



ENGAGE

Living as Followers of Jesus Christ

Mickey Foley, Discipleship Pastor
mfoley@madisonparkchurch.org

SESSION
ONE

Madison Park Discipleship Class
Living As Followers of Jesus Christ- Session 1

What is the difference between religion and a real relationship with God?

“It’s Not About Religion, It’s About a Relationship!”

Why am I here? What is my purpose? What am I created for?

Biblical Foundations- In the Beginning...

In the beginning, God created human beings both in the context of and for relationship.

Genesis 1:26-27...take a moment and read.

Genesis 1:26 says, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us...”

What do you notice about this?

Biblical Foundations - The Fall

Unfortunately, mankind rejected relationship with God.

(Genesis 3) This was the ultimate sin behind the incident in the Garden of Eden. Humankind sought self-rule and rejected perfect relationship with God. The punishments that followed were self-inflicted as a result of this relational dis-harmony.

The truth is every one of us has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. **(Romans 3:23)** Every one of us has a broken relationship with a Holy God. Thank God, however, that is not the end of the story!

Biblical Foundations - The Redemption Story

God was not content to live apart from His creation. History shows God's pursuit of mankind towards relational reconciliation.

- **God called a man - Abraham**
- **God created a nation - Israel (Old Testament)**
- **God sacrificed a Savior - JESUS (New Testament)**

Jesus is the only perfect payment for the sins of the world, including our rejection of relationship with God. It is **ONLY THROUGH JESUS** that our sins are paid for, we are made right with God, and we are restored to relationship with Him.

Biblical Foundations - Salvation

The Bible makes it clear how we can be restored in relationship with God.

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

We are “saved” (restored into right relationship with God) by the grace of God alone through faith. There is not one thing we can do to earn it. It is a free gift of God to everyone who will lay down their self-rule, and accept Jesus Christ as Lord of their life. Faith is trusting belief in Jesus as Lord of our lives.

John 3:16-17 “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.”

God offers up forgiveness, healing, and restoration in relationship with Him to **WHOEVER** repents and places their faith in Jesus Christ!

@ Madison Park we say...

YOU ARE LOVED, NO MATTER WHAT

What are your thoughts about that?

John 10:10 (ESV) ~ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.



Authentic Life



Do you feel like you have the Abundant Life Jesus promises?

Is there an aspect of your life that you don't allow Jesus to have access to?

Madison Park's Mission and Vision

Mission: ***Loving People Back to God!***

(2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

Reconciliation

We are a Relational Church: Connecting in Relationships:

- ***To God*** (Worship)
- ***His Family*** (Community) also (Discipleship)
- ***People He Misses Most*** (Mission)

What is Discipleship?

Building _____ with someone and helping them learn how _____ and _____.

**C
O
N
N
E
C
T**

Living as Followers of Jesus Christ			
People God Misses Most	Mission	Story	Multiplication
His Family	Community	Generosity	Service
God	Worship	Devotion	Prayer
<div>Love</div> <div>Learn</div> <div>Live</div>			

GROW

SESSION
TWO

Madison Park Discipleship Class
Living As Followers of Jesus Christ- Session 2

Recap of Session 1...

- ***You Are Loved, No Matter What!***
- ***Definition of Discipleship...Building a RELATIONSHIP with someone and helping them learn how to TRUST and FOLLOW JESUS.***
- ***Authentic Life diagram***
- ***Review Living as Followers of Jesus Christ Diagram***

Relationship with God (Worship)

- ***This impacts how we enter all of our other relationships!***

How do you define Worship?

WORSHIP:

Practical Ways We Worship

- Corporate Worship on Sundays
- Through His Creation

- Do you worship God with how you treat your spouse? ...Your family?
- Do you worship God in the way you treat others? **BE NICE!** They are Created in the image of God.
- Do you worship God with your resources?
- Do you worship God with your health? *His Temple...*
1 Corinthians 6:19
- Do you worship God in your work? **Colossians 3:23-25**

Notes/Thoughts:

Devotion

Devotion- Daily and lifelong dedication to the goal of knowing Christ

What does that look like for you?

Transition from KNOWLEDGE TO KNOWING...

What is the difference between the two?

Engaging God in His word is the single most transformative element of a Jesus-centered person's life. Period! ~Lifeway/Barna research study 2011

A Bible that is worn, tattered and falling apart is usually owned by someone that isn't!

- ***Do I allow God to transform me through His word?***
- ***Do I memorize scripture to regurgitate or to experience its truth?***

Practical Tools

- Reading Plans
- Youversion Bible App
- Journaling
- Highlighting/underlining/ notes in your bible
- RightNow Media
- S.O.A.P.'s Model

Prayer

Prayer- Nurtures intimacy with God and releases the power of the Holy Spirit

When do you pray? Where? How? Do you listen during your prayer time? Do you allow the Holy Spirit to speak?

Do you listen? Psalm 46:10

What does your prayer time look like?

___ Speaking to God as Father

___ Praising God, exalting Him

- ___ *Personal requests*
- ___ *Seeking to bring God's kingdom into the world*
- ___ *Praying for God's will in your circumstances and life*
- ___ *Recognizing God's daily provision*
- ___ *Seeking forgiveness and extending forgiveness*

Practical Tools:

- A specified time and place
- Journal
- A.C.T.S. Model
- Prayer Process
- Pray First booklet



The following 7 pages is an example of a one-year reading plan.

JANUARY

1 _ Luke 1
2 _ Luke 2
3 _ Luke 3; Ps. 1
4 _ Luke 4
5 _ Luke 5; Ps. 2
6 _ Luke 6
7 _ Luke 7
8 _ Luke 8
9 _ Luke 9
10 _ Luke 10
11 _ Luke 11
12 _ Luke 12
13 _ Luke 13; Ps. 3
14 _ Luke 14; Ps. 4
15 _ Luke 15; Ps. 5
16 _ Luke 16; Ps. 6
17 _ Luke 17; Ps. 7
18 _ Luke 18
19 _ Luke 19
20 _ Luke 20
21 _ Luke 21; Ps. 8
22 _ Luke 22
23 _ Luke 23
24 _ Luke 24
25 _ Acts 1; Ps. 9
26 _ Acts 2
27 _ Acts 3; Ps. 10
28 _ Acts 4; Ps. 11
29 _ Acts 5
30 _ Acts 6; Ps. 12
31 _ Review

FEBRUARY

1 _ Acts 7; Ps. 13
2 _ Acts 8
3 _ Acts 9
4 _ Acts 10
5 _ Acts 11; Ps. 14
6 _ Acts 12; Ps. 15
7 _ Acts 13
8 _ Acts 14; Ps. 16
9 _ Acts 15
10 _ Acts 16
11 _ Acts 17; Ps. 17
12 _ Acts 18; Ps. 18:1-9
13 _ Acts 19; Ps. 18:20-50
14 _ Acts 20; Ps. 19
15 _ Acts 21
16 _ Acts 22; Ps. 20
17 _ Acts 23; Ps. 21
18 _ Acts 24; Ps. 22:1-18
19 _ Acts 25; Ps. 22:19-31

20 _ Acts 26; Ps. 23
21 _ Acts 27; Ps. 24
22 _ Acts 28; Ps. 25
23 _ Gal. 1; Ps. 26
24 _ Gal. 2; Ps. 27
25 _ Gal. 3; Ps. 28
26 _ Gal. 4; Ps. 29
27 _ Gal. 5; Ps. 30
28 _ Review
29 _ Review

MARCH

1 _ Gal. 6; Ps. 31
2 _ 1 Cor. 1; Ps. 32
3 _ 1 Cor. 2; Ps. 33
4 _ 1 Cor. 3; Ps. 34
5 _ 1 Cor. 4; Ps. 35
6 _ 1 Cor. 5; Ps. 36
7 _ 1 Cor. 6; Ps. 37:1-22
8 _ 1 Cor. 7
9 _ 1 Cor. 8; Ps. 37:23-40
10 _ 1 Cor. 9; Ps. 38
11 _ 1 Cor. 10; Ps. 39
12 _ 1 Cor. 11; Ps. 40
13 _ 1 Cor. 12; Ps. 41
14 _ 1 Cor. 13; Ps. 42
15 _ 1 Cor. 14
16 _ 1 Cor. 15
17 _ 1 Cor. 16; Ps. 43
18 _ 2 Cor. 1; Ps. 44
19 _ 2 Cor. 2; Ps. 45
20 _ 2 Cor. 3; Ps. 46
21 _ 2 Cor. 4; Ps. 47
22 _ 2 Cor. 5; Ps. 48
23 _ 2 Cor. 6; Ps. 49
24 _ 2 Cor. 7; Ps. 50
25 _ 2 Cor. 8; Ps. 51
26 _ 2 Cor. 9; Ps. 52
27 _ 2 Cor. 10; Ps. 53
28 _ 2 Cor. 11; Ps. 54
29 _ 2 Cor. 12; Ps. 55
30 _ 2 Cor. 14
31 _ Review

APRIL

1 _ Mark 1; Ps. 56
2 _ Mark 2; Ps. 57
3 _ Mark 3; Ps. 58
4 _ Mark 4-5
5 _ Mark 6; Ps. 59
6 _ Mark 7; Ps. 60
7 _ Mark 8; Ps. 61
8 _ Mark 9

APRIL cont.

9 _ Mark 10; Ps. 62
10 _ Mark 11; Ps. 63
11 _ Mark 12
12 _ Mark 13; Ps. 64
13 _ Mark 14; Ps. 65
14 _ Mark 15
15 _ Mark 16; Ps. 66
16 _ 1 Thess. 1; Ps. 67
17 _ 1 Thess. 2; Ps. 68:1-18
18 _ 1 Thess. 3; Ps. 68:19-35
19 _ 1 Thess. 4; Ps. 69:1-16
20 _ 1 Thess. 5; Ps. 69:17-36
21 _ 2 Thess. 1; Ps. 70
22 _ 2 Thess. 2; Ps. 71
23 _ 2 Thess. 3; Ps. 72
24 _ Rom. 1; Ps. 73:1-15
25 _ Rom. 2; Ps. 73:16-28
26 _ Rom. 3; Ps. 74
27 _ Rom. 4; Ps. 75
28 _ Rom. 5; Ps. 76
29 _ Rom. 6; Ps. 77
30 _ Review

MAY

1 _ Rom. 7; Ps. 78:1-20
2 _ Rom. 8; Ps. 78:21-55
3 _ Rom. 9; Ps. 78:56-72
4 _ Rom. 10; Ps. 79
5 _ Rom. 11; Ps. 80
6 _ Rom. 12; Ps. 81
7 _ Rom. 13; Ps. 82
8 _ Rom. 14; Ps. 83
9 _ Rom. 15; Ps. 84
10 _ Rom. 16; Ps. 85
11 _ Eph. 1; Ps. 86
12 _ Eph. 2; Ps. 87
13 _ Eph. 3; Ps. 88
14 _ Eph. 4; Ps. 89:1-18
15 _ Eph. 5; Ps. 89:19-35
16 _ Eph. 6; Ps. 8:36-52
17 _ Phil. 1; Ps. 90
18 _ Phil. 2; Ps. 91
19 _ Phil. 3; Ps. 92
20 _ Phil. 4; Ps. Ps. 93
21 _ Col. 1; Ps. 94
22 _ Col. 2; Ps. 95
23 _ Col. 3; Ps. 96
24 _ Col. 4; Ps. 97
25 _ 1 Tim. 1; Ps. 98
26 _ 1 Tim. 2; Ps. 99
27 _ 1 Tim. 3; Ps. 100
28 _ 1 Tim. 4; Ps. 101

29 _ 1 Tim. 5; Ps. 102
30 _ 1 Tim. 6; Ps. 103
31 _ Review

SEPTEMBER

1 _ Matt. 1; Ps. 104:1-18
2 _ Matt. 2; Ps. 104:19-35
3 _ Matt. 3; Ps. 105:1-22
4 _ Matt. 4; Ps. 105:23-45
5 _ Matt. 5
6 _ Matt. 6; Ps. 106:1-12
7 _ Matt. 7; Ps. 106:13-48
8 _ Matt. 8; Ps. 107:1-22
9 _ Matt. 9; Ps. 107:23-43
10 _ Matt. 10
11 _ Matt. 11; Ps. 108
12 _ Matt. 12
13 _ Matt. 13
14 _ Matt. 14; Ps. 109:1-20
15 _ Matt. 15; Ps. 109:21-31
16 _ Matt. 16; Ps. 110
17 _ Matt. 17; Ps. 111
18 _ Matt. 18; Ps. 112
19 _ Matt. 19; Ps. 113
20 _ Matt. 20; Ps. 114
21 _ Matt. 21
22 _ Matt. 22
23 _ Matt. 23; Ps. 115
24 _ Matt. 24
25 _ Matt. 25
26 _ Matt. 26
27 _ Matt. 27
28 _ Matt. 28; Ps. 116
29 _ 2 Tim. 1; Ps. 117
30 _ Review

OCTOBER

1 _ 2 Tim. 2; Ps. 118
2 _ 2 Tim. 3; Ps. 119:1-24
3 _ 2 Tim. 4; Ps. 119:25-56
4 _ Titus 1; Ps. 119:57-80
5 _ Titus 2; Ps. 119:81-104
6 _ Titus 3; Ps. 119:105-136
7 _ Phile.; Ps. 119:137-160
8 _ Heb. 1; Ps. 119:161-176
9 _ Heb. 2; Ps. 120
10 _ Heb. 3; Ps. 121
11 _ Heb. 4; Ps. 122
12 _ Heb. 5; Ps. 123
13 _ Heb. 6; Ps. 124
14 _ Heb. 7; Ps. 125
15 _ Heb. 8; Ps. 126
16 _ Heb. 9; Ps. 127

OCTOBER cont.

17 _ Heb. 10; Ps. 128
 18 _ Heb. 11
 19 _ Heb. 12; Ps. 129
 20 _ Heb. 13; Ps. 130
 21 _ James 1; Ps. 131
 22 _ James 2; Ps. 132
 23 _ James 3; Ps. 133
 24 _ James 4; Ps. 134
 25 _ James 5; Ps. 135
 26 _ 1 Pet.; Ps. 136
 27 _ 1 Pet; Ps. 137
 28 _ 1 Pet; Ps. 138
 29 _ 1 Pet; Ps. 139
 30 _ 1 Pet; Ps. 140
 31 _ Review

NOVEMBER

1 _ 2 Pet. 1; Ps. 141
 2 _ 2 Pet 2; Ps. 142
 3 _ 2 Pet. 3; Ps. 142
 4 _ John 1
 5 _ John 2; Ps. 144
 6 _ John 3; Ps. 143
 7 _ John 4
 8 _ John 5
 9 _ John 6
 10 _ John 7
 11 _ John 8
 12 _ John 9
 13 _ John 10
 14 _ John 11
 15 _ John 12
 16 _ John 13; Ps. 146
 17 _ John 14; Ps. 147
 18 _ John 15; Ps. 148
 19 _ John 16; Ps. 149
 20 _ John 17; Ps. 150
 21 _ John 18
 22 _ John 19
 23 _ John 20; Prov. 1
 24 _ John 21; Prov. 2
 25 _ 1 John 1; Prov. 3
 26 _ 1 John 2; Prov. 4
 27 _ 1 John 3; Prov. 5
 28 _ 1 John 4; Prov. 6
 29 _ 1 John 5; Prov. 7
 30 _ Review

DECEMBER

1 _ 2 John; 3 John; Prov. 8
 2 _ Jude; Prov. 9
 3 _ Rev. 1; Prov. 10

4 _ Rev. 2; Prov. 11
 5 _ Rev. 3; Prov. 12
 6 _ Rev. 4; Prov. 13
 7 _ Rev. 5; Prov. 14
 8 _ Rev. 6; Prov. 15
 9 _ Rev. 7; Prov. 16
 10 _ Rev. 8; Prov. 17
 11 _ Rev. 9; Prov. 18
 12 _ Rev. 10; Prov. 19
 13 _ Rev. 11; Prov. 20
 14 _ Rev. 12; Prov. 21
 15 _ Rev. 13; Prov. 22
 16 _ Rev. 14; Prov. 23
 17 _ Rev. 15; Prov. 24
 18 _ Rev. 16; Prov. 25
 19 _ Rev. 17; Prov. 26
 20 _ Rev. 18; Prov. 27
 21 _ Rev. 19; Prov. 28
 22 _ Rev. 20; Prov. 29
 23 _ Rev. 21; Prov. 30
 24 _ Rev. 22; Prov. 31
 25-31 _ Year Review Week

OLD TESTAMENT OPTION ONE: THE LAW**JUNE**

1 _ Gen. 1-2
 2 _ Gen. 3-4
 3 _ Gen. 5-6
 4 _ Gen. 7-8
 5 _ Gen. 9-10
 6 _ Gen. 11-12
 7 _ Gen. 13-14
 8 _ Gen. 15-16
 9 _ Gen. 17-18
 10 _ Gen. 19-20
 11 _ Gen. 21-23
 12 _ Gen. 24
 13 _ Gen. 25-26
 14 _ Gen. 27
 15 _ Gen. 28-29
 16 _ Gen. 30
 17 _ Gen. 31
 18 _ Gen. 32-33
 19 _ Gen. 34-35
 20 _ Gen. 36-37
 21 _ Gen. 38
 22 _ Gen. 39
 23 _ Gen. 40-41
 24 _ Gen. 42
 25 _ Gen. 43-44
 26 _ Gen. 45-46
 27 _ Gen. 47-48

JUNE cont.

28 _ Gen. 49
 29 _ Gen. 50
 30 _ Review

JULY

1 _ Ex. 1-2
 2 _ Ex. 3-4
 3 _ Ex. 5-6
 4 _ Ex. 7-8
 5 _ Ex. 9-10
 6 _ Ex. 11-12
 7 _ Ex. 13-14
 8 _ Ex. 15-16
 9 _ Ex. 17-18
 10 _ Ex. 19-20
 11 _ Ex. 21-22
 12 _ Ex. 23-24
 13 _ Ex. 25-26
 14 _ Ex. 27-28
 15 _ Ex. 29-30
 16 _ Ex. 31-32
 17 _ Ex. 33-34
 18 _ Ex. 35-36
 19 _ Ex. 37-38
 20 _ Ex. 39-40
 21 _ Lev. 1-3
 22 _ Lev. 4-5
 23 _ Lev. 6-7
 24 _ Lev. 8
 25 _ Lev. 9-10
 26 _ Lev. 16-17
 27 _ Lev. 18-19
 28 _ Lev. 20-21
 29 _ Lev. 22-23
 30 _ Lev. 24
 31 _ Review

AUGUST

1 _ Lev. 25-26
 2 _ Lev. 27
 3 _ Num. 1-2
 4 _ Num. 3-4
 5 _ Num. 5-6
 6 _ Num. 7-8
 7 _ Num. 9-10
 8 _ Num. 11-12
 9 _ Num. 13-14
 10 _ Num. 15-16
 11 _ Num. 17-18
 12 _ Num. 19-20
 13 _ Num. 21-22
 14 _ Num. 23-24

15 _ Num. 25-26
 16 _ Num. 27-28
 17 _ Num. 29-30
 18 _ Num. 31-32
 19 _ Num. 33-34
 20 _ Num. 35-36
 21 _ Deut. 1-3
 22 _ Deut. 4-5
 23 _ Deut. 6-7
 24 _ Deut. 8-9
 25 _ Deut. 10-11
 26 _ Deut. 26-27
 27 _ Deut. 28-29
 28 _ Deut. 30-31
 29 _ Deut. 32-33
 30 _ Deut. 34
 31 _ Review

OLD TESTAMENT OPTION TWO: HISTORY**JUNE**

1 _ Josh. 1-2
 2 _ Josh. 3-4
 3 _ Josh. 5-6
 4 _ Josh. 7-8
 5 _ Josh. 9-10
 6 _ Josh. 11-12
 7 _ Josh. 22-23
 8 _ Josh. 24
 9 _ Judg. 1
 10 _ Judg. 2-3
 11 _ Judg. 4-5
 12 _ Judg. 6-7
 13 _ Judg. 8
 14 _ Judg. 9
 15 _ Judg. 10-12
 16 _ Judg. 13-14
 17 _ Judg. 15-16
 18 _ Judg. 17-19
 19 _ Judg. 20-21
 20 _ Ruth 1-2
 21 _ Ruth 3-4
 22 _ 1 Sam. 1-2
 23 _ 1 Sam. 3-4
 24 _ 1 Sam. 5-7
 25 _ 1 Sam. 8-9
 26 _ 1 Sam. 10-11
 27 _ 1 Sam. 12-13
 28 _ 1 Sam. 14
 29 _ 1 Sam. 15-16
 30 _ 1 Sam. 17

JULY

1 _ 1 Sam. 18-19
 2 _ 1 Sam. 20
 3 _ 1 Sam 21-22
 4 _ 1 Sam. 23-24
 5 _ 1 Sam. 25
 6 _ 1 Sam. 26-27
 7 _ 1 Sam. 28-29
 8 _ 1 Sam. 30-31
 9 _ 2 Sam. 1-2
 10 _ 2 Sam. 3-4
 11 _ 2 Sam. 5-6
 12 _ 2 Sam. 7-8
 13 _ 2 Sam. 9-11
 14 _ 2 Sam. 12-13
 15 _ 2 Sam. 14-15
 16 _ 2 Sam. 16-17
 17 _ 2 Sam. 18-19
 18 _ 2 Sam. 20-21
 19 _ 2 Sam. 22
 20 _ 2 Sam. 23-24
 21 _ 1 Kings 1-2
 22 _ 1 Kings 3-4
 23 _ 1 Kings 5-6
 24 _ 1 Kings 7
 25 _ 1 Kings 8
 26 _ 1 Kings 9-10
 27 _ 1 Kings 11
 28 _ 1 Kings 12-13
 29 _ 1 Kings 14-15
 30 _ 1 Kings 16-17
 31 _ 1 Kings 18

AUGUST

1 _ 1 Kings 19-20
 2 _ 1 Kings 21-22
 3 _ 2 Kings 1-2
 4 _ 2 Kings 3-4
 5 _ 2 Kings 5-6
 6 _ 2 Kings 7-8
 7 _ 2 Kings 9-10
 8 _ 2 Kings 11-12
 9 _ 2 Kings 13-14
 10 _ 2 Kings 15-16
 11 _ 2 Kings 17-18
 12 _ 2 Kings 19-20
 13 _ 2 Kings 21-22
 14 _ 2 Kings 23
 15 _ 2 Kings 24
 16 _ Ezra 1-2
 17 _ Ezra 3-4
 18 _ Ezra 5-6
 19 _ Ezra 7-8

20 _ Ezra 9-10
 21 _ Neh. 1-2
 22 _ Neh. 3-4
 23 _ Neh. 5-6
 24 _ Neh. 7-8
 25 _ Neh. 9-10
 26 _ Neh. 11-12
 27 _ Neh. 13-14
 28 _ Est. 1-2
 29 _ Est. 3-5
 30 _ Est. 6-8
 31 _ Est. 9-10

OLD TESTAMENT OPTION THREE: PROPHETS**JUNE**

1 _ Isa. 1-2
 2 _ Isa. 3-4
 3 _ Isa. 5-6
 4 _ Isa. 7-8
 5 _ Isa. 9-10
 6 _ Isa. 11-13
 7 _ Isa. 14-15
 8 _ Isa. 16-18
 9 _ Isa. 19-21
 10 _ Isa. 22-23
 11 _ Isa. 24-26
 12 _ Isa. 27-28
 13 _ Isa. 29-30
 14 _ Isa. 31-33
 15 _ Isa. 34-36
 16 _ Isa. 37-38
 17 _ Isa. 39-40
 18 _ Isa. 41-42
 19 _ Isa. 43-44
 20 _ Isa. 45-47
 21 _ Isa. 48-49
 22 _ Isa. 50-52
 23 _ Isa. 53-55
 24 _ Isa. 56-58
 25 _ Isa. 59-60
 26 _ Isa. 61-63
 27 _ Isa. 64-66
 28 _ Jer. 1-2
 29 _ Jer. 3-4
 30 _ Review

JULY

1 _ Jer. 5-6
 2 _ Jer. 7-8
 3 _ Jer. 9-10
 4 _ Jer. 11-12
 5 _ Jer. 13-14

JULY cont.

6 _ Jer. 15-16
7 _ Jer. 17-18
8 _ Jer. 19-21
9 _ Jer. 22-23
10 _ Jer. 24-25
11 _ Jer. 26-27
12 _ Jer. 28-29
13 _ Jer. 30-31
14 _ Jer. 32
15 _ Jer. 33-34
16 _ Jer. 35-36
17 _ Jer. 37-38
18 _ Jer. 39-40
19 _ Jer. 41-42
20 _ Jer. 43-44
21 _ Jer. 45-47
22 _ Jer. 48-49
23 _ Jer. 50
24 _ Jer. 51
25 _ Jer. 52
26 _ Lam. 1-2
27 _ Lam. 3
28 _ Lam. 4-5
29 _ Ezek. 1-2
30 _ Ezek. 3-4
31 _ Review

AUGUST

1 _ Ezek. 5-7
2 _ Ezek. 8-10
3 _ Ezek. 11-12
4 _ Ezek. 13-14
5 _ Ezek. 15-16
6 _ Ezek. 17-18
7 _ Ezek. 19-20
8 _ Ezek. 21-22
9 _ Ezek. 23
10 _ Ezek. 24-25
11 _ Ezek. 26
12 _ Ezek. 27
13 _ Ezek. 28-29
14 _ Ezek. 30-31
15 _ Ezek. 32-33
16 _ Ezek. 34-35
17 _ Ezek. 36-37
18 _ Ezek. 38-39
19 _ Ezek. 40
20 _ Ezek. 41-42
21 _ Ezek. 43-44
22 _ Ezek. 45-46
23 _ Ezek. 47-48
24 _ Dan. 1

25 _ Dan. 2
26 _ Dan. 3-4
27 _ Dan. 5-6
28 _ Dan. 7-8
29 _ Dan. 9-10
30 _ Dan. 11-12
31 _ Review

**OLD TESTAMENT OPTION FOUR:
POETRY/MINOR PROPHETS****JUNE**

1 _ Job 1-2
2 _ Job 3-4
3 _ Job 5-6
4 _ Job 7-8
5 _ Job 9-10
6 _ Job 11-12
7 _ Job 13-14
8 _ Job 15-16
9 _ Job 17-18
10 _ Job 19-20
11 _ Job 21-22
12 _ Job 23-34
13 _ Job 25-26
14 _ Job 27-28
15 _ Job 29-30
16 _ Job 31-32
17 _ Job 33-34
18 _ Job 35-36
19 _ Job 37-38
20 _ Job 39-40
21 _ Job 41-42
22 _ Prov. 1
23 _ Prov. 2
24 _ Prov. 3
25 _ Prov. 4
26 _ Prov. 5
27 _ Prov. 6
28 _ Prov. 7
29 _ Prov. 8
30 _ Review

JULY

1 _ Prov. 9
2 _ Prov. 10
3 _ Prov. 11
4 _ Prov. 12
5 _ Prov. 13
6 _ Prov. 14
7 _ Prov. 15
8 _ Prov. 16
9 _ Prov. 17

JULY cont.

10 _ Prov. 18
11 _ Prov. 19
12 _ Prov. 20
13 _ Prov. 21
14 _ Prov. 22
15 _ Prov. 23
16 _ Prov. 24
17 _ Prov. 25
18 _ Prov. 26
19 _ Prov. 27
20 _ Prov. 28
21 _ Prov. 29
22 _ Prov. 30
23 _ Prov. 31
24 _ Eccl. 1-3
25 _ Eccl. 4-6
26 _ Eccl. 7-9
27 _ Eccl. 10-12
28 _ Song 1-3
29 _ Song 4-6
30 _ Song 7-8
31 _ Review

29 _ Mal. 1-2

30 _ Mal. 3-4

31 _ Review

AUGUST

1 _ Hos. 1-2
2 _ Hos. 3-5
3 _ Hos. 6-8
4 _ Hos. 9-11
5 _ Hos. 12-14
6 _ Joel 1
7 _ Joel 2
8 _ Joel 3
9 _ Amos 1-2
10 _ Amos 3-4
11 _ Amos 5-6
12 _ Amos 7-8
13 _ Amos 9
14 _ Obad.
15 _ Jon. 1-2
16 _ Jon. 3-4
17 _ Mic. 1-2
18 _ Mic. 3-4
19 _ Mic. 5-7
20 _ Nah. 1-3
21 _ Hab. 1-3
22 _ Zeph. 1-2
23 _ Hag. 1-2
24 _ Zech. 1-3
25 _ Zech. 4-6
26 _ Zech. 7-9
27 _ Zech. 10-12
28 _ Zech. 13-14

SOAP Journal



S.O.A.P.S. | Meditating on God's Word

The acronym S.O.A.P.S. stands for **S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**ction step of obedience, **P**ray, and **S**hare. This simple method of study is designed to help you meditate on God's Word. Biblical meditation can be defined as thinking about scripture over and over again in order to understand and obey it, or put it into practice. When we study the Bible, we are trying to better understand God and His ways, with the goal of listening to God's voice and obeying the leadership of our Lord Jesus. (See Joshua 1:7-8; Psalm 119:33-34; Luke 6:46-49 & John 10:27)

STEP 1 Grab a Bible and a notebook or journal.

STEP 2 Pray before you start. Ask the Lord to guide your Bible study. Ex: "Lord, please guide me as I study your Word."

STEP 3 Scripture

Read a passage of scripture. After reading the passage, think about how you would summarize or retell this passage in your own words. Consider writing that summary down. As you reflect on this passage, what specific words or phrases grab your attention? What details stand out to you? Maybe it is a specific word or phrase that provokes a question, triggers a thought or stirs an emotion in you. Consider writing down that one specific word or phrase.

STEP 4 Observation

What do you see in this passage? Who are the people involved? What are the key words or ideas? What does this passage teach us about **God**? What does this passage teach us about **people**? What is the message or lesson? Write down a few sentences of observation and summarize in your own words what you think God may be revealing to you.

STEP 5 Action STEP of obedience

How might God want you to personally respond in obedience to this passage? How would your life look differently if you took an action step and put this passage into practice? Try to summarize your specific action step of obedience in 1 sentence. Here are 4 basic ways to respond in obedience to a passage of scripture:

S - Is there a **sin** to avoid or repent of?

T - Is there a **truth** to believe by faith?

E - Is there an **example** to follow?

P - Is there a relational skill to **practice**?

STEP 6 Prayer

Talk to God about this passage of scripture. Maybe ask God to give you greater understanding and wisdom. Maybe ask God to give you strength to follow through and take this action step. Maybe pray a prayer of thanks for this truth or confess an area of sin. Ask God for help to obey His leadership in your life. Consider writing down a few sentences of prayer as though you were writing a note directly to God, because in a sense, you are!

STEP 7 Share

Is there someone else in your life that needs to hear what God has said to you? Consider someone specific or be prepared to share with someone if God gives you more of an impromptu opportunity in the days ahead.

Date: 3/1/20

Scripture: *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5*

Observation(s): *Jesus is the vine and God is the gardener. His desire is that we would stay connected to Him so that we can bear much fruit. God chose us to bear much fruit and we will experience joy when we obey His commands and bear fruit. Does God really cut off anyone that does not bear fruit? What does that mean? What is the difference between pruning and discipline?*

Action Step of Obedience: *I need to stay connected to God so that I can effectively bear fruit. I connect with God best through meditating on scripture, prayer, music, and spending time in nature.*

Prayer: *God, my desire is to please you by bearing much fruit. Help me to stay connected to you so that I can see fruit in my own life. Help me to produce fruit in the lives of others as well. I pray for my friends Larry, Jeff, John, Ryan, Ed and Josh. You've placed them in my life to be an example to them and to show them who you are. Give me boldness in sharing with them. Give me opportunities to love them and may they see you in me. I pray that your Spirit would draw them to You and that they might embrace you as their savior.*

Date: _____

Scripture:

Key Verse:

Observation(s):

Action Step of Obedience:

Prayer:

How will I be different today because of what I have read?

The Prayer Process

Perhaps what I like most about The Prayer Process is that it grows as we grow. It can be used as a starting point for beginners, those first trying to forge the habit of prayer in their lives. But it can also be used by those most advanced in their spiritual life. Its structure is such that it celebrates where you are in the journey.

Matthew Kelly, author of, *'Rediscover Jesus.'*

1. **GRATITUDE** – Begin by thanking God in a personal dialogue for whatever you are most grateful for today.
2. **AWARENESS** - Revisit the times in the past 24 hours when you were not the-best-version-of-yourself.
3. **SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS** – Identify something you experienced today and explore what God might be trying to say to you through that event (or person).
4. **PEACE** – Ask God to forgive you for any wrong you have committed (against yourself, another person, or Him) and fill you with a deep and abiding peace.
5. **FREEDOM** – Speak with God about how he is inviting you to change your life, so that you can experience the freedom to be the-best-version-of-yourself.
6. **OTHERS** – Lift up to God anyone you feel called to pray for today, asking God to bless and guide them.
7. Finish by praying the **OUR FATHER**.

A.C.T.S. Prayer Method

One method you may use to help your prayers is, conveniently enough, called the A.C.T.S. method. A.C.T.S. is an acronym that stands for Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication.

Adoration is the act of loving and praising God for Who He Is. Even Jesus Himself starts His most famous prayer (see yesterday's devotion) by recognizing God's nature and character. Our prayers should be framed with the immensity of the God we are praying to.

Most of the time, we begin our prayers by telling God about our problems. Beginning with adoration reminds us just how BIG God really is. Instead of telling God how big your problems are, you begin by telling your problems how **HUGE** your God is.

Confession, according to Scripture ([Psalm 32:5](#)), is uncovering our sins and shortcomings to God and thereby admitting our dependence upon Him. This is where we call it like it is. God won't deal with our sins and shortcomings until we uncover them before Him.

Thanksgiving is gratitude for the things God has done in our lives, the world, and in the lives of others. It has been said that thankfulness is the cure for a million problems. When we remember what God has done in the past, we have less worry about the situations we face in our present or future.

Supplication is an old-fashioned word that simply means to ask for something. In this, we are openly sharing with the Lord the needs of others, as well as our own needs. However, because our hearts have been shaped by recognizing Who God Is, how He has taken care of us in the past, and how small we truly are, this portion of the prayer should no longer look like a list of demands!

What could your prayer life look like if you "prayed like this" and followed something more like the A.C.T.S. method?

*SESSION
THREE*

Madison Park Discipleship Class

Living As Followers of Jesus Christ—Session 3

Recap from Session 2...

- **Our relationship with God**
- **Worship/Devotion/Prayer**
- **Practical Tools/Questions/Thoughts**
- **Review Living as Followers of Jesus Christ Diagram**

Relationship with His Family (The Church)

How do you define Church? Is Church someplace to go? Or something to be?

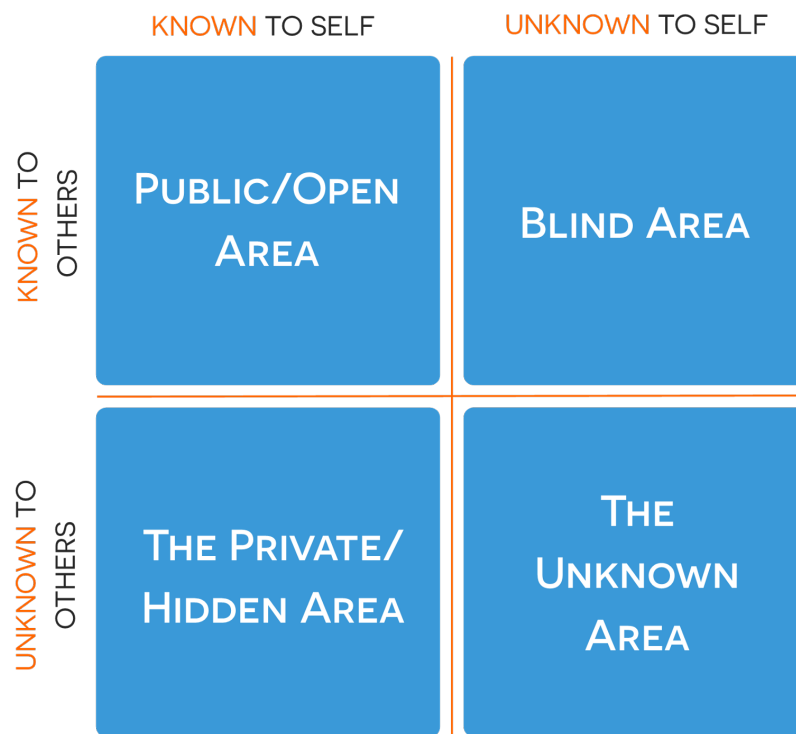
Community—Life shared in healthy and healing relationships within the family of God.

- *God is Community...Genesis 1:26 “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us...”*
- We were created in and for relationship
- *“Discipleship happens in circles, not rows.” ~ Andy Stanley*

Matthew 7:3 “And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own?”

WE ALL HAVE BLIND SPOTS

JOHARI'S WINDOW



How are your blind spots affecting your relationships?

How can authentic, biblical community help with your blind area?

Community can help you explore the unknown! Speak life into others.

MP Groups

- Sermon-based
- Focus on Transformation
- Transparency
- Accountability

Handling Conflict Biblically

- Someone sins against you—*Matthew 18:15-17*
- Restoration—*Galatians 6:1-5*
- Forgiveness—*Colossians 3:12-13*
- Reconciling Differences—*Matthew 5:23-24, Matthew 7:1-5*

Generosity—Using God's resources for God's purposes with God's attitude

- Joyful Generosity...cheerful giver
- Open handed
- Resources—Time, Talents, Finances
- **Fruit of the spirit—*Galatians 5:22-23*...Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-Control.**

Generosity is at the center of the Discipleship Diagram

Never are we more like God than when we give!

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he **GAVE** his one and only son

Service—Using God’s gifts for God’s pleasure to serve His purpose

- **Ephesians 2:10**...You are uniquely wired and gifted
- God doesn’t make mistakes
- He has designed you and you are his **masterpiece!**

Do you believe that God has a call on your life that is unique to you?

Practical Tools:

- S.H.A.P.E.—Spiritual Gifts/Heart/Abilities/Personality/Experiences...
Rick Warren, Saddleback Church
- Spiritual Gifts Assessments...hgtools.com/gifts
- Personality Tests—Myers-Briggs/Enneagram
- D.I.S.C.
- Emotional Intelligence
- Strength’s finders

S.H.A.P.E.

S – Spiritual Gifts – What has God supernaturally gifted me to do?

H – Heart – What do I have a passion for and love to do?

A – Abilities – What natural talents and skills do I have?

P – Personality – Where does my personality best suit me to serve?

E – Experiences – What spiritual experiences have I had? What painful experiences have I had? What educational experiences have I had? What ministry experiences have I had?

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts!

By Gene Wilkes

Ken Hemphill defines a spiritual gift as “an individual manifestation of grace from the Father that enables you to serve Him and thus play a vital role in His plan for the redemption of the world.” Peter Wagner defines a spiritual gift as “a special attribute given by the Holy Spirit to every member of the Body of Christ according to God’s grace for use within the context of the Body.” I like to use this definition:

A spiritual gift is an expression of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers which empowers them to serve the body of Christ, the church.

Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Peter 4:9-11 contain representative lists of gifts and roles God has given to the church. A definition of these gifts follows.

- **Leadership** – Leadership aids the body by leading and directing members to accomplish the goals and purposes of the church. Leadership motivates people to work together in unity toward common goals (Rom. 12:8).
- **Administration** – Persons with the gift of administration lead the body by steering others to remain on task. Administration enables the body to organize according to God-given purposes and long-term goals (1 Cor. 12:28).
- **Teaching** – Teaching is instructing members in the truths and doctrines of God’s Word for the purposes of building up, unifying, and maturing the body (1 Cor. 12:28; Rom. 12:7; Eph. 4:11).
- **Knowledge** – The gift of knowledge manifests itself in teaching and training in discipleship. It is the God-given ability to learn, know, and explain the precious truths of God’s Word. A word of knowledge is a Spirit-revealed truth (1 Cor. 12:28).
- **Wisdom** – Wisdom is the gift that discerns the work of the Holy Spirit in the body and applies His teachings and actions to the needs of the body (1 Cor. 12:28).
- **Prophecy** – The gift of prophecy is proclaiming the Word of God boldly. This builds up the body and leads to conviction of sin. Prophecy manifests itself in preaching and teaching (1 Cor. 12:10; Rom 12:6).
- **Discernment** – Discernment aids the body by recognizing the true intentions of those within or related to the body. Discernment tests the message and actions of others for the protection of well-being of the body (1Cor. 12:10).
- **Exhortation** – Possessors of this gift encourage members to be involved in and enthusiastic about the work of the Lord. Members of this gift are good counselors and motivate others to service. Exhortation exhibits itself in preaching, teaching, and ministry (Rom. 12:8).
- **Shepherding** – The gift of shepherding is manifested in persons who look out for the spiritual welfare of others. Although pastors, like shepherds, do care for members of the church, this gift is not limited to a pastor or staff member (Eph. 4:11).
- **Faith** – Faith trusts God to work beyond the human capabilities of the people. Believers with this gift encourage others to trust in God in the face of apparently insurmountable odds.
- **Evangelism** – God gifts his church with evangelists to lead others to Christ effectively and enthusiastically. This gift builds up the body by adding new members to its fellowship (Eph. 4:11).

