

spiritual maturity

back to basics | week four

october 8th & 11th | jim putman



Review

- Why we do things to remember
- We want to present everyone mature disciples (complete)
- We were saved for a purpose – individual purpose and collective purpose in our slice of history
- We are all called to be and make disciples in every part of our lives
- A shared definition of what that is – a common language and goals so we can be one
- A shared methodology – a way of doing things that everyday people can replicate in their own lives

1 Corinthians 1:10 (NIV) ¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

Colossians 1:28 (NASB95) | 2 Timothy 2:1–7 (NASB95)

Ephesians 2:8–10 (NIV) ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Common definition and shared methodology

Matthew 4:19 (NASB95) ¹⁹ And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

- Embedded in the passage is a methodology we can't miss
- Visual

1. Following Jesus – He is our head (discovering what He says we need to obey – and growing in obedience)

Luke 9:23–24 (NASB95) ²³ And He was saying to *them* all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. ²⁴ “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.

2. Changed by Jesus – our Heart -- helpful definition is: the heart is the inner control center of a person – the place of our beliefs, desires, affections, motives, and will.

Matthew 22:37–40 (NASB95) ³⁷ And He said to him, “ ‘YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’ ³⁸ “This is the great and foremost

commandment. ³⁹ “The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ ⁴⁰ “On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

3. Committed to the mission of Jesus – everything the Lord has placed in our hands are used to bring about the mission of Jesus for His people – our hands

1 Peter 4:10–11 (NASB95) ¹⁰ As each one has received a *special* gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹ Whoever speaks, *is to do so* as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves *is to do so* as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Visual – The five spheres -- Our Feet – we do this everywhere we go in life

- Abide – Church – Home – World – Spiritual realm

John 15:10 (NIV) ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.

The maturity progression – first things first

1. Starts with abiding – who is God and who am I
2. I am a part of a mission personally and a part of the Lord's church. – Unity and purpose
3. My home life connects to my abiding and spiritual family life – I have the knowledge and support to know the Lord's priorities for life
4. In the world sphere – I have the opportunity to stand in the gap
5. The enemy seeks to kill the lost and distract the believers from the real mission

Our goal – to be a light in truth and action

John 1:14 (NIV) 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2 Timothy 4:2 (NIV) | