



LIFE
CHANGE

How To Begin Your
Spiritual Growth Journey

Dr. Chris Dortch

LIFE CHANGE

The GRACE POINT Map to Discipleship

A Four-Week One-on-One Discipleship Strategy

Dr. Chris Dortch, Author

This book is dedicated to my disciple-maker, Doug King, who has disciplined me for more than 30 years. He's still hopeful.

This book is also dedicated to my friends Mike Pittman, Corey Alley, and my fellow church planters of Church Planting NC.

LIFE CHANGE: The Grace Point Map to Discipleship

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A Letter from Pastor Chris

Dear Friend,

Congratulations! Words fail me in expressing how excited I am to help you become a disciple-making disciple. We have identified three signposts of a maturing disciple: relational, transformational, and sacrificial. These three markers are at the heart of what it means to be a follower of Jesus. We often use the words GATHER, GROW, and GO. When you were physically born, you came into the world as a newborn baby and then grew into *physical* maturity. The same is true of your spiritual birth, you need to grow into *spiritual* maturity. It is our desire, as your church family, to assist you in growing spiritually.

You and your disciple-maker will covenant to meeting once a week for four weeks. Through those discipleship conversations, you will learn how to GATHER, GROW, and GO. At the conclusion of the four weeks, you will be encouraged to become a disciple-maker for someone else!

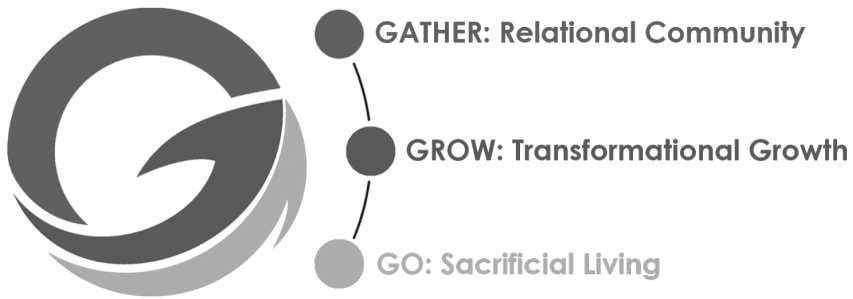
Please know that you have been prayed for. We know that you will need help as you begin living your life for Christ. God has given you a spiritual family to help you mature in your faith. The church is not *like* a family, the church *is* a family; and we're here for you!

Celebrating your growth!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Chris'.

Pastor Chris

THE GRACE POINT MAP



Purpose Statement (Our Mission)

"Where the Gospel Meets Life."

A church's purpose statement reminds us of our primary goal. A grace point is where the Great Commission and the Great Commandment intersect. We accomplish this mission when we covenant together as like-minded believers to fulfill the Great Commission through obedience of the Great Commandment.

Core Values Statement (Our DNA)

"We value relational community, transformational growth, and sacrificial living."

A church's core values statement reveals who we are. Core values are principles that guide your thinking and behavior. They are an important reminder of what's important. They help us in our decision making and they inspire us toward action. Core values are often described as the DNA of a church. They aren't limited to a particular ministry or department, rather they can be seen in every ministry of the church.

Discipleship Strategy (Our Process)

“GATHER, GROW, and GO.”

A church's discipleship strategy is the process for making disciples and flows from their mission and core values. Grace Point's logo is made of three parts that represent GATHER, GROW, and GO. When these three are focused on the Great Commission and Great Commandment they create a “grace point.” As the logo illustrates, these three signposts flow from each other; and together they remind us of our mission. We GATHER because we value relational community. We GROW because we value transformational growth. We GO because we value sacrificial living.

Vision Statement (Our Future)

“We have a vision for a place to GATHER, a network to GROW, and a people who GO.”

A church's vision statement is a glimpse of the desired future state of the church. The vision should help the church more completely fulfill its mission.

Here is a breakdown of the process into eight (8) steps:

GATHER (Relational Community):

- Step 1: Commit Your Life to Christ (Salvation)
- Step 2: Publicly Declare Your Faith (Baptism)
- Step 3: Commit to the Church (GU 101)
- Step 4: Commit to a Small Group

GROW (Transformational Growth):

- Step 5: Commit to Spiritual HABITS (GU 102)

GO (Sacrificial Living):

- Step 6: Commit to Your Ministry (GU 103)
- Step 7: Commit to Your Mission (GU 104)
- Step 8: Commit to Trust Jesus Daily

The end goal of our discipleship process is not to produce more volunteers for the church, take a short-term mission trip, or even develop spiritual disciplines. All of those things are good and are even part of the process to achieve the goal, but the ultimate goal is LIFE CHANGE, to help people conform to the image of Christ.

How To Use This Book

This book is designed to be used with both a disciple (you) and a disciple-maker (what you will soon be for someone else). It is most likely that if you are holding this book that your disciple-maker gave it to you. If for some reason you don't have a disciple-maker, please contact our church offices and we will assist you.

1. **Calendar Your Meetings.** Set up a consistent place and time for you to meet each week with your disciple-maker. You will need about an hour each week.
2. **Do The Homework.** Answer questions for each section prior to meeting with your disciple-maker. Take your time and try to understand the key principles of each study.
3. **Write Down Questions.** Write down any questions that arise from your personal study and share them when you meet with your disciple-maker.
4. **Keep Your Commitment.** Meet with your disciple-maker each week to discuss the studies.

- ☐ My Disciple-Maker: _____
- ☐ My Meeting Location: _____
- ☐ My Meeting Time: _____

The Life-Change Covenant

Four Covenant Commitments

Because of my desire to become more like Christ and grow in spiritual maturity, I covenant to these commitments.

1. I covenant to meet on a weekly basis over four weeks with my disciple-maker to discuss the content of the Life-Change assignments.
2. I covenant to faithfully complete all assignments prior to the weekly meeting with my disciple-maker. I will prepare myself through fervent prayer and not view the assignments as merely tasks to be completed.
3. I covenant to be transparent with my disciple-maker in order to create a relationship built on honesty, trust, and mutual edification.
4. I covenant to give prayerful consideration to becoming a disciple-maker for someone else.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Week 1

GRACE POINT:

Where the Gospel Meets Life

A “grace point” is where the Great Commission and the Great Commandment come together. This week we will examine our church’s process for remaining focused on the mission Jesus has entrusted to His church.

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen.”

Matthew 28:18-20

“‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ Jesus said to them, ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.’”

Matthew 22:36-40

WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 1: What is The Gospel? Part 1

The word “GOSPEL” literally means “Good News.” It is the good news that Jesus has a (and is our) redemptive plan for humanity. The gospel has been God's plan from the beginning and is discovered throughout the Scriptures: from Genesis to Revelation.

