

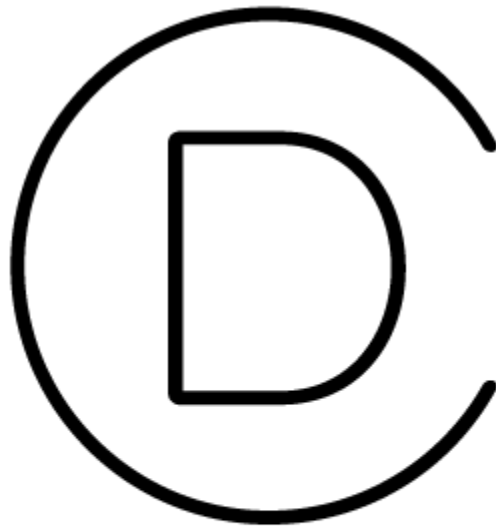
# Philosophy Of Discipleship

## Living Faith Disciple Conference

Oakland Heights Baptist Church

Cartersville, Georgia

March 21-24



Disciple  
CONF

*Student Edition*



## ***Section I - Spiritual reproduction through multiplication***

### **I. God's mission is to \_\_\_\_\_ His Kingdom - Isaiah 9:6-7**

- A. God's Kingdom will \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. God's Kingdom will \_\_\_\_\_ cease.
- C. God's zeal will \_\_\_\_\_ this takes place.

### **II. God's plan for man is \_\_\_\_\_ – Genesis 1:26-28**

- A. The very \_\_\_\_\_ words God ever spoke to man: "Be fruitful, and multiply and replenish the earth...."
- B. The commandment is:
  - 1. "Be fruitful" Bear fruit; produce \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. "and multiply" \_\_\_\_\_ that fruit.
  - 3. "and replenish the earth" Reach the entire \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. God has never \_\_\_\_\_ that plan!

### **III. God's \_\_\_\_\_ for Noah and the nation of Israel through Abraham , Isaac, and Jacob**

- A. Noah - **Genesis 9:1**
- B. Abraham - **Genesis 12:3, 22:17, 1 Corinthians 15:41-45**
- C. Isaac – **Genesis 26:4**
- D. Jacob – **Genesis 28:3, Psalms 110:1**

### **IV. Israel brought forth the Lord Jesus Christ**

- A. Two purposes of Christ's first coming
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_ for sin on the cross. **Romans 5:11**

- a. Restore in man the \_\_\_\_\_ image of God.  
**Colossians 3:10, Hebrews 1:2-3**
  - b. Jesus said, “it is finished” **John 19:30**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 12 disciples to carry his gospel to the entire world.
    - a. Training the disciples was the purpose of Jesus’ public ministry.
    - b. Jesus said, “I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.” **John 17:4**
    - c. The work Jesus “finished” was not his atonement but his work of making disciples.
    - d. It took Jesus 3-1/2 years to disciple the twelve.
- B. The disciples were \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill the “Great Commission”  
**Matthew 28:18-20**
1. Adam’s commission is \_\_\_\_\_ in the great commission.
    - a. Be \_\_\_\_\_ – Go, teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ – Teaching (discipling) them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_ the Earth – We are to go to all nations; unto the end of the world.
  2. We are to \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually, and Adam was to reproduce physically.
    - a. It is our responsibility to restore to man the image of Christ lost by Adam’s sin in the garden.
    - b. Adam died spiritually first then his physical death followed. **Genesis 2:17**
    - c. We are redeemed spiritually first then our physical body will be redeemed at the resurrection. **1 Corinthians 15:42-58, 1 Thessalonians 5:23**
  3. Upon receiving the Holy Ghost in Acts 2, the disciples were \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill the great commission.

V. The five primary \_\_\_\_\_ of the “Great Commission”

A. Evangelism

1. Bearing spiritual fruit by \_\_\_\_\_ souls to Christ.  
**Colossians 1:13-14, Proverbs 11:30, Luke 5:9-10**
2. Winning the lost is imperative. We must \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves. Also see Ephesians 2:1-6
3. Object of \_\_\_\_\_: Win people, baptize them, and place them in a local church where they can be discipled.  
Also see 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

B. \_\_\_\_\_ of local New Testament Churches

God’s plan for this age is \_\_\_\_\_ in and through the local New Testament Church. **Ephesians 4:11-16**

1. The Church is Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_. (Ref lesson 8 from D1.)
2. Establishing churches is the \_\_\_\_\_ that God uses to fulfill His work.