- **Apostleship** - The church sends apostles from the body to plant churches or be missionaries, Apostles motivate the body to look beyond its walls in order to carry out the Great Commission (1Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11).
- **Service/Helps** – Those with the gift of service/helps recognize practical needs in the body and joyfully give assistance to meeting those needs. Christians with this gift do not mind working behind the scenes (1 Cor. 12:28; Rom. 12:7).
- **Mercy** – Cheerful acts of compassion characterize those with the gift of mercy. Persons with this gift aid the body by empathizing with hurting members. They keep the body healthy and unified by keeping others aware of the needs within the church (Rom. 12:8).
- **Giving** - Members with the gift of giving give freely and joyfully to the work and mission of the body. Cheerfulness and liberality are characteristics of the individuals with this gift (Rom. 12:8).
- **Hospitality** – Those with this gift have the ability to make visitors guests, and strangers feel at ease. They often use their home to entertain guests. Person with this gift integrate new members into the body (1 Pet. 4:9).

God has gifted you with an expression of His Holy Spirit to support His vision and mission of the church. It is a worldwide vision to reach all people with the gospel of Christ. As a servant leader, God desires that you know how He has gifted you. This will lead you to where He would have you serve as part of His vision and mission for the church.

ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.” 1 Corinthians 12:1 (NIV)
A spiritual gift is a special ability given by the Holy Spirit to serve others and strengthen the Body of Christ.

Ways To Discover Our Spiritual Gifts:

- **Experiment** – It’s easier to discover your gift through ministry than to discover your ministry through your gift.
- **Read and Study** – There are a number of books that talk about spiritual gifts.
- **Take Assessments** – Like this S.H.A.P.E. assessment.
- **Ask Others For Input** – Others will often see gifts in us that we can’t see ourselves.

Hgctools.com/sgifts

ABOUT HEART

"Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalms 37:4 (NIV)

Another way to think of your heart is to think about passion!

Take a moment to think about these questions:

What drives you?

- What would you do for God if you knew you couldn't fail?
- What pushes you to action?
- What moves you so deeply that it keeps you awake at night?

Who are the people you most want to help?

- Who do you feel you can influence the most?
- Is there an age range you feel most drawn to? If so, what age group?
- Is there an affinity group I feel most drawn to?

What are the needs I feel most drawn to?

- What are the top two needs I love to meet for people?
- Why do I love meeting those needs?

What cause am I most passionate about?

- What cause or issue makes my heart race?
- Where could I make the greatest impact for God?

HEART

Directions: Please check each that you feel applies to you.

The people I would like to serve most are:

- | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Children | <input type="radio"/> Homeless | <input type="radio"/> Single Parents | <input type="radio"/> Young Married |
| <input type="radio"/> College Students | <input type="radio"/> Hospitalized | <input type="radio"/> Singles | <input type="radio"/> Youth |
| <input type="radio"/> Disabled | <input type="radio"/> Infants | <input type="radio"/> Teen Moms | <input type="radio"/> Poor |
| <input type="radio"/> Divorced | <input type="radio"/> Men | <input type="radio"/> Unemployed | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Elderly | <input type="radio"/> Parents | <input type="radio"/> Widowed | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Empty Nesters | <input type="radio"/> Prisoners | <input type="radio"/> Women | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |

The issues or causes I feel most strongly about are:

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Abuse/Violence | <input type="radio"/> Drug Abuse | <input type="radio"/> Homelessness | <input type="radio"/> Sanctity of Life |
| <input type="radio"/> Alcoholism | <input type="radio"/> Education | <input type="radio"/> Injustice Issues | <input type="radio"/> Sexuality |
| <input type="radio"/> At-risk Children | <input type="radio"/> Environment | <input type="radio"/> Law/Justice System | <input type="radio"/> Spiritual Apathy |
| <input type="radio"/> Compulsive Behavior | <input type="radio"/> Ethics | <input type="radio"/> Marriage/family | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Deafness | <input type="radio"/> Finances | <input type="radio"/> Parenting | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Disabilities | <input type="radio"/> Health/Fitness | <input type="radio"/> Policy/Politics | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Divorce | <input type="radio"/> HIV/AIDS | <input type="radio"/> Poverty/Hunger | <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ |

ABOUT ABILITIES

Each of us has abilities that we have discovered and learned over our lifetime.

Read through this list of specialized abilities and check the ones that you excel at and love doing:

ABILITIES

- ☐ Adapting – The ability to adjust, change, alter, modify
- ☐ Administrating – The ability to govern, run, rule
- ☐ Analyzing – The ability to examine, investigate, probe, evaluate
- ☐ Building – The ability to construct, make, assemble
- ☐ Coaching – The ability to prepare, instruct, train, equip, develop
- ☐ Communicating – The ability to contend, win, battle
- ☐ Competing – The ability to contend, win, battle
- ☐ Computing – The ability to add, estimate, total, calculate
- ☐ Connecting – The ability to link together, involve, relate
- ☐ Consulting – The ability to advise, discuss, confer
- ☐ Cooking – The ability to prepare, serve, feed, cater
- ☐ Coordination – The ability to organize, match, harmonize
- ☐ Counseling – The ability to guide, advise, support, listen, care for
- ☐ Decorating – The ability to beautify, enhance, adorn
- ☐ Designing – The ability to draw, create, picture, outline
- ☐ Developing – The ability to expand, grow, advance, increase
- ☐ Directing – The ability to aim, oversee, manage, supervise
- ☐ Editing – The ability to correct, amend, alter, improve
- ☐ Encouraging – The ability to cheer, inspire, support
- ☐ Engineering – The ability to construct, design, plan
- ☐ Excelling – The ability to be the best and make my team the best, setting and attaining the highest standard

- Facilitating – The ability to help, aid, assist, make possible
- Forecasting – The ability to predict, calculate, see trends, patterns, and themes
- Implementing – The ability to apply, execute, make happen
- Improving – The ability to better, enhance, further, enrich
- Influencing – The ability to affect, sway, shape, change
- Landscaping – The ability to garden, plant, improve
- Leading – The ability to pave the way, direct, excel, win
- Learning – The ability to study, gather, understand, improve, expand self
- Managing – The ability to run, handle, oversee
- Mentoring – The ability to advise, guide, teach
- Negotiating – The ability to discuss, consult, settle
- Operating – The ability to run mechanical or technical things
- Organizing – The ability to simplify, arrange, fix, classify, coordinate
- Performing – The ability to sing, speak, dance, play an instrument, act out
- Persevering – The ability to see things to completion, persisting at something until it is finished
- Pioneering – The ability to bring about something new, groundbreaking, original
- Planning – The ability to arrange, map out, prepare
- Promoting – The ability to sell, sponsor, endorse, showcase
- Recruiting – The ability to draft, enlist, hire, engage
- Repairing – The ability to fix, mend, restore, heal
- Researching – The ability to seek, gather, examine, study
- Resourcing – The ability to furnish, provide, deliver
- Serving – The ability to help, assist, fulfill
- Shopping – The ability to collect, or obtain things, getting the highest quality for the best price
- Strategizing – The ability to think ahead, calculate scheme
- Teaching – The ability to interpret, decode, explain, speak

- [illegible]

ABOUT PERSONALITY

Understanding the personality God has given you will help you more effectively express your spiritual gifts, heart, and abilities for His sake.

“Like stained glass, our different personalities reflect God’s light in many colors and patterns.”

– Rick Warren

We are going to focus on only two aspects of your personality:

- How you are energized
- How you are organized

PERSONALITY

DIRECTIONS:

- For each statement, circle the number towards the statement that most accurately describes what you would prefer in most situations.
- Do not answer according to what you feel is expected by a spouse, family member, employer etc.
- Select the behavior or perspective that would come naturally to you if you knew there were no restrictions on or consequences for your personal expression.

How Are You Energized?

I’m more comfortable:

Doing things for people 1 2 3 4 Being with people

When doing a task, I tend to:

Focus on the goal 1 2 3 4 Focus on the relationships

I get more excited about:

Advancing a cause 1 2 3 4 Creating a community

I feel I’ve accomplished something when I’ve:

Gotten a job done 1 2 3 4 Built a relationship

It is more important to start a meeting:

On time 1 2 3 4 When everyone gets there

I’m more concerned with:

Meeting a deadline 1 2 3 4 Maintaining the team

I place higher value on:

Action 1 2 3 4 Communication

Add all the prior numbers and record the total here: Total = _____

If your score was 7-17: You are more task-oriented

If your score was 18-28: You are more people-oriented

How Are You Organized?

While on vacation I prefer to:

Be spontaneous 1 2 3 4 Follow a set plan

I prefer to set guidelines that are:

General 1 2 3 4 Specific

I prefer to:

Leave my options open 1 2 3 4 Settle things now

I prefer projects that have:

Variety 1 2 3 4 Routine

I like to:

Play it by ear 1 2 3 4 Stick to a plan

I find routine:

Boring 1 2 3 4 Restful

I accomplish tasks best:

By working it out as I go 1 2 3 4 By following a plan

Add all prior numbers and record the total here: Total = _____

If your score was 7-17: You are unstructured

If your score was 18-28: You are structured

Record your results:

I am _____/_____

EXPERIENCE

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV)

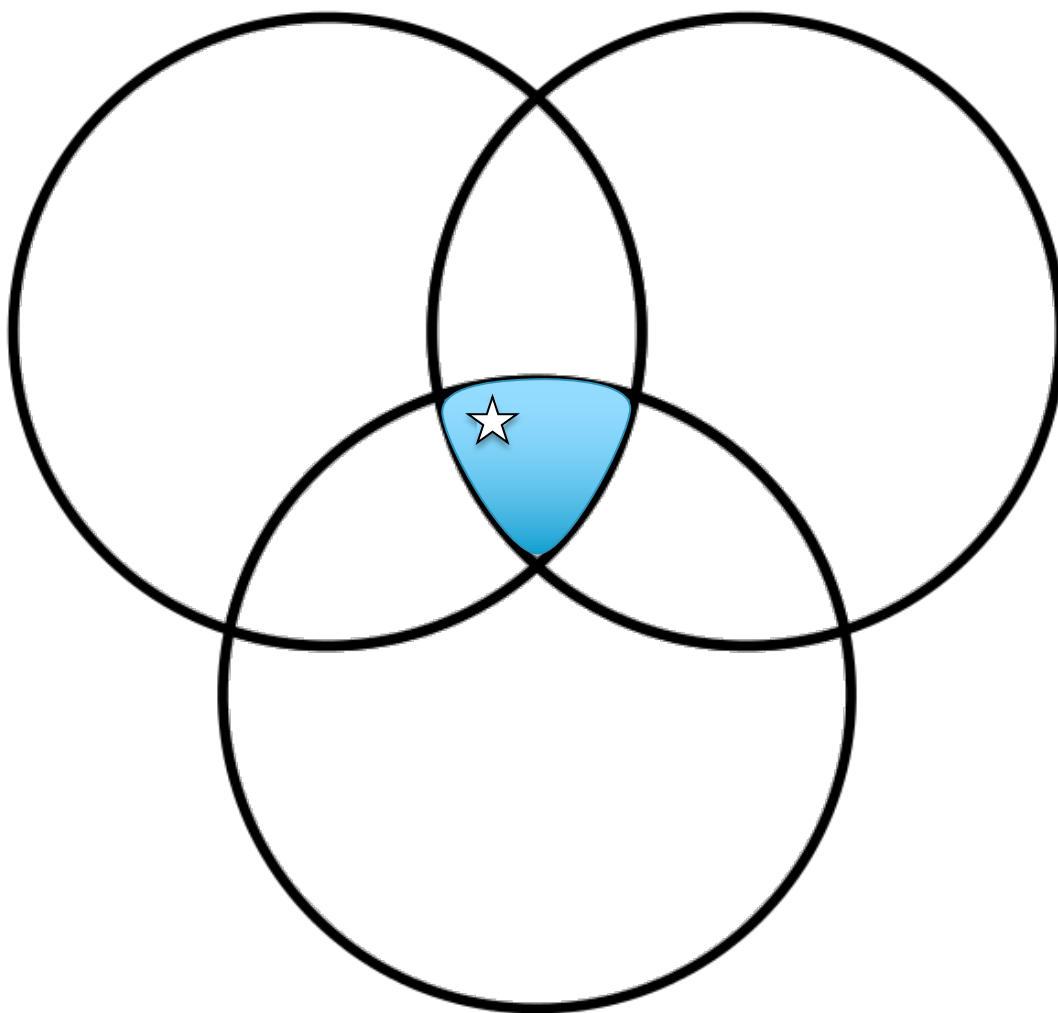
Take a moment to think about these different experiences and how they have impacted your life:

- Spiritual experiences – Meaningful decisions, times with God, times you felt especially close to God
- Painful experiences – Problems, hurts, trials, etc...
- Educational experiences – Favorite subjects in school, special training, etc...
- Ministry experiences – How you've served in the past

Record any experiences that stand out in the following areas onto your S.H.A.P.E. Profile:

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

STRENGTHS/ABILITIES



STORIES/EXPERIENCES

Becoming Like Jesus While Being Yourself

A
discipleship
guide for
the
16 Myers-
Briggs
personality
types



About Myers-Briggs

The Myers-Briggs type indicator (MBTI) is one of the most popular personality inventories in the world. Many Fortune 500 companies use it as a tool to hire and place people in positions where they can be most productive. For followers of Jesus, the MBTI can be a powerful tool to help you to identify how God has made you, and what that means for your relationships with others.

Based on the research of psychologist Carl Jung, Myers-Briggs provides a framework for understanding how people function alone and in teams. While a tool like Myers-Briggs isn't intended to be a definitive judgement about every aspect of your personality, it can be helpful for understanding yourself (and others) better. Increasing your awareness of various personality types can help you:

- Resolve conflict
- Discover unique strengths in yourself and others
- Identify gaps in your teams
- Lead others' productivity
- Empathize more effectively
- Improve your church culture

How the MBTI works

At the heart of Myers-Briggs are four major categories that look at how you're energized, how you process information, how you make decisions, and how you process life. Combining your preferences for each category gives you your Myers-Briggs personality type.

