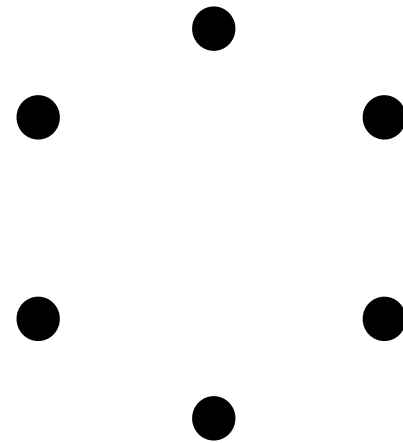


# The Core Missionary Task



Parts 1-3







411 Training

- 411: 4 Questions, 1 piece of blank paper, 1 hour to teach someone else.
- 411 is a short summary of Parts 1 and Part 2 of the Core Missionary Task. It's an easy way to get started with training someone else.

Page 1

Why? *Matth 28:18-20* 411

2 Cor. 5:17-21

v.17 v.20

NEW ID AMBASSADOR

Page 2

Who?

John 17:20

me

What? PRAY? CLOSE / FAR?

There was a time in my life... Can I show you a picture that describes this?

SIN

God's Perfect Design

Brokenness

Jesus

RESTORED

TURN BELIEVE FOLLOW

Page 3

When?

• PRAY

DAILY TIME

• SHARE

NAME / TIME

• TRAIN

NAME / TIME

• COMMANDS OF CHRIST

WHEN / WHERE WHO ELSE

Page 4

Jesus Christ declared that His followers should make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20), and that they would be His witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Through this activity God's Kingdom has grown and expanded, but His work isn't finished yet.

God's Plan has always been to work *through* believers, people who obey Jesus and make disciples of others, but *how do we do the work?*

- Maybe you have asked the following questions:
- ...what is God's plan for my life?
  - ...how do I grow as a follower of Christ?
  - ...how do I share the Good News of Jesus with others?
  - ...what are the first things we should teach new believers?
  - ...how do I disciple or train other people?

This material provides answers to these questions, and gives a pattern for believers to follow. By studying the Bible, we can understand how God wants us to proceed and accomplish His work in His Kingdom. In the following pages, Bible references will be provided to learn from and apply for yourself and in discipleship relationships.

The following topics are best learned *from* someone else, and therefore this booklet should be considered **a reference guide**. It is written with the assumption that you have been through training first covering the material and clarifying the Bible text, seen the core patterns practiced, and discussed any related questions.

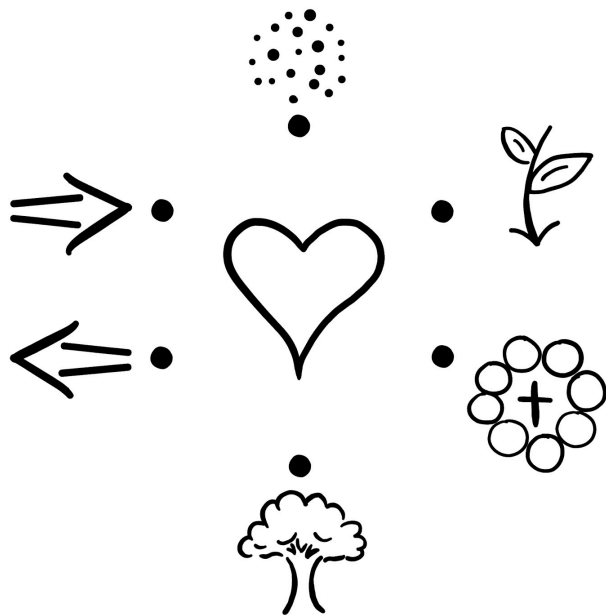
This material is part of a comprehensive mission strategy which comes from the bible, and is divided into 6 Parts: 1) Entry Strategies, 2) How to Share the Gospel, 3) Discipleship, 4) Church Formation, 5) Leadership Development & Multiplication, and 6) Exit to Partnership. This booklet covers Parts 1-3.



# The Core Missionary Task

Parts 1-3

Feb 2024  
JS



## 9. GO & MAKE DISCIPLES (added to their number day by day)



**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Vision:** Review Matt. 28:18-20 - why meet? Why small group? - To learn to obey Jesus together. (Vision sets the direction, but doesn't have to be said every meeting)

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

**Worship:** Listen to a worship song... connecting our hearts to His.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Matt. 28:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:2

**Story:**

- John 4:4-42
- Tell the Story
- Retell the Story
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions**

**Main Points?:**

- Follow Jesus yourself
- Tell others about Jesus
- Train them to follow Jesus Christ

**Discuss:**

- What does discipleship mean? Matt. 28:20 - to teach & train others to obey Jesus Christ.
- Who is qualified to disciple others? Matt. 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:17-21 - every believer (see also 2 Cor. 3:4-4:6).
- Who should we share Jesus with & disciple? John 4:16, 28, 39; Mark 5:18-20 - our families, friends, and neighbors; Heb. 10:24-25 - one believer to another; Matt. 28:19 - the nations and different people groups (ethnic groups) of the world.

**Discuss Later:**

- Mark 5:1-20 - a man is told by Jesus to go and tell his friends what God had done.
- Mark 8:31-38 - set your minds on the things of God; don't be ashamed of Jesus.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

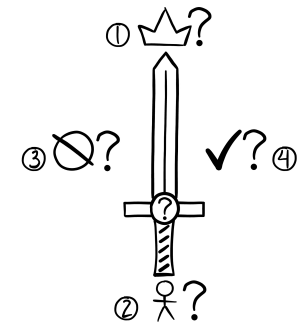
**Practice:**

- Review Your Story & God's Story
- List 3 people everyone to train how to Share Jesus & then to Follow Him
- Learn How to Begin Training them 9 Essential Lessons

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray
- Commit to train others how to Follow and Obey Jesus
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.