Word = \_\_\_\_\_, Holy Spirit = \_\_\_\_\_, Church = \_\_\_\_\_

C. Edify (build) saints

1. Each local church is responsible to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (edify) Christians in the faith. **Ephesians 4:11-16, Romans 14:19, 1 Thessalonians 5:11**
2. God’s will is for every saint to be \_\_\_\_\_ to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ. **Romans 8:29**
3. The goal of discipleship is \_\_\_\_\_ in **Colossians 1:27-28**
4. The purpose of the church is to \_\_\_\_\_ the saints.  
**Ephesians 4:11-16**
5. The word “Disciple” (29) and the word “disciples” (243) appears **272 times in the gospels and Acts**. The word “disciple” only appears once in the whole of the bible outside of the gospels and Acts and it is Isaiah 8:16 where it prophesies of the disciples in the New Testament who kept the word of God. (John 4:23)

6. Disciple means a follower or one who \_\_\_\_\_.
  7. "Disciple" is replaced by "Saints" through this process. "Saints" appears 46 times in the Pauline epistles.
  8. Discipleship is a \_\_\_\_\_ process. **2 Timothy 2:2**
  9. The object of discipleship is to be more like \_\_\_\_\_ every day.
- D. **Equip** disciples to \_\_\_\_\_
1. Spiritual saints will \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual fruit to replace them in ministry.
    - a. Jesus left the twelve disciples
    - b. Paul had Timothy, Titus, Silus, Silvanus, Luke etc.
  2. As we mature, we should naturally \_\_\_\_\_ disciples to replace us in ministry. **2 Timothy 2:2**
  3. God's ultimate purpose for man is to \_\_\_\_\_ the lost image of Adam.
  4. Colossians 1:25-29; Colossians 3:10; Romans 8:28-29; Ephesians 4:10-13; Hebrews 1:3 Luke 6:40, John 1:12
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ God's Glory **Ecclesiastes 12:13**
1. The purpose of our \_\_\_\_\_ is to glorify God.  
**1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 1 Corinthians 10:31**
  2. If God has not been glorified, \_\_\_\_\_ has been accomplished.
  3. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; 1 Timothy 5:24-25; Romans 11:33-36; Ephesians 1:14; Romans 16:27; Ephesians 3:20-21; 2 Corinthians 1:20, 2 Corinthians 4:15; Colossians 1:18; Isaiah 43:21
- VI. **The five primary goals of the "Great Commission" can be illustrated by the example of \_\_\_\_\_ children**
- A. **Evangelism** – Bearing fruit through the \_\_\_\_\_ birth. Physical babies are born just as spiritual babies must be born again.

- B. **Establishment** of local \_\_\_\_\_ Testament churches. – Babies are brought home and placed within the family unit.
- C. **Edify** (build) saints – teaching and \_\_\_\_\_ is required for new converts (or converts who have never been taught and trained) just as a child must be taught basic principles as they grow.
- D. **Equip** disciples to reproduce – Children grow to manifest the \_\_\_\_\_ of their father. They reflect the thoughts and actions of their father just as a Christian is to reflect the image of God to our lost and dying world.
- E. **Exalt** God's Glory - **Proverbs 17:6** – “Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.” **Proverbs 10:1, 15:20, 23:24-25, 29:3**

**VII. The importance of \_\_\_\_\_ in relation to these 5 goals.**

1. Discipleship forms the \_\_\_\_\_ between the first two goals which can be measured and the last three goals which cannot be measured.
2. A pre-occupation with \_\_\_\_\_ results in no discipleship.
3. Most churches are monuments to man's ability. Unless discipleship occurs, God cannot be glorified through us.
4. We want to measure success by \_\_\_\_\_ lives.
5. Discipleship provides people with all the tools necessary to carry out their ministry and bring glory to God.
6. If discipleship is not accomplished in the life of an individual, we will only produce “\_\_\_\_\_” Christians.
7. Jesus' plan lasted only 3½ years and it was an ordered plan. Discipleship will form the basis for spiritual growth.
8. Example: The first 4-5 years of a child's life forms his entire personality and direction for his entire life

**VIII. The \_\_\_\_\_ of discipleship among the other four vitally important goals**

- A. Discipleship is the \_\_\_\_\_ between the first two goals which can be measured, and the last two goals which cannot be measured.
  1. Evangelism can be measured by counting the number of \_\_\_\_\_ saved.

2. Establishment of local New Testament churches can be measured by counting the number of \_\_\_\_\_ and those who attend services.
  3. Edify (build) saints – This is hard work both physically and spiritually! Many churches focus on \_\_\_\_\_ results; therefore the spiritual wellbeing of the family is not tended to.
  4. Equip disciples to reproduce – Because the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of individual Christians cannot be measured numerically it is often ignored as a priority. Many churches focus on evangelism and membership as “growth” but fail to deal with the raising of the fruit God has blessed them with.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ and Establishing members and local churches is very important but biblical New Testament Christianity cannot stop there, any more than family life stops the day you bring home a baby.

## IX. Hindrances

- A. There are five \_\_\_\_\_ to the ministry of discipleship.
- Divisions between the discipler and the disciple
  - Intellectual arguments
  - The Charismatic Movement
  - Legalism
  - Ceremony
1. Divisions between the discipler and the disciple.
    - a. We are \_\_\_\_\_ together.
    - b. The division between “clergy” and “laity” is **not proper**.
    - c. Historically, this division began with the death of the apostles. God \_\_\_\_\_ this doctrine - Doctrine of the Nicolaitans. Revelation 2:6-15.
    - d. How to overcome this doctrine:
      - 1 Corinthians 3:3-10 team concept
      - 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 God uses the weak and base things.



- Psalms 40:1-2 never forget the pit from which you came also.

## 2. \_\_\_\_\_ arguments

- Skeptics will \_\_\_\_\_ attack the truth because they refuse to believe it. Dishonest people are everywhere.
- Many times this is manifested through: \_\_\_\_\_ issues. Ex. \_\_\_\_\_
- Christian leaders are tempted to “\_\_\_\_\_ the faith.” The word of God stands on it’s own.
- How to \_\_\_\_\_ the hindrance of intellectual arguments:
  - Stick to the \_\_\_\_\_ and not tradition.  
**Colossians 2:8**
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ **1 Corinthians 2:2-5**
  - Keep it \_\_\_\_\_ **2 Corinthians 11:3**
  - Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ clean **1 Peter 2:15**
  - Let your \_\_\_\_\_ speak for you **Matthew 7:20, 2 Corinthians 3:1-3**
  - Avoid \_\_\_\_\_ **2 Timothy 2:23, Titus 3:9-11, 1 Timothy 6:3-5, 1 Timothy 6:20**
  - Realize that God does not need \_\_\_\_\_ to defend Him

## 3. The Charismatic Movement

- The Charismatics place special emphasis on the book of \_\_\_\_\_ for church doctrine. They base ministries on specific actions and situations of the apostles rather than the underlying spiritual principles.
- Charismatics place \_\_\_\_\_ over Bible doctrine.
- The Charismatic movement hinders \_\_\_\_\_ because it is not doctrinally sound and is based on emotion rather than truth.

d. The Charismatic movement cannot exist without daily, visible \_\_\_\_\_; therefore, true biblical discipleship will not work in this movement.

e. How to \_\_\_\_\_: **1 Corinthians 2:12-16**

#### 4. Legalism

a. Legalism is a system which establishes rules or tradition for \_\_\_\_\_. Legalism exalts the authority of leaders over the word of God.

b. Under legalism, people become disciples of \_\_\_\_\_ rather than Jesus Christ. **Galatians 5:13, James 2:8**

c. How to overcome this hindrance:

- Understand what \_\_\_\_\_ did regarding the law.

He perfectly fulfilled it. Matthew 5:17-18

He took it to the cross. Colossians 2:14-15

We fulfill it in Him. Romans 10:1-4

- Keep the book your \_\_\_\_\_ and not tradition  
Mark 7:1-13

#### 5. Ceremony

a. Ceremony involves the establishment of a “priesthood” to direct others in “worship.”

b. Ceremony can be manifested in our own lives when we place the \_\_\_\_\_ for our growth on someone else.

c. Under ceremony, discipleship stops because your \_\_\_\_\_ is someone else’s responsibility.

d. Ceremony firmly \_\_\_\_\_ the “clergy” and “laity” separation.

e. How to overcome:

