DISCIPLESHIP

ENCOUNTERS

WITH

THE DISCIPLERS GUIDE

by

Jerry and Nancy Reed

DISCIPLESHIP ENCOUNTERS

(With Discipler's Guide)

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Jerry and Nancy Reed

Version 3.5 of <u>Discipleship Encounters</u>

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	i
Preface	iv

Encounter Outlines

Step One	Becoming a Christian; the Four Assurances	1
Step Two	The Basis of Discipleship	2
Step Three	The Wheel	4
Step Four	The Lordship of Christ	5
Step Five	The Holy Spirit	7
Step Six	The Word	9
Step Seven	Prayer	11
Step Eight	Witness	13
Step Nine	Fellowship	15
Step Ten	The Obedient Believer	17

Appendix

Practical Helps	19
Optional starting points	
The Bible, God, & People	21
The Bridge Illustration	23
Progress Sheets for keeping track of each encounter (copy ready)	24
Prayer list (copy ready)	26
Stewardship in the Christian life	27
Summary of memory verses	28
Topical Memory System (material from The Navigators)	29
Study the Scriptures (STS) outline plan	30
The STS form (copy ready)	31

INTRODUCTION TO THE

DISCIPLESHIP ENCOUNTERS

Stop! Don't read any further until you have read the Preface to these Discipleship Encounters . The warning in the Preface against the "information trap" is important background for effective discipleship.
☐ Please check this box when you have read the Preface .
Great! Thank you for reading the Preface . Here are some considerations to help you as you proceed in the discipling process:
1) Review the Practical Helps for Discipleship found on pages 19 and 20 of the Appendix . Many basic questions about discipleship are answered there.
☐ Please check this box when you have read the Practical Helps .
2) Turn now to pages 21 and 22. These are entitled The Bible, God, and People and represent <i>optional starting points</i> in the discipling process. You can see from the content that this step opens up conversation about who God is, what the Bible is, and what God has done in Christ so that people can know Him. Turn to page 23. This is an explanation of the Bridge Illustration which many have found useful for leading someone to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
☐ Please check this box when you have read pages 21, 22, and 23.
3) Now look at the Progress Sheets on pp. 24 and 25. Make copies of these two pages for each encounter group that you have. Then write the name(s) of your disciple(s) in the spaces provided at the top of the page. At the close of every discipleship encounter check off the points and subpoints covered. (Some days you may not cover the points in the outline because you are dealing with other important items). Write in the <i>date</i> of your next encounter beside the point where you plan to begin.
☐ Please check this box when you have made copies of the Progress Sheets .
4) Remember the importance of asking a question. <u>The question is your friend</u> . Use them as you disciple others. Questions allow your disciple(s) to talk and share their insights and understandings and to ask their own questions which will often guide your conversation in unexpected but important directions.
Now, turn to <u>The Discipler's Guide</u> on page 1a to find the "Prompts and Notes" for STEP ONE. (This page is opposite page no. 1 (STEP ONE)) and observe the following:

- a) Page 1a is the guide for page 1 of the <u>Encounter</u> outlines and page 2a is the guide for page 2, etc.
- b) Notice that at the top of the page the *Purpose* of Step One is stated. The purpose for each **Step** is important to keep in mind as you proceed through the **Encounters** with your disciple(s).
- c) There are *Remember* paragraphs highlighted with a shadowed background on each "Prompts and Notes" page. These paragraphs emphasize the importance of Christian formation in the discipling process. Here you will find ideas for enriching the process and helping your disciple(s) begin discipling others. Sometimes you will discover suggestions for *Review*. Remember these are just general guidelines.
- d) The numbers down the left side of the page refer to the line numbers in the **Encounter** outlines. An arrow (⇒) before a number means that there is a *question written in italics* that you may want to use to start a conversation about that point. A number without an arrow (for example 2.3 on page 1a) is information just to tell you what we had in mind when we put the outline together.
- e) Finally, the footnote at the bottom of the page is the first reminder of what has already been stated, namely that the questions provided in the **Discipler's Guide** are only suggestions. Be relaxed and confident in the guidance of the Holy Spirit, -- free to create your own questions or pattern for working through the outlines as you spend time growing with your disciple(s).
- ☐ Please check this box when you have carefully studied page 1a.
- 5) As you start, agree together on the length of time you will meet together. You might suggest just two or three weeks and then re negotiate for a longer time period if you and your disciple(s) are agreeable. An option for the first round with someone is to make a copy of Step One without the top line that says "STEP ONE and page -1-". In this way Step One stands alone and does not suggest that there is more to follow. Thus it becomes easier to have early closure if you discover that the group is not working out. Be careful of "sag" in your relationship halfway through. Help those being discipled to have a sense of progress, bit by bit, as you grow together. When you end make sure you have strong closure. Do not just fade away.
- 6) The last consideration before you begin discipling someone is basic and easily overlooked. What are your objectives or expectations for discipling the person(s) you have in mind just now? There are different ways to answer this question.

Possible answers could include such things as having a basic understanding of what the Christian life is all about, the ability to train new Christians, raise up leaders among youth, leadership training for small groups, preparation for planting a new church, training people who can share pastoral responsibilities, preparing those who can teach Sunday School, and/or equipping those who might share in leading worship. One major objective in all of the above is to raise up another generation of disciples. Use your imagination to think of many more possibilities for giving sharp focus to the discipling process. Again, what is your purpose for discipling someone at this time?

Write your purpose(s) here by completing the following sentence.

My pu people	rpose at this time for getting together with [fill in the name(s) 1, 2, or 3 here]
	,
is to: _	
☐ Che	eck this box when you have written down your purpose(s).

Remember that the nervousness you will experience as you approach those with whom you want to get together and grow comes from our spiritual enemy. He does not want this powerful and effective process to begin. But we have victory in Jesus. Therefore pray and go, asking the Holy Spirit to fill you and use you.

PREFACE

An Ever Growing Story

There is probably nothing more satisfying than knowing that God is using you to encourage another person to grow as a Christian. In the last twenty years literally hundreds of people have discovered the significance, joy and satisfaction of helping another person grow in their Christian life using these <u>Discipleship Encounters</u>.

Marvin Ladner, a business man who first discipled me at the university, planted a seed that continues to grow. First in Ecuador, then more significantly in Mexico, the simple and yet dynamic discipling process set forth here took on a clear focus as we trained lay leaders to start churches and pastor them. The process continues. It began in Spanish, and then English, and now there are translations in French, Japanese, Korean, Lingala, Swedish, Tagalog, Russian, Swahili, and Tenyidie (also known as Angami Naga for use in Nagaland, India). In process is a Bulgarian version.

As we watch the dynamics of discipleship encounters in many different contexts we have discovered people using the outlines that make up the <u>Discipleship Encounters</u> in different ways. The following pages are designed to help the discipler have a positive experience in discipleship.

Narrow-Band or Broad-Band Discipleship?

The term discipleship in some circles has become synonymous with teaching or Christian education. The meaning of discipleship in these cases is broad-band and inclusive. The focus of these <u>Discipleship Encounter</u> outlines is narrow-band or that of an intensive relationship between an experienced person and one, two, or three others. This could also be called a mentoring relationship in which wisdom, knowledge, experience, insight, and vision is transferred from one to another.

Multiplication of Leaders

This form of discipleship works well in any area of church life and ministry. Lucy Baig, in using her spiritual gift of mercy, used the <u>Encounter</u> outlines to train other women to minister to elderly women in Mexico City. In the same way, the outlines that make up the <u>Encounters</u> may be used by Sunday school teachers, worship leaders, church planters or anyone who has a vision for multiplying their kind.

Unity and Care Within the Church

While interviewing disciplers with more than twelve years of experience in Mexico City, I was pleasantly surprised by Sara's observation that discipleship had produced the wonderful by-product of bringing people

together in the church so that they really became friends. Pastor Roberto Gonzalez, one of the most experienced disciplers I know, said that in his church the discipleship ministry was impacting mutual care among his members. He told of a member who had known another for sixteen years and was no more than an acquaintance. Now (because of Discipleship) they are close friends and caring for one another.

More Than One-on-One

People err when speaking of this dynamic discipling process as a one-on-one discipleship approach. While it is true that often we do have one-on-one discipleship encounters, this must be seen as an accommodation to a better approach. Ideally two or three disciples in a group provide the best dynamic for discipleship. When there are two or three together the mutuality of being part of the Body of Christ is more easily experienced. Body life can more easily be learned in this context. There is also an implicit kind of accountability present when there is more than just one disciple in the "encounter."