## 8. WORSHIP GOD (Love God)



**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.



### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Rom. 12:1-2

**Story:**

- Ps. 95:1-11
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions**.

**Main Points?:**

- Worship God in song...connecting our hearts to His.
- Worship God in prayer with thankfulness.
- Worship God in daily obedience.

**Discuss:**

- What does it mean to worship God? John 14:15 - to love and obey Jesus. Luke 9:23-26 - to be fully devoted to follow Jesus.
- How do we worship God? John 14:15 - by obeying Jesus. 1 Thess. 5:16-18 - rejoicing always, praying often, and being thankful. Col. 3:15-16 - by being thankful, and by singing spiritual songs to God. Rom 12:1-2 - by offering our lives to God.

**Discuss Later:**

- 2 Cor. 3:16-18 - we behold the Lord, and are transformed.
- Ps. 96 - our worship leads us to praise God to the nations/ethnic groups of the world.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

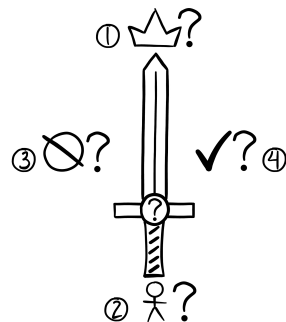
**Practice:**

- Learn to Sing Worship Songs to God by listening to a song & singing together.
- Spend time Thanking God in Prayer for all He has done.

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Plan an extended time alone with God to Study His Word, Pray, and Worship Him.
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.



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- 16 Lesson 9: Go & Make Disciples

### 411 Training

- 17 411 - a Simplified Summary of Parts 1 & Part 2

### Training Guidelines

1. The Bible (God's Word) is our Source of Truth, and it will guide all study and strategy.
2. Simple Tools & Simple Speech
  - Ministry Tools (i.e. ministry strategies) need to be easy to learn and remember.

#### SIMPLE + REPRODUCIBLE = TRANSFERABLE

- Our speech needs to be Easy to Understand for non-believers, or non-churched people.
3. Asking & Listening
    - Ask questions from God's Word to learn what He says. Ask questions to gain understanding instead of us transferring our experience into what we think God's Word means (exegesis is the goal, not eisegesis). Listen to God through His Word.
    - Asking questions in conversations with others is a simple way to show care, gentleness & respect (see 1 Pet. 3:15; Col. 4:5-6), and to learn if they understand our message. Listen to others.



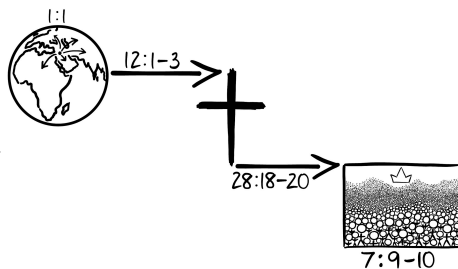
# Introduction: God's Vision & Plan, and Who God Uses

**Intro 1: God's Vision & Plan** (Why are we here, and what is God's purpose for our lives?)

## The BEGINNING

GROUP WORK: Gen. 1:1, 1:26, 28, Gen. 12:1-3. Read and discuss. (See also Habakkuk 2:14)

- Our **IDENTITY**: We are made in His image. We were created, and didn't happen by accident.
- Our **MISSION**: From the beginning, God's plan was to fill the earth with people made in His image.
- God's **PLAN**: Through Abram, and through Jesus Christ, all families of the earth will be blessed



## The END

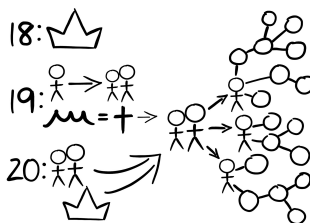
GROUP WORK: Rev. 7:9-10. Read and Describe what is happening.

- Who was before the Throne and the Lamb? people from every nation, tribe, people, and language
- God's Plan has always been for His glory to spread to all peoples & nations of the earth

## How do we get there?

GROUP WORK: Mt 28:18-20. Read and Discuss.

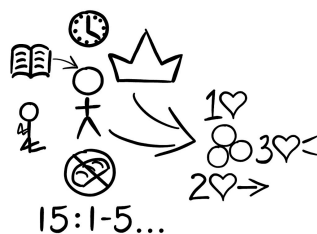
- v 18: Meaning?
  - Jesus has all authority: He is the **King** (Rev. 19:16)
  - We **Listen** to him, and we **Follow** him.
- v 19: Meaning?
  - "Make Disciples?"
    - We **Go**, and **Tell** others about the Life, Death, & Resurrection of Jesus (Acts 1:8)
    - We **Train** others to **Know & Obey** the commands of Jesus (Matt. 28:20)
  - Make Disciples "of the Nations": Meaning? Ethnic Groups / People Groups
  - "Baptize"? It symbolizes new life with Jesus after hearing the Good News and believing in it.
- v 20: Meaning?
  - teach to "observe" or "obey"? (meaning "to keep, to fulfill, to persistently obey")
  - Jesus is always with us, and works through us. We are never truly alone.



**Intro 2: Abiding in Christ - the Person God Uses to Build His Kingdom** (Who does use to do his work?)

GROUP WORK: John 15:1-5. Read and Discuss.

