

**t r a n s f o r m**  
discipleship mentoring

## **Obeying Christ...Making Disciples**

“Go therefore and make disciples..”

Matthew 28:19

# **ENGAGE**

## **Transformed Character**

# **Level 2**

# **Mentee Manual**

**A Discipleship Ministry Resource Provided by**

**Faith Assembly of God**

254 Spackenkill Rd., Poughkeepsie NY  
(845) 462-5955

September 8, 2013

Dear Mentee,

**PRAISE THE GLORIOUS NAME OF JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR AND LORD!**

I am so thrilled to be able to provide a mentor who will partner with you on this journey of faith as we seek to fulfill Christ's great commission and make disciples. I am so glad that we are actually experiencing the act of disciple making rather than just hearing that we need to. I am convinced that God has entrusted your life to our care so that we can be instrumental in helping you bring spiritual growth in your relationship and walk with Jesus Christ. And may I add, this is only the beginning, God has great things in store for you!

Thank you for trusted us with your life and spiritual growth. Get ready! Your life is about to change and I can't wait to hear the exciting testimonies of God's great grace and His goodness that will be poured out on your life throughout this mentoring experience.

As shared at the discipleship information meeting, you will be expected to meet with your disciple/mentor once a week . Each lesson is to be covered within a two week time frame. If you need more time, you may meet more often as desired.

It is a suggestion that the mentor and the mentee approach the course as they would their daily devotions, one day at a time. It is critical that the material is covered and you are familiar with it so that it will leave room for any questions and personal discussion when you meet together. I encourage you to start and end with prayer believing that God will speak and challenge each of you. Enjoy yourselves!

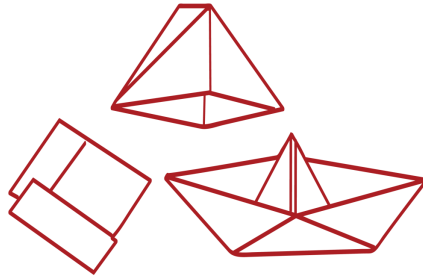
May the richness of grace and the glorious peace of the Holy Spirit be your portion of strength.

Serving at His command,

Rev. John Ogden  
Discipleship Ministries



Faith Assembly of God, 254 Spackenkill Rd. Poughkeepsie NY 12603 (845) 462-0662



**transform**  
discipleship mentoring

## **Obeying Christ...Making Disciples**

“Go therefore and make disciples..”

Matthew 28:19

**LEVEL TWO**

**ENGAGING**

**Transformed Character**

**Introduction**

**A Discipleship Ministry Resource Provided by  
Faith Assembly of God**

254 Spackenkill Rd., Poughkeepsie NY  
(845) 462-5955



# Introduction

## Engage Transformed Character

At *Faith Assembly of God* we're convinced that character development and the quest for Christ-likeness is one of the most important and attainable goals for every believer. That's right! The writer of Hebrews teaches that Jesus was the exact representation of God's nature (**read Hebrews 1:3**). In Romans 8:29, Paul states that it is God's intention for us to be conformed to the image of His Son, Jesus Christ.

When people came alongside Jesus, they could see who they were and whom they should try to become like. We as believers are called to reflect Jesus and thus the very character of God. This would be an impossible task except for the God-given gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God for the availability of the transforming presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of all who have accepted Jesus as their savior.

Paul says, "Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit" (**read 1 Corinthians 3:16**).

On a practical level, we can discover that the Holy Spirit's presence in the life of each believer unleashes wisdom, counsel, and guidance through several ways. Let's consider just a few foundational yet critical key resources through which the Holy Spirit will help you achieve your goal of becoming like Jesus Christ:

**His Word:** (**Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17**) It tells us that God's Word is able to equip you to be all you can be for Christ. This is why it is important to consistently build your character strengths through mentoring and other character building practices which reflect the transforming truths of key Scriptures.

