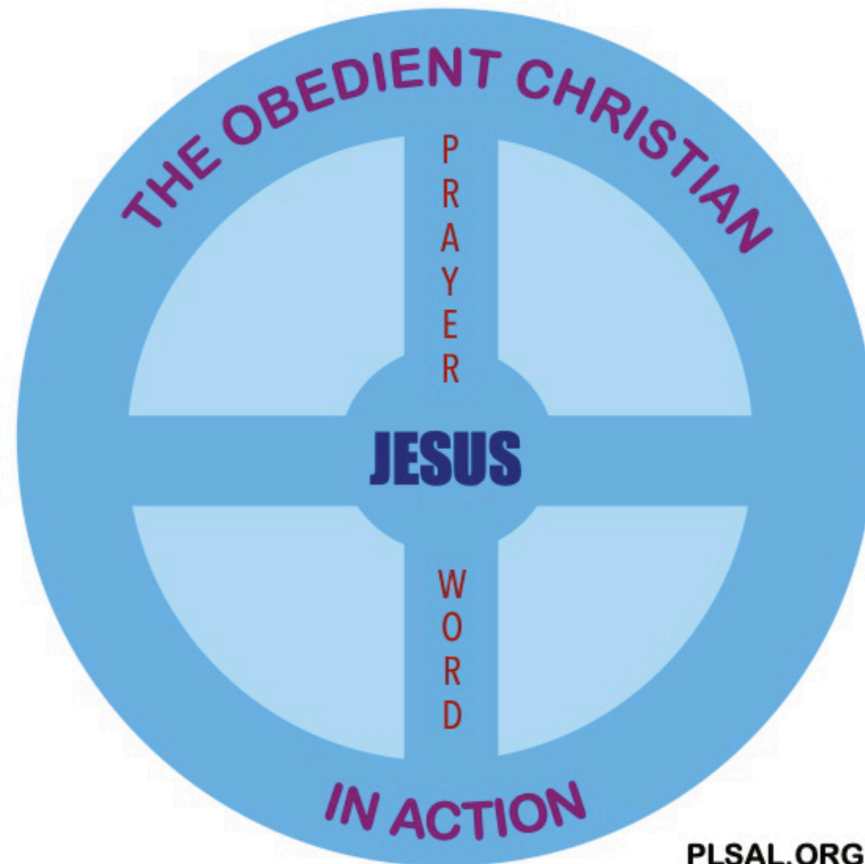
# ESTABLISH

Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

**Colossians 2:6-7**

Every new Christian must be cared for, just as we would care for a newborn baby. They must learn to experience a daily intimate relationship with the Lord.

**We must establish new believers in  
their personal relationship with God.**



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They need to learn how to pray.



**They need to learn how to feed themselves with the Word of God and apply it in their daily life.**

# EQUIP

And He Himself gave some  
to be apostles, some  
prophets, some evangelists,  
and some pastors and  
teachers, for the equipping  
of the saints for the work of  
ministry, for the edifying of  
the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

**We must train up all believers so  
that they can take part in fulfilling  
the Great Commission.**

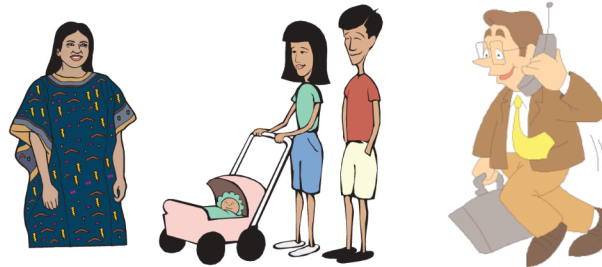
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*And He Himself gave some to be apostles,  
some prophets, some evangelists, and  
some pastors and teachers...*