In each pair, you will prefer one type over the other. The letters associated with each trait are combined to give you your Myers-Briggs personality type. For example, having preferences for I, S, F, and J makes you an ISFJ.

How you're energized

Introverts

- Process inwardly and generally prefer to work alone or in small, intimate groups.
- They prefer working through one task at a time and love tackling fewer tasks with more depth.
- When collaborating, they listen more than they speak, and would rather communicate via text where they feel they express themselves better.

Extroverts

- They're verbally expressive and often need to work through ideas out loud. They're at their best when they can collaborate with others.
- They're great multi-taskers that are happiest when they can bounce back and forth between many different duties.
- Because they process outwardly, they tend to speak before they have thought through a topic, and might change their minds multiple times. They prefer face-to-face discussion.

How you make decisions

Thinkers

- When it comes to making decisions, thinkers analyze the situation objectively. They want to follow a logical, rational process.
- They're long-term thinkers who can quickly recognize a system's flaws and weigh the benefits against the costs.
- They value competence and make decisions by identifying principles.

Feelers

- Unlike the thinker, feelers look at things personally and subjectively – empathizing rather than analyzing.
- Focused more on the short-term, feelers are the first to recognize the positives in a situation and make decisions based on the potential impact on others.
- They value experience and make decisions by identifying values.

How you process information

Sensors

- These people love concrete facts and detailed information.
- They're realists and prefer to gather information in a very sequential, step-by-step fashion.
- When they find a system that works for them, they commit to it. They're achievement-oriented and know how to implement goals in order to succeed.

Intuitives

- Rather than getting lost in details, intuitives focus on the big picture. They tend to think in possibilities and abstract ideas.
- They're idealists who prefer to gather information in more haphazard, random processes.
- They get bored with systems, preferring instead to discover innovative ways to meet their goals.

How you approach life

Judgers

- For the judger, structure and rules are there to make everything easy and simple.
- They make precise plans and follow them to the T. As much as possible, they prefer to be in control of their environment and schedule.
- They're not very comfortable with ambiguity, preferring clarity and consistency.

Perceivers

- These people like to keep their options open. They tend to be flexible, spontaneous, and willing to take things as they come.
- They procrastinate, not because they're afraid they're not making decisions with all of the available input. They require flexibility.
- They work in quick bursts of energy and approach their job as a mixture of work and play.

What you can expect from this guide:

While information abounds for the 16 MBTI personalities, there's been very little discussion about how personality types impact people of faith. This resource focuses on the strengths and challenges each personality faces while living out the gospel.

Become Like Jesus While Being Yourself is broken into four sections that focus on four closely related personality types:

- **Adventurers (ESTP, ESFP, ISTP, ISFP)**
- **Ambassadors (ENFP, ENFJ, INFJ, INFP)**
- **Architects (INTJ, INTP, ENTJ, ENTP)**
- **Sentinels (ESTJ, ISTH, ESFJ, ISFJ)**

Each section gives a brief overview of the similarities shared between the four personality types, and then looks at each type in turn.

The sections on specific types take a broad look at each personality before delving into ways these traits influence your faith. You'll discover how each type functions for disciples and mentors before examining their specific growth challenges. Lastly, you'll find unique memory verses focused on aspects related to each type.

Jesus Film Project

Jesus Film Project is passionate about giving everyone, everywhere, an opportunity to encounter Jesus, and provide them with tools for growth and discipleship.

We believe that film is one of the most dynamic tools for people to see and hear the greatest story ever told – so we are driven to take Christ-centered video to the ends of the earth. Over 200 million people have come to Jesus after experiencing one of these films.



Part One: The Adventurers

The four types that make up adventurers (ESTP, ESFP, ISTP and ISFP) share similar traits. They're incredibly comfortable with uncertainty and will jump head first into projects trusting themselves to adapt to whatever situations may arise.

When problems arise, Adventurers are quick to put the skills and tools they've acquired to good use. Each of their toolboxes is a little different, but they know how to use their talents and expertise in a crisis. In fact, if you're in a pinch, you're going to want an Adventurer at your side.

Laid back and relaxed, Adventurers don't enjoy being under anyone's thumb (and don't want anyone under theirs). They prefer the freedom to pursue new ideas and interests, but can struggle to commit to anything that seems monotonous or mandatory.

Adventurers are comfortable people to have relationships with. They're not known for trying to impose their will or force people to fit a certain mold, preferring to take things as they come. They're open to most influences in their life, but can't abide negative people.



ESTP: The Producer

Daring, Pragmatic, Imaginative, Perceptive, Gregarious, Candid

People are drawn to Producers because they have a flair for drama and style. There's always a fun, almost charged energy around them. As one of the most perceptive people readers, the Producer can pick up on the slightest cues in others like a sideward glance or a nearly imperceptible frown. This allows them to identify hidden thoughts or motives. They have little patience for insincerity.

Active and enthusiastic, the Producer needs to keep moving. They begin to bristle when they feel restricted or confined. Their enthusiasm is contagious, but it quickly wanes when they're stuck in a routine. This means that they're great at getting people to rally around a new idea or project, but they can't always be expected to lead that project to completion.

Producers as disciples:

Producers struggle with theoretical discussion about faith, they'd much rather roll up their sleeves and get to it. When it comes to biblical study, they prefer some idea of direct application. Spending a lot of time focused on abstract ideas and concepts eventually grates on them. Once they're convinced it's important, the Producer can develop a rich prayer life. It is best if they're allowed to respond to opportunities to pray as the moment leads. If they're expected to maintain a scheduled, regimented prayer life, it can cause them to struggle with the practice.

Challenges for Producers:

The producer's lack of follow-through can be a huge deficit. While we can't expect everyone to follow regimented disciplines. Producers need to develop their self-discipline. If they don't learn to follow through, they put themselves in danger of disappointing people around them or making decisions without weighing the cost or consequences of their choices.

Producers making disciples:

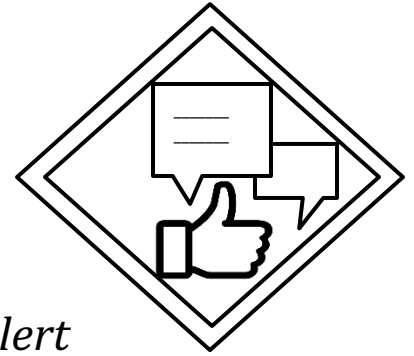
For young Christians, Producers can make valuable, perhaps unconventional, mentors. The mentorship will probably not go on indefinitely, but that doesn't negate its value. With a Producer discipling you, you'll benefit from keen insight into your behavior and motives. You'll also discover the value of listening and responding to God in the moment.

Memory verses for Producers

Psalm 90:17

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

James 2:17-18



ESFP: The Performer

Fearless, Original, Flashy, Practical, Affable, Alert

The performer is the life of the party. They're capable of squeezing joy out of every possible moment, and long to help others experience that as well. Like other extroverts, the Performer seems to have an endless amount of energy. What separates them from others is how much they love exhausting that energy for the benefit of others.

Unless they're on the platform, Performers can struggle to get through a church service. It's not that they don't care; it's that they can't wait to get over by the punch and cookies and start "fellowshipping." One of their greatest gifts is the ability to make everyone around them feel loved and accepted.

Performers as disciples:

Always on the hunt for a way to experience and serve others, Performers are poised to discover God in acts of service – especially when it's service that makes them the center of attention. The Performer has a deep reservoir of feelings but, because they're externally focused, those feelings are more empathetic than introspective. Maintaining a journal can be a helpful way for Performers to get more grounded in their own feelings and values.

Performers making disciples:

Nobody can get someone motivated like a Performer. For new Christians, Performers can play a critical role getting them enthusiastic and motivated to pursue their faith. If given an opportunity, Performers can really shine by discipling children and youth. This personality type has a unique ability to encourage zeal during this pivotal time in a disciple's life.

Challenges for Performers:

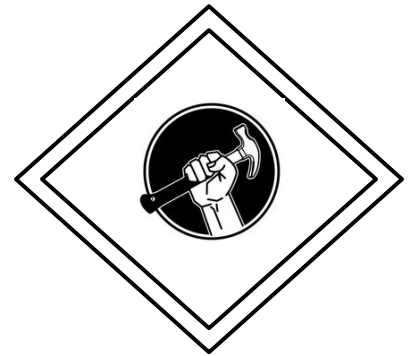
The Performer's enthusiasm has been known to lead them astray. If they're not well grounded, they can find themselves drawn in by deceptive teachings and ideas. Being so upbeat and "in the moment," Performers can struggle to deal with negative experiences or emotions. When difficult situations arise, Performers can struggle to deal with negative experiences or emotions. When difficult situations arise, Performers can opt to not deal with them or get extremely stressed out.

Memory verses for Performers

Psalm 8:2

Proverbs 17:22

1 Thessalonians 5:11



ISTP: The Artisan

Confident, Energetic, Creative, Laid back, Flexible, Rational

The Artisan is driven to understand how things work. Stories abound of Artisan children taking apart household appliances to see what's inside of them. However, this curiosity is purely functional. They're not as interested in abstractions or figuring out what makes people tick. Their interest is practical application.

One of the most adaptable and spontaneous personality types, the Artisan is all about action – but they have little interest in long-term planning. Because of their attention to details and practical issues, they can feel prepared to act quickly – sometimes to their detriment.

Artisans as disciples:

Working on projects and troubleshooting problems are the Artisan's ideal form of devotion. In the Old Testament, they would have considered their work on constructing the Temple the highest form of worship. Since Artisans tend to prefer to work alone, they can benefit from listening to Scripture and using their tinkering time to pray and meditate.

Artisans making disciples:

Artisans aren't known for sensitivity or shows of emotion, so they're not the ideal disciple for regularly scheduled coffee appointments. But that doesn't mean that they can't be good mentors. In a perfect world, Artisans would issue invitations to join them as they worked on a project. Opportunities that allow Artisans to work alongside of others and talk casually are ideal.

Challenges for Artisans:

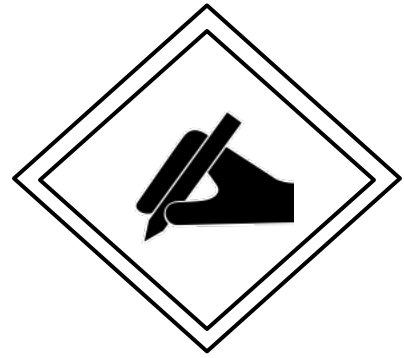
It might seem like Artisans are going with the flow when, in fact, they're ignoring it entirely. It's not that they're rebellious with authority; it's that they have a tendency to ignore expectations altogether. When pushed, Artisans can lack compassion in their response. Artisans need some room to pursue their own interests, but it's important that they develop an ability to follow the lead of others as well.

Memory verses for Artisans

1 Corinthians 10:31

1 Thessalonians 4:11

Hebrews 13:17



ISFP: The Artist

Endearing, Sensitive, Resourceful, Ardent, Curious, Imaginative

Quiet and reserved, the Artist enjoys being around others, preferring to observe conversation more than contribute. They're remarkably accurate in their perceptions of people. But you don't have to worry about the severity of their opinions. The Artist is warm and sympathetic, often giving people the benefit of the doubt.

Despite being sensitive and introverted, Artists are adventurous doers. They like to experiment with ideas and push themselves by taking risks. When they find something they're passionate about, they will pursue it intensely.

Artists as disciples:

Like all Adventurers, Artists like to actually do things. They're typically drawn to behind-the-scenes work and prefer small intimate groups over large worship gatherings. Because they tend to focus on creating and doing good, Artists can let feelings downplay the value of theological thought. It's good for Artists to supplement their Scripture reading with commentaries and other works to move them beyond a belief system based on what seems obvious to them.

Artists making disciples:

Artists make great disciples because they're generally loyal and devoted to people in their life. They're not domineering, and their sensitive natures make them incredible listeners. Instead of issuing directives, Artist can help others discover ways that they're particularly suited to serve and respond to God.

Challenges for Artists:

The Artist lives passionately in the present. When things get difficult, they can respond uncharacteristically, either shutting down or blowing up. This can be difficult in community, and the Artist needs to develop a process for dealing with negative emotions – like a strong support system.

Memory verses for Artists

Romans 12:1

1 Peter 3:8

1 John 3:16-19



Part Two: The Ambassadors

Intuitives and Feelers (those with N and F in their Myers-Briggs type) make up the Ambassadors. These four types (ENFP, ENFJ, INFJ, and INFP) share similar traits.

All of the Ambassador types are tuned into the world's wavelength in an entirely different way than personality types that are more rational or systematic. They're exceptionally perceptive and often intuitively pick up insights that others miss. They're deeply reflective and self-aware and this tendency gives them discernment into the inner workings of others.

With a strong pull toward idealism, Ambassadors are passionate about leaving the world around them better than they found it. But their innate empathy makes it difficult for them to confront others. They'd prefer to lead and encourage others onto the right track than prod and push.

This can change when they feel injustice threaten those around them. Their empathetic nature makes them feel people's sadness and pain very acutely. When dealing with corruption or evil, a switch gets flipped with Ambassadors, and they can get combative. This isn't always to their advantage.

Ambassadors live their lives with open hands, loving to give openly and freely. They trust others to give in return and expect that, by taking care of others, their needs will be met as well. This charitable spirit can be naïve. Not only will Ambassadors occasionally overextend themselves, depleting their emotional, physical, and financial reserves, they're easy to take advantage of.



ENFP: The Champion

Curious, Attentive, Expressive, Spirited, Popular, Loving

When it comes to people, the Champion is incredibly inquisitive. They want to get to know others and understand what makes them tick. They long for deep connection and value authenticity. Others are drawn to the Champion's kind, nonjudgemental acceptance, feeling and emotional bond almost immediately.

Champions are incredibly adept at whatever interests them but tire quickly when they're required to do the same mundane tasks every day. Boredom can lead them to change careers more frequently than their peers. The Champion is drawn to novelty, driven by their inner values, a strong independent streak, and the need for self-expression.