**Godly examples:** Others (your mentor) have gone before you and shown ways that you can live for Him and grow in Him (**read Hebrews 12:1**). Paul was confident enough to tell others to follow his example (**read Philippians 4:9 and 1 Corinthians 11:1**). You have the privilege of learning from the godly lives of historical heroes as well as present day mentors as you come alongside them and strive to emulate their Christ-like character.

**Your Church Family:** (**read Hebrews 10:25 and 3:13**) It instructs you to continue gathering together as believers and to encourage others in Christ. Your local Body of Christ is a great resource to help you grow in Christian character. Enter in and worship, and enjoy great preaching of God's great truth. Faith Assembly also has a good number of small groups where the impact of meaningful relationships unleashes the renewing work of the Holy Spirit.

**Songs and meditations:** The Psalms encourage you to sing songs of praise to our Lord and to meditate daily on Him (**read Psalm 69:30, 100:2**). Don't underestimate the transforming potential of listening to hymns and songs of praise that help draw you near to Him in intimate praise and prayer. The Psalm writers understood the power of having a fresh source of Spirit-filled music and meditation to help you reflect on the Godly character markers that you seek to integrate into your life. Get a hold of some great CD's.

By implementing just these few simple disciplines, you are bound to experience new growth in your walk with Jesus Christ. Amen!



# Introduction (Continued)

## Engage Transformed Character

### SHARE TIME:

**1** - Work through the first page of your introduction material with your mentee/mentor partner, sharing about the few foundational types of resources listed that will ensure spiritual growth. Share which resources were most helpful to you in the past? And which ones would you like to utilize more?

**Most helpful:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Utilize more:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2** - Spend some time identifying a couple of the key markers of **Christ-like character** that you sense are urgent and needed in your life. The list of the nine fruit of the Spirit may be a helpful resource for this discussion: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control** (Galatians 5:22-23).

**List traits needed in your life:**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3** - Strategize together and create a spiritual development plan for the upcoming week that includes the integration of one or more of the specific resources listed on page 1. Target your plan on developing a key strength of Christ-likeness in your life.

**Development Plan:**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4** - Pray together for the transforming work of the Holy Spirit to be unleashed day-by-day in the week ahead. At your next meeting, share your experiences.

**Record some notes on your weeks experience to share at your next meeting:**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

# ENGAGE

Transformed Character

## Notes of Reflection, Questions and Journal

### Reflections and New Insights:

---



---



---



---



---

### Questions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### Journaling:

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

# Obeying Christ... Making Disciples

Jesus said... "Go therefore and **make disciple...**" – Matthew 28:19

## LEVEL 2 COURSE CONTENT

### ENGAGE IN TRANSFORMED CHARACTER

#### HOW TO GROW SPIRITUALLY.....2 PETER 1:3-8

Make every effort to add to your **faith goodness**; and to goodness, **knowledge**; and to knowledge, **self-control**; and to self-control, **perseverance**; and to perseverance, **godliness**; and to godliness, **brotherly kindness**; and to brotherly kindness, **love**.

#### THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.....GALATIANS 5:22-23

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

#### THE BEATITUDES.....MATTHEW 5:1-12

blessed are the **poor** in spirit - v.3,  
blessed are the **meek** - v.5,  
blessed are the **merciful** - v.7,  
blessed are the **peacemakers** - v.9,

blessed those who **mourn** - v.4,  
blessed those who **hunger and thirst** - v.6,  
blessed are the **pure in heart** - v.8,  
blessed are the **persecuted** - v.10.