- The priesthood of believers 1Peter 2:9-10; Revelation 1:6

Don't run to the \_\_\_\_\_, run to the \_\_\_\_\_.  
Hebrews 4:16

- Realize Christ is your only mediator.
- \_\_\_\_\_ are His representatives in this church age. 1John 4:17; 2Corinthians 5:17-21

**1Timothy 2:5** *For [there is] one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;*

**X. Biblical discipleship produces \_\_\_\_\_ growth through multiplication**

**A. The ministry of the apostle Paul**

1. This process is the \_\_\_\_\_ fulfillment of **2 Timothy 2:2**.
  - Ephesus – **Acts 20:17-38**
  - Corinth – **Acts 18:1-11**
2. Paul commissioned Timothy and Titus to ordain \_\_\_\_\_ for the purpose of multiplying disciples. **Titus 1:5, 1 Timothy 3:1**
3. His work was carried out long after he was gone - in Antioch, Corinth, Ephesus, etc. **Acts 20:17-38**

**B. The ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ**

1. The “Great Commission” accomplished through Jesus’ training of the twelve.
  - a. Jesus started with a core group of **12 diverse men**.
  - b. As the 12 grew, Jesus selected **70 more** and used the 12 to help train the 70. This fueled more growth in the 12.
  - c. The nucleus had grown to **120 by Pentecost. Acts 1:15**
  - d. **3,000** were saved at Pentecost.
  - e. Membership of **5,000** men by **Acts 4:4**.
  - f. **The world** turned upside down within 25 years! **Acts 17:6**

2. All of Asia \_\_\_\_\_ the word without television, radio, telephones, airplanes, cars, fax machines, computers or the internet.  
**Acts 19:10**
  3. Addition vs. \_\_\_\_\_. **Acts 2:41,47, Acts 6:1,7**
- C. The “Great Commission” is not \_\_\_\_\_ to one church.
1. Any local church or group of local churches can \_\_\_\_\_ the “Great Commission”.
  2. It is critical that every \_\_\_\_\_ understands his responsibility to be involved in ministry. **1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Ephesians 4:11-16**

## ***Section II - The Biblical Results of Discipleship***

### **I. Biblical Ministry**

A. Biblical \_\_\_\_\_ of ministry:

1. The Word of God. ***John 8:31***

2. The souls of men. ***John 3:16***

B. Ministry involves people \_\_\_\_\_ the Word of God to others by both word and deed.

C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the word of God in ministry.

### **II. Biblical Goals**

A. Our goal for every believer is spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ though discipleship.

B. The great commission. ***Matthew 28:16-20***

1. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, – ***Matthew 28:19***

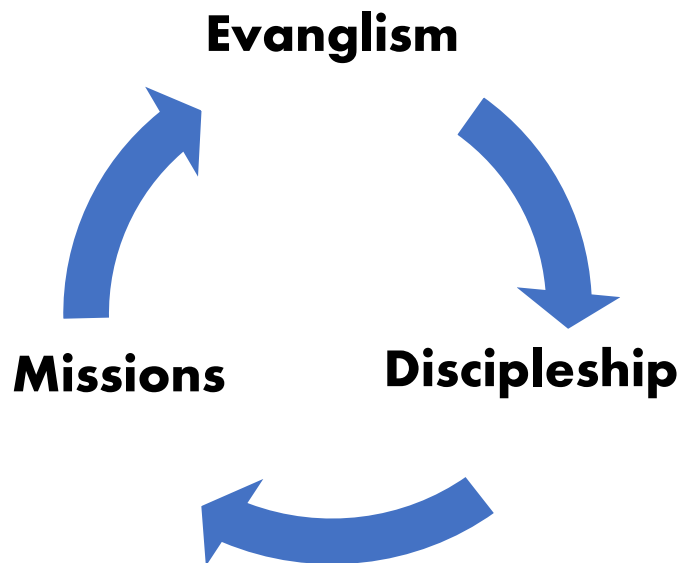
- **Missions** emphasis “Go”,
- **Evangelism** emphasis “Teach”, turning lost men into disciples in all nations (all people groups).

2. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: - ***Matthew 28:20***

- **Discipleship** emphasis “teaching to observe all things”

C. All ministries are \_\_\_\_\_ with **one or all** of these three.

D. Discipleship begins with \_\_\_\_\_ and ends with \_\_\_\_\_.



1. Discipleship is the link between a believer's new life in Christ and a productive life in Christ.
  2. Discipleship will feed people to be both effective evangelists and missionaries.
  3. Evangelism and Missions is what keeps us from becoming drunk on discipleship.
- E. Discipleship must be our \_\_\_\_\_ if we wish to fulfill the plan of God – the “Great Commission”.
- F. Discipleship equips the believer to grow to the place that they will want to participate in the mission and are able to have a valuable part in the fulfillment of the “Great Commission”.
1. This simple growth pattern is seen in \_\_\_\_\_ stages in Ephesians 6.
    - a. A \_\_\_\_\_ must first learn obedience. **Ephesians 6:1-3**
    - b. A child grows to be a \_\_\_\_\_ and continues to grow in obedience and fidelity to the Lord. **Ephesians 6:5-8**
    - c. A servant grows into a \_\_\_\_\_ and a father who is responsible to reproduce fruit in the sight of God. **Ephesians 6:4,9**

- d. The culmination of our spiritual growth will result in a completely equipped Christian \_\_\_\_\_ who is able to stand in the battle and pray effectively for his or her brothers who labor with them in ministry. ***Ephesians 6:11-24***

**III. Discipleship is NOT a \_\_\_\_\_ but a supernatural growth process**

**A. What makes discipleship a ministry and not a program?**

1. Programs are man's idea of how to grow \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Discipleship is God's supernatural process to grow \_\_\_\_\_.

**B. Biblical discipleship will not \_\_\_\_\_ in a program-oriented church.**

1. Program oriented churches produce activities which cater to the desires of the body.
2. Discipleship oriented churches produce saints and ministries which cater to God's desire to accomplish the "Great Commission".
3. Program oriented churches often replace their people to accomplish different results or focus.
4. Discipleship oriented churches reproduce their people to continue to accomplish the mission and stay focused.

**C. Discipleship is a \_\_\_\_\_!**

1. Discipleship could be described as someone who knows God, teaching someone else to know God.
  - a. This is analogous to one beggar sharing bread with another beggar.
  - b. Discipleship is a supernatural growth process not a program.
  - c. Salvation is free but discipleship costs us our lives.

#### IV. Discipleship in Your Local Church

- A. Start with the \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Develop a \_\_\_\_\_ of faithful disciples who can teach others also.
- C. Nurture the \_\_\_\_\_ growth process.
  - 1. God will supernaturally instill in a maturing believer the desire to be intimate with Him and reproduce themselves spiritually. **Evangelism**
  - 2. The fruit of our relationship with God is souls which must be reared in a loving disciplined environment which will mature them into healthy spiritual offspring. **Discipleship**
  - 3. God will supernaturally grow certain Christians to the place where they will identify with the “Great Commission” in such a way that they will desire to be a sent one. **Missions**

#### V. Discipleship in Action

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ member of your local church should be clear on the method God has led your Pastor in accomplishing the priority of equipping the saint of God to accomplish the mission of reaching this world with the Gospel.
  - 1. Discipleship 1
  - 2. Discipleship 2
  - 3. Bible Institute
- B. Not every member will be a missionary or pastor, but every member should grow to become a productive member of the body of Christ.
  - 1. Maturity in our church will be marked when every member is pouring their life into the life of someone else.
  - 2. Discipleship is nurtured in ministry.
- C. Emphasize \_\_\_\_\_ not just quantity.
  - 1. Obviously, we want to see as many people saved and discipled as possible; but we must not sacrifice quality of our relationship with Christ for quantity of people in our church family.



2. Our success is measured in the fruit we supernaturally reproduce not the size of our church building or number of activities or programs we involve ourselves in.
  3. We must focus on teaching saints to be more concerned with being the person God has saved them to be instead of focusing on what God saved them to do.
- D. We must be careful to pass on to the next \_\_\_\_\_ the ministry God has entrusted to us.
1. This is not a “good idea”; it is critical to our ability to be salt and light.
    - a. **Psalm 78:1-8**, teaches us that it is very important to train up the next generation.
    - b. **2 Timothy 2:2**, Paul commanded Timothy to reproduce faithful saints who would reproduce faithful saints.
  2. Sadly, many churches have not taken heed to this important responsibility and Christianity though popular has been rendered powerless in our current culture. **Deuteronomy 6:7**
  3. Supernatural reproduction requires obedience and submission.