- How to **ABIDE**: *As we stay connected to God (holding fast to him, spending time with him, dwelling with him) we **LISTEN** to God's voice through his word, and **OBEY** him by the **POWER** of the Holy Spirit.*
- How do we **LISTEN** to God's Voice?
  - **Time Alone with God**: Make a daily plan to meet with God alone. Plan for longer times also.
  - **Study God's Word**: Read the New Testament, then the whole Bible.
  - **Pray**: Pray alone in a private place. Also pray throughout the day.
  - **Memorize & Meditate**: Memorize parts of the Bible, and dwell on them.
  - **Fast**: Make a plan to fast on a regular basis... to know God more and experience His presence more powerfully.
- What is **FRUIT**?
  - **1 - The fruit of the Spirit is evident and growing** in our lives. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..." (Gal. 5:22-23).
  - **2 - We do acts of love** that benefit other people, and especially do things the church did in the Bible (Mk 12:30-31; Acts 2:37-47)
  - **3 - Out of love, we tell others about Jesus, and train them** to follow him (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8).



# 7. GIVE & SERVE (Love Others)

**Pray**: Begin the meeting in prayer.

## 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Care**: Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability**: Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray**: Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

## 2/3: New Teaching

**Command**: Luke 6:38

### Story:

- Luke 10:25-37
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions**.

### Main Points?:

- Give and Serve others.
- Give your time, money, and resources to serve others.

### Discuss:

- What should we give to God? Our time, our energy, our money.
- Why should we give to God? Acts 20:35 - it is better to give than receive. 2 Cor. 9:6-7 - God loves a cheerful giver, and we will be blessed.
- How do we give to God? 2 Cor. 9:7 - cheerfully, not under compulsion. Matt. 6:1-4 - secretly, not for recognition.
- Who do we give to? Acts 4:34-35 - the church gave to all who had need. 3 John 8 - support workers of the gospel so that we may partner with them.
- How do we serve? 1 Pet. 4:11 - with the strength and grace that God gives (see also Rom 15:18; 1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Cor. 9:8).

### Discuss Later:

- 2 Cor. 9:5-15 - a collection was given to the church.
- Heb. 7:1-5 - about the tithe, or giving 10% (see also Gen. 14:18-20).
- Mal. 3:8-12 (do this story next time if you repeat 9 Lessons).

## 3/3: Practice & Assignment

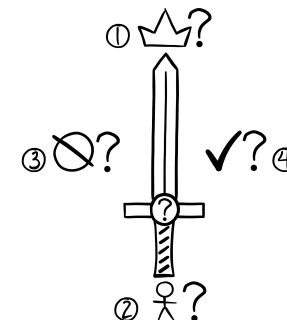
### Practice:

- 2-3 people collect money, count it, and report to the group how much there is.
- Let the group make a plan to help someone, then commit to do it.

### Assignment:

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Love Others... by Giving Time, Money, and Resources to Help & Serve.
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week.

**Pray**: Close the meeting in prayer.





## 6. PRAY

**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Col. 4:2

**Story:**

- Matt. 6:5-15
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions**.

**Main Points?:**

- Pray often.
- Talk to God.
- Listen to God (through His Word & Prayer).

**Discuss:**

- What is prayer? Talking with God our Father in Jesus name, and Listening to Him.
- Why do we pray? Matt. 6:13 - God hears us if we talk to him, and we desire that his will be done.
- How often should we pray? 1 Thess. 5:16-18 - Pray All the time, Anywhere.
- How do we pray, and what do we pray for?
  - Worship God (Praise): "Our Father in heaven, holy is your name"
  - His Work to be Done (Surrender): "Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth"
  - For Our Needs (Ask): "Give us this day, our daily bread"
  - For Forgiveness (Forgiveness): "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors"
  - For Protection: "Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil"

**Discuss Later:**

- Luke 11:5-13 - ask and it will be given.
- Luke 18:1-8 - we should continue in prayer and not give up.
- John 16:23-24 - ask the Father in Jesus name, find full joy.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

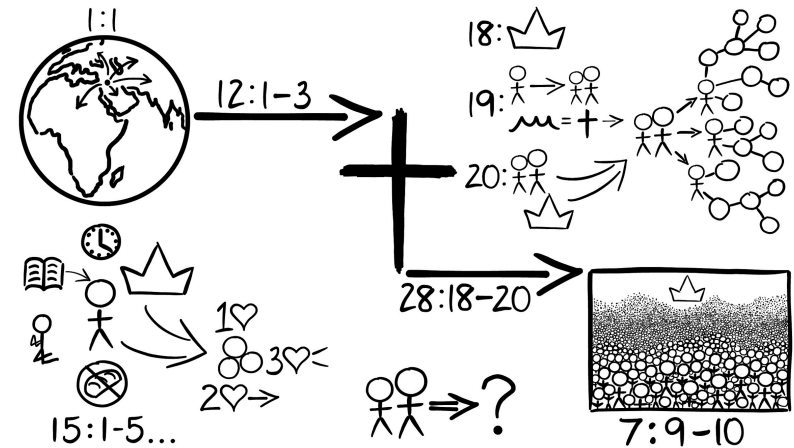
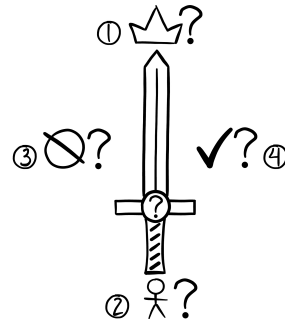
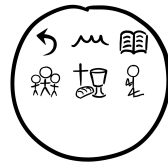
**Practice:**

- How to Pray *out loud with one another*. Help them by keeping it simple.
- How to Pray for the group (for jobs, for struggles, for anyone sick, etc.).
- Pray for those on their Prayer List of personal contacts (see Part 2).

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Commit to Pray more... alone & with other people.
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.