#### SHAPING CHRISTIAN CHARACTER.....LUKE 5:1 - 6:49

obedience.....teachability

ready for change.....flexibility

attitude in adversity.....humility

understanding rejection.....compassion

self examination.....integrity

#### ENCOURAGING CHRISTIAN GROWTH.....LUKE 9:18 - 12:34

submission to Christ's lordship.....selflessness

singleness of purpose.....focus

living out the message.....courage

breakthrough prayer.....dependency

at peace and powerful.....contentment

#### LEADING YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLE.....LUKE 16 - 22:30

responsible management.....trustworthiness

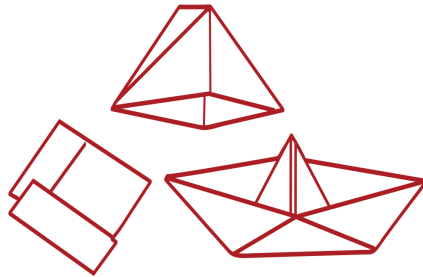
open book.....accountability

working expectantly.....alertness

breakthrough prayer.....servanthood

stewardship.....faithfulness





**t r a n s f o r m**  
discipleship mentoring

## **Obeying Christ...Making Disciples**

“Go therefore and make disciples..”

Matthew 28:19

**LEVEL TWO**

**ENGAGING**

**Transformed Character**



**How to Grow Spiritually**

**1**

**A Discipleship Ministry Resource Provided by  
Faith Assembly of God**

254 Spackenkill Rd., Poughkeepsie NY  
(845) 462-0662





Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

## ENGAGE

Transformed Character

### Spiritual Growth - What is it?

Spiritual growth is detailed in **2 Peter 1:3-8**, "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your **faith** goodness; and to **goodness**, knowledge; and to **knowledge**, self-control; and to **self-control**, perseverance; and to **perseverance**, godliness; and to **godliness**, brotherly kindness; and to **brotherly kindness**, **love**. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

#### So, spiritual growth includes:

- (1) increasing in your knowledge and understanding of God's Word,  
**Read your Bible and ask God to open up your understanding.**
- (2) decreasing in your frequency and severity of sin (disobedience to God's Word),  
**When you are tempted to disobey God's Word, stop and ask the Holy Spirit to help you obey.**
- (3) increasing in your practice of Christ-like qualities ( the fruit of the spirit), and  
**Ask God to work in you so that he can work through you with the character of Jesus.**
- (4) increasing in your faith and trust in God by obeying the leading of the Holy Spirit.  
**When you are being led by the Holy Spirit and according to the Word of God, obey that leading and discover what it means to walk in the spirit.**

Perhaps the best summary of spiritual growth is becoming more like Jesus Christ. In 1 Corinthians 11:1, Paul says, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." he was talking to Timothy, a young believer that he was mentoring for ministry.

Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of what it truly means to be spiritual.

#### Prayer:

Lord Jesus, as I read my Bible, I ask that you give me a greater desire for reading and understanding your word. As I also desire to obey it, empower me by your indwelling Holy Spirit to live in such a way that my life brings pleasure to you. Increase my faith so I can walk according to your way and assist me as I share your love with others.

Amen!





Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

## ENGAGE

Transformed Character

### Spiritual Growth - How is it done?

In order for spiritual growth to occur, you first need to make sure you possess a true spiritual life through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life" (1 John 5:11-12).

When you believe in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit lives inside of you (read John 14:16-17) and you are a new creation in Christ! Read 2 Corinthians 5:17 it says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" Your old nature, which is dominated by sin, is replaced with a new nature that is under the influence of God's Spirit (read Romans 6-7). True Spiritual growth can only occur in a person who knows the Lord Jesus Christ as his or her Savior.

Learning how to grow spiritually is a life-long journey which occurs as you read and apply God's Word to your life. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 teaches us, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." In order for spiritual growth to occur, we must be taught, rebuked, corrected, and trained by God's Word. Then we will be thoroughly equipped for every good work. This is the essence of spiritual growth.

Another key to Christian growth is walking in step with the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:16-18, 24-26 explains, "So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other."

Walking in the Spirit is allowing Him to fill you (read Ephesians 5:18), control you, and guide you. This is brought about by consciously choosing by faith to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide you in thought, word, and deed (read Romans 6:11-14). Failure to rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance will result in a believer not living up to the calling and standing that salvation provides. Ephesians 4:1 says, "...I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received."