Champions as disciples:

Champions are used to feeling things intensely. When they no longer have those feelings, they have a tendency to move on to something they will feel more passionately about. This makes Champions great starters but not the great finishers. For their spiritual maturity, it's important for Champions to recognize this tendency and make steps to push through. It's helpful for them to find others to pray and study with who can help them follow through when the novelty of a new discipline begins to wear off.

Champions making disciples:

In many ways, the Champion's personality is tailored for ministry. Their charm, charisma, and compassion draw people to them, encouraging both enthusiasm and spiritual fervor. Because Champions love getting to know new people, they can find themselves overcommitting to too many relationships. They also make powerful evangelists. They listen to others well, aren't overly confrontational, and trust their intuition to help them respond to tough questions. Champions can hear the question behind the question, giving them the ability to address people's real concerns and feelings.

Challenges for Performers:

For all their relational strengths, the Champion can struggle in Christian community. Their sensitive nature and intuition can create problems. There's a tendency for them to turn exchanges and discussions over and over in their head, trying to discern why something was said or what someone's motive was. Champions need to be wary of attaching too much significance to every interaction.

Memory verse for Champions

Proverbs 15:13

Ecclesiastes 7:8

Matthew 5:9



ENFJ: The Hero

Forgiving, Reliable, Appealing, Accommodating, Motivating, Idealistic

When the Hero looks at a person or situation, the first thing he or she sees is potential. This keen awareness of potential possibilities propels and motivates Heroes. Natural leaders and teachers, Heroes are energized by helping others develop their strengths and grow in their understanding.

Unlike other extroverted personality types, Heroes are more reserved. They worry about coming across too strong when sharing their ideas and opinions. That doesn't mean the Hero doesn't have them; it simply means that the Hero is too focused on being supportive. When a strongly held personal value or opinion conflicts with another person's needs, the Hero usually defaults to serving others.

Heroes as disciples:

Heroes aren't just amazing extroverts; they have a talent for seeing how the individual talents in a church can come together to create something extraordinary. They know how to rally support, and, whether leading or following, they're genuine, dedicated, and loyal. As a disciple, Heroes can benefit from growing in their communication skills. Their natural thought progressions and complex associations make perfect sense to them, but others don't immediately understand. When Heroes learn not to assume that others are making the same connections they are and can communicate the process from one thought to another, God can use them to do amazing ministry.

Heroes making disciples:

Excelling in hospitality, Heroes make wonderful mentors. Their ability to help shape people's values, help them find their purpose, and bring them into community is second to none. The biggest thing a Hero needs to worry about in discipleship process is their tendency to squelch someone else's cognitive dissonance instead of helping them resolve it.

Challenges for Heroes:

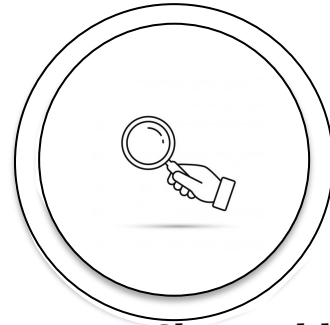
Heroes can be overly idealistic. Their inability to live up to their ideals can negatively impact their self-confidence and esteem. Heroes need to learn to walk a tightrope between idealism and self-assuredness. This way they won't beat themselves up for every infraction and misstep.

Memory verses for Heroes

Romans 12:9-13

2 Corinthians 12:9

Ephesians 4:29



INFJ: The Advisor

Gifted, Astute, Encouraging, Resolute, Persistent, Charitable

The Advisor personality values order in the world around them. They commit themselves to finding the best systems to keep themselves organized, and they're willing to update that process if a better system comes along. On the other hand, they are also very instinctive and respond to stimuli in a very spontaneous fashion. These two tendencies can clash making the advisor the least organized of all the "judging" personalities (types with J in their description).

Because of their strong intuitive abilities, Advisors tend to trust their instincts – and they're generally right. They show extraordinary insight into other people and situations, but they're not always able to communicate how they know what they do. This makes Advisors very reserved and reticent to share too much of their complex inner world – but as complex as Advisors are, they're also genuinely warm and affectionate.

Advisors as disciples:

Advisors fairly easily develop a close personal relationship with God, and enjoy the presence of others who are just as committed. The Advisor's keen mind gives insight into faith, community, and discipleship. The tendency for things not to progress the way they ought can cause the Advisor a lot of internal frustration. It's important for Advisors to recognize that, although their insights and instincts are typically accurate, they can't see the whole picture. There's a lot of information and history they aren't privy to. A big part of their maturity is learning to relax more and develop hobbies and spiritual practices that bring them joy. This can help them loosen up.

Advisors making disciples:

Advisors can make strong disciplers. They're sensitive, understanding, and principled. They're reliable and trustworthy counselors. Advisors work hard to ensure that people in their care feel appreciated and happy. Things can unravel quickly if Advisors feel that their goodwill is being taken advantage of. They have very little patience for unrepentant lapses in reliability and morality.

Challenges for Advisors:

As perfectionists, the motto of the Advisor needs to be, "The perfect is the enemy of the good." Their pursuit of the best can cause them to miss the perfectly good things all around them. Learning to slow down and be attentive to the good things God has put in their lives can greatly improve the wellbeing of the Advisor.

Memory verses for Advisors

Romans 15:13

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

1 John 3:16



INFP: The Humanitarian

Idealistic, Flexible, Giving, Loyal, Creative, Romantic

People think that Humanitarians' introverted nature makes them averse to being around people. The truth is that they have very little capacity for small talk. But you'll often find them talking passionately with a handful of people about deep topics: spirituality, growth, ethics and values.

As non-confrontational and independent thinkers, the Humanitarian is generally accepting and nonjudgemental towards others. Profoundly sensitive and empathetic, Humanitarians tend to be gentle and accommodating, understanding how others might feel in certain situations. However, they can become extremely rigid when they feel their values are being violated or that they're being steamrolled by others.

Humanitarians as disciples:

Because of their reserved nature, people may not understand how much Humanitarians care about unifying and ministering to people. Humanitarians are incredibly proficient at applying Scripture to events and issues around them, but their idealism can get in the way. Humanitarians have such lofty ideals that they're constantly wrestling with how things are vs how they believe they should be. This clash often applies to themselves when they're unable to live up to their incredibly high expectations. To be at peace, Humanitarians need to constantly remind themselves that their call is to love God and love others, and resist the temptation to heap more expectations on themselves or others around them.

Humanitarians making disciples:

The strength of having a Humanitarian as a disciple lies in their sensitivity. They make great listeners and refrain from judging others too hastily. They're adept in discussing spiritual things and helping others see where God is at work in their lives. The only trouble is that they can be a little unorganized, and have difficulty drawing a line in the sand regarding good and bad theology for fear of hurting feelings.

Challenges for Humanitarians:

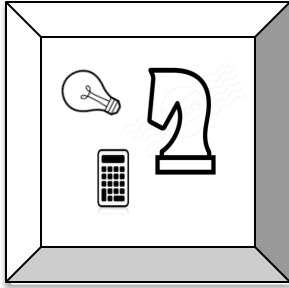
No one takes challenges and criticism as personally as the Humanitarian. The Humanitarian's value-driven, principled personality can clash with the desire to avoid conflict and be well liked. When they feel like they're not measuring up to someone else's expectations, it can send them into a shame spiral. Humanitarians need time to emotionally deal with a critique before they're able to process it objectively.

Memory verses for Humanitarians

Matthew 6:19-21

Luke 6:26

Romans 12:15



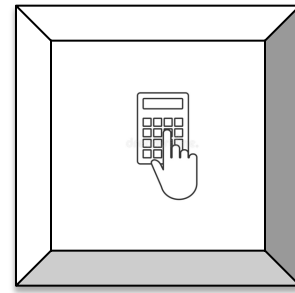
Part Three: The Architects

Intuitives and Thinkers (those with N and T in their Myers-Briggs type) make up the Architects. These four types (INTJ INTP, ENTJ and ENTP) share similar traits.

Intellectual and precise, the Architect approaches challenges analytically. The thinking part of their personality gives them the ability to be thorough and rigorous, while their intuitive trait helps them think beyond the status quo.

Architects are driven to learn, and they're adept in identifying and pointing out the flaws in other people's thinking. This strength is accompanied by excessive confidence and trust in their own ideas. Architects have proved to themselves that they're generally right, so they can be the last one to realize when they're wrong. They can also waste time trying to recreate the wheel when a tried-and-true solution would have worked fine.

This group is at its best when allowed to understand and create. Equally adept at abstract hypotheticals and concrete problem solving. Architects are incredibly adept at cutting through confusion and providing order out of chaos.



INTJ: The Scientist

Capable, Open-Minded, Tireless, Driven, Self-Reliant, Confident

The Scientist's mind works like a calculator. They look at the world as a series of interlocking systems and, because of this, they have a unique ability to predict multiple logical outcomes. In this way, they're like master chess players.

They're perfectionists who are constantly looking to increase their areas of expertise they have a hunger to grow and understand, soaking up as much knowledge as they can. They're dedicated to self-improvement. They expect a lot from others because they expect so much from themselves.

Scientists as disciples:

When they're at their best, the Scientist operates as the church's spiritual security system. They're full of discernment and insight into the truth and able to sound the alarm when things appear a little off. They're also great cheerleaders, calling the church to higher ideals and a larger perspective. Scientists excel when they're loving God with all their mind by reading widely and deeply. This natural inclination is great for their intellectual process, but it's a struggle for them to love God with their heart and soul. Scientists need to get outside of their comfort zone and develop a strong prayer life.

Scientists making disciples:

Although they're averse to being the focus of large groups, Scientists can manage small groups really well. They make great teachers, patiently leading others into a clearer understanding of God and their salvation. One of the greatest gifts Scientists can impart in the discipleship process is a steadfast orthodoxy.

Challenges for Scientists:

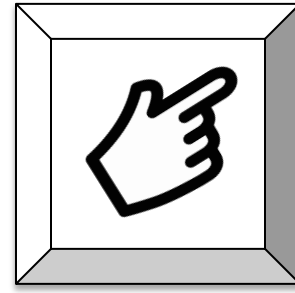
One of the biggest challenges that Scientist personality types face is viewing knowledge as a competition. Because they're known for their intelligence and mastery, it can become their identity. When someone comes along with some of the same strengths, the Scientist can feel intimidated and threatened, seeking to prove themselves smarter and more well-versed.

Memory verses for Scientists

1 Corinthians 8:1

2 Timothy 2:23-26

2 Timothy 3:16-17



INTP: The Visionary

Analytical, Ingenious, Enthusiastic, Impartial, Truthful, Distinct

You might look at a Visionary's exterior and see someone who's a little eccentric and offbeat. But inside their head, reason, analysis, and innovation are constantly at work – which can pull them away from external concerns. Because their minds are so active and complex. Visionaries are able to create intricate and unique answers to troubling problems.

Visionaries are very deliberate in their communication. They don't typically speak to hear themselves talk. They bristle at assumption and formality, preferring to disassemble presumptions that others take for granted.

Visionaries as disciples:

Nothing frustrates the Visionary like the feeling an expectation that their spirituality needs to be highly emotive to be valuable. Not only do Visionaries see their relationships with God as something thoughtful and rational, they tend to see outbursts of emotion as a distraction. When it comes to Bible study, the Visionary can feel alienated by the fact that their perspective isn't shared by others. But they're used to it, and tend to chalk it up to others not catching up to their perspective. This, and their propensity for solitude, can isolate the Visionary. It's imperative that camaraderie is created with a small group of individuals that can benefit from the insight the Visionary brings and keep him or her rooted in the body of Christ. This gives the church the opportunity to profit from the Visionary's penetrating ideas and applications, and it ensures that the Visionary doesn't veer off orthodoxy.

Visionaries making disciples:

If you're looking for a structured discipling process, you might want to look elsewhere. The Visionary's strengths don't really lend themselves to leadership. That said, a relationship with a Visionary can be incredibly valuable. It would be a mistake not to avail yourself to their knack for research and problem-solving. If you can get into a group with a Visionary, count yourself lucky.

Challenges for Visionaries:

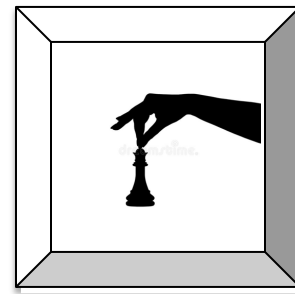
The tendency for Visionaries to see themselves as outsiders can contribute to cynicism. Their ability to correctly discern problems and question presumptions can leave them feeling that they're "the only one who gets it." Visionaries need to see their intellectual gifts as serving the church, and be patient when the church struggles to catch up with their insights.

Memory verses for the Visionaries

Romans 14:13

Philippians 4:8

2 Timothy 2:15



ENTJ: The Strategist

Analytical Ingenious, Enthusiastic, Impartial, Truthful, Distinct

The Strategist always begins with a clear end in mind. Because they're so decisive and charismatic, they're able to create processes and move people toward a goal. They're natural-born leaders who are motivated by success and influence.

They value productivity and competence and know how to pull these qualities out of others. Highly friendly and outgoing, Strategists draw others to them – and pretty quickly assess how people's strengths can be leveraged to meet their goals.

Strategist as disciples:

Strategists need to remember that “with great power comes great responsibility.” As natural, visionary leaders, Strategists will establish order over everything within their influence. Not only will they bring order, but they'll move it toward their own ideals. For God to use this incredible ability for his glory, it's critical that the Strategist develops humility and active listening skills. Without these qualities, there's a potential for the Strategist to be critical, arrogant, or aggressive.

Challenges for Strategists:

While charismatic and inspiring, the Strategist can struggle with feeling misunderstood. The Strategist has a lot of self-confidence and a thick exterior. They're constantly going and motivated by competition. They can end up barreling through life completely oblivious to the ways that people are responding to them. It's easy for people to come to the conclusion that the Strategist is arrogant, pushy, and impatient – and the Strategist is usually the last to know. It's helpful to have trustworthy friends that can give the Strategist insight into how they're perceived and how they can temper it. This will ultimately make the Strategist an even better leader.

Strategists making disciples:

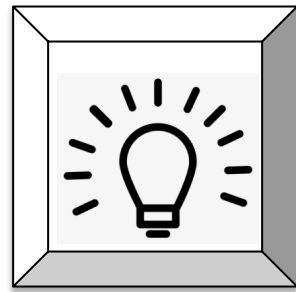
Strategists make great “come and do” disciples. Being kinetic by nature, it makes sense that their best mentoring would also happen in motion. While they'd likely avoid working with an established discipleship regimen, simply being around their natural leadership style and self-discipline can have a dramatic impact on new Christians, especially if the disciples have leadership potential themselves.

Memory verses for Strategists

1 Corinthians 10:32 – 11:1

Philippians 2:3-4

1 Timothy 3:1-3



ENTP: The Innovator

Knowledgeable, Acute, Unique, Original, Magnetic, Enterprising

The Innovator loves a challenge. They're incredibly confident in their ability to think creatively, and they're not too hampered by tradition to visualize a new strategy. They're confident in their ability to shoot from the hip, and don't put too much stock in preparation, preferring to jump into a new situation and modify it on the go.

The strengths of the Innovator are drawn from their disinterest in constantly doing things the same way, and their willingness to question what everyone else might see as "normal." They're not rule breakers for rebellion's sake. They put a lot of effort into understanding how the world around them works, and then look for better and more interesting ways to get things done.

Innovators as disciples:

The Innovator's greatest asset is also their biggest challenge. Their extroversion, intuition, and relational mind make them debating dynamos. While the church can benefit from the Innovator's willingness to challenge the status quo and occasionally even roast some sacred cow, their willingness to challenge everything can be a detriment. As a disciple, it's good for innovators to place themselves under the authority of others and work on their ability to be submissive. Challenging and questioning things is important, but the Innovator also needs to know when to turn it off for the greater good.

Innovators making disciples:

People looking for a good discipler would benefit from having an Innovator as a mentor. Their repository of knowledge and fun-loving nature makes conversations with them informative and entertaining. The main thing mentees of an Innovator need to be prepared for is having their insights and ideas challenged. As long as Innovators are gentle in the way they approach discussions, they can be gifted disciplers.

Challenges for Innovators:

Innovators need to be careful how they communicate. They're part of a church community and they need to allow others to have contradictory opinions without feeling the need to endlessly debate about it. Innovators need to be attuned to people and know when to stop pushing before a debate devolves into hurt feelings.

Memory verses for Innovators

Matthew 23:12

1 Corinthians 9:19

2 Timothy 2:23-24



Part Four: The Sentinels

Sensors and Judgers (those with S and J in their Myer's Briggs type) form the Sentinels. These four types (ESTJ, ISTJ, ESFJ, and ISFJ) share similar traits. When it comes to structure, information, and lifestyle, these Sentinel personalities tend to desire the same things: order, security, confidence, and stability.

They're not overly concerned with abstract concepts, preferring to prioritize what they can see, hear, touch, taste, and feel. Their world is organized by facts, details, and experience. In their eyes, there's a value associated with proven systems and methods. They prefer some measure of social conformity – not because they hate individuality, but because they believe everything runs more efficiently within an accepted social order.

When it comes to structuring their lives, Sentinels prefer order and organization. They're likely to have a to-do list, if not an entire system based on structuring their day. They despise chaos and drama around them, preferring to keep things simple and organized. When it comes to their spiritual life, Sentinels embrace tradition and structure. In their minds, "If it's not broken, why fix it?" They find meaning in established practices, and are drawn to clear boundaries and expectations. When it comes to spiritual disciplines, they gravitate toward clear-cut regimens. These four personality types are the most likely to start a year-long Bible reading plan in January and finish it in December.

As disciple makers, Sentinels provide significant leadership. Their tendency toward organization and leading others by example makes them effective and excellent when working with new Christians.



ESTJ: The Director

Dedicated, Decisive, Forthright, Organized, Patient, Trustworthy

Directors as disciples:

Directors have little energy for abstractions. They want to roll up their sleeves and get to work. They're tenacious with an astonishing ability to get others to follow them. They're not as energized by quiet acts of devotion; they feed off of the energy of others and love accomplishing things together. When sitting through sermons and studies, the Director really needs to be able to understand how concepts will practically benefit others. Leading Bible studies and small groups is an ideal discipleship activity for a Director. They are driven to do a great job and in their preparation for these kinds of activities, they end up discipling themselves. When they have a strong biblical background, they develop a clear sense of right and wrong which can benefit the entire church.

Directors making disciples:

Directors enjoy others, but are typically action-oriented. Their charisma and influence shine when they're working at something they feel passionate about. A Director's best bet for discipling others is to invite people to come along. Whether leading a church or running a soup kitchen, when people are around Directors in their element, it's impossible not to pick up on their enthusiasm and uncomplicated faith.

Challenges for Directors:

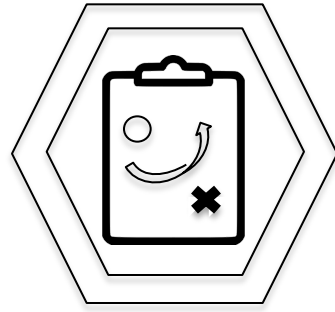
Directors struggle to create a discipline of private prayer, reading, and fasting. It's not that they're undisciplined; it's that they don't really get energy from this kind of introspective, quiet discipline. It's personalities like the Director that benefit from groups dedicated to study and prayer. This can help them become better with private devotion.

Memory verses for Directors

Proverbs 16:3

Philippians 3:13-14

2 Timothy 2:15



ISTJ: The Coordinator

Honest, Conscientious, Responsible, Calm, Effective, Knowledgeable

Coordinators appreciate tradition and predictability, trusting their past to guide them to make decisions based on time-proven methods. Logical and methodical, they appreciate tasks that have a clear step-by-step process. They bring order to their world by applying rational attention to details.

Despite the fact that Coordinators are introverted, they don't tend toward isolation. They're very happy to take part in well-ordered systems and structures. It's just that they're more comfortable taking charge of a task than getting to know strangers.

Coordinators as disciples:

When it comes to finding reliable, critical parts of a structure, Coordinators are invaluable. Their trustworthy dependability is what keeps the church operating efficiently. They find meaning in knowing that their effort is keeping everything running smoothly. This exacting attention to detail transfers over into their spiritual and theological life. They're the most likely personality type to pour themselves into theology, especially theologians who contribute to the church's sense of tradition. They don't really follow fads, preferring to stay close to their roots. This is why they tend to be the last people to church-hop, and stick to the same quiet time and devotional regiment. Coordinators should be encouraged in their Bible and theological study. Not only do they personally benefit from it, but the entire church is edified by its exposure to Coordinators. They also should be encouraged to memorize Scripture. It comes naturally to them, and Coordinators are the most likely to benefit from the practice.

Coordinators making disciples:

When it comes to discipling others, Coordinators come prepared. They don't want to waste time, and disciples can benefit from their knowledge, insight, and strong sense of discipline. The more exposure that people have to a Coordinator's daily routine the better, since they excel at discipling others by example.

Challenges for Coordinators:

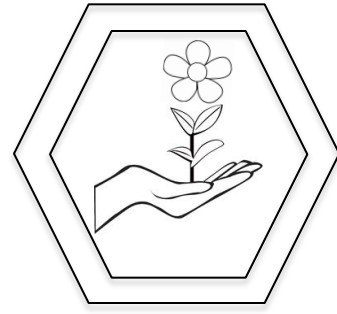
Most people struggle with new ideas, but none more than the Coordinator. Most people see Coordinators as the established authority when it comes to Scripture and theology, and it's easy for them to buy into that view of themselves. When confronted with an idea that they don't agree with, it's easy for them to dismiss the belief and the person. When it comes to change, Coordinators are not really interested. If given their druthers, they'd stay with the same pastor, style of worship, and doctrines forever. When changes come, Coordinators need to work hard not to get anxious or upset, and the need to look out for their tendency to build a contingent of people who agree with them.

Memory verses for Coordinators

Luke 16:10

Colossians 2:8

2 Timothy 3:16-17



ESFJ: The Provider

Administrative, Dutiful, Stable, Sensitive, Admired, Warm

When it comes to others, the Provider is very tuned in. They're sensitive to people's needs and keenly aware of the feelings of others. They prioritize the happiness of the people around them, and feel a great deal of responsibility when it comes to meeting their needs.

The provider is also firmly rooted in a particularly static value system. They see the world as black or white, right or wrong. They often have very strong opinions about the best course of action for others, and can be judgmental towards others who make different choices. Ultimately, this behavior stems from a desire for harmony and social order.

Providers as disciples:

Providers do things right, and they do them at the right time. Not only can they be counted on to keep things running efficiently, but they can also be counted on to take care of people while they're doing it. They are natural shepherds who place a high priority on creating a safe place for others. Because of this, Providers should devote themselves to intercessory prayer and acts of service. Both of these disciplines foster an area of spirituality that comes naturally to them. When it comes to Bible study, they benefit a lot more from group studies than going solo.

Providers making disciples:

Providers' strong sense of duty coupled with their love of people make them strong and dependable disciplers. They're warm and loyal. People love knowing that Providers are sensitive to their needs and can be trusted with sensitive information. Instantly likeable, Providers attract people, and can be effective at sharing their faith.

Challenges for Providers:

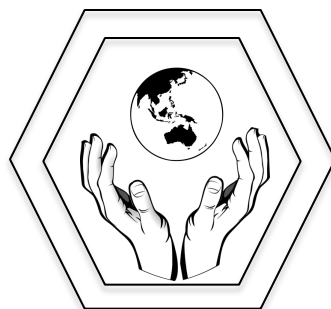
As caring, others-oriented people, Providers tend to be externally focused rather than internally grounded. Because of this, there's a danger that they can judge what's good or right by how it ultimately makes them feel. If it feels comfortable, they're more apt to give it a pass. To counterbalance this, it's helpful for them to have strong mentors and a good biblical foundation.

Memory verses for Providers:

Colossians 3:14

1 Timothy 2:1-2

1 Peter 4:10-11



ISFJ: The Guardian

Supportive, Reliable, Observant, Enthusiastic, Loyal, Practical

Driven by their personal values, Guardians are hard workers and service oriented. They're extremely conscientious of their behavior and make it their aim to get along with others and do what's expected of them. They strive for stability and commit to people and organizations that offer long-term security and support.

Tending to be humble and modest, they don't draw attention to themselves. They're more than happy to play second fiddle as long as they can work hard to serve their families, churches, and communities.

Guardians as disciples:

Guardians find a lot of value in feeling needed. It's not enough for a Guardian to know that they're helping the church, they need to know that the work they're doing matters to individuals. They're servants who give of themselves naturally. They also prefer that their service has some stability to it. Preferring not to just fill in where needed, the Guardian favors recurring, structured roles like treasurer, nursery, children's ministry, and tech ministries. When it comes to spiritual disciplines, they should be allowed to gravitate toward the specific and quantifiable practices. A Guardian is much more comfortable committing to 15 minutes of prayer a day as opposed to an abstract commitment to "praying more." With clear expectations, Guardians will take to spiritual disciplines.

Guardians making disciples:

While they can excel as disciple makers, Guardians often feel out of their element. Even though their introspective nature makes them second guess themselves, they're warm, approachable, and good listeners. Instead of sitting across a table from someone they're discipling, Guardians will excel if they learn to invite others along with them on walks or to work alongside them on service projects. This allows intimate discussion to occur naturally and doesn't require the Guardian to manufacture it.

Challenges for Guardians:

Without meaning to, it's easy for churches to take advantage of the servant nature of the Guardian. They need to be careful that they're not allowing themselves to be weighed down with too much responsibility. This tendency to work hard combined with a desire to feel needed can lead them to perform until they crash. Guardians have a natural tendency to take things personally, and a real need for security and stability. This gives them a tendency toward worry, which, unchecked, can lead to bouts of depression.

Memory verses for Guardians:

Ephesians 6:5-7

Philippians 4:6-7

2 Thessalonians 2:15

SESSION
FOUR

Madison Park Discipleship Class
Living As Followers of Jesus Christ- Session 4

Recap from Session 3...

Our Relationship with His Family (The Church)

- ***Community...Blind Spots/Handling Conflict Biblically***
- ***Generosity...Never are we more like God than we are when we give***
- ***Service...How are you wired? Where is God calling you?***
- ***Practical tools...Questions? Thoughts? Anyone explore some of the tools?***

MISSIONS: Relationship with the people God misses most

What do you think when you hear Missions?

Who do you think of as a missionary? (Who is a missionary?)

Foundations of Missions at Madison Park

3 core disciplines associated with Missions are:

_____ : Active participation with God in His work of reconciling the world to Himself.

What are some examples of **Mission**?

_____ : Authentic personal engagement with people God misses most in order to share His love with them

What are some examples of **Story**?

_____ : Making disciples who make disciples

What are some examples of **Multiplication**?

Madison Park's vision is "_____"

Describe in your own words what it means to *love people back to God*.

Based on Pastor Doug's teaching in the video, how do we at Madison Park love people back to God?

When we connect the 3 core disciplines
(Missions/Story/Multiplication) to being Jesus' representatives in
my world, the result is intentional engagement in the vision of
Madison Park.

Our foundational scripture is:

(2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

***This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are***

Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

Here is how we summarize this scripture:

1. God's mission is _____.
 - Defined as the restoration of all creation to His original intent summarized in relationship (perfect relationship with Him); unity with God in the communal context.
2. God has entrusted the message of His mission to all believers.
 - We are the agents and ambassadors of reconciliation.

Therefore

3. _____ believers must carry the message of Reconciliation
 - Where? To where you _____, _____, and _____.
 - How? By telling your _____ of reconciliation.
 - Why? To accomplish the vision – loving people back to God.

Being Jesus' Representative In My World

It's easy with Missions to get focused on the _____. We are called to be the hands and feet of Christ.

If we look at the passage in 2 Corinthians, it's important to understand what Paul says before "God has given us this task..."

Look again at the passage. **What 2 things does Paul say about us in verses 17 and 18a?**

At Madison Park, we have two goals happen simultaneously and are inseparable:

1. _____ God's good in the world
2. _____ people to do God's good in the world

One cannot happen without the other. We have to be **obedient** in doing God's good in the world. Carrying the message of reconciliation is **active**. At the same time, we are intentionally equipping Jesus-followers to be His representatives in their world through training and laying Biblical foundation for missions. The result of both of these goals is fruit – other people coming to know Jesus and experiencing life transformation with Him (our vision).

Titus 3:14 (CSB) says “Let our people learn to devote themselves to good works for pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.”

Paul tells Titus the fruitfulness of believers is in doing good works and being equipped for pressing needs.

Why is it important for followers of Christ to do God's good AND be equipped for doing good?

Opportunities at Madison Park Church

Now that we've laid the foundation of Missions, let's look again at the 3 core disciplines and outline some practical opportunities for anyone at Madison Park Church to engage in these areas.

MISSION: Active Participation

Through prayer, we have determined that our focus for all missions-related opportunities will be in the following 3 areas: women in need, kids at risk, and community development.

You have something important to offer in sharing God's love by serving your world in practical ways.

Opportunities to Serve:

1. **NOW Text:** Once a week text subscription with specific action steps for serving in the community or ideas for loving others in your world. Opt-in by texting **NOW** to **765-347-7707**.
2. **All Church Service Opportunities:** Opportunities to serve alongside your fellow church body. Find these opportunities on the Madison Park Church of God Facebook page and in our weekly newsletter email. You can subscribe to that on the homepage of our website: youareloved.life.
3. **All-Church Initiatives:** We have identified three specific initiatives to focus on and make a difference.
 - **Hunger Initiative** – We have a God-size goal of eliminating chronic hunger in Anderson and Madison County. We often play a role of connecting resources with needs. The Anderson High School Food Box Collection is our primary ministry with hunger. These boxes help feed students during their extended breaks from

school. Pick up a yellow bag at the church and fill it with items from the list inside and return to the church.

- **Foster Care and Adoption Support Ministry:** In partnership with Hands of Hope, we have implemented a model to provide Care Communities for families who are licensed Foster Care homes or who are in the process of adopting a child. Everyone can do something; from preparing meals, helping with yard work and spending time with the kids. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, contact: Casey Getzin at cgetzin@madisonparkchurch.org
- **Dove Harbor:** A ministry focused on providing rent subsidies and supportive services to women by using 3-person Care Teams. The goal is to provide women a minimum of 6 months support leading to long-term relationship change. For more information about being a part of these Care Teams, contact Doug Linville at dlinville@madisonparkchurch.org

Opportunities to get Equipped:

1. **Community Conversations:** Group conversations gathered in person, or on a Zoom call to talk about topics related to current events or the current sermon series. At times we provide additional resources to help us understand the topic (podcast, blog, articles or other sources).

- 2. Individual Study:** Independent modules on Missions related topics that can be completed by yourself, with your family or in your Madison Park Community Group. Modules can be found on the church website under the tab 'Equipping' on the Mission page.
- 3. RightNow Media:** Access to RightNow Media, a hub of resources for Bible study, book series, and video devotions. Get connected by going to the link on the Mission page.
- 4. Equipping Sessions:** Group sessions led by MPC staff or volunteers where we cover a variety of topics about issues related to Missions and serving on one of our Care Teams.

Why is it important to balance “doing’ God’s work in the world and being “equipped” to do God’s work?

STORY: Authentic personal engagement with people

Your story matters! It is about how God has given you hope, restored what has been stolen, and made right (reconciled) areas of your life. Jesus is the hero of our stories. Telling our stories points others to Him!

There are people your story can reach that ours can't.

Who might need to hear your story of reconciliation with God?

Rev 12:11 (NIV) *“They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; ...”*

Based on Revelation 12:11, what happened as a result of Christ and the testimony of the saints? You may need to look at the verses before 11 to know who John is referring to when he says ‘him.’

The goal is to take your story into every area of your life; where you live, work and play. God has placed you in all three of these areas based on your unique abilities and interests.

Where *can* you take your story? Where *should* you take your story?

The following resource is an example of how **STORY** can be used. Use the worksheet at the bottom to outline your story and help you prepare in sharing it!

PART TWO:
STORY

“Because God gave you your makeup and superintended every moment of your past, including all the hardship, pain, and struggles, He wants to use your words in a unique manner. No one else can speak through your vocal cords, and, equally important, no one else has your story.” – Charles Swindoll

Imagine for a moment that you lived in the first century and had the opportunity to talk to some of the people who had actually met Jesus. What might they say if you asked them about that encounter?

“I was blind, I had been since birth. Most of my days were spent begging and feeling rejected by others. I wasn’t able to go to school or work like the rest of my family. People would talk about me and how worthless I was. It was like they thought I was useless. One day I met Jesus. He didn’t dismiss me. He stopped. He made a paste and put it on my eyes and told me to go wash it off and I did. I opened my eyes and I could see! I was blind one minute, and then I could see the next! I could see everything I had been missing I couldn’t wait to tell everyone about it. Some people couldn’t believe it. They didn’t even believe I was the same guy they saw begging all the time. But it is me! But it’s also true that I’m different now. I know I’m not useless. Not because I can see, but because Jesus, the Savior of the world, loved me even when I was

blind. He didn't think I was worthless, He cared about me and He healed me. Nothing can hold me back from showing others that same compassion. I know what it feels like to be down and out, and I know that showing someone you care about them when they're down and out can change his life. I met Jesus and He changed mine!"

"One afternoon, I went to the well to get some water. I always waited until the other women were gone because they would shun me and speak badly about me – not that I didn't deserve that kind of treatment. I was no friend to women, I had slept with some of their husbands, and they knew it. My reputation was pretty awful, and everything they said about me was true. There was a lot of brokenness in my life. I tried to fix it by turning to men and sex, but it didn't fix anything. In fact, it caused more harm to more people, including me. When I got to the well, there was a Jewish man sitting there. He asked me for some water. I knew something was different about Him since normally a Jew wouldn't talk to a Samaritan – especially a woman – but He did. In fact, He knew everything about me and the things I'd done that made me so ashamed. He told me He was the Messiah I had been waiting for. He spoke about water He could give me so I would never thirst again. I wanted that water. I ran to town to tell everyone about what had happened, and a whole crowd went with me to see Him. He stayed in town for two more days and told us more about this living water, about His Father, and about how we could follow Him and our lives would be different. I chose to follow Him, and so did many in my village. We knew we were following the Savior of the world, and our lives never were the same. Jesus left our town, but I continued to live differently. I no longer lived in shame. I tasted His living water, and I will never thirst again."

"My name is Zacchaeus. I was a big man in the community, and I was rich – really rich. As the chief tax collector I had people working for me, and, as long as we gave the government what they wanted, we could take whatever we were able to wring out of the taxpayers and keep it for ourselves. It looked like I had it all...big house, nice chariot. But I was lacking something. I couldn't put my finger on it, but I knew it wasn't anything I could buy or extort from someone else. I heard Jesus was coming to town, and I had a deep sense that I needed to see Him. I may be a "big man" in town, but I'm not very tall, and no matter how I tried to maneuver through the crowd, I couldn't see Jesus. So I ran ahead of the crowd...yeah, I know men of my position don't run, but I ran. I climbed a sycamore tree in the path ahead of Jesus...yeah, I know men of my position don't climb, but I climbed, high enough to see Him. And there He was, walking right towards me! The next thing I know, I hear Jesus call my name. I couldn't believe my ears! He called me by name and told me to come down from the tree because He was going to my house! I don't know who was more confused...me, or the people in the crowd who began grumbling about me being a sinner and all. I don't blame them...they were the same people I had extorted money from, and I knew they hated me. When Jesus spoke to me, I knew my life could be different. I came down from the tree and told Jesus I didn't want to live the way I was anymore. I was going to give half of everything to the poor, and I was going to pay back all those I stole from – four times over what I stole! My heart felt overwhelmed, and it was as if I couldn't give enough away! Jesus told me that salvation was mine. He said He came for the people like me – lost. I had put my hopes and dreams into money and what it could do for me and found nothing but momentary gratification that left me feeling empty. By now, I look at the people around me, and I know I can make a difference in their lives. I am not the man who climbed that tree. I can be part of what Jesus is doing, here and now. I know what it means to be loved, and now I can show that love to others. I may be a small name, but I can do big things for my friends and neighbors."

These three individuals encountered Jesus and their lives were changed forever. You can read the actual accounts of these particular meeting in John 9, John 4 and Luke 19, respectively. While the testimonies as stated here are conjecture, the evidence of life-change and the results of personally meeting Jesus are very much true.

As we learned earlier, we, as followers of Jesus, are commissioned to spread the Good News of the gospel. The Lausanne Covenant, the result of a convention of over 2,700 Christian leaders from around the world, states *"We believe the gospel is God's Good News for the whole world, and we are determined by His grace to obey Christ's commission to proclaim it all mankind and to make disciples of every nation."*

Proclaiming or preaching can be intimidating...even scary. But what if you could just tell your own story about your encounter with Jesus and how He changed your life like the people in the three stories above? The fact is that Jesus and His redeeming love are best revealed when they are at work *in us*. Your life is a representation of the gospel and your story is good news and needs to be told!

The apostle Paul knew this to be true, and he took advantage of a “captive audience” when he had the chance. Here is his story...

Paul was in prison awaiting trial on charges that had not yet been specified. He had appealed his case to Caesar, and while he was waiting for the appeal, King Agrippa came to town and asked to hear Paul’s testimony. Let’s pick up the story in Acts 12:

Your life is a representation of the gospel and your story is good news and needs to be told!

So Paul motioned with his hand and began his defense: “King Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate to stand before you today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews, and especially so because you are well acquainted with all the Jewish customs and controversies. Therefore, I beg you to listen to me patiently.

The Jewish people all know the way I have lived ever since I was a child, from the beginning of my life in my own country, and also in Jerusalem. They have known me for a long time and can testify, if they are willing that I conformed to the strictest sect of our religion, living as a Pharisee. And now it is because of my hope in what God has promised our ancestors that I am on trial today. This is the promise our twelve tribes are hoping to see fulfilled as they earnestly service God day and night. King Agrippa, it is because of this hope that these Jews are accusing me. Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead?

I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the Lord’s People in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. I was so obsessed with persecuting them that I even hunted them down in foreign cities.

This is only the beginning of Paul’s story. We’ll look at the rest of it in the next lesson, but let’s stop and look at how Paul set up his testimony before King Agrippa. He talked about his past, his “before” if you will. This is the promiscuous Samaritan woman, and Zaccheus, Paul had a dramatic encounter with Jesus which changed the trajectory of his life forever. These first 11 verses contain highlights from his life that are meaningful to the audience and important to his story.

Some specifics he included:

- He was an educated Jew.
- He was raised in the Jewish culture.
- He was a Pharisee – meaning he had distinction for knowing and following the law.
- He was opposed to Jesus, even having His followers killed when he could.
- He tortured and coerced believers to turn from Jesus and chased others out of town.

Paul was *specific*, yet *brief*. He knew his audience would have a good understanding of his past, which is crucial to the rest of the story.

Your Story Matters
Worksheet

Life Turn: A moment where you learned something new about yourself, your world or about God. It is a moment where your life took a turn that you started living differently as a result of the experience.

Life Turn: _____

Characters: (Who else involved in this turning point? This may include those who are not directly involved but indirectly.)

Plot: (Set the stage, where does the story take place? When was the darkest moment in the story? Did the story end or is it still going?)

Lessons Learned: (What are some possible lessons learned? What awakening did you experience? Was there any redeemable moments? Did you receive any moment of clarity or insight?)

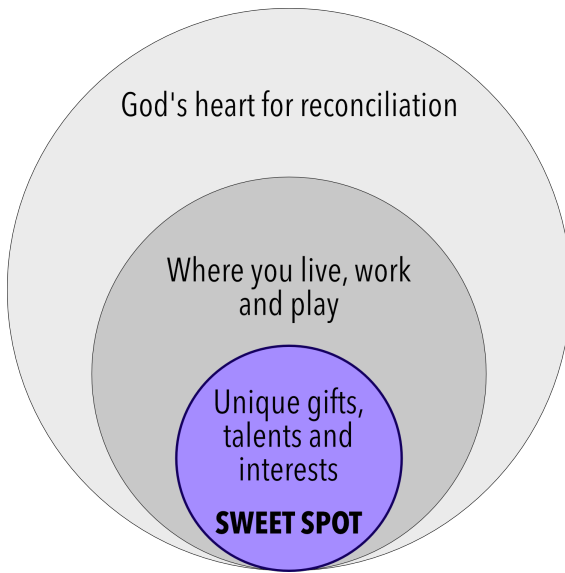
Using the information from above, create a summary of your story that you can share in 3 minutes.

MULTIPLICATION: Making disciples

This is the natural outcome of you being Jesus' representatives in your world.

What does that mean to you to make disciples?

Are you actively making disciples? Why or why not?



When we put together God’s heart of reconciliation, your unique gifts, talents and interests with where God has placed you (live-work-play) you will find your sweet spot – the place where you can live out

***BEING JESUS’ REPRESENTATIVE
IN MY WORLD***

God needs YOU in His mission of reconciliation with the people He misses most! Join Madison Park Church in sharing God’s love by serving your world in practical ways.

The next step to take is to text **“SERVE”** to **(765) 642-2000** and we will help you engage with those Jesus misses most.

Are you compelled to be Jesus’ representative in your world?

What practical steps will you take TODAY to engage in God’s mission to reconcile people back to Himself?

MISSIONS PAGE QUIZ

We have more information on our ministry partners on the website. Go to youareloved.life/outreach2 to learn more.

Name one of the **Global** ministry partners:

Name two of our **missionaries** and where they are serving.

Name three **local** ministries that Madison Park Church supports.