Discipling or Teaching? (Encounters or Classes?)

A special note to those who might use this material -- before you start "discipling" people you need to make a decision. The decision is one of focus. Do you plan to teach the content of these <u>Discipleship Encounters</u> or are you going to disciple a few people using these outlines to help you in the discipling process? If your focus is on teaching the content of this material I would strongly urge you to do so **without calling the process discipleship**. Discipleship is much more than just teaching content. If you are looking for a title to use in the case of teaching this material you could call it Training in the Christian Basics. In this case you will have "classes" and not "encounters" when you meet. An "encounter" is the meeting together of you, and your disciple(s) with the Lord for growth through prayer, fellowship that encourages, and the study of the Bible in the context of daily living.

Formation or Information?

It is this dynamic approach to discipleship that is encouraged with these outlines. The focus is on Christians growing into the likeness of Jesus Christ. The intent is the formation of a godly life and character along with a basic knowledge of the Bible. By way of comparison, in the classroom context, knowledge or **information** is the focus, while in the discipling context, **formation**, i.e. principles, values, vision, and goals, along with knowledge becomes the focus. On the one hand, the teaching approach tells us that Jesus is Lord. On the other hand the discipleship approach helps us to experience the Lordship of Jesus in our daily lives.

With this discipleship model, life is shared with others. There is growth together. Vision and ministry is both shared and taught. Dependency on the Lord Jesus increases and fruit is born. Thus discipleship can involve

nurture, evangelism, church planting, prayer, worship, and justice and peace issues all at the same time.

The Ideal Context For Vision Casting

Leaders must have a vision -- a mental picture of what tomorrow will look like. They see a future in ministry and its exciting possibilities. However, most vision casters have found that their followers (disciples) will probably forget the vision within a month unless that vision is repeated over and over in different ways. These <u>Encounters</u> provide a context for casting a vision and reinforcing it over a period of months.

One Life Impacting Another Life

An illustration may help to show the dynamics of one person impacting another through the discipling process. As Suzy approached her old doll house on the back porch she remembered how her Daddy had transformed the looks of the garage door earlier in the day. He had taken a can off the shelf, opened it, added some water, stirred and begun painting. So Suzy decided she would paint her doll house. She found a can, added water, stirred and with a small brush from the garage began painting one end of the doll house. When one end was finished she stood back to see how nice it looked. To her surprise it looked the same. Nothing had happened! When her Daddy came to see what the problem was he discovered that she was painting with water.

Suzy had gone through the motions of mixing and painting but there was no change in the final product. She lacked just one thing -- the pigment, the color. And so it is with discipleship. Simply using the outlines as material for teaching is the same as painting with water. For true discipleship to take place we need to share the pigment of our lives. Pigment represents such things as our passion, our vision, our hunger for more of God, our feeling weak and casting ourselves in dependence upon the Lord, our seeking the fullness of the Holy Spirit, our honesty, our search for purity -- all of this and more. These things are more easily caught than taught. That is why we say that the Encounter outlines are a pretext for meeting together.

Time and Multiplication

The fruit of discipleship is seen after you have invested time in a relationship and let the pigment of your life impact the life of your disciples (as you depend on the infilling Holy Spirit). There are no short cuts. This is more than a ten week process. Six months to two years is realistic. I find that nine months is usually adequate for a discipleship relationship to bear fruit. By the time the disciples have come to step five in the process they should be selecting the people they will each be meeting with on a regular basis for their own "discipleship encounters."

This means that you will still be available week after week to encourage and help your disciples to have a positive and lasting impact on the next generation of disciples. Ideally, by the time you have finished step ten and some "Study the Scriptures" Bible studies (pp. 30-31), your disciples should be doing well in their own "encounters" and you can begin again with another small group of two or three people.

I have also had failures in discipleship. Sometimes early in the process and other times later, someone drops out. I have worked with those who never reproduced themselves. These cases throw me back on the Lord in dependence and weakness. Yet the successes far outweigh the failures. Discipleship is worth the risk of some failure along the way. We are always learning.

This Preface should serve as a guideline and not a hard and fast rule. But there is one rule of thumb that should continually be applied in the discipling process: Is what I am teaching, showing, and demonstrating easily transferable and "pass-on-able?" We hear many good sermons, and there are many good seminars and classes available which help build up our knowledge, but most are not designed to be easily transmitted to others. Keep it simple.

A Pretext for Meeting Together

Since the discipling process depends on the dynamic factors mentioned above, we make every effort to avoid the subtle traps that could make it just another class or time consuming effort. Thus the <u>Discipleship Encounter</u> outlines become the pretext for meeting together and growing together. All the people involved in the process grow together. We offer a list of practical helps on pp. 19-20 that will answer the most common questions and provide guidelines for those who are just getting started.

Whom Shall I Disciple?

The question always comes up, "Whom shall I disciple?" There are five options that I shall mention:

- 1. **New Christians**. Initially the Encounters were written for new believers so that they could immediately share their new found faith in Jesus Christ with their family members and friends. Basic to the process was the vision that these new Christians would soon begin to disciple their own friends and relatives as soon as they came to know Christ.
- 2. **Fervent Christians**. Without a clear sense of direction and purpose, younger fervent Christians easily lose the freshness in their walk with the Lord Jesus. The <u>Encounters</u> provide the context and focus for continued growth and purposeful ministry.

- 3. **Vintage Christians**. The <u>Encounters</u> provide the framework for helping seasoned Christians (vintage Christians) organize their knowledge so that they can pass it on to others -- especially to those new Christians that they are praying for. Also the outlines provide the very exciting possibility for renewal among those who desire more of God in their lives. In discipleship we grow together both the disciples and the discipler.
- 4. **Pre-Christians**. The <u>Encounters</u> may be used to help pre-Christians (non-Christians) explore the meaning of being a Christian. If this is the case the table of contents will guide you to various themes or starting points that you might find useful in your encounters together. Pages 21-23 in the Appendix will be helpful in this case.
- 5. Your own children. Taking each of my teenagers out for breakfast once a week before school was a wonderful time to "check in" with them. We inched our way through the outlines as we talked about school, friends, etc. Having their best friend join us worked out especially well. For the younger child in grade school once a week after school for ice cream works well. In this case we suggest an abbreviated, more easy going approach using the graphics to help communicate the basics.

Acknowledgments

The discipler will readily discern that these outlines contain little that is original. My wife, Nancy, and I compiled the initial outlines in Ecuador, South America. We used the Navigator's Wheel Illustration to determine the major themes of the material. Later, following Dale Bishop's and Keith Tungseth's adaptation of the Wheel we added the hub to represent the Holy Spirit. Many disciples, disciplers and colleagues in ministry have helped in the development of this tool. We want to thank to Tim Ek for help with the stewardship outline (See page 27). Special thanks go to Jerry and Vicky Love, our missionary colleagues in Mexico, for helping to field test and make improvements in the outlines and for developing the supplementary material found in the Appendix on pages 21-23. We are indebted to Carl Racine, short-term missionary to Ecuador and Mexico, for his keen insights and suggestions. Our appreciation for continual fresh insights and ideas for improvements goes to former short-term missionary to Mexico and President of Alaska Christian College, Keith Hamilton.

Since coming back to the United States, I (Jerry) teach evangelism, discipleship, and church growth at North Park Theological Seminary. Nancy is the Coordinator for Hispanic Church Relations for the Covenant Church and works directly with national church leaders in Latin America, Spain, and the Hispanic church in the U.S.A. We continue to be involved in discipleship ministries. We work with churches, pastors and lay people in discipleship seminars in the United States, Canada, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. The feedback and insights gained from the seminars as well as from my students

and personal experience are now reflected in this present edition (Version 3.5) of the $\underline{\textbf{Discipleship Encounters}}$ which also includes the $\underline{\textbf{Discipler's Guide}}$.

Chicago, April 2002

Jerry and Nancy Reed

STEP ONE -1-

SALVATION and THE FOUR ASSURANCES

1	IJ.	someone wei	re to asi	k you	what a	Christian	is, l	how woul	d ye	ou respon	ıd?
---	-----	-------------	-----------	-------	--------	-----------	-------	----------	------	-----------	-----

2.	Salvation comes only through receiving Jesus Christ. Booklets such as
	"The Four Spiritual Laws" or "Steps to Peace with God" help us explain to
	others how to know and walk with Jesus. See http://www.ccci.org/wyltkgp/
	or http://billygraham.org/languages/spanish/stepsToPeace.asp.

		rs how to know and walk with Jesus. See http://www.ccci.org/			
		ttp://billygraham.org/languages/spanish/stepsToPeace.asp.	wyttkgp/		
	2.1 Becoming a Christian in the book of Romans the Roman Road A. The human problem: sin - Rom 3:23 B. The result of sin and God's gift - Rom 6:23 C. God's costly provision for my sin - Rom 5:8 D. Faith and submission to Jesus' lordship - Rom 10:9 E. The call to a response of total commitment - Rom 12:1,2				
	2.2	Salvation is a free gift Eph 2:8-10			
	2.3	The Miniature Plan of Salvation. Rev. 3:20, Jn. 1:12, & Rom. 10:9.	□ *		
3.	The l	Four Assurances			
		n especially attacks new Christians in these four areas. Welves with the Word of God even as Jesus didMatt 4:4,7,10	e defend		
	3.1	The assurance of salvation I John 5:11,12			
	3.2	The assurance of victory over temptation I Cor 10:13			
	3.3	The assurance of forgiveness I John 1:9			
	3.4	The assurance of God's provision for our needs John 16:24 , Mt 6:25-34			
НО	MEWO	ORK: Memorize Rev 3:20 and John 1:12. In the following you will be memorizing other verses. Romans 10:9 I John 1:9 I John 5:11,12 John 16:24 I Cor 10:13	ig weeks		
*Th	ne □ i	indicates homework.			

STEP TWO -2-

THE BASIS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Romans 1:11,12 "For I want very much to see you, in order to share a spiritual blessing with you to make you strong. What I mean is that both you and I will be helped at the same time, you by my faith and I by yours." Good News Bible

- 1. Discipling--
 - 1.1 A. Four generations a biblical model of multiplying disciples.

 The gospel and the Christian life are shared simply with others so that they can easily be passed on from the first to the fourth generation. 2 Tim 2:2

1st generation: Paul

2nd generation: Timothy

3rd generation: faithful people

4th generation: others

- B. Four generation principle in O. T. -- Ps 78:5,6; Joel 1:3
- 1.2 The illustration of the two seas:
 - A. The Dead Sea--does not support life because it doesn't give, only takes in water. (Christians who just receive and don't share the gospel and the Christian life with others.)
- B. The Sea of Galilee--supports life because water comes in and goes out (Christians who share Christ with others.)
 - 1.3 Examples:
 - A. Andrew calls Simon Peter--John 1:40-42
 - B. Philip and Nathanael--John 1:43-45
 - C. Jesus and His disciples--Mark 3:14 He chose them to be with him first and then to send them out

information 10% of the discipling effort **formation** 90% of the discipling effort

- 2. What are the requirements of discipleship found in Luke 14:25-33? (This is a familiar Hebraic form of teaching using extreme contrasts.) Compare Matt 10:37-39; 15:3,4.
- 3. Can you find at least ten privileges of discipleship **John 15:7-16**?

- 4. We are setting down the basics in discipleship. Don't be discouraged if you don't see all of the characteristics of a disciple in the beginning. We're learning and growing.
 - 4.1 Personal characteristics that develop in a disciple's life:
 - A. Decisiveness: **1 Cor 16:13,14** "Be alert, stand firm, be brave, be strong. Do everything in love."
 - B. Maturity. Grown up into Christ -- Eph 4:14,15
 - C. Diligence. Have a great desire to LEARN and great diligence to PRACTICE what you have learned. 1 Tim 4:15, 16
 - D. Faithfulness. Get to know one another. Establish trust. 1 Cor 4:2; Prov 20:6; Eccl 5:4-6a
 - E. Modeling. Be a model for others to follow--1 Tim 4:12
 - F. Encouraging. Encourage others to be successful in all areas of life--Phil 2:3.4; Lk 22:24-26; Rom 12:3
 - G. Pace setting. Plan for the "long haul"--1 Cor 9:24-27
 - 4.2 Relationships with others.
 - A. Friendship requires effort.-- Prov 17:17; Jn 15:12-14.
 - B. Leadership focuses on serving.--Mark 10:43-45. A Christian leader is a servant. This is not our cultural pattern, but is Christ's model given to us.
 - Mutual submission is God's plan.--Eph 5:21; 1 Peter 5:5; and unity is the result of being joined together in one body --Eph 4:16
 - D. Spiritual authority comes as a result of working with and voluntarily under others. Notice how Titus is commissioned by Paul--Titus 1:5-- to act with authority --Titus 2:15. Also observe how Paul is subject to the Apostles--Acts 15:1,2; 16:4 and Gal 2:9,10. We recognize and submit to spiritual authority. It is not imposed.

HOMEWORK	: Memorize 2 Timothy 2:2	
	Find some of the characteristics of a disciple:	
	John 13:34,35	
	John 8:31	_
	Ephesians 6:18	_
	I Peter 3:15	
	John 15:8	_
	Mark 10:43-45	_
	Acts 1.8	

THE WHEEL ILLUSTRATION

- 1. Personal daily devotions.
 - 1.1 Christ's example--Mark 1:32-35
 - 1.2 Begin with 7 minutes a day:
 - --2 minutes pray, ask God's leading
 - --3 minutes read the Word
 - --2 minutes pray to put into practice

what you have learned

- 1.3 Needed: a time, a place, a plan and a Bible (a pen and a notebook)
- 2. The wheel illustration* (Shows the relationship of the themes of each STEP that follows in these Discipleship Encounter Outlines).
 - 2.1 CHRIST--the axle, the center of life--Phil 2:9-11
 - 2.2 HOLY SPIRIT--the hub--Eph 5:18; John 16:13,14; Luke 3:16
 - 2.3 The <u>VERTICAL SPOKES</u> (God speaks to us through his Word and we speak with God through prayer).

THE WORD--Psalm 119:9,11; Matt 4:4 PRAYER--Phil 4:6,7; John 15:7

2.4 The HORIZONTAL SPOKES (We reach out to Christians in fellowship and to non-Christians through our witness).

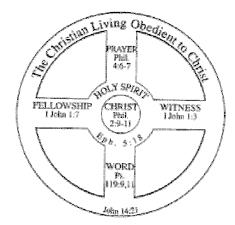
> FELLOWSHIP--I John 1:7 WITNESS -- I John 1:3

2.5 OBEDIENCE--John 14:21; Luke 6:46-49 - the tire or rim -- that which holds everything together.

HOMEWORK: Begin or continue a personal devotional time.

Memorize John 15:5 □ And the parts of the Wheel.

*Adapted from the Navigators' Wheel Illustr. Used by permission

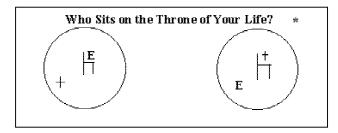


CHRIST-THE-CENTER THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST

- 1. The Bible speaks of Jesus as Lord*. He wants to be Lord of the life of each believer. The definition of the word **Lord** is: owner, chief, governor, slave owner, highest authority, king. This word indicates: position, complete control, greatest authority, master. Therefore, we need to respond to the question posed in **Luke 6:46.**
- 2. We have to decide to serve one lord or another--Luke 16:13.
- 3. Choose 2 or 3 areas which make it especially difficult for you to live under the new management of Jesus or to let Him be Lord of your life.
 - 3.1 Priorities--Matt 6:33
 - 3.2 Things--clothing, cars, etc. Luke 12:15
 - 3.3 Social standing--**Matt 20:26-28**
 - 3.4 Power--1 Peter 5:5,6
 - 3.5 Pride--Rom 12:3
 - 3.6 Family--Luke 14:26; Matt 10:37
 - 3.7 Escapism--drugs, alcohol, Eph 5:18
 - 3.8 Pleasure--Mark 4:19
 - 3.9 Egoism--Phil 2:3,4
 - 3.10 Money--Eccl 5:10,11; Psalm 62:10
 - 3.11 Sex--1 Cor 6:18-20; Matt 5:27-28
 - 3.12 Anxiety--Rom 8:28; Phil 4:6
 - 3.13 Good deeds--Rom 4:4,5; Eph 2:8-10
 - 3.14 Tithe--robbing God--Mal 3:8-10; 2 Cor 8:1-8, 9:6-8
 - 3.15 Fear--2 Tim 1:7; 1 John 4:4,18
 - 3.16 Thought life--Phil 4:8; Col 3:2
 - 3.17 Critical spirit--Matt 7:1-3
 - 3.18 Bitterness--Heb 12:14,15
 - 3.19 The tongue--James 3:2; Prov 26:20-22
 - 3.20 Envy--Prov 14:30; 1 Pet 2:1
 - 3.21 Bad temper--Prov 16:32; 2 Tim 1:7
 - 3.22 Irresponsibility--1 Cor 4:2; Matt 25:14-30
 - 3.23 Care of the body--1 Cor 6:19,20
 - 3.24 Lying--Lev 19:11; Eph 4:25
 - 3.25 Resentment--Prov 10:12; 1 Peter 3:9
 - 3.26 Forgiveness--Mark 11:25
 - 3.27 Other..(for example: racism, denying Christ, not accepting others, deceitfulness, cheating, exploitation of others, guilt, etc.)

^{*}In the New Testament the word **Savior** occurs only 24 times and the word **Lord** occurs over 600 times thus showing the importance of Jesus' lordship.

4. Choose with your mind and with your will to offer your whole life as a living sacrifice--Rom 12:1,2.



E=ego

- 4.1 Consider the idea of giving over all your rights to God. He always protects and takes care of what is His. Now there is no reason for arguments or bad attitudes towards others, because now you are no longer the owner of anything that they can harm.
- 4.2 Consider the idea of giving all your belongings over to God-Genesis 22:1-18
 - -What did Abraham offer to God?
 - -What did God do with this sacrifice?
 - -Can you trust God to do what is best with your life and possessions if you give them to Him?
- 4.3 Commit yourself to giving thanks to God whatever happens—I Thess 5:18; Eph 5:20. This instruction is for you to apply to your life, but not to give insensitively to people who are hurting.
- 4.4 Continue seeking instructions from Christ <u>each day</u>. The action is continual--Luke 9:23.
 - A. Deny yourself
 - B. Take up your cross each day
 - C. Follow Christ

HOMEWORK: Memorize Philippians 2:9-11

Read the booklet "Have You Made The Wonderful Discovery Of The Spirit-Filled Life?" http://www.ccci.org/spirit

^{*}This illustration of Christ or Self being on the Throne of your life is adapted from the above booklet. by Campus Crusade for Christ, Inc. 1966.

STEP FIVE -7-

THE HOLY SPIRIT

- 1. Every believer has the Holy Spirit
 - 1.1 Sealed with the Holy Spirit--Eph 1:13
 - 1.2 The Holy Spirit gives testimony to our spirit--Rom 8:16
- 2. Words of John the Baptist
 - 2.1 "He will baptize you with the Holy spirit and with fire."--Mt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16
 - 2.2 The fulfillment of the promise--Acts 1:5; 2:4
- 3. The teachings of Jesus
 - 3.1 The Father gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask -- Luke 11:9-13
 - 3.2 Symbols of the Holy Spirit: Streams of living water John 7:37-39; "like" a dove Mt 3:13-17; Wind Acts 2:2; Fire Acts 2:3.
 - 3.3 The role of the Holy Spirit
 - A. John 14:26
 - 1. Counselor or helper--sent by the Father in the name of Jesus Christ
 - 2. Teaches all things
 - 3. Helps us remember what Jesus said
 - B. John 15:26-16:15
 - 1. Counselor or helper--John 15:26
 - 2. Spirit of truth
 - 3. Bears witness to Christ
 - 4. Convinces the world of:--John 16:8
 - -Sin
 - -Righteousness
 - -Judgment
 - 5. Guides into all truth--John 16:13
 - -Speaks what he hears
 - 6. Declares things to come
 - 7. Glorifies Christ--John 16:14
 - C. Acts 1:1-9-Gives power to witness--Acts 1:8
 - D. Gives witness as we speak of Jesus--Rom 15:18,19; Heb 2:4
- 4. The disciples had the Holy Spirit before Pentecost--John 20:22 -- but were filled with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (see the next point).
- 5. The Bible speaks of being filled with the Spirit-
 - -Acts 1:8; Eph 5:18 There is a variety of

experiences. (Acts 2:1-4; 8:14-17; 9:17-18;

10:44-48; 19:1-6) Compare Acts 2:1-4 with

Acts 4:31-a continuous experience.

-8-

6. We are told to "Be filled with the Holy Spirit." Eph 5:18

7.	The F	e circle back to where we began (line 3.1) Lk 11:13 r will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask. So we must ask and faith. Gal 3:2-5			
8.	The Holy Spirit and people.				
	 The Holy Spirit must overflow and control our lives Eph 5:18 This control includes body, soul, and spirit 1 Thes 5:23: A. Our spirit - revived by the Holy Spirit Rom 8:16 B. Our body - physical part Rom 12:1, 1 Cor 9:27 C. Our soul - psychological and mental part Rom 12:2 				
	8.2	The Holy Spirit gives gifts to us depending on his purposes and designs for each of us. They are usually given for us to bless others. Rom 12:4-8, 1 Cor 12:1-11 & 27-31, Eph 4:11, and 1 Pet 4:10,11			
	8.3	We are involved in a spiritual conflict (2 Cor 10:3-5): A. Against the world—1 John 2:15-21, Jn 16:33 B. Against the flesh (human nature)—Gal 5:16-17; Rom 8:9,13 C. Against the devil—1 Pet 5:7-9; Eph 6:10-13			
	8.4	The Spirit must control us. We must walk in the SpiritGal 5:16,18,25. We begin this walk by faith and by: A. Receiving the fullness of the Holy Spirit by faith (7 above) B. Submitting to God Heb 12:9; Jas 4:7 Gal 2:20; Zec 1:3 C. Giving our worries and concerns to Him - 1 Pet. 5:7 D. Resisting the devil making him run from us Jas 4:7,8; Mt 16:23; Eph 4:27, 6:11 & 16; 1 Pet 5:8,9 and Rev 12:11 E. Bearing the fruit that comes from the Spirit - Gal 5:22,23 F. Crucifying the sinful nature's passions and desires - Gal 5:24 G. Fellowshipping with the Holy Spirit can be continual - 2 Cor 13:14			
9.	The H	oly Spirit indwells the church (groups of Christians); A. See 1 Cor 3:16; 2 Cor 6:16. where the <i>temple</i> is <i>you</i> (plural). B. The Spirit guides the church in unity of decision - Acts15:28 C. God indwells the church through the Spirit - Eph 2:22			
HOMEWORK:		RK: Memorize			
		Review the booklet Have You Made The Wonderful Discovery of the Spirit-Filled Life? http://www.greatcom.org/spirit/english			

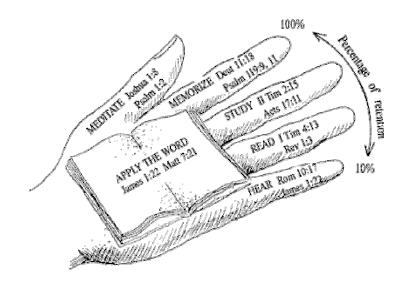
STEP SIX -9-

THE WORD OF GOD

- 1. Why do we use the Bible as our basis for the Christian life? -- 2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:20,21
- 2. For the Christian, the Bible is:
 - 2.1 The eternal and enduring word of God.
 - A. It has its source in God through the Holy Spirit -- 2 Pet 1:20,21
 - B. It stands forever -- 1 Pet 1:23-25
 - 2.2 Spiritual food -- Jer 15:16; Matt 4:4;
 - A. Our physical being needs food, our souls are nourished with studies, and our spirits require the nourishment provided by the word of God -- Heb 5:12-14.
 - B. The word (milk) is to be desired and craved -- 1 Pet: 1:25 2:2
 - 2.3 Our vital weapon -- **Eph 6: 12-17**
 - A. It was Jesus' defense against Satan -- Mt 4:4,7,10
 - B. It is the sword of the Spirit -- Eph 6:17
 - C. It works powerfully in human lives -- Heb 4:12
 - 2.4 Light for our way--Psalm 119:105
 - A. It shows us how to approach God:
 - 1. Through Jesus for salvation -- Jn 14:6
 - 2. Confidently through Jesus our high priest -- Heb 4:14;16
 - 3. In the name of Jesus when we pray -- Jn 14: 13,14
 - B. It shows us God's desires and purposes:
 - 1. The evangelistic mandate (Great Commission) -- Jn 3:16; Mt 28:18-20
 - 2. The cultural mandate care for all of creation -- **Gen 1:26** (see p. 27 for the implications of Gen 1:26.)
 - 3. The law of love -- Mt 5:43-47; Jn 13:34,35; 1 Cor 13:4-8
- 3. What the Bible does for the Christian:
 - 3.1 Discerns the thoughts and intentions of the heart -- Heb 4:12
 - 3.2 Protects from sin -- Psalm 119:11 (It is necessary to memorize the Scripture -- Deut 6:6; Prov 7:1-3)
 - 3.3 Gives wisdom -- Psalm 19:7; II Tim 3:15
 - 3.4 Gladdens the heart -- Psalm 19:8; Jer 15:16

STEP SIX -10

- 3. What the Bible does for the Christian (continued from last page):
 - 3.5 Serves "...for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living...." -- 2 Tim 3:16,17 (Good News Bible)
 - 3.6 Assures us of the following:
 - A. Forgiveness of sins -- 1 Jn 1:9; Acts 26:18
 - B. A new nature (life) -- 2 Cor 5:17; 2 Pet 1:4
 - C. The Lord's guidance -- Ps 32:8; Acts 16:6-10
 - D. The Lord's presence -- Mt 28:20
 - E. Victory over temptation -- 1 Cor 10:13
 - F. Provision of all our needs -- Jn 16:24; Phil 4:19
 - G. Eternal life -- 1 Jn 5:11,12; Jn 5:24
 - H. Jesus' second coming -- 1 Cor 15:52; 1 Thes 4:16,17
- 4. Five ways of growing in our knowledge of the Word of God so that we can apply it to daily living:*



*Illustration adapted from "The Navigators" Used by permission.