#### Prayer:

Lord Jesus, I believe in you as my savior and make you Lord of my life. I know that you live in me and guide me according to your word. Help me to stay in step with the spirit and allow Him to guide me and control me. I want to live a life that is worthy of my calling in my relationship with Christ Jesus.

Amen!





Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

## ENGAGE

Transformed Character

### Spiritual Growth - What are the results?

**Spiritual growth is a life-long process of...** manifesting the acts of the flesh (read Galatians 5:19-21) less and less and producing the fruit of the Spirit (read Galatians 5:22-23) more and more.

Notice that it is the Holy Spirit who produces the fruit in us. **This is very important!** Yes, we must submit ourselves (which means to obey) to the Spirit's leading, and always remember that it is the Spirit who produces the fruit of spiritual growth in our lives.

#### What does spiritual growth look like?

Galatians 5:22-23 has the answer, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." If you are becoming more loving, more joyful, more kind, more self-controlled, etc., then you can be confident and assured that spiritual growth is genuinely occurring in your life.

**We must always remember that God works in different people in different ways.** Some people grow rapidly, while others grow slowly, but steadily. Our focus should not be on comparing ourselves with others, but on comparing ourselves with God's Word. That is the measuring stick. The Scriptures are the mirror to show us what we are like spiritually and it shines light on the areas that we need to experience spiritual growth.

**James 1:23-25 declares**, "Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it - he will be blessed in what he does."

I enclosed an article at the end of this lesson that I would like everyone to prayerfully read. It's thought provoking and brings to light a fantastic point when it comes to measuring spiritual growth? How do we really know we are growing spiritually? What truly is a spiritual person? Is it a person who reads the Bible all the time? Goes to church faithfully? Memorizes scripture? Pray? Absolutely not! A spiritual person is a person who follows the leading of the Holy Spirit. I am sure you will enjoy the article as I did.

Blessings!









Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

## ENGAGE

Transformed Character

### The role of discipline in spiritual growth

**(Read 1 Timothy 4:6-15)** It is about how Timothy should be shaped by the Gospel. Both paragraphs in this section (see vv.6-10 and 11-16) open with a call for timothy to speak certain truths to the congregation. The focus is on how Timothy, by his teaching and lifestyle, can help the church preserver in the face of false teaching.

Dr. Donald Whitney said, "The spiritual **disciplines** are the God-given means we are to use In the Spirit-filled pursuit of godliness."

Throughout the History of the Church the men and women God has used the most have been those who are godly. **You're the next person God is going to use!**

Godliness is not a suggestion as Paul says in **1 Timothy 4:7**. "Believers are to train themselves for the purpose of godliness." **Discipline** for the sake of itself is not helpful. When an athlete trains for an event he does so to further his goals of becoming a champion. With this analogy in mind the same is true in the believer's walk with God. **Discipline** for the sake of **discipline** is not profitable for the Christian unless his pursuit is Jesus. No person by their own **self-discipline** will become holy, for growth in holiness is a gift from the Lord (**read John 17:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 2:11**).

Spiritual **disciplines** are means by which God uses in the life of the believer to grow in godliness. Spiritual **disciplines** are means of grace but not the object of grace. Spiritual growth is only possibly because of Jesus who is the object and where the content of our faith comes form. The means of grace is the work of the Holy Spirit who changes believers from the inside out, and to this end the Holy Spirit uses the spiritual **disciplines** to conform the believer to Christ.

Charles Spurgeon said, "I must take care above all that I cultivate communion with Christ, for though that can never be the basis of my peace- mark that- yet it will be the channel of it." (C.H. Spuregon, "Peace by Believing," in Metroploitan Tabernacle Pulpit (London: Passmore and Alabaster, 1864; reprint, Pasenda, TX: Pilgrim Publications, 1970), vol.9, page 283).