*For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry*



*For the edifying of the body of Christ.*



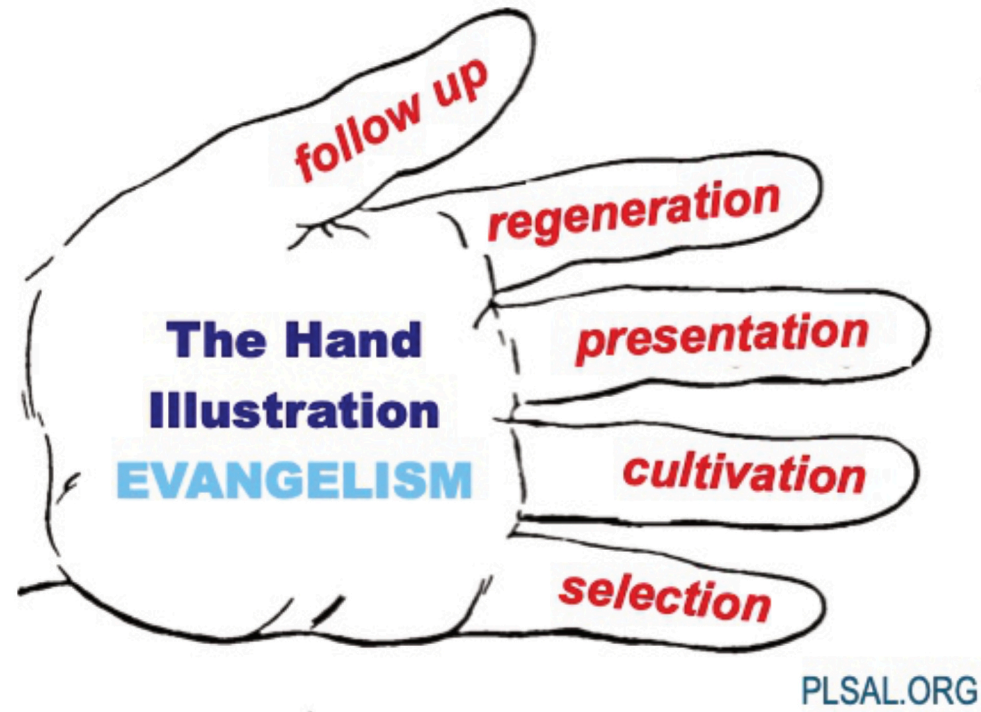
Ephsians 4:11-12

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One of the responsibilities of the church leaders is to equip every member of the congregation so that each one can do the work of ministry effectively.



We must equip all believers so that they can minister to others.



They need to learn how to share the Gospel with those around them.



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**They need to learn the basic principles  
of how to disciple others.**

**We want to see every person in the congregation learn to live the Christian life so that they will, in turn, be able to help others do the same.**

**Matthew 22:37-40**

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## **DEVELOP**

**Then He appointed twelve, that  
they might be with Him and  
that He might send them out to  
preach.**

**Mark 3:14**

**It is necessary that each church  
be always developing a new  
generation of leadership.**

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**Faithful**

**Keeps his word.**

**Available**

**Makes time to get trained.**

**Teachable**

**Learns with a humble and positive attitude.**

**Howard D. Added these additional characteristics:**

**Committed**

**Walks in obedience to God.**

**Accountable**

**Submits to authority... not independent and rebellious.**

**Transparent**

**Honest... allows you to see who he really is.**

**Servant**

**Looks for opportunities to serve... doesn't boss people around.**

**We must develop a new generation of leadership with the necessary qualities to lead others.**

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**SEND**

**So Jesus said to them again,  
“Peace to you! As the Father has  
sent me, I also send you.”**

**John 20:21**

**Every congregation needs to send  
out trained laborers to extend the  
message of the Gospel to all  
peoples.**

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The Holy Spirit will guide each church  
concerning those who should be sent out.