HOMEWORK:	Memorize the books of the Bible	
	Memorize Psalm 119:9,11	
	Memorize the Hand Illustration	

STEP SEVEN -11-

PRAYER

Prayer is talking with God, a two way conversation opening up to Him, and listening to Him. You can pray anywhere at any time.

- 1. Elements of prayer -- We can use the acronym "CATS"
 - 1.1 Confession -- 1 John 1:9; Ps 66:18; Prov 28:13
 - 1.2 <u>Adoration/praise</u> -- Psalm 86:12; Heb 13:15
 - 1.3 <u>Thanksgiving</u> -- Eph 5:20; 1 Thess 5:18; Phil 4:6,7 □
 - 1.4 Supplication (asking):
 - A. For others Intercession -- Col 4:12; Eph 6:18-19 (Not praying for other Christians is a sin -- 1 Sam 12:23)
 - B. For the Lord to send workers into His harvest field -- Mt 9:37
 - C. For ourselves petition -- Matt 6:11; 7:7,8.
- 2. Why pray?
 - 2.1 God commands it -- Luke 18:1-7; "Pray constantly"--1 Thess 5:17 and we need it -- Phil 4:6,7
 - 2.2 Christ's example--Mark 1:35
 "...went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed."
 - 2.3 Paul's example
 "Always praying"--Col 1:3; 1 Thess 3:10
 "Follow my example, just as I follow Christ's."--1 Cor 11:1
 - 2.4 Spiritual warfare. Through prayer we gain spiritual victory over principalities and powers--Eph 6:12,13,18
 - 2.5 To receive mercy and grace to help us -- Heb 4:14-16
- 3. What can hinder our prayers?
 - 3.1 Sin--Isaiah 59:1,2
 - 3.2 Doubt--James 1:6; Mark 11:24
 - 3.3 Our motives--James 4:3:
 - 3.4 Family relationships--1 Peter 3:7
 - 3.5 Unforgiveness--Mark 11:25,26; Matt 6:15
 - 3.6 Pride--1 Peter 5:5
 - 3.7 Spiritual powers, Satan--Eph 6:12, Dan 10:2,12-14.

	4. How to discover the riches of prayer.			prayer.		
4. 4. 4. 4. 4.		4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6 4.7 4.8	Ask according to the w Ask believingMatt 2	n our heartsJohn 15:7 5 att 6:33		
	5.	What	are the results of prayer	?		
		5.1 5.2 5.3 5.4 5.5 5.6 5.7 5.8	Revival2 Chron 7:14	:7 15 .braham Gen 18:16-33		
	6.	Collec	Collective or corporate prayerActs 2:42; 4:31; Mt 18:19-20			
HOMEWORK: Memorize Phil 4:6,7 Make a daily prayer list and use it. Begin reading the Psalms, as well as hymns and choruses, and make a list of the various names and descriptions of God for use in praise and prayer.						
	A. 1	John 5	5:14,15	1. Delayed answer "wait"		
	B. 2 Cor 12:7-9			2. Different answer		
	C. J	ohn 11	:1-44	3. Definite answer "yes"		
	D. A	Acts 3:	1-10	4. Step by step answer		
	Е. Г	Deut 7:2	22	5. Denied answer "no"		

(Verification of responses is on the bottom of page 13.)

OUR WITNESS

- 1. Ways of witnessing
 - 1.1 Your life--James 1:22; Col 4:5,6; 1 Peter 3:16 "What you are speaks so loudly I can't hear what you say." Emerson
 - 1.2 Your word--1 John 1:3; 1 Peter 3:15
 - A. Direct testimony/evangelism--for example the use of *The Four Spiritual Laws*-2 Tim 1:8
- B. Indirect testimony--share your own experience of the power of God in your life.
 - 1.3 Your concerned prayer for a friend's need or problem--Acts 28:8
- 2. Who is responsible for saving people? (Also see appendix pages 21,22)
 - 2.1 Jesus Christ--1 Tim 1:15
 - 2.2 We are ambassadors of Christ--2 Cor 5:19,20
 - 2.3 The Gospel--the power of God for salvation **Rom 1:16**; Define **gospel** in your own words--1 **Cor 15: 3,4**
- 3. An example of witnessing; Philip and the Ethiopian--Acts 8:26-40
 - 3.1 He communicated verbally he spoke Acts 8:35
 - 3.2 In the process he used the Scriptures also **Acts 8:35** The Plan of Salvation from the Bible will help us do the same. (this is a variation of the Roman Road that we have seen in Step One):

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

- A. All have sinned--Rom 3:23
- B. The wages of sin--Rom 6:23
- C. Christ died for us--Rom 5:8
- D. Salvation is a gift--Eph 2:8,9
- E. You have to receive it--Rev 3:20; John 1:12
- F. You must receive Him as Lord--Rom 10:9
- G. The assurance of salvation--1 John 5:11,12
- 3.3 He was prepared and knew the Scriptures--1 Peter 3:15,16

(Responses to exercise on bottom of page 12: A-3, B-5, C-1, D-2, E-4)

ny

- 4.1 What is a personal testimony? 1 John 1:3; Acts 4:20
- 4.2 Pauls testimony--Acts 26:4-23; 22:1-21 This testimony can be divided into three parts:
 - A. B.C. How life was **Before** knowing **Christ--Acts 26:4-11**
 - B. M.C. The Moment Paul came to know Christ--Acts 26:12-18
 - C. A.C. How life has been After knowing Christ--Acts 26:19-23
- 5. Christians living in unity -- a powerful witness--John 17:21,23; 1 Cor 12:20,25
- 6. The scope of our witness is seen in Jesus' last words known as the *Great Commission*--Mt 28:19,20. The importance of these can be seen when we compare them to the first words he spoke to his disciples--Mt 4:19. Remember his command to pray--Mt 9:37,38. This witness starts at home and extends outward in ever larger circles to include the whole world--Acts 1:8

HOMEWORK:	Memorize 1 John 1:3			
	Write your own personal testimony, using the three	parts		
	mentioned in section 4.2 as they apply			
	Memorize the Plan of Salvation in 3.2			
	Be able to explain the Bridge illustration (see p. 23)			

STEP NINE -15-

FELLOWSHIP

1. Fellowship is unity among the members of a group. It has to do with companionship, friendly association, a mutual sharing of an experience, activity or interest. Fellowship in a Christian context is one family living together under one leader, Christ. They all follow Him while they love one another, help one another, and learn from one another.

- 2. The basis of fellowship
 - 2.1 All people either have or need fellowship based on:
 - A. The desire to belong to something
 - B. Common interests
 - C. The need to feel important
 - D. The desire for fun
 - 2.2 Christian fellowship adds supernatural dimensions to relationships.
 - A. Is based on communion with the Father and Son 1 John 1:3
 - B. Means walking in the light--1 John 1:7
 - C. Is permanent because Jesus is always the same--Heb 13:8
 - D. We are members of one another **Rom 12:5**
- 3. The example of the early church
 - 3.1 Four things which they continually practiced--Acts 2:42
 - A. Learning from the apostles
 - B. Fellowship
 - C. Breaking of bread
 - D. Prayer
 - 3.2 "Of the same mind...in full accord" Phil 2:1,2. In your own words, explain what this means to you.
 - 3.3 The Christians loved one another--1 Thes 4:9,10; 2 Thes 1:3
- 4. Why fellowship is so important for Christians.
 - 4.1 In the church it provides:
 - A. Loving acceptance of one another--Phil 2:1-3
 - B. Loving and supporting relationships--Gal 5:6; 6:2
 - C. Mutual help--Eccl 4:9,10,12; Gal 6:10
 - D. Growing into maturity--Eph 4:13-16
 - E. Effectiveness in prayer--Matt 18:19,20
 - F. Exhortation and teaching--Col 3:16
 - G. Strengthening family relationships--Eph 5:21-6:4

- 4.2 In the world (i.e. among non-Christians) Christian fellowship
 - A. Shows that we are Jesus' disciples--John 13:34,35
 - B. Demonstrates our unity so that others will believe that God sent Jesus--John 17:21,23
 - C. Makes missionary and evangelistic work possible--Rom 10:14,15
- 5. The Body of Christ--Rom 12:1-8
 - 5.1 Responsibilities of each member towards him/herself--Rom 12:1-3
 - A. Present ourselves as living sacrifices--Rom 12:1
 - B. Be transformed--Rom 12:2
 - C. Don't think more highly of self than we ought--Rom 12:3
 - 5.2 Responsibilities of the members of the body toward each other
 - A. Love one another--Jn 13:34-35
 - B. Restore one another...carry each other's burdens--Gal 6:1-2
 C. Bear with and forgive one another--Col 3:13
 - D. Build up one another--1 Thes 5:11
 - E. Encourage to believe...protect from sin's deceitfulness--Heb 3:12-14
 - F. Spur one another on toward love and good deeds...encourage to hope--Heb 10:24-25
 - G. Confess sin to one another...pray for one another--James 5:16
 - 5.3 Characteristics of the Body itself--Rom 12:4-8
 - A. Many members--Rom 12:4
 - B. Being many members, it is one body--Rom 12:5; 1 Cor 12:20
 - C. Not all members have the same function--1 Cor 12:7-11
 - D. All are members of each other--Rom 12:5
 - E. If one member suffers, all suffer--1 Cor 12:26
- 6. Christians have a special relationship with God. They are:
 - 6.1. Children of God--Jn1:12 and God's friends--Jn15:15
 - 6.2. Heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ--Rom 8:17
 - 6.3. Members of God's household--Eph 2:19
 - 6.4. A family of believers--Gal 6:10
 - 6.5. Jesus' brothers and sisters--Heb 2:11-14

HOMEWORK:	Memorize 1 John 1:7	
	Read 1 Cor 12. From verses 11-31, what are the outs	standing
	characteristics of the body of Christ?	

STEP TEN -17-

THE OBEDIENT BELIEVER

- 1. The goal of life
 - 1.1 Be made in the image of Christ--Rom 8:29; I John 3:2
 - 1.2 Perfect (mature) in Christ--Col 1:28
 - 1.3 Fruit that remains--John 15:16
- 2. What is Christian obedience?
 - 2.1 Keeping the commandments of Christ--John 14:15
 - 2.2 Doing what He tells us--John 15:14
 - 2.3 Doing the will of the Father--Matt 7:21
 - 2.4 Following Biblical examples:
 - A. Christ--Phil 2:5-8
 - B. The apostles--I Cor 11:1-Paul
 - C. The heroes of the faith--Heb 12:1
 - 2.5 Loving God and your neighbor
 - A. The new commandment--love as He loves us--Jn 13:34,35
 - B. The two great commandments--Luke 10:27
 - 1. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind.
 - 2. Love your neighbor as yourself.
 - 2.6 Denying yourself--Luke 9:23
 - 2.7 Following the two mandates:
 - A. The evangelistic mandate--Mt 28:19-20
 - B. The cultural mandate (to take care of God's creation)--Gen 1:26, 28-30
- 3. Some things God promises those who obey Him.
 - 3.1 Blessings--Deut 28:1-14; Josh 1:8
 - 3.2 Persecution and suffering--2 Tim 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12-16
 - 3.3 Being a friend of God--John 15:14
 - 3.4 Being loved by God--John 14:21

- 4. Observations about obedience
 - 4.1 Obedience is better than religious rituals--I Sam 15:22; Isaiah 1:11-17
 - A. "Why do you call me Lord..." Luke 6:46
 - B. "No one can serve two masters..." Luke 16:13
 - 4.4 Obedience is from heart--Pr 4:23; Ps 119:10,11. So it is a matter of the will. In this moment, you can decide to obey Christ voluntarily. His promise is that he will give you the POWER to carry through--Phil 4:13.
 - 4.5 God helps the believer to be obedient. Phil 1:6; 2:13-the will and the power to obey; Matt 11:28-30.
 - 4.6 Obedience can lead to persecution and suffering--II Tim 3:12; I Peter 4:12-16; Abraham obeyed and suffered--Heb 11:8-10
- 5. We must be obedient all through life.
 - 5.1 He that thinks he is safe; watch out that he doesn't fall--I Cor 10:12.
 - 5.2 The importance of faithfulness--"When you make a promise to God, do not be slow in keeping it." Eccl 5:4,5
 - 5.3 Small things are very important—Matt 25:21; James 3:3-5; Song of Songs 2:15 (Note: It was the little foxes that could sneak in undetected and chew the bark off the grape vines and thus kill the plants. And so it is with us, little sins can sneak up and destroy us.)
 - 5.4 We must look at things from the perspective of eternity.
 - A. Time is going quickly, night is coming--John 9:4
 - B. Christ will return soon--I Thess 3:12,13. "Be irreproachable in the coming of Christ."

HOMEWORK: Memorize John 14:21 □

APPENDEX

PRACTICAL HELPS FOR DISCIPLESHIP

- 1 Start by contracting to meet with your potential disciple(s) for only two to four weeks. After that, you are free to continue if mutually agreed upon.
- 2 Decide where you will start Step One or the optional starting points on pages 21 or 23 are likely places to begin. Some however, will start with a particular topic e.g. prayer, or witness, depending on their particular situation. Be prepared ahead of time.
- 3. Begin each weekly encounter with prayer.
- 4. Have the materials on hand (outlines--"lessons," cards for verses, pamphlets, etc.)
- In general, go to meet them rather than wait for them to come to you. If there are several disciples, choose the home of the one who would have the most difficulty in coming.
- 6. Give out the outlines step by step -- a page at a time.
- 7. Have a system for notifying if someone is not able to attend.
- 8. Meet around a table for ease in writing and using the Bible.
- 9. Use an hour to an hour and a half of time.
- 10. Share group leadership. Let others talk.
- 11. Women meet with women and men with men.
- 12. If there are two or more persons in the group and one misses a discipleship encounter, have one of the others in the group catch them up.
- 13. Don't take anything for granted. That is why the outlines begin with the Miniature Plan of Salvation -- Rev. 3:20, John 1:12, and Romans 10:9.
- 14. Don't try to force an issue; allow the Holy Spirit to act.
- 15. Pace yourself and the group. It is not necessary to read all the biblical passages listed. Need and time must be taken into account. Take time to allow the person(s) to understand the materials, not only the theoretical parts, but also their practical applications to life.
- 16. Develop a personal relationship, not just as student to teacher, but as friends. Plan to do some social activities together.
- 17. Talk about problems as they come up. Pray with your disciple(s) and direct them towards a practical solution. If there are critical problems at the moment, first handle them and then continue with the encounter. Don't hesitate to ask for help from a Christian whom you respect.

- 18. Share openly with them your own spiritual needs and personal problems (we all have them).
- 19. Review the materials once in awhile. Have the disciple present or review the material with you or better yet, with someone else.
- 20. Remember that "information" is necessary, but the goal is "formation" of disciples for the Lord.
- 21. Time with the disciples may include:
 - 21.1 Personal application from the Word (you share.)
 - 21.2 Check-up (homework, memorization, etc.)
 - 21.3 Handle problems as they arise.
 - 21.4 Prayer.
 - 21.5 Continue with the outline.
- 22. Have the disciples in the group write the memory verse on their cards as you dictate them.
- 23. Before leaving the Encounter, plan for the next one by making notes on the Progress Sheet or on your own "lesson plan".
- 24. Remember, being involved in ministry gives a sense of direction to everyone involved in discipleship
- 25. Never allow your discipling relationships to fizzle out. Always have closure. Celebrate what has been accomplished.

QUESTIONS COMMONLY ASKED ABOUT DISCIPLESHIP:

- Q.- Am I doing it right? After four months I'm only on Step #4. It seems like we spend so much time talking about "other things."
- A.- You are right on target. There is no given time frame. Many people will take a year. Some more time and others less. You would not touch on the "other things" if you did not have the outlines in front of you as your "pretext" for getting together. You are all growing!
- Q.- Now that we are discipling people in the church, should we organize a committee to keep it going?
- A.- Discipleship depends on vision and relationships. Selecting a promoter to encourage people and to organize an annual banquet or semi-annual half-day retreat and to lift up the discipleship vision is a good idea. Periodic words of encouragement in the weekly bulletin are always appropriate and help create an ongoing interest in discipleship for the whole church. This requires little organization.