Author and Pastor J.D. Greear often states, “The gospel is not just the diving board; it’s the pool.” He writes, “The gospel, however, is not just the diving board off of which we jump into the pool of Christianity; it is the pool itself. It is not only the way we begin in Christ; it is the way we grow in Christ.”¹

There are four themes to the gospel narrative: Creation, the Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.

1. **Creation.** The Bible says that you were created in the image of God (cf. Gen. 1:27-28). That makes you unique from all of God's creation. You were created to reflect the righteousness and holiness of God (cf. Eph. 4:24). There is a reason we don't properly reflect the image of God, it's called “sin” and it came as the result of “The Fall.”

Take a moment to read Ephesians 4:24. What does this verse teach you about the image of God?

¹ J.D. Greear, *Gospel: Recovering the Power that Made Christianity Revolutionary*, Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Group, 2011, p.21.

2. **The Fall.** Adam and Eve rebelled against God and believed Satan's lie. Sin entered into the world and into every heart. Everything is now broken, and our sin has separated us from God (cf. Isaiah 59:2).

Take a moment to read Romans 3:23. In order to accept Christ, you must first see that you need Him. According to Romans 3:23, how many of us have sinned?

Take a moment to read Romans 6:23. What is the penalty for sin?

You can learn more by reading Luke 16, but it is important to know that death here refers to separation from God forever in hell.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 2: What is The Gospel? Part 2

Yesterday, we discovered that we have all sinned and that because of our sin we deserve hell. Jesus offers us hope!

3. **Redemption.** Jesus, who is God, came to rescue people by His life, death, and resurrection. By faith alone in Him anyone can be forgiven.

Take a moment to read Romans 5:6-9, John 14:6, and John 3:15-17. How did Christ pay for our sin? In your own words, explain redemption.

4. **Restoration.** The Holy Spirit is God's gift to restore our likeness to God's image. Those who have trusted in Jesus as Savior will enjoy eternal life.

Take a moment to read 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Colossians 3:10. How do these verses describe someone who is in Christ?

You can make this commitment to God through prayer. Look at how the gospel is expressed through this sample prayer of commitment...

"Dear Jesus, thank You for making me and loving me (← Creation), even when I've ignored You and gone my own way (← The Fall). I realize I need You in my life and I'm sorry for my sins. I ask You to forgive me. Thank You for dying on the cross for me (← Redemption). Please help me to understand it more. As much as I know how, I want to follow You from now on. Please come into my life and make me a new person inside. I accept Your gift of salvation. Please help me to grow now as a Christian (← Restoration). Amen."

God wants you to have confidence that your salvation is secure. As you already know, salvation is a gift that you cannot earn. Our understanding of the security of your salvation is not based upon feelings; but based upon the facts discovered from God's Word. The assurance of your salvation is based on four truths: (1) The Word of God (cf. 1 John 5:11-13), (2) The Promises of God (cf. Rom. 10:9; John 5:24), (3) The Character of God (cf. 1 Cor. 1:9; 1 Thess. 5:24; Hebrews 10:23), and (4) The Spirit of God (cf. Eph. 1:13-14).

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Memorize the four themes of the gospel and be ready to explain them.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 3: What is The Great Commission?

Research conducted by the Barna Group in 2017 revealed that over half of active United States churchgoers have never even heard of the Great Commission. Here are the startling results of the research...

Churchgoers: Have you heard of the Great Commission?

- ☐ No. (51%)
- ☐ I'm not sure. (6%)
- ☐ Yes, but I can't recall the exact meaning. (25%)
- ☐ Yes, and it means... (17%)

The Great Commission is simply the biblical command of Christ to carry and proclaim the gospel to all nations (cf. Matthew 28:18-20).

1. **The Goal.** Take a moment to read Matthew 28:18-20. What is the goal of the Great Commission?

2. **The Method.** Take a moment to read Mark 16:15-16. What is the method of the Great Commission?

3. **The Message.** Take a moment to read Luke 24:45-49. What is the message of the Great Commission?

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Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

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WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 4: What is The Great Commandment?

A “grace point” is where the Great Commission and the Great Commandment come together. That’s why our church mission statement is simply, “Grace Point: Where the Gospel Meets Life.” The word “Gospel” emphasizes the Great Commission; while the word “Life” emphasizes the Great Commandment.

The Great Commandment is simply the biblical command of Christ to love God and love others (cf. Matthew 22:37-40).

1. **The Motivation.** Take a moment to read Matthew 22:37-40. What is the primary focus of this passage?

2. **The Connection.** Take a moment to read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. What relationship do you see between the Great Commission and the Great Commandment according to this passage?

Consider how you would answer each of these questions in light of the Great Commission and Great Commandment.

- ☐ How does my life honor Christ?
(Great Commandment – Love God)

- ☐ Who is my small group of believers?
(Great Commandment – Love Others)

- ☐ Where am I serving?
(Great Commission – Go Therefore...)

- ☐ Who am I trying to reach for Christ?
(Great Commission – Make Disciples...)

- ☐ What am I doing to grow in my faith?
(Great Commission – Teaching Them...)

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

How does the name of our church (i.e. Grace Point) remind us of our mission?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 5: What Is Discipleship? Part 1

Discipleship is not an isolated ministry department of Grace Point. Instead, it weaves throughout the tapestry of every ministry within the church.

Discipleship is Relational

Discipleship cannot occur in isolation from other believers. Followers of Christ must set aside time to be with other Christians for spiritual nourishment and encouragement. There are dozens of “one another” commands found in the New Testament. We cannot “love one another” or “teach one another” or “bear with one another” if we never spend time with “one another.” Therefore, we believe Small Groups play a major role in the discipleship process. Love for God, love for our neighbors, and love for other disciples are a very important part of the value system of a healthy disciple. Ephesians 4:11-16 makes it clear that every part of the body is necessary, ‘being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body.’”

1. **One Another.** Take a moment to read through the “one another” passages of Scripture as found in Appendix A. How do these passages help you understand relational community? Which ones surprise you the most?

2. **Relational Discipleship.** Take a moment to read 2 Timothy 2:2. What does this verse teach us about relational discipleship?

3. **Disciple-Maker.** Take a moment to read Luke 10:1-24. What does this passage teach us about Jesus as a disciple-maker?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 6: What Is Discipleship? Part 2

Discipleship is Transformational

The healthy disciple understands the purpose of spiritual growth is directed toward becoming like Christ in character (e.g. words, thoughts, attitudes, and actions). As we spend time in both prayer and God's Word, the Holy Spirit will speak to us as we live out our faith. Therefore, we have identified six spiritual disciplines that we call "Spiritual HABITS." These disciplines play a major role in the discipleship process. Daily "Hang Time" with the Lord, "Accountability" in a Small Group, "Bible" memorization, "Involvement" in ministry and mission, "Tithing" commitment, and "Sermon" application are all tools the Holy Spirit uses to bring about life-change. The church must be intentional to develop people who genuinely love God, love the lost, and love believers. Discipleship is not a program, it's an intentional pursuit of life transformation.