Acts 13:1-3

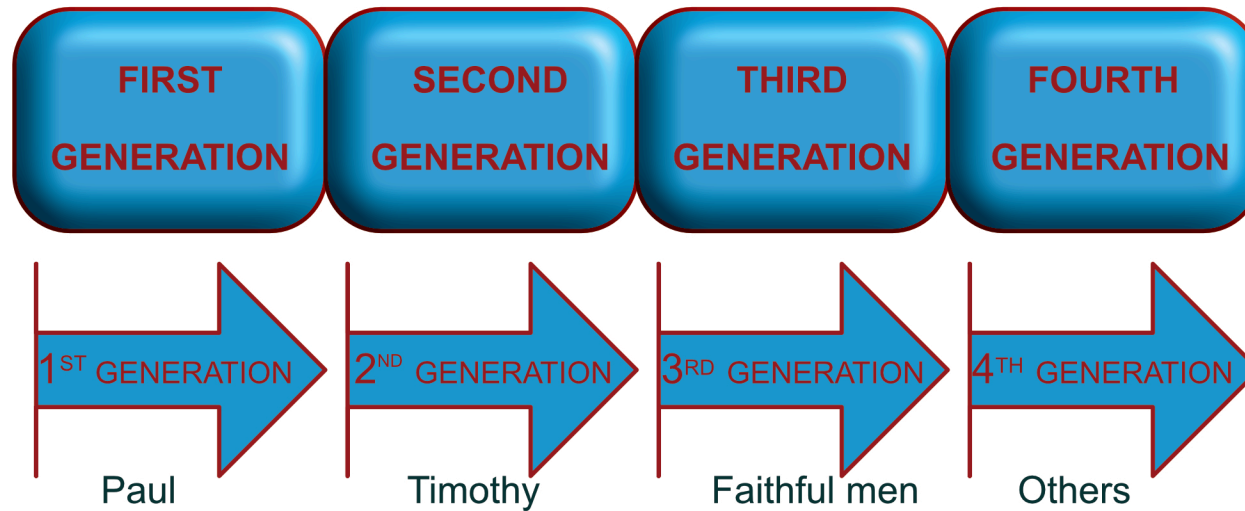
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## **MULTIPLY**

**And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

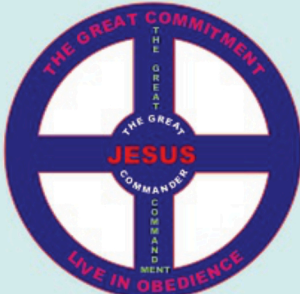
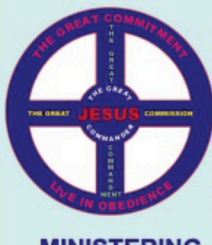
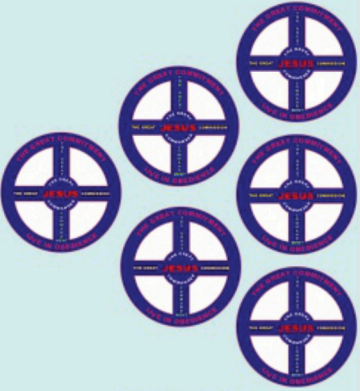
### **2 Timothy 2:2**

**One of the goals of the church should be to train up mature believers who can reproduce themselves to the third and fourth spiritual generation.**



**We know that we are making disciples  
when they begin to win and disciple  
others.**

## THE PROCESS OF DISCIPLESHIP

| EVANGELISM                                                                                             | ESTABLISHING                                                                                                                    | EQUIPPING                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | LEADING                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>NEW BELIEVERS</p> |  <p>GROWING BELIEVERS<br/>BASIC DISCIPLES</p> |  <p>MINISTERING DISCIPLES</p>  <p>REPRODUCING LABORERS</p> |  <p>TRAINERS</p> |
| MATTHEW 4:19                                                                                           | COLOSENSES 2:6–7                                                                                                                | EPHESIANS 4:11–12                                                                                                                                                                                                                | MARK 3:14                                                                                           |
| has started<br>a new life<br>in Christ                                                                 | is developing<br>a personal<br>relationship with God                                                                            | is producing new<br>converts, growing<br>believers,<br>and basic disciples                                                                                                                                                       | is producing<br>ministering disciples,<br>reproducing laborers,<br>and trainers                     |

## EXODUS 18:20–22

Jim Williams

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