#### Prayer:

Thank you for your grace and your Holy Spirit. Help me in my pursuit of godliness by helping me in my spiritual disciplines. I want not only to become like you but also better my personal relationship with you. I want to experience real change in my heart and not only in my head. Holy Spirit , help change me from the inside /out by your Holy Spirit's power. I pray that everything that flows out of my life, will be the result of my growing closer to you. Amen!







Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

## ENGAGE

Transformed Character

### The role of discipline in spiritual growth - part 2

Paul was teaching Timothy in [1 Timothy 4:6-15](#) about the importance of being shaped by the Gospel. His words to Timothy in [1 Timothy 4:6](#) are not a suggestion they are a command. Holiness is not an option for those who claim to be children of the Holy One ([1 Peter 1:15-16](#)), so neither are spiritual disciplines a means of grace an option for the believer.

[Proverbs 23:12](#). The purpose of discipline is in order to get us to discipline ourselves. The expectation of disciplined is the offer of Jesus in [Matthew 11:29](#) read it! The same is true of the offer of discipleship by Jesus in [Luke 9:23](#) read it!. To be a disciple is to learn and follow Jesus. Learning and following requires discipline. Those who only learn and follow whenever they feel like it are not true disciples. The heart of discipleship is confirmed by [Galatians 5:22-23](#) which says that spiritual self-discipline (self-control) is one of the most evident marks of being Spirit-controlled.

By neglecting the spiritual disciplines we face the danger of bearing little fruit for God's glory. Every believer has spiritual gifts ([1 Corinthians 12:4-7](#) read it). The presence of spiritual gifts does not mean that one will be fruitful. The only way natural gifts are developed is through discipline and the same is true with spiritual gifts; if one wants to bear fruit for God then they must discipline themselves for the purpose of godliness. The purpose of the spiritual disciplines is not to lead us into legalism but into growth in God's grace. The final reward of the spiritual disciplines should be what motivates us rather than the promise of "being a better person". In the spiritual disciplines there is freedom from self-centeredness in disciplines such as worship, service and evangelism. The freedom of godliness is the freedom to what God calls for in Scripture and the freedom to expression character qualities of Christ through our own personality. This kind of freedom is the reward or result of the blessing of God upon our engagement of the spiritual disciplines.

Discipline for the sake of discipline is unprofitable. Discipline must have direction and the object of that pursuit should be the goal of godliness. A disciplined Christian is not a joy killer but a joy pursuer. The disciplined Christian delights himself/herself in the Lord. - taken from : Darrel L. Bock, Acts (Michigan, Baker Academic, 2008), p.63-64.

#### Prayer:

Dear Lord, Thank you for your love and grace each day. Encourage me daily that I might gain the victory of self discipline. Help me in my spiritual disciplines so that I may be a reflection of your love and person. May my life be an attraction to many because of your Holy Spirit working in me. Empower me to live a godly life as I commune with you and your word daily. Amen!



Lesson 1

# How to Grow Spiritually

# ENGAGE

Transformed Character

## Notes of Reflection, Questions and Journal

### Reflections and New Insights:

---



---



---



---



---

### Questions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

### Journaling:

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

## Review Questions - Lesson 1

1. What is the great commission according to Matthew 28:19 ?

---

---

2. According to Romans 8:29, what is God's intention for the believer ? p.1

---

---

3. What factor makes it possible for us to reflect the character of God in and through our lives? p.1

---

---

4. Can you List the "nine-fold" fruit of the spirit in order according to Galatians 5:22-23? p.2

---

---

5. What should a believer do when they are being tempted to disobey God and His Word? p.3

---

---

6. Finish the statement: "Learning how to grow spiritually is a life-long journey which occurs as you read and \_\_\_\_\_" p.4

---

---

7. Who produces the spiritual growth in our lives? p.5

---

---

### Remember:

It is the Spirit, not our effort that produces spiritual growth.  
All we have to do, is go with the Spirit's lead. :)