1. **Becoming Christ-like.** The purpose of spiritual disciplines is to produce life-change. Spiritual HABITS apart from life-change are nothing more than religious activities. Take a moment to read 1 Timothy 4:7-8. What does this verse teach you about spiritual disciplines?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

[illegible]

WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Day 7: What Is Discipleship? Part 3

Discipleship is Sacrificial

The greatest growth takes place when a disciple learns what is commanded in Scripture and then does what it says. The healthy disciple is willing to deny themselves and take up their cross daily to follow Christ. The healthy disciple understands that Christian sacrificial living is not just about self-denial but sacrifice for the advancement of the Great Commission. Therefore, we believe missional living plays a major role in the ongoing discipleship process. A healthy mark of maturity is taking off the bib and putting on the apron. One of the greatest ways to mature in our faith is helping others understand the Gospel.

1. **A Living Sacrifice.** Take a moment to read Romans 12:1. Do you think there is a relationship between being a “living sacrifice” and “sacrificial living”? Explain.

2. **Crucified with Christ.** Take a moment to read Galatians 2:20. What does this verse teach us about sacrificial living?

3. **Not I, But Christ.** What are some ways that Christians demonstrate sacrificial living?

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Memorize the three signposts of discipleship (i.e. relational, transformational, and sacrificial) and be ready to explain them.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

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WEEK 1: GRACE POINT

Where The Gospel Meets Life

Your Weekly Meeting

- **Prayer:** Take some time to pray with and for each other (cf. James 5:16).
- **The Gospel:** (20 minutes) Explain the gospel using the four themes. Take some time to dialogue about the principles discovered. How does knowing the four themes help you in sharing the gospel and knowing how to lead someone in prayer?
- **The Great Commission & The Great Commandment:** (20 minutes) Only Christ has the authority to determine the purpose of the church. Take some time to discuss the mission of the church.
- **The Signposts:** (20 minutes) A signpost helps a person see where they are and where they're going. Explain the three signposts (i.e. relational, transformational, and sacrificial) and share how you are making them part of your walk with Christ.

This Week's Process Steps:

Step 1: Commit Your Life to Christ (Salvation)

- ☐ Have you committed your life to Christ?

Date: _____

Looking Ahead:

- ☐ When are you going to take GU 101?

Date: _____

How To Sign Up:

Visit our web-app at www.GracePointLKN.com and select the "SIGN UP" icon to register for GU courses, small groups, events, and other Grace Point opportunities.

Week 2

GATHER:

Relational Community

We GATHER because we value relational community. Church looks different at Grace Point. Worship is not a spectator event. We gather at tables in our worship to create circles for conversation and relationship building. We believe this happens best in circles not lines. While we deeply want to share the gospel, we also want to share our lives with one another.

"So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us."

1 Thessalonians 2:8

WEEK 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 8: Publicly Declare Your Faith, Part 1

After you make a commitment to trust Jesus as your Lord and Savior, it is important for you to take the first step of obedience to Christ and follow Him in baptism.

1. **Why Should I Be Baptized?** A test of whether a person is a true follower of Jesus Christ is his or her obedience to Jesus' commands.

A. To follow the example set by Christ. (Read the account of Jesus' baptism in Matthew 3:13-17).

a. Where was Jesus baptized?

b. Who baptized Jesus?

c. How do we know Jesus was immersed under water?

B. Because Christ commanded it. (Read Matthew 28:19-20.) Baptism is not a suggestion or an option for His followers. If we are not baptized, we are disobedient.

C. It is a public testimony of your faith in Christ. (Read Matthew 10:32.) Therefore, baptism is an act of obedience that publicly declares one's faith.

2. **What is the Meaning of Baptism?** Baptism is a picture

of two things: what Jesus did for you and what has happened to you.

- A. Baptism illustrates Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. (Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
- B. Baptism illustrates my death to sin, the burial of my old self, as well as my new life as a Christian (Read Romans 6:4.) Remember that baptism doesn't make you a Believer; it demonstrates that you already believe. It's important to understand that baptism does not save you. You are saved only by grace through faith in Jesus. (Read Ephesians 2:8-9)

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 9: Publicly Declare Your Faith, Part 2

After you make a commitment to trust Jesus as your Lord and Savior, it is important for you to take the first step of obedience to Christ and follow Him in baptism.

3. **Why Be Baptized By Immersion?**

- A. Because Jesus was baptized that way. (Read Matthew 3:13-17).
- B. Because every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.
- C. Because the word “baptize” actually means “to dip under water.” The Greek word “baptizo” means “to fully immerse or dip under water.”
- D. Because immersion best symbolizes a burial and resurrection!

4. **Who Should Be Baptized?** Every person who has believed in Christ. (Read Acts 2:41)

5. **When Should I Be Baptized?** As soon as you have believed!

There is no reason to delay. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized at your earliest opportunity. If you wait until you are “perfect” you’ll never be ready.

If you have not been baptized, you can sign up by going to www.GracePointLKN.com and selecting the “SIGN UP” icon. Click on the “Register for Baptism” button then complete and submit the form.

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Based on your studies over the past two lessons, fill in the blanks and be ready to explain the role of baptism.

1. Baptism is a public _____ of your faith in Christ.
2. Baptism is a picture of Jesus' death, _____, and resurrection.
3. Baptism is a picture of my death to sin, the burial of my old self, as well as my _____ as a Christian.
4. The word "baptize" actually means "to _____ water."
5. Every person who has _____ should be baptized.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 10: Attending Worship, Part 1

Attending worship services is absolutely important for you as a new believer. In fact, it's absolutely important for all believers. Some have suggested that attending church isn't necessary to be a Christian. That's simply not true. As you have already discovered, the Christian faith is to be lived out in community. You cannot be a healthy Christian and not attend church.

1. **Church should be a place that teaches the Bible.**

Take a moment and read 2 Timothy 2:15 and Romans 10:17. According to these verses, what are we to do? Explain this in your own words.

2. **Church should be a place that focuses on Jesus.**

Take a moment and read Luke 9:23. According to this verse, what are we to do? Explain this in your own words.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

[illegible]

WEEK 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 11: Attending Worship, Part 2

3. **Church should be a place that proclaims the gospel.**

Take a moment and read Mark 16:15. According to this verse, what are we to do? Explain this in your own words.

4. **Church should be a place that meets our needs.**

Take a moment and read Acts 2:42-47. According to these verses, list some of the ways the early church met the needs of one another.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

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Week 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 12: Attending Worship, Part 3

5. **Church should be a place that challenges us to serve God and others.**

Take a moment and read Matthew 22:36-40. According to these verses, what are we to do? Explain this in your own words.

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Be ready to provide biblical support and examples as to why attending church is important for all believers. We will build on this truth over the next two days as we examine the importance of small groups.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

[illegible]

Week 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 13: Join a Small Group, Part 1

You were not created to live life in isolation from others. God has created you to live in community with other believers. Joining a Small Group is a crucial step for your continued spiritual growth. God has placed individuals in families for their care, protection, encouragement, and development. You need your church family for the same reasons (and many more). Consider these biblical reasons for joining a small group.

1. **You need healthy Christian relationships for care and support.**

Take a moment and read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10. What is one of the benefits of being in a small group according to God's word?

2. **You need healthy Christian relationships for encouragement.**

Take a moment and read Hebrews 10:24-25. Why do you need the fellowship of a small group?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

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WEEK 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Day 14: Join a Small Group, Part 2

3. **You need healthy Christian relationships for instruction.**

Take a moment and read Ephesians 4:1-16. What is the role of leaders in the church (v.12)? What is the role of all believers (saints v.12)? What is the result when everyone works together (v.16)?

4. **Others need you.** As much as you need your small group, your small group needs you! Sometimes people don't want to attend small groups or church because they "don't get anything out of it" or they've "heard it all before." Regardless of the legitimacy of their statement, there is something more important to consider. Even if *they have* "heard it all before," doesn't mean *everyone* has. Perhaps they are part of the group to help those who haven't. If you ever begin to think, "I've heard it all before," perhaps it's time to consider a change of role to help others rather than a change of church or small group. Spend some time in prayer for those in your small group, even if you don't know them by name yet.

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Based on what you've learned about small groups, answer the question below and be ready to discuss with your disciple-maker.

- ☐ Why do you believe it is important for you to join a small group?

If you have not yet joined a Small Group, you can sign up by going to www.GracePointLKN.com and selecting the "SIGN UP" icon. Click on the "Small Groups Sign Up" button then complete and submit the form.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

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WEEK 2: GATHER

Relational Community

Your Weekly Meeting

- **Prayer:** Take some time to pray with and for each other (cf. James 5:16).
- **Your Baptism:** (20 minutes) Your baptism identifies you in relational community with God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. Take some time to dialogue about believer's baptism.
- **Your Church:** (20 minutes) Your church identifies you in relational community with like-minded believers who covenant together to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment. Take some time to dialogue about belonging to a church.
- **Your Small Group:** (20 minutes) Your small group identifies you in relational community with specific people who are committed to helping you personally grow in your faith and serve alongside you. Take some time to dialogue about joining a small group.

This Week's Process Steps:

Step 2: Publicly Declare Your Faith (Baptism)

- ☐ Have you registered for baptism?

Date: _____

Step 3: Commit to the Church (GU 101)

- ☐ Have you taken GU 101?

Date: _____

Step 4: Commit to a Small Group

- ☐ Have you signed up for a SG?

Date: _____

Looking Ahead:

- ☐ When are you going to take GU 102?

Date: _____

How To Sign Up:

Visit our web-app at www.GracePointLKN.com and select the "SIGN UP" icon to register for GU courses, small groups, events, and other Grace Point opportunities.

Week 3

GROW:

Transformational Growth

We GROW because we value transformational growth. You were created in the image of God, but because of sin we do not reflect Him very well. As Christians, we must daily put on our new self in Christ to reflect the righteousness and holiness of God (cf. Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10).

“He must increase, but I must decrease.”

John 3:30

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’”

Matthew 16:24

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 15: What is Spiritual Maturity?

Spiritual growth is not about taking a Bible study course; it is about strengthening our faith in such a way that our character becomes more like Jesus Christ and our life is fruitful for the kingdom of God. In other words, we are better equipped to fulfill the Great Commission that Jesus has entrusted to us.

1. Spiritual maturity is not automatic.

“For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” Hebrews 5:12-14

What observations do you make of this passage?

2. Spiritual maturity is a process.

“Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.”
Philippians 3:12

“Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.” Proverbs 9:9

“Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” 2 Peter 3:18

What observations do you make of these passages?

3. Spiritual maturity takes discipline.

“... exercise yourself rather to godliness.” 1 Timothy 4:7b

“... a servant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers.” Col. 4:12

What observations do you make of these passages?

Ultimately, spiritual maturity is about becoming more like Christ. As we become more like Him, we are more concerned with His mission than our own concerns. Spiritual maturity does not happen instantly. It is a process in which there are no shortcuts and requires discipline and commitment.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 16: Spiritual HABITS

Spiritual disciplines are an important part of your faith journey. Here are six spiritual disciplines that we encourage every believer to develop...

- ☐ Hang Time with God (Daily Bible Reading & Prayer)
- ☐ Accountability in a Small Group
- ☐ Bible Memorization
- ☐ Involvement in the Ministry & Mission of the Church
- ☐ Tithing & Stewardship Commitment
- ☐ Sermon Application

Definition: A Hang Time is a period of time you set aside to be alone with God, to talk to Him and to listen to Him as you prepare to be used by Him that day.

It is important for new believers to begin immediately developing the discipline of daily Bible reading and prayer. Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and then read each of the following benefits of reading God's Word.

1. **God's Word is useful for doctrine.** Reading God's word can teach us about our faith. Take a moment and read Jeremiah 31:3. What does this passage teach you about God?

Take a moment and read Romans 5:8. What does this passage teach you about God?

2. **God's Word is useful for reproof/rebuking.** Reading God's word can point out a fault and the Holy Spirit brings conviction.

Take a moment and read Ephesians 4:26-31. What are some areas in this passage that God's word gives us guidance?

3. **God's Word is useful for correction.** The Bible doesn't just point out what we are doing wrong; but gives us guidance for living life God's way.

Write out the answer to the question that is presented in Psalm 119:9.

4. **God's Word is useful for instruction in righteousness.** Reading God's word is spiritual food for your soul. Just as your physical body requires nutrients from the food you eat, your spiritual life requires the daily reading nutrients of God's word.

Take a moment and read Jeremiah 15:16. What do you think is meant by this passage?

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Based on what you just read, fill in the blanks and be ready to explain the benefits of reading God's Word.

1. God's word is useful for _____.
2. God's word is useful for _____.
3. God's word is useful for _____.
4. God's word is useful for _____.

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 17: Spiritual HABITS

Definition: Accountability is a mutual commitment to transparency with another believer in which each person gives an honest account of their walk with Christ.

1. Take a moment to read Ecclesiastes 4:9-10. According to this passage, what is a benefit of having an accountability partner?

2. Take a moment to read Proverbs 27:17. According to this passage, what is another benefit of having an accountability partner?

3. Take a moment to read Galatians 6:2. According to this passage, what is a part of the role of an accountability partner?

4. Take a moment to read Romans 14:12. According to this passage, who are we ultimately accountable to?

5. Take a moment to read Hebrews 3:12. According to

this passage, how often do we need accountability?

Why do you think accountability is a challenge for many Christians?

What are you doing or can you do to develop this discipline?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 18: Spiritual HABITS

Definition: Bible memorization is “hiding God’s Word in your heart” so that it impacts your daily living.

1. Take a moment to read Psalm 119:11. According to this passage, what is a benefit of memorizing Scripture?

2. Take a moment to read Psalm 119:49. According to this passage, God’s word helps us when we’re under stress. What Scripture verse has helped you when you were stressed?

3. Take a moment to read Psalm 119:105. According to this passage, God’s word helps us make wise decisions. What Scripture verse has helped you make wise decisions?

Make a list of some of your favorite verses and then select three of them to begin memorizing.

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Let your disciple-maker know if you would like to use “Hidden Treasures” to memorize Scripture. “Hidden Treasures” are verses printed on plastic tags designed to carry with you on a key ring.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

[illegible]

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 19: Spiritual HABITS

Definition: Involvement is more than “attendance.” Spiritual maturity is when you take off the bib and you put on the apron. Instead of saying things like, “I’m not being fed,” the mature believer says, “What am I doing to feed others?”

Every believer has a ministry in the church and a mission in the world. While these words can certainly be used interchangeably, we want to make the distinction that we must meet the needs of others both in the church as well as our community. It is not an either/or, but a both/and. In fact, ministry and mission are so closely aligned it is difficult to do one without the other!

1. Take a moment to read 1 Peter 4:10. According to this passage, we are to serve one another in the church. Where are you currently serving in the church or where have you considered serving?

2. Take a moment to read 1 Peter 3:15. According to this passage, we are to always be ready to share about our hope in Christ. Ask God to place someone on your heart that doesn’t know the Lord. Consider the names of family and friends who you think might not know Christ. Write their name here and then talk with your disciple-maker about how you can share your faith with them.

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Be ready to discuss your ministry in the church and mission in the world.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery.

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 20: Spiritual HABITS

Definition: The word “tithe” literally means “tenth.” A tithe is traditionally understood as the first tenth of our gross earnings. “Stewardship” is the careful and responsible management of resources that belong to someone else. While we give the first ten percent of our earnings to the church, we are to honor Christ with all that we have (even the remaining 90%).

1. Take a moment to read Deuteronomy 14:23. Tithing teaches us to always put God first in our lives.
2. Take a moment to read Philippians 4:19. Tithing is a reminder that God is the source of everything we have.
3. Take a moment to read Proverbs 3:9. Tithing is an act of worship to God.
4. Take a moment to read 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. Tithing helps the church accomplish God's mission in the world.
5. Take a moment to read Psalm 24:1. Tithing shows we acknowledge that everything belongs to the Lord.
6. Take a moment to read 1 Timothy 6:17-19. Tithing is the remedy to materialism.
7. Take a moment to read Luke 12:34. Tithing comes

from a heart of gratitude and a reflection of the mercy and grace we've been shown.

Which of the above passages is God currently using to speak to your heart about stewardship and generosity? Why?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Day 21: Spiritual HABITS

Definition: The sermon is to examine and present God's word with such faithfulness and sensitivity that the church hears and obeys the voice of God.

As we listen to a sermon we should be preaching the gospel to our own hearts. Every sermon should prompt us to ask, "What does God want me to do in response to hearing the Word proclaimed?"

1. Take a moment to read James 1:22-25. According to this passage, what happens to the person who only listens to sermons? What happens to the person who listens and also takes action?

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Be ready to discuss each of the Spiritual HABITS. Your SG HABITS Champion can provide resources and help you develop these disciplines.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

[illegible]

WEEK 3: GROW

Transformational Growth

Your Weekly Meeting

- ☐ **Prayer:** Take some time to pray with and for each other (cf. James 5:16).
- ☐ **Hang Time:** (10 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about Hang Time.
- ☐ **Accountability:** (10 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about Accountability.
- ☐ **Bible Memorization:** (10 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about Bible Memorization.
- ☐ **Involvement in Ministry & Mission:** (10 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about Involvement in Ministry & Mission.
- ☐ **Tithing/Stewardship Commitment:** (10 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about Tithing & Stewardship Commitment.
- ☐ **Sermon Application:** (10 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about Sermon Application.

This Week's Process Steps:

Step 5: Commit to Spiritual HABITS (GU 102)

- ☐ Have you taken GU 102?

Date: _____

- ☐ Which Spiritual HABITS are you developing?
What's your plan for developing all six? How can I help you?
 - ☐ Hang Time
 - ☐ Accountability in a Small Group
 - ☐ Bible Memorization
 - ☐ Involvement in Ministry & Mission
 - ☐ Tithing & Stewardship Commitment
 - ☐ Sermon Application

Looking Ahead:

- ☐ When are you going to take GU 103?

Date: _____

How To Sign Up:

Visit our web-app at www.GracePointLKN.com and select the "SIGN UP" icon to register for GU courses, small groups, events, and other Grace Point opportunities.

Week 4

GO:

Sacrificial Living

We GO because we value sacrificial living. The life of a disciple of Jesus is marked with sacrifice. We make sacrifices to make sure the gospel goes forth. These living sacrifices sometimes show up as financial contributions. Christians may sacrifice built up vacation time from work in order to take a short-term mission trip. As a sending church, we will sacrifice here, so the mission can be fulfilled there!

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Galatians 2:20

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Romans 12:1-2

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 22: Becoming Others Focused, Part 1

The Christian faith is not a self-centered faith. As we become more like Christ, our concern for others should increase. One of the ways that we express our love for one another is through serving on ministry teams.

The Bible teaches that every believer has a role to serve within the body of Christ (cf. 1 Corinthians 12). What God made me to be determines what He intends for me to do. God is consistent in His plan for each of our lives. He would not give us spiritual gifts, passions, talents, temperaments, and all sorts of experiences and then not want to use them for His glory! We will explore these five personal factors in detail during GU 103.

A huge indication of spiritual maturity is when you take off the bib and you put on the apron. Instead of saying things like, "I'm not being fed" the mature believer says, "What am I doing to feed others?" Here are three key truths as to why we should serve the needs of others:

1. **Serving the needs of others reflects the mind of Christ.**

Read Philippians 2:1-5. How can you begin to put the needs of others ahead of your own (e.g. at home, at work, at school, in my neighborhood)?

2. **Serving the needs of others produces increased fruitfulness.**

Read 2 Peter 1:5-9. What are some of the characteristics that produce a fruitful walk with

Christ?

3. **Serving the needs of others is a testimony of Jesus' love for others.**

Read John 13:34-35. What is the identifier of a true disciple according to this passage?

Prior to Meeting with Your Disciple-Maker

Fill in the blanks: "A huge indication of spiritual maturity is when you take off the _____ and you put on the _____. Using the "Prayer Journal & Notes" space, write down in your own words what this phrase means. Be ready to discuss with your disciple-maker.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 23: Becoming Others Focused, Part 2

God's word provides several motivational reasons for serving the needs of others. As you read through this list, consider how God is motivating you to serve Him in ministry and on mission!

1. **Created.** Take a moment to read Ephesians 2:10. You were created for ministry and mission!

2. **Saved.** Take a moment to read 2 Timothy 1:9. You were saved for ministry and mission!

3. **Called.** Take a moment to read Ephesians 4:1-3 and 1 Peter 2:9-10. You were called into ministry and mission!

4. **Gifted.** Take a moment to read 1 Peter 4:10. You have been gifted for ministry and mission!

5. **Authorized.** Take a moment to read 2 Corinthians 5:20. You have been authorized for ministry and mission!

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-
-

-

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

[illegible]

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 24: God Has SHAPED You

God has uniquely SHAPED you for your ministry in the church and your mission in the world. We will explore these more fully in GU 103.

1. **Spiritual Gifts.**

A spiritual gift is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ (cf. 1 Corinthians 12:4-10).

2. **Heart.**

The Bible uses the term “heart” to represent the center of your motivation, desires, and inclinations. What are some things you’re passionate about?

3. **Abilities.**

The simple definition of abilities is “the capacity to do something” or “talent that enables someone to achieve a great deal.” Think of it this way: abilities without God are just talents. Abilities with God are opportunities for ministry and mission! What are some of your abilities?

4. **Personality.**

Personality is the combination of characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinctive character. How do people describe your personality? There are no "wrong" personalities for ministry and mission. God made them all and uses them all.

5. **Experiences.**

Our experiences come from our involvement, participation, contact, acquaintance, exposure, observation, awareness, and insights that impact our worldview. God uses your spiritual experiences, painful experiences, educational experiences, and ministry experiences for ministry and mission! How might some of your experiences be used for your ministry in the church and your mission in the world?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 25: Share Jesus with others, Part 1

Countless books have been written on strategies for sharing our faith with others. Listed here are five of the most common evangelistic strategies. However, our approach is not to pick one as if choosing from a smorgasbord of options. Rather, we will discover these are not separate strategies but parts of a larger picture of sharing our faith.

1. **Show (Lifestyle Evangelism)**

Lifestyle Evangelism is when you show others your faith in Christ through both words and actions. Take a moment to read Matthew 5:16. How does your life show Jesus to others?

2. **Help (Servant Evangelism)**

Servant Evangelism is when you help others through meeting their needs with the intent of sharing Christ. Take a moment to read Philippians 2:2-4. How might you help someone this week?

3. **Ask (Invitational Evangelism)**

Invitational Evangelism is when you ask others to attend a worship service or an outreach event with you. Take a moment to read John 1:39. Who can you invite to join you in worship or small group this week?

4. **Reveal (Testimonial Evangelism)**

Testimonial Evangelism is when you reveal why and how you became a Christian. Take a moment to read John 9:25. Who might need to hear your story of God's redemption?

5. **Extend (Personal Evangelism)**

Personal Evangelism is when you extend an invitation for others to personally accept Christ as their personal Lord and Savior in response to the Gospel. Take a moment to read Acts 16:30-32. Ask God to bring someone across your path that needs to hear the Gospel.

Unfortunately, many Christians only pick one of these and neglect the others. Use all of them! Pray that God will give you wisdom and insight in knowing which tool you need from your evangelistic toolbox for different situations.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 26: Share Jesus with Others, Part 2

People love to share good news. We announce marriages and births. When something good happens, we rush to tell someone. The more exciting the news, the harder it is to be silent.

A Christian has the most exciting news – the life-changing news of eternal life! It is natural for a Christian to want to share this good news. Think for a moment about the various people God used to bring you to the place where you were willing to receive Jesus. Now God wants you to be part of helping others come to know Jesus.

Fill In the Blank: When Andrew met Jesus, his first inclination was to bring _____ to meet Him (read John 1:40-42).

For a Christian, witnessing is not an option. Jesus commanded His followers to witness. The best place to begin is to make sure you can explain the Gospel. We believe the best way to do this is by walking through the four themes of the Gospel: Creation, The Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Since we already covered this during week 1, refer back to your notes and complete the following exercise.

1. Creation

You were created in the image of God to reflect the character of God. What verses would you use to explain this?

2. **The Fall**

Even though we were created in His image, we don't do a very good job of reflecting God's goodness. The reason is because of sin. Sin has separated us from God. What verses explain that we have all sinned"

3. **Redemption**

The good news is that Jesus came to redeem us and bring us back into relationship with God. What verses explain the sacrifice Jesus made?

4. **Restoration**

God continues to work within us to help us become more Christ-like. What verses would you use to explain this?

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 27: Share Jesus with Others, Part 3

Now that you have memorized the four themes of the Gospel, here are two tools you should use when sharing Jesus: (1) Scripture and (2) Your Personal Testimony.

1. **Scripture**

The following verses will help you explain to unbelievers the good news of eternal life. You've already identified some passages in the previous lesson and here are a few more to add to your evangelistic toolbox. Take time now to read them and underline/highlight them in your Bible. It would be good to memorize them too!

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 15:13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 5:8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 1:16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6:23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 2:4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 10:9-13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 3:23 | |

2. **Your Personal Testimony**

- A. **Salvation Testimony:** Your salvation testimony shares (1) your life before receiving Jesus, (2) how you received Jesus, and (3) how Jesus is making a difference in your life now.
- B. **Growth Testimony:** You will have many growth testimonies as you mature in your faith. Your growth testimonies share (1) an issue or question you've been struggling with, (2) the lesson you learned about the issue/question from studying Scripture, and (3) how you have responded to God's word in light of what you learned.

Take some time to write out your personal salvation testimony. Make sure you include all three parts: life before receiving Jesus, how you received Jesus, and how Jesus is working in your life now.

We cover these testimonies in more detail in GU 104. You can also pick up the resource called “Everyone Has a Story,” available in the church’s Resource Center or your SG HABITS Champion. Until then, you can begin to share Jesus by simply inviting others to attend worship services with you.