THE BIBLE, GOD, and PEOPLE

- 1. The Bible our authority for faith, doctrine, and conduct.
 - 1.1 The origin of the Bible (2 Tim 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21)
 - 1.2 Christ used the Scriptures the Old Testament (Lk.24:27)
- 2. The Bible teaches that God is:
 - 2.1 The Creator (**Gen. 1:1**; **Acts 17:24-31**)
 - 2.2 The Provider (Ps. 55:22; Jn 16:24)
 - 2.3 The Alpha and the Omega (**Rev 1:8**; **21:6**; **22:13**)
 - 2.4 The "I Am" (Ex. 3:14; Jn 8:58)
 - 2.5 The God of eternal love (**Jeremiah 31:3**)
 - 2.6 The God of forgiveness, reconciliation (Nehemiah 9:17; Jeremiah 31:33,34)
 - 2.7 A Spirit (Jn. 4:24; 2 Cor. 3:17)
 - 2.8 A Trinity (Genesis 1:26,27; Matt. 28:19; Jn. 8:58; 1 Pet.1:2; 2 Pet.1:1; Acts 5:3-5; 2 Cor.3:17 and 13:14)
 - 2.9 Just (**Deut. 32:4**)
- 3. The Bible teaches that I am:
 - 3.1 A unique creation of God (Psalm 139:13-16)
 - 3.2 Lost by my own choice (Isaiah 53:6)
 - 3.3 Separated from God (Isaiah 59:2)
 - 3.4 An individual with freedom of choice (Romans 6:23)
- 4. **God's original plan for humankind.** (Figure #1)
 - 4.1 What did God have in mind when he created humans? (**Genesis** 1:26,27)
 - 4.2 Did God's plan for people change when sin entered into their lives? (Romans 8:29)

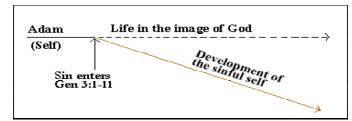
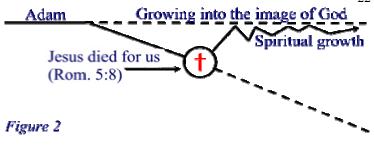


Figure # 1

5 How God brings hope to people - His plan still intact. (Figure #2)

- 5.1 If God has not changed His plan for people, even after the fall, what change needs to take place so that humankind can participate in that plan (John 1:12,13; Col. 2:13; Col. 3:9,10)? There has to be a change within people themselves. [This is a change from being lost to becoming a follower of Christ.]
- 5.2 How people may become alive in Christ: Rev. 3:20; Jn. 1:12; & Rom. 10:9



6. God's plan for followers of Jesus Christ.

- 6.1 It always has been and will be God's plan that we be conformed to the image of Jesus, His Son. (Rom. 8:29; Gal. 4:19; James 1:18; I Jn. 3:2)
- 6.2 How we may participate in this process.
 - A. Every person bears the image of our father, Adam, but is able to receive the image of the "man from heaven" which is God's plan. (1 Cor.15:49)
 - B. This is an ongoing transformation if we keep our focus on Christ. (2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 8:29)
 - C. What will we finally be like in the future? (I Jn. 3:2)

7. Two ways in which salvation may be understood.

- 7.1. One very common but un-biblical way is to see our salvation as simply an escape from an unpleasant end (hell).
 - B. Does God exist just for people's good or do people exist for God? (Col. 1:15,16; Eph.1:5-6,12)
- 7.2 The biblical understanding of salvation is seen in our relationship with Christ there is an interchange of life (**Gal.2:20**) which:
 - A. -Produces in the Christian the desire to reflect the image of God (Rom. 8:8,9; Phil. 2:13-15; 2 Cor. 5:17).
 - B. -Produces the desire to grow & mature (Rom. 8:9-14; Gal.4:19).
 - C. Helps the Christian handle the difficulties of life (**Phil. 4:12-13**).
 - D. Thrusts us out to do good works (Eph. 2:10; Titus 3:8).

8. Understanding Christian maturity.

- 8.1 What did Paul have in mind when he discipled Timothy? (2 Tim 2:2)
- 8.2 Can a person grow in Christ without Discipleship? (I Pet 2:2)
- 8.3 How are we benefited from discipleship? (**Rom. 1:11,12**)
- 8.4 What does it mean to grow or to mature as a Christian? (**Eph. 4:13**)
- 8.5 Some goals for the Christian:
 - A. Become like Christ Himself (Rom.8:29, 2Cor 3:18)
 - B. Be faithful (1 Cor. 4:2)
- 8.6 Who is our model? (**Eph.4:13**)

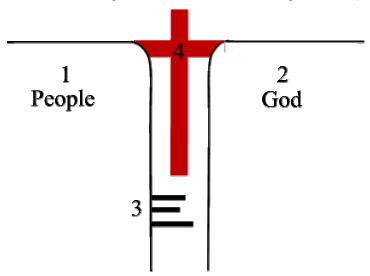
THE BRIDGE ILLUSTRATION

God created people so he could have a personal and direct relationship with them. This relationship was broken because of sin. Now there is a separation between people and God.

- 1. The actual situation of the human being.
 - 1.1 All have sinned--Rom. 3:23
 - 1.2 The wages of sin--Rom. 6:23
 - 1.3 There will be a judgment--Heb. 9:27
- 2. God wants to have a good relationship with every person.
 - 2.1 God loved us so much that He gave us his only Son--John 3:16
 - 2.2 He wants to give us life to the full--John 10:10
 - 2.3 He loves us even though we don't deserve his love--Rom. 5:8
- 3. People are trying to reach for God through religion, philosophy, good deeds, pleasures, etc. These are represented by the partial bridges below. **Eph 2:8,9**; **Prov. 14:12**
- 4. God has provided us with the only way to Himself -- through Jesus Christ who died on the cross for our sins--John 14:6; 1 Pet. 3:18
- 5. We must received Christ as our Lord & Savior--Rev. 3:20; John 1:12; Rom 10:9

Ask if there is something that would keep the person from receiving Christ and wait for an answer. If he/she says "no," then invite the person to pray to receive Christ. The person may pray on his/her own or repeat a prayer after you. Sometimes you may give the person the "homework assignment" of considering what you have shown him/her. Assure them you would be interested in knowing where they come out in their thinking. After they invite Jesus Christ into their life you will want to use **Step One** to help them start growing

Without writing in the numbers, you draw this **Bridge Illustration** as you talk. (The numbers refer to the points listed above. *Practice this presentation*).



PROGRESS SHEET (For the discipler)

Name o	f disciple(s): 1		2	3	
Optiona	l starting point	from p. 21: The	Bible, God &	z People	
page 21	1 / _* 2	3 4	5 page 22 6 Homew	7 8 vork: Rom 8:29	**
Step O	ne -The Miniat	ure Plan of Salva	tion and the Fo	our Assurances	
page 1	1 2 3	Homework: Rev.3:20 John 1:12 Rom.10:9		1 Jn.5:11-12 1 Cor.10:13 1 Jn.1:9 John 16:24	
Step Tv	vo - The Basis	of Discipleship			
page 2	1.1 1.2 1.3 pa	2 3 age 3 4	4.1 4.2	2 Tim 2:2 Characteristics	
Step Tl	ree - The Whe	eel Illustration			
page 4	1 2		Jn	votional Time 15:5 e Wheel	
Step Four - The Lordship of Christ (Christ the Center) (Is your disciple praying ← for others to disciple?)					
page 5	1 2 3	page 6 4 4.1 4.2	4.3 4.4	Phil 2:9-11 Read Booklet	
*Your handwritten check mark (✓) reminds you how far you have advanced. **The □□ indicates homework. Check off the first □ when an assignment is given and the second □ when it is completed. The ← means "please note!" [Continued →]					