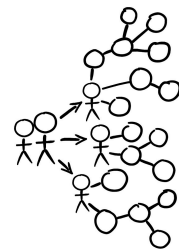
**Intro 3: 6 Parts of the Core Missionary Task** (What do we do to accomplish his work?)

GROUP WORK: Acts 14:20-23. Read and Discuss.

- Abiding in Christ (**Heart**) is essential to all 6 Parts of the CMT - we can do nothing without Jesus (John 15:5).
- There are **6 Parts of the Core Missionary Task (CMT)** that are summarized in Acts 14:20-23, but are demonstrated repeatedly in the New Testament.
  1. **Entry:** Entry Strategies (*How do we engage with the lost?*). "he rose up and entered the city" (vs20)
  2. **Gospel:** Gospel Strategies (*How do we share the Good News of Jesus?*). "they had preached the gospel" (vs21)
  3. **Discipleship:** Discipleship Strategies (*How do we disciple others?*). "strengthened...encouraged" (vs22)
  4. **Church:** Church Formation (*How do we start churches, and lead them to become healthy?*). "elders in every church" (vs23)
  5. **Leadership:** Leadership Development & Multiplication (*How do we train the next generation of leaders to do all this work and grow deeper in their walk with Jesus?*). "appointed elders in every church" (vs23)
  6. **Exit to Partnership:** Partnering alongside godly, effective, proven, maturing leaders to start new work in new areas. "they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch" (vs21)

**Don't try to do God's Kingdom work alone - 222 Principle (2 Tim 2:2).**

- 2 Tim. 2:2: Paul said to Timothy "what **you**... heard **from me**...entrust to **faithful men**, who will be able to teach **others**".
  - The Goal of our Discipleship is **Multiplication**: to **find** "faithful" reliable people, and to **train & equip** them to train others.
  - Disciple others now with what you know. Don't wait until you understand *everything* perfectly.
  - If you learn the basics of Abiding in Christ, and Part 2: Gospel Strategies, train others in those topics. Continue to receive training, and train others what you have learned.



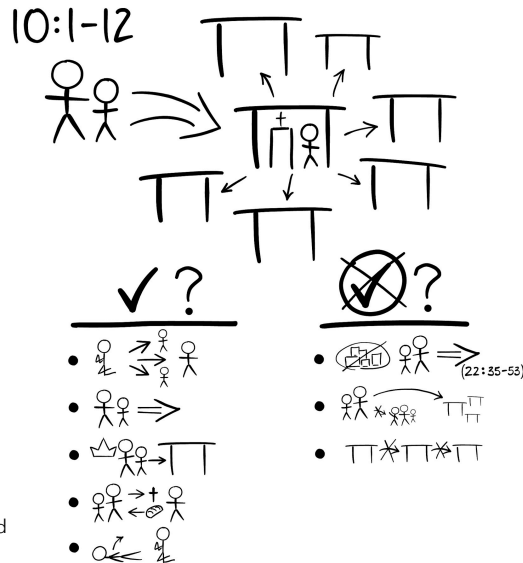


## Part 1: How to Engage with those who don't know Jesus

**HOW** did Jesus send his followers to Enter new areas of work?

GROUP WORK: Luke 10:1-12. Read and Discuss.

- What should we **DO**?
  - "**Pray earnestly** to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (vs 2)
  - "**Go your way...**" (vs 3)
  - "**Peace** be to this house! [peace only comes through the Gospel of Jesus Christ]" (vs 5), "**The Kingdom of God has come near to you**" (vs 9)
  - "Whatever **house you enter**", "**eat** what is set before you" (vs 8)
  - "**heal** the sick" (vs 9) (pray for healing)
- What should we **NOT DO**?
  - "**Carry no money bag**, no knapsack, no sandals" (vs 4)
  - "and **greet no one on the road**" (vs 4) (stay focused on the mission)
  - "**Do not go house to house**" (vs 7)
- Outsider to Insider:**
  - Jesus sent groups of 2 (outsiders) to find a Person of Peace (insider). Those from inside their community, *with training*, will usually be more effective at engaging their area.
  - Yet, there are many reasons for outsiders to be part of cross-cultural missions, such as: starting work in a new areas (Lk 10), keeping work focused on God's mission, bringing discipleship and leadership training, bringing outside resources in responsibly, etc.
- What does **Person of Peace** mean? Someone who receives the outsiders, accepts the message of Jesus, and follows Jesus to reach their family, friends, and neighbors (Acts 10:24, 16:15, 16:33, 18:8).
- \*questions that might come up during discussion on Luke 10:1-12.
  - Jesus said don't take anything. Can we travel with luggage now?
    - Luke 22:35-36: Jesus said to take things needed for travel.
  - Jesus said those without a sword should "sell his cloak and buy one" (Lk. 22:36) Meaning?
    - Swords and fighting do not advance the Kingdom of God. Jesus even stops the attack by the disciples on the servant of the high priest, and then heals him (vv 49-51).
    - Some believe Jesus meant to be armed spiritually (e.g. sword of the Spirit - Eph. 6:17).



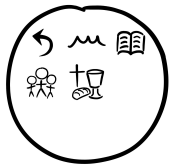
### ASSIGNMENT:

- LIST** people you interact with on a regular basis (e.g. weekly or monthly). Try to list 20 or more.
- PRAY** for the 2 types of people on your list: those who don't know Jesus, and those who do.
  - Pray for your boldness to share with the lost, and that they will believe in Jesus and follow him.
  - Pray for believers to grow in their love for Jesus, and that they would disciple others to obey Jesus..

### Getting Starting & Transitioning to a Conversation about Jesus

- PRAY.** Pray as you **GO**. Pray for those you meet, praying for peace and other needs they talk about.
- After praying, ask "**Can I ask... Do you feel CLOSE to God or FAR from God?**" **Listen** to their story.
- Then ask, "**Can I tell you what happened to me and how I became close to God**" (share **My Story**).

## 5. TAKE THE LORD'S SUPPER (Breaking Bread)



**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Vision:** Begin with Acts 2:42 - why meet? (because the first disciples did) Why small group? - To learn to obey Jesus together.

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Luke 22:19

**Story:**

- Luke 22:7-20
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions**.

**Main Points?:**

- Take the Lord's Supper regularly.
- Take it with an attitude of humility.

**Discuss:**

- What is the Lord's Supper? 1 Cor. 11:26 - a symbol of the Lord's death.
- Why do we eat the Lord's Supper? Luke 22:19 - We are told to do this often to remember
- With what attitude do we take the Lord's Supper? 1 Cor. 11:27-29 - with humility as we must examine ourselves, confess our sins, and remember Jesus died to give us forgiveness.
- Who should receive the Lord's Supper? Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 11:27-29 - baptized believers devoted to Jesus.
- Does taking the Lord's Supper save us? No. Eph 2:8-9 - Only faith by grace saves us.

**Discuss Later:**

- 1 Cor. 11:17-26 (do this story next time if you repeat the 9 Essentials).
- John 15:1-11 - we need to Abide in Christ (remain in Him). The Lord's Supper is a reminder to Abide in Christ and depend on Him.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

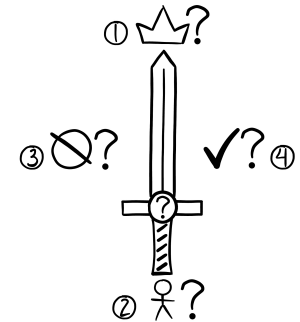
**Practice:**

- Learn how to take the Lord's Supper (discuss what the parts symbolize).
- Practice Sharing God's Story.

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Take the Lord's Supper.
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.





## 4. MEET TOGETHER (Love Each Other)



**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Heb. 10:24-25

**Story:**

- Acts 2:42-47
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions** (see page 7).

**Main Points?:** (ask what are the main points)

- Meet together.
- Care for each other.
- Obey Jesus together.

**Discuss:**

- Who should meet together? Acts 2:41 - baptized delivers devoted to Jesus.
- Why do we meet together? For encouragement, and accountability... Living the Christian life can be hard, and sometimes we will be treated badly since we follow Jesus Christ (Acts 5:27-42).
- When and Where do we meet together? The first disciples met together daily, but meet together at least 1-2 times a week. The early church met in houses, but anywhere can be okay.
- What should we do when together? Care for each other, pray together, study God's Word, plan to share Jesus with others, and Serve together.

**Discuss Later:** (to discuss if time allows, as a follow up meeting, or to study alone)

- Jam. 5:13-16 - Care and pray for one another.
- John 13:34-35 - The world will know we are His followers by our love for one another.
- Col 3:12-14 - Put on love and forgive one another.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

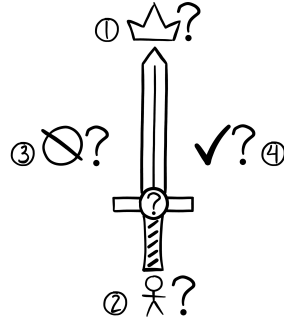
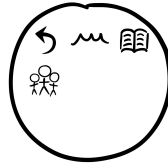
**Practice:**

- Describe the Three Thirds 3/3 Process for meeting (1/3, 2/3, 3/3).
- Have individuals share with the group what God is teaching them.
- Take turns praying for each other as a group. Lay hands on them and pray.
- Plan separate meeting times for men and for women for accountability & training.

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Commit to Meet Together regularly, showing Love & Care for One Another.
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.



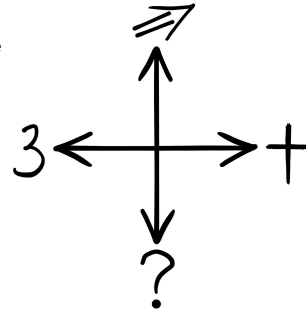
## Part 2: How to Share the Good News of Jesus Christ

**HOW** do we share the Good News of Jesus?

Review: Matt. 28:19 - "Go, therefore, and **make disciples** of the nations..."

GROUP WORK: John 4:4-26, 39-42. Read and Discuss.

- Ask the following questions about the story:
  - What do we learn about **God** from the story? (the Father, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit)
  - What do we learn about **People** from the story?
  - Is there a **Sin** done in the story that we shouldn't do?
  - Is there an **Example to Follow** or **Command to Obey** from the story?
- Who was the Samaritan woman?
  - Was she educated? No.
  - Did she have a good reputation? No.
  - Was she baptized? No.
  - Was she a leader? No.
  - Yet God used her in a powerful way to lead many to Jesus from her village. God can use you too.
- Why was the woman effective in leading many to Jesus?
  - She went **immediately** (vs. 28) (arrow at top)
  - She shared **her story** (vs. 29) ("3" on left represents 3 Parts of **My Story**)
  - She shared **God's story** by asking about the Messiah (vs. 29) (cross on right for the Gospel)
  - She gave an **invitation** to consider and believe (vs. 29) (question mark on bottom)

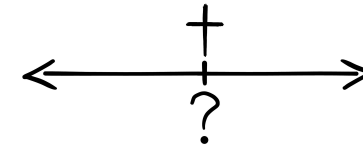


### My Story (sharing your testimony)

- Tell **Your Story** in **3 Parts** in **3 Minutes** - 1 minute per part.

**1. My Life Before Christ**

- What was my life like before I knew Jesus?
- 1 minute or less



**2. How I Met Christ**

- How did I hear about Jesus and believe in him?
- 1 minute or less

**3. My Life After Christ**

- How is my life different because of Jesus?
- 1 minute or less

- **TIP 1:** You **don't need to give every detail of your past**. Balancing between relating with others by being open, and not telling them every detail is a good goal. Plus, we want to glorify Jesus more than sin.
- **TIP 2:** If you grew up in church, you may feel like **you always knew Jesus** and don't have a "point of conversion" to discuss. Instead, talk about the point in your life where you really began to take your relationship with Jesus seriously.
- **TIP 3:** Maybe you feel that your testimony is **not dramatic enough**, or not good enough to share. Please believe that **ALL testimonies are important and valuable**. If needed, try to focus on common problems that relate with others, such as lack of peace, anger, sadness, loneliness, jealousy, selfishness, fear, etc.

**GROUP WORK:** In groups of 2, practice sharing **your Story** with one another. Give 3 minutes per person.



## The GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ (3 Circles)

- Transition: **"Let me tell you what God has done for all of us?"**

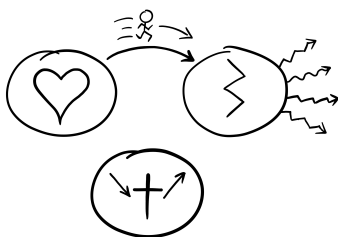
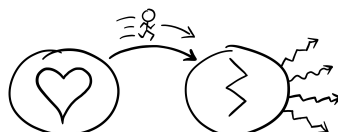
**Introduction** (very basis beginning, will need to be expanded in a cross-cultural setting)

- In the beginning, God created the world and everything in it. He created people to have relationship with him, to know him, to love him, and to be loved by him.
- God also created people to love and care for one another. (don't say references out loud - Genesis 1:1, 1:26, 1:28).



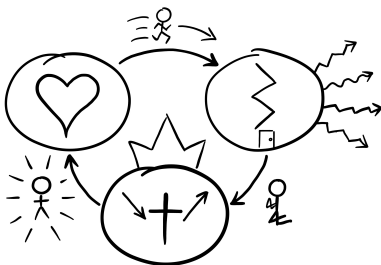
### Sin and the Result of Sin

- But people selfishly do what they want and rebel against God and His design for their lives. God calls this sin, and it leads us into brokenness. Sin separates us from God now and for all eternity. (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).
- We try to do all kinds of things to get out of brokenness. Some try alcohol & drugs, some try relationships, some success, and some even try religion. But these things don't work, because they do not remove sin, and we remain separated from God.



### Jesus Died for our Sin & Rose from the Dead

- But the Good News is that God loves us and doesn't want us to stay in brokenness separated from Him.
- However, for sin to be removed a perfect sacrifice had to be given. So, God sent Jesus into the world to be that perfect sacrifice.
- Jesus lived a perfect life, never sinning, and showing us how to live God's Perfect Design for our lives. He obeyed God in every way, even with people mistreated him.
- Then, Jesus gave his life for the forgiveness of our sin. He did this by dying on a cross to take the punishment for our sin that we deserved.
- Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead proving that He paid for the penalty for sin completely, and proving that He is the Son of God. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8).



### Turn from our Sin & Believe in the Good News of Jesus

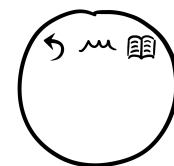
- God tells us to stop trusting in ourselves and our way of doing things, and believe that Jesus died for *our sin* and rose again from the dead. God wants us to trust in Jesus, and make Him the King of our lives.
- In believing this, our sin will be forgiven, and we can enter into a relationship with God and be restored. (Romans 6:23b, 10:9).
- God's Spirit empowers us to live God's Perfect Design for our lives now. And after this life, we will be with God forever in a place called heaven.

### Invitation

- Does this make sense to you? Where would you say you are today... in Brokenness or in God's Perfect Design? Where do you want to be?
- The Good News is we can Believe in Jesus now. Tell God where you are, and then tell Him where you want to be. Believe that Jesus died for your sins and rose again. Turn from your ways of doing things, and follow Jesus making him the King of your life.

**GROUP WORK:** In groups of 2, practice sharing God's Story with one another (5 minutes each). Repeat.

## 3. STUDY GOD'S WORD (Devoted to Apostles Teaching)



**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** 2 Tim. 2:15

**Story:**

- Matt. 4:1-11
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **WORD Questions** (see page 7).

**Main Points?:** (ask what are the main points)

- Study God's Word.
- Memorize it, Think about it, Obey it.
- Fight spiritual battles with God's Word.

**Discuss:**

- Why do we Study God's Word? So we can understand it correctly (2 Tim. 2:15).
- How do we Study God's Word? We Listen to it, we ask questions about it to learn, we try to understand the main ideas, we apply God's Word to our lives, and we memorize it so we do not forget.
- When do we listen to God's Word? Study God's Word every day. Memorize God's Word and think about it during the day.

**Discuss Later:** (to discuss if time allows, as a follow up meeting, or to study alone)

- Matt. 13:23 - hear the word and understand it (see also Mark 4:20; Luke 8:15)
- Col. 3:16-17 - let the word dwell in you richly.
- Rom. 12:1-2 - let your mind be transformed.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

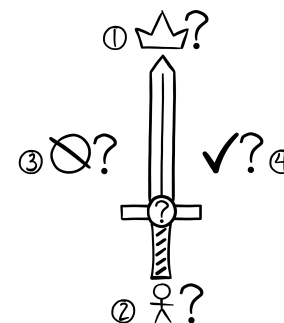
**Practice:**

- Memorize Matt. 28:18-20.
- Review the **WORD** method to Study God's Word.

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Each Week, Memorize a new verse in the bible (e.g. Rom. 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9).
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.





## 2. BE BAPTIZED

**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Vision:** Start AGAIN with Matt. 28:18-20 - Why meet? Why small group? - To learn to obey Jesus together. (Vision sets the direction, but doesn't have to be said every meeting)

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they do the assignments from last week?

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Matt. 28:19-20

**Story:**

- Acts 8:26-39
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions** (see page 7).

**Main Points?:** (ask what are the main points)

- Jesus is the sacrifice for our sin.
- Be Baptized in obedience to Christ, telling others you follow Jesus.

**Discuss:**

- What is baptism? Rom. 6:3-4 - Baptism is a symbol of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. It symbolizes that we have died to our old way of life and been raised to live a new life for Jesus Christ.
- Why should we be baptized? Matt. 3:13-15 - Jesus commands to be baptized (see also Matt 28:19), and Jesus received baptism modeling it for us. We identify with Jesus and proclaim that we follow Jesus when we are baptized.
- How should we be baptized? Matt. 3:16 - Jesus "went up" from the water since he was under the water.
- Does baptism save us? Luke 23:42-43 - No, since the criminal on the cross next to Jesus was told he would be with Jesus in paradise without being baptized. However, baptism is very important and should be done (Matt 28:19).

**Discuss Later:** (to discuss if time allows, as a follow up meeting, or to study alone)

- Other passages in the New Testament about Baptism? See Acts 2:38, 41; 8:36-38; 9:17-18; 10:44-48; 16:13-15, 31-33; 19:5; Rom. 6:3-4; 1 Cor. 1:13-17; 1 Pet. 3:12

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

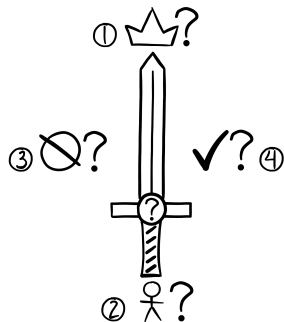
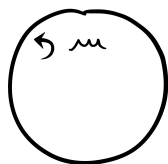
**Practice:**

- How to be Baptized (discuss what the actions symbolize & where to get baptized)
- How to share Your Story (3 parts in 3 minutes). Who will you tell it to?

**Assignment:**

- Every day, Listen to God's Word & Pray.
- Be Baptized in your local church.
- Share Your Story & God's Story this week with someone.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.



#### ASSIGNMENT:

- **PRAY** for God to give you opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others.
- **SHARE** the Good News of Jesus with those on your list and with those you meet day to day.

#### 3 Possible Reactions to hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ: (Red, Yellow, or Green light)

- **NO:** they **do not want to believe in Jesus (Red)**.
  - Considering asking them "Why not?" What questions do they have?
- **NOT READY YET:** they are **not ready to believe yet**, but want to learn more (**Yellow**)
  - Meet them again to discuss Jesus, share bible stories, pray for them and with them.
  - Share stories about Jesus & ask what they think about them (e.g. John 3:1-21; John 4:4-42; Luke 15:11-32; Matt 8:23-27).
- **YES:** they **believe** that Jesus has forgiven their sin because of his death and resurrection (**Green**):
  - Offer to pray with them telling God what they just believed. Ask if they would like to pray.
  - Teach them about their **New Identity in Jesus Christ**.
    - Read or quote 2 Co. 5:17-21. Ask them what they think about these 5 verses.
    - Ask them who they know that needs to hear about Jesus. Make a List. Go share together
  - Ask them if they access to a Bible. Provide a Bible (or audio of Bible material), or what is available in their language. Show them how to read/listen to 1 chapter a day and pray. Consider having them start in the book of Luke, and keep reading the through New Testament daily.
  - Plan to **meet again** soon to teach them how to **follow Jesus**, and **share the Gospel with others**.
  - Consider using this lesson ('Part 2: How to Share the Good News of Jesus Christ') for your first meeting (or use the 411 Training at the end of this booklet).
  - Then, **train them with short-term discipleship lessons** (9 Essentials, or 7 Commands of Christ, etc.)

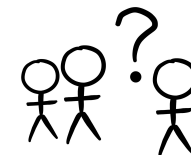
#### Evaluating a Gospel Presentation - Which one to use?

- Use a simple gospel presentation such as 3 Circles above. Make sure the gospel presentation you use at least has these 4 Core Elements:
 

• Sin & Judgement	Rom. 3:23; 1 Cor. 15:3
• Jesus died on the cross	Rom. 5:8, 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:3
• Jesus rose from the dead	Rom. 10:9; 1 Cor. 15:4
• We must repent & believe	Rom. 10:9
- The example of 3 Circles above has been adapted, and can be further expanded to better explain the truth of the gospel to various worldviews and religious perspectives.

#### Help on Getting Started & Transitioning to a Spiritual Conversation

- **PRAY.** **Pray** as you **GO**. Offer to pray for those you meet, praying for peace and other needs they talk about.
- After praying, ask "**Can I ask... Do you feel CLOSE to God or FAR from God?**" **Listen** to their story.
- **Transition:** ask, "**Can I tell you what happened to me and how I became close to God?**" (share **My Story**).
- Other transition ideas to Bring God into Everyday Conversations
  - Ask what they did last weekend? (You can talk about your church/ministry involvement)
  - Ask what place of worship they go to. You could ask about their experience. Talk about yours.
  - When discussing various issues, you could add in...
    - "I was going through a similar situation. **Thank God He helped me** with that."
    - "I was worried about a similar thing, but after praying **I knew God would help me.**"

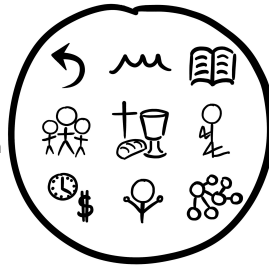




## Part 3: How to Make Disciples

Jesus said to “to obey all that I have commanded you” (Matt. 28:20). One of the best examples of discipleship to follow when starting out is set by the first church's example in Acts 2:37-47.