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Day 28: Trust Jesus Daily

The Christian faith is more than fire insurance to save you from hell. It is a daily walk with our Creator and living a fulfilled life as God intended. As you mature in your faith, you will discover more and more what it means to "surrender your life to Christ" and "live for Him."

1. **Jesus Christ has earned the right to give you direction.**

[Jesus] "... humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the _____. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of _____ every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that _____ is _____, to the glory of God the Father" Philippians 2:5-8.

Paul (the author of the book of Philippians), understood that Jesus was worthy to direct his life.

Paul also challenged believers to do what in Romans 12:1-2?

2. **Jesus Christ desires to give you direction.**

Many people want to know God's will and He desires to reveal it daily through time spent with Him. His direction can be experienced on a daily basis as you:

- A. Recognize daily His right to direct your life (read Luke 9:23).
- B. Confess your sins and accept His promise of forgiveness (read 1 John 1:9).
- C. What areas in your life need to be placed under the direction of Jesus? Don't delay. Remember that "delayed obedience is disobedience."
 - ☐ Time (read Ephesians 5:15-16)
 - ☐ Money (read 1 Corinthians 16:2)
 - ☐ Abilities (read Colossians 3:17)
 - ☐ Relationships (read Matthew 22:34-40)
 - ☐ Mind (read Romans 12:1-2)
 - ☐ Ambitions (read Matthew 6:33)
 - ☐ Morality (read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Prayer Journal & Notes:

Use the space below for prayer requests, notes from your studies, or questions for your disciple-maker.

WEEK 4: GO

Sacrificial Living

Your Weekly Meeting

- ☐ **Prayer:** Take some time to pray with and for each other (cf. James 5:16).
- ☐ **Ministry in the Church:** (20 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about next steps for serving Christ in the church.
- ☐ **Mission in the World:** (20 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about next steps for serving Christ in the world.
- ☐ **Trust Jesus Daily:** (20 minutes) Take some time to dialogue about surrendering to Jesus. How are you more like Jesus as a result of these studies?

This Week's Process Steps:

Step 6: Commit to Your Ministry in the Church (GU 103)

- ☐ Have you taken GU 103?

Date: _____

Step 7: Commit to Your Mission in the World (GU 104)

- ☐ Have you taken GU 104?

Date: _____

Step 8: Commit to Trust Jesus Daily

- ☐ What areas of your life need to be placed under the direction of Jesus?

Looking Ahead:

- ☐ 2 Timothy 2:2, "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." Are you ready to be a disciple-maker?
- ☐ Who has God placed on your heart as someone you could disciple?
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____
 - ☐ _____

How To Sign Up:

Visit our web-app at www.GracePointLKN.com and select the "SIGN UP" icon to register for GU courses, small groups, events, and other Grace Point opportunities.

APPENDIX A:

The “One Another” Passages

“One another” is translated as two words in English, but it’s only one word in Greek: ἀλλήλων (*ah-LAY-loan*).

Unity.

Most of the “one another” passages address the theme of unity in the church.

1. Be at peace with one another (Mark 9:50).
2. Don't grumble among one another (John 6:43).
3. Be of the same mind with one another (Romans 12:16; 15:5).
4. Accept one another (Romans 15:7).
5. Wait for one another before beginning the Eucharist (1 Cor. 11:33).
6. Don't bite, devour, and consume one another (Galatians 5:15).
7. Don't boastfully challenge or envy one another (Galatians 5:26).
8. Gently, patiently tolerate one another (Ephesians 4:2).
9. Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to one another (Ephesians 4:32).
10. Bear with and forgive one another (Colossians 3:13).
11. Seek good for one another, and don't repay evil for evil (1 Thess. 5:15).
12. Don't complain against one another (James 4:11; 5:9).
13. Confess sins to one another (James 5:16).

Love.

Several of them instruct Christians to love one another.

1. Love one another (John 13:34; 15:12, 17; Romans 13:8; 1 Thess. 3:12; 4:9; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11; 4:7, 11; 2 John 5).
2. Through love, serve one another (Galatians 5:13).
3. Tolerate one another in love (Ephesians 4:2).
4. Greet one another with a kiss of love (1 Peter 5:14).
5. Be devoted to one another in love (Romans 12:10).

Humility.

Several address the themes of humility and respect among believers.

1. Give preference to one another in honor (Romans 12:10).
2. Regard one another as more important than yourselves (Philippians 2:3).
3. Serve one another (Galatians 5:13).
4. Wash one another's feet (John 13:14).
5. Don't be haughty: be of the same mind (Romans 12:16).
6. Be subject to one another (Ephesians 5:21).
7. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another (1 Peter 5:5).

Others:

1. Do not judge one another, and don't put a stumbling block in a brother's way (Romans 14:13).
2. Greet one another with a kiss (Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12).
3. Husbands and wives: don't deprive one another of physical intimacy (1 Corinthians 7:5).
4. Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2).
5. Speak truth to one another (Ephesians 4:25).
6. Don't lie to one another (Colossians 3:9).

7. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection (1 Thess. 4:18).
8. Encourage and build up one another (1 Thess. 5:11).
9. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24).
10. Pray for one another (James 5:16).
11. Be hospitable to one another (1 Peter 4:9).

APPENDIX B:

Does The Bible Intimidate You?

As you begin to work through each lesson, let me encourage you to write down questions you might discover along the way. When I first became a Christian I was embarrassed that I couldn't find Scripture passages as fast as others. There is no reason to feel like you should have your Bible's Table of Contents (ToC) memorized. The ToC is there for a reason... use it!

Here is a quick crash course in Scripture references...

The Bible consists of 66 different books. Those books are grouped into two major divisions: The Old Testament (39 books) and the New Testament (27 books). The ultimate connection between the Testaments is that the Old Testament is a prediction of Jesus Christ and the New Testament is the fulfillment through Jesus Christ. When we reference a particular verse of the Bible we list the name of the book followed by a set of two numbers. For example: John 3:16. Using our Table of Contents we notice there are several books named John (i.e. John, 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John). We discover the "John" in our example is referring to the Gospel According to John in the New Testament. The "3" refers to the chapter and the "16" refers to the verse.

Here are a few other considerations as you prepare to work through this book...

1. Get a Bible to use with this handbook. There are various translations of the Bible. These translations are not different Bibles, the translators are simply trying to translate the original languages (Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic) into English in the most understandable way. Some translators focus on a

word- for-word translation and others focus on a thought-for-thought translation. The KJV, NKJV, and ESV are all examples of word-for-word translations. The NIV, NLT, and CEV are examples of thought-for-thought translations. I often use both the NKJV and NLT in helping me understand what the Bible passage is saying. NOTE: It is best to memorize from a word-for-word translation.