Step Five - The Holy Spirit						
page 7	1 2 3 4	page 8	5 6 7 8.1	8.2 8.3 8.4 Re	Eph 5:18 Rom 8:16 view Booklet	
List the no			e(s) want to disciple:			⇔
Step Si	x - The Wor	d of God		, ,	es discipling yet?	\(\rightarrow
page 9	1 2.1 2.2		2.3page 10	3.5 3.6 4	Bks of Bib. Ps 119:9,11	
Step Se	even - Prayer		e to talk about your d			\(\rightarrow \)
page 11	1 2 3	_	tting together for pray 4 5 6	Phil 4 Praye Prais Exerc	4:6-7 er list e list	
Step Ei	ght - Witne	SS	(Encourage your dis	ciples' discipl	ing activities).	\(\rightarrow
page 13	1.1 1.2 1.3 2	page 14	3 4 5 6 pa	Writt Plan	en 1:3 sen testimony of Salvation ge Illustration	
Step Ni	ine - Fellows	ship	(Pray about your dis	sciples' discipl	ing activities).	\(\begin{array}{c} \\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
page 15	1 2 3 4	page 16	4.2 5.1 5.2 5.3	Char	n 1:7 acteristic of th in 1 Cor 12	□□ e □□
Step Te	en - The Obe	edient Be	eliever (Talk about	your disciples	s' discipling).	\(\rightarrow\)
page 17	1 2 3	page 18	4 5	John	14:21	

PRAYER LIST FOR YOUR DISCIPLESHIP ENCOUNTER

Prayer requests	Answered prayer	Date

STEWARDSHIP IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

- 1. Stewardship's **whole-life** implications (or being responsable servants of God) mean giving to God our:
 - 1.1 **TRUSTS** God has given us everything we have--1 Cor 4:7, 10:26; Ps. 24:1; 115:16; Deut. 26:11
 - 1.2 TIME We determine how we will use our time--Eph 5:15-16
 - 1.3 **TALENTS** Our abilities and spiritual gifts come from God and are to be used for others--1 Cor 12:7
 - 1.4 **THANKSGIVING** Our response to God when we enter his presence is one of thanksgiving--**Ps 95:2**
 - 1.5 TRASH We are to exercise "dominion over the earth" (Gen 1:26) and thus are responsible for our wastes--Ps 24:1
 - 1.6 **TEAMWORK** We are to work together because we belong to each other as members of one family--**Eph 2:19**
 - 1.7 TITHES We have been chosen to manage 100% of the resources God has entrusted to us. Dedicating 10% (a tithe) to the Owner who has given his son for us seems like a little thing. Even adding an offering beyond the tithe makes a lot of sense. Mal 3:10 gives us a good starting point for giving--1 Chron 29:14
 - 1.8 **TESTIMONIES** Our stories of God's grace and faithfulness help others realize that God is personally interested in them--1 Cor 4:1
- 2. Stewardship's true tests:
 - 2.1 Excel in the grace of giving--2 Cor 8:7-8
 - 2.2 Giving according to what we earn -1 Cor 16:2

For those whose income is not from a wage or salary they may give the produce from a tenth of an acreage or the income from the sale of a tenth of the livestock etc.

- A. How we should give:
 - 1. Regularly in the local church--1 Cor 16:1-2
 - 2. Cheerfully--2 Cor 9:7
 - 3. It is recommended for those who want to give to special projects that they do so with an *offering* beyond the tithe to the local body of Christians.
- B. The results of giving 2 Cor 9:6-15:
 - 1. You will have your needs met--vs. 8
 - 2. You will be enabled to be generous--vs. 11
 - 3. Thanksgiving will be given to God--vs. 11 & 12
 - 4. The needs of God's people will be met--vs. 12
 - 5. God will be praised or glorified--vs. 13

Homework: Memorize 2 Cor 9:7 □

MEMORY VERSES LEARNED

STEP ONE The Miniature Plan Rev 3:20 of Salvation John 1:12

Rom 10:9

The Four Assurances I John 5:11,12

I Cor 10:13 I John 1:9 John 16:24

STEP TWO Discipleship II Tim 2:2

STEP THREE The Wheel John 15:5

STEP FOUR The Lordship of Christ Phil 2:9-11

STEP FIVE The Holy Spirit Eph 5:18

Rom 8:16

STEP SIX The Word Books of the Bible

Psalm 119:9,11

STEP SEVEN Prayer Phil 4:6,7

STEP EIGHT Witness I John 1:3

The Plan of Salvation Rom 3:23 Rev 3:20

Rom 6:23 John 1:12 Rom 5:8 Rom 10:9 Eph 2:8-10 I Jn 5:11,12

STEP NINE Fellowship I John 1:7

STEP TEN Christian Obedience John 14:21

OTHER THEMES

WITH MEMORY VERSES:

The Bible, God & People Rom 8:29

Stewardship 2 Cor 9:7

The Navigators'

NEW TOPICAL MEMORY SYSTEM

A. Live the New Life

Christ the Center	II Cor 5:17	Gal 2:20
Obedience to Christ	Rom 12:1	John 14:21
The Word	II Tim 3:16	Josh 1:8
Prayer	John 15:7	Phil 4:6,7
Fellowship	Matt 18:20	Heb 10:24,25
Witnessing	Matt 4:19	Rom 1:16

B. Proclaim Christ

All Have Sinned	Rom 3:23	Isa 53:6
Sin's Penalty	Rom 6:23	Heb 9:27
Christ Paid the Penalty	Rom 5:8	I Pet 3:18
Salvation Not by Works	Eph 2:8,9	Titus 3:5
Must Receive Christ	John 1:12	Rev 3:20
Assurance of	I John 5:13	John 5:24

C. Rely on God's Resources

His Spirit	I Cor 3:16	I Cor 2:12
His Strength	Isaiah 41:10	Phil 4:13
His Faithfulness	Lam 3:22,23	Num 23:19
His Peace	Isaiah 26:3	I Pet 5:7
His Provision	Rom 8:32	Phil 4:19
His Help in Temptation	Heb 2:18	Ps 119:9,11

D. Be Christ's Disciple

Be Steadfast I Cor 15:58 Heb 12:3 Serve Others Mark 10:45 II Cor 4:5 Give Generously Prov. 3:9,10 II Cor 9:6,7	Serve Others Give Generously	Mark 10:45 Prov. 3:9,10	II Cor 4:5
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E. Grow in Christ-likeness

Love	John 13:34,35	I John 3:18
Humility	Phil 2:3,4	I Pet 5:5,6
Purity	Eph 5:3	I Pet 2:11
Honesty	Lev. 19:11	Acts 24:16
Faith	Heb 11:6	Rom 4:20,21
Good Works	Gal 6:9,10	Matt 5:16

Now that you have finished the <u>Encounter Outlines</u> you can strengthen your grip on the Scriptures by doing STS chapter studies. STS stands for **S**tudy **T**he **S**criptures.

STUDY THE SCRIPTURES BIBLE STUDY

The STS Bible study is a suggested outline to follow for individual preparation of a Bible study--chapter by chapter and week by week. Start these after the completion of the Encounter Outlines.

We suggest doing these studies in small groups with several of your disciples if possible. Meeting time should be about an hour to an hour and half. Give the leadership of the study to a different person each time you meet. Many have found that beginning this type of study in a the short pastoral epistle such as Second Timothy is good because a short book with short chapters provides comfortable "bite size" portions for getting started. With concentration the preparation can be done in about one hour. The instructions are simple.

- 1. OUTLINE OR SUMMARY (of the assigned chapter for the week). Some prefer to outline the chapter and others are more at home writing a summary. The summary should be limited to an average of 5 words per verse. In both cases write the verse numbers in the left-hand margin for easy referencing later in the group study. The back page provides extra space.
- 2. TITLE. By the time you have finished outlining or summarizing the chapter you will be able to write your own original title for it.
- 3. PARALLEL or CONTRASTING PASSAGES. In this section you are stretched. The object is to find as many cross-references (parallel of contrasting passages) as possible without using margin notes or any kind of study help. Because this is difficult in the beginning it is best to start by limiting the time spent to 15 minutes. The process of turning the pages of your Bible and searching for something that you barely remember is a great learning process.
- PROBLEMS. State either real problems (things you do not understand) or potential problems (things that a new Christian might not understand).
 Write the verse numbers in the left-hand margin. The person without any problems will answer the others' questions in the study.
- 5. PERSONAL APPLICATION. This is the single most important part of the STS study and should reflect how the Lord speaks to you **personally** as you search His Word. It reflects you, your life, your needs, your context and God's encouragement, direction, comfort, and call to follow Him.

STUDY THE SCRIPTURES

Your Na	ame:	Date:
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nestions to help your focus: Which verse(s) have spoken to you during your study and		
meditation? How do they speak to you? Do they encourage? bring hope? correct'		
challenge? instruct? guide? comfort? Be specific. This is for you, not for others,		
though you may want to share this with others and help them learn how the Lord		
speaks and guides us through His word.		

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