These 9 lessons come from that example in the order they are shown and are used to create **9 Essentials** (a short-term discipleship plan). Each meeting is divided into **3 Sections** (i.e. Three Thirds 3/3\*) with each part lasting approximately 30+ minutes (1.5+ hours total)\*\*.



### 1/3: Care & Accountability (James 5:13-16)

**Vision:** Briefly state why you are meeting. For example, quote Matt 28:19-20.

**Care:** Care for one another by asking what was good or bad from the previous week. Then **Pray** for each other.

**Accountability:** Ask if they did the assignment from the last meeting. Discuss it.

### 2/3: New Teaching (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 4:12)

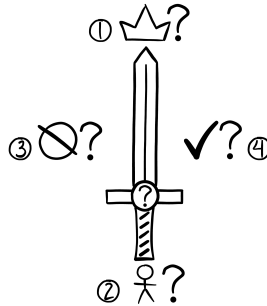
**Command:** Say the verse from memory, or read it to the group.

**Story:** Tell the story from memory, or read it out loud.

- Review the story by asking what happened first? then what? next? to retell the story again.
- Ask if one person can retell the whole story again from memory.

- Next, use the **SWORD Method** Questions asking:

1. What does this story teach us about **God?** (about the Father, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit)
  - What did He say and what did He do?
2. What did we learn about **People?**
  - Who was in the story?
  - What did they say or do?
3. Are there any **Sins to Avoid?** (What not to do?)
4. Is there an **Example to Follow** or **Command to Obey?** (What should we do and apply to our lives?)



**Main Point (?):** After Learning about the story with the **SWORD** questions, ask what the Main Points of the this story/text are.

**Discuss:** Talk about important ideas related to the story, as well as the meaning of words which are *not* always understood (e.g. repent, belief, gospel, baptism, disciple, etc.)

**Discuss Later:** Additional related topics to study or discuss later.

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment (1 John 2:3-6)

**Do What?:** Ask if there is anything they need to apply to their lives from the story.

**Practice:** Work through the “Practice” portions **together** in the meeting.

**Assignments:** Give assignments or set goals about something learned from the bible story for the following week.

## 1. REPENT & BELIEVE

**Pray:** Begin the meeting in prayer.

### 1/3: Care & Accountability

**Vision:** Start with Matt. 28:18-20 - Why meet? Why small group? (to learn to obey Jesus together)

**Care:** Ask - what happened that was good or bad from last week? What did God teach you?

**Accountability:** Did they talk about Jesus with anyone after the first followup meeting? (about 2 Cor. 5:17-21 made a List to share with, learned to share the Good News of Jesus)

**Pray:** Pray for each other in groups of 2-3.

### 2/3: New Teaching

**Command:** Mark 1:15

**Story:**

- Luke 19:1-10
- Tell the Story.
- Retell the Story.
- Discuss the **SWORD Questions** (see page 7).

**Main Points?:** (ask what are the main points)

- Repent (and keep turning from sin daily).
- Make things right with other people.
- Tell others to repent & believe in Jesus (Luke 19:10).

**Discuss:**

- What does Repent mean? Turn from your old way of life & obey Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17-21).
- What does Belief mean? *Trusting* that Jesus died for your sin, and rose again (1 Cor. 15:3-4; Rom. 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9).
- What is Assurance? John 10:27-30 - when we are saved, we are saved by the power of Jesus and not by our own strength. We cannot work for our salvation... it is a gift.

**Discuss Later:** (to discuss if time allows, as a follow up meeting, or to study alone)

- Repent before God: 1 John 1:9 - if we confess sin, we are forgiven in Jesus Christ (see also Heb. 12:5-11; Rev 3:19).
- Ask Forgiveness from Others if you have offending them: Matt 5:23-24 - if you remember that you have offended someone, take initiative to make it right.
- Forgive Others, *even if they do not Change*: Matt 18:15-20 - if someone has sinned against you, try to make it right through this process. Luke 17:3 - Forgive quickly & often. See Prayer Lesson 6, where Jesus tells us to forgive as God has forgiven us (Matt. 6:14-15; see also Matt. 18:21-35).

### 3/3: Practice & Assignment

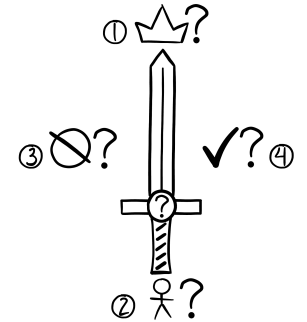
**Practice:**

- Do you need to repent from something? Discuss how to make it right.
- Review how to share God's Story (One Verse, 3 Circles, EE, C2C, etc.).
- How to read the Bible (what are books, chapters, and verses; read 1 ch. a day).

**Assign:**

- Everyday, Listen to God's Word & Pray (at least 1 chapter a day).
- Repent from sin and make things right. Forgive others as God forgave you.
- Make a plan to share Jesus with someone this week.

**Pray:** Close the meeting in prayer.



\*\*Three Thirds” adapted from Steve Smith, T4T: A Discipleship Re-Revolution.

\*\*If time is limited, plan for 15-20 minutes per part (total 45-60 minutes.)