2. Get a pen or pencil for taking notes and answering the questions. Write down your own questions for further study and discussion with your disciple-maker and/or in your small group.
3. In part, the purpose of this 28-day study is to help you discover truths from God's word (The Bible). As you read each question, turn to the Scripture reference in your personal Bible and search for the answer.
4. As you read God's word in search of the answers, keep in mind that there are no "trick questions." The questions are intended to be direct and the answers will be found directly from Scripture. The primary purpose of this personal learning tool is to encourage your personal walk with Christ and to help you mature in your faith.

APPENDIX C:

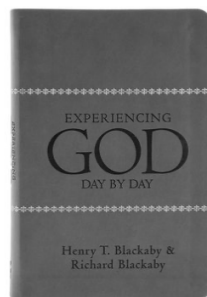
Spiritual HABITS Tools

SG HABITS Champion.

If you enjoy helping people develop spiritual disciplines and you are willing to learn the resources that are available, perhaps you should consider becoming a SG HABITS Champion. Every Small Group has a SG HABITS Champion to help members of their SG make progress in developing Spiritual HABITS. If you're interested, contact the church offices.

Hang Time.

There are many daily devotionals and Bible reading plans that you can use for your Hang Time. Some devotionals focus on topics and others focus on reading through the entire Bible or a specific book of the Bible. Your SG HABITS Champion can help you find the best devotional for you. Here are a couple of my personal favorites...



- ❑ "Experiencing God Day-By-Day" by Henry Blackaby. Devotions are updated daily at www.blackaby.org.
- ❑ "Morning and Evening" by Charles Spurgeon. Devotions are updated daily at www.biblegateway.com/devotionals/morning-and-evening/today.
- ❑ Imitation leather hardcopies of "Experiencing God Day-By-Day" are available too.

Accountability in a Small Group.

Simply attending a Small Group provides a certain level of accountability. However, you may want to partner up with another believer in your small group for additional accountability. We've put together a resource called "As Iron Sharpens Iron" that provides you with a list of accountability questions.



- ❑ Find it on our web-app. Visit www.GracePointLKN.com > SMALL GROUPS > FREE BOOKS.

Bible Memorization.

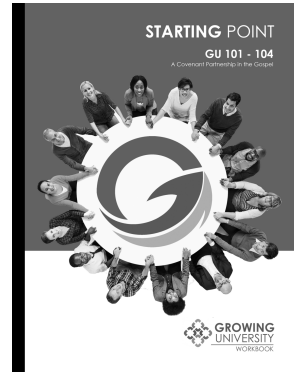
Scripture memorization is one of the most neglected disciplines among adults. It's often met with the excuse, "I can't remember things like I used to." However, memorizing Scripture isn't just about your memory. It's about life-change! Let's not forget that you also have a Helper who will bring things to your memory.



- ❑ Apps like "Verses" have memory verses that help you learn the verses.
- ❑ "Hidden Treasures" are what we call our Scripture Key Tags.

Involvement in Ministry & Mission.

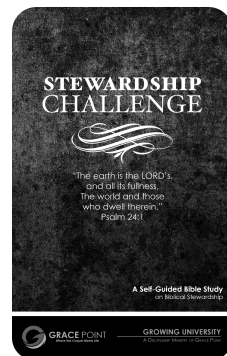
One of the top three categorical reasons that young people drop out of church is because they were never connected to the church's ministry and mission. GU 103 and GU 104 helps people find their ministry in the church and their mission in the world. If you enjoy helping people discover how God has SHAPED them for ministry and mission, perhaps you should be one of our SG Ministry Guides. If you're interested, contact the church offices.



- ❑ "Starting Point: A Covenant Partnership in the Gospel" will help you develop a personalized ministry and mission profile.

Tithing & Stewardship Commitment.

"The Stewardship Challenge" is a self-guided Bible study on the subject of stewardship. Through this personal study, you will gain a biblical understanding of tithing and stewardship.



- ❑ Find it on our web-app. Visit www.GracePointLKN.com > SMALL GROUPS > FREE BOOKS.

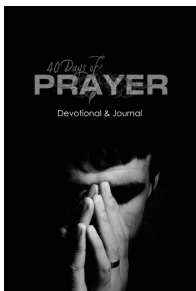
Sermon Application.

Each week we provide discussion questions as part of the sermon. These questions are designed for you to use at a later time in follow-up and personal application of the message. The questions can be used with your family, small group, or anywhere you choose.

- ❑ Questions are provided on the screen each week during the sermon. We encourage you to take out your phone and take a picture of the screen so you will have the questions with you when you need them.

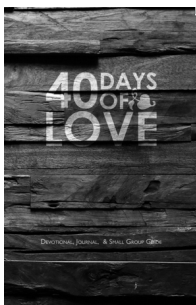
40-Day Spiritual Growth Campaigns

These 6 church-wide spiritual growth campaigns are designed to correspond with one of the six Spiritual HABITS.



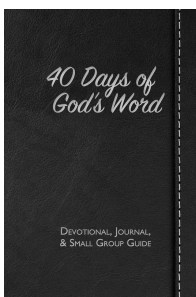
40 Days of Prayer

"40 Days of Prayer" is a 40-day study of the Lord's Model Prayer (i.e. Matthew 6:8-13).



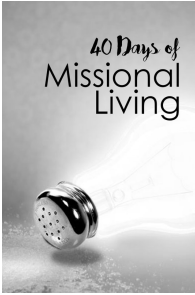
40 Days of Love

"40 Days of Love" is a 40-day study of 1 Corinthians 13.



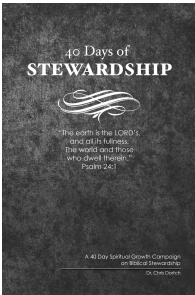
40 Days of God's Word

"40 Days of God's Word" is a 40-day study of Psalm 119.



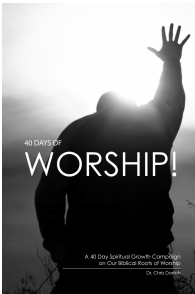
40 Days of Missional Living

"40 Days of Missional Living" is a 40-day study of the Great Commission.



40 Days of Stewardship

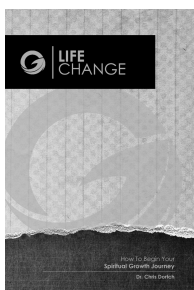
"40 Days of Stewardship" is a 40-day study on the discipline of tithing and stewardship.



40 Days of Worship

"40 Days of Worship" is a 40-day study on worship.

Other Books In This Series



LIFE CHANGE:

The Grace Point Map to Discipleship

This book is designed to help believers begin their spiritual growth journey.



LEADERSHIP TEAM:

The Grace Point Map to Servanthood

This book is designed as a follow-up companion to GU 103 as they discern their ministry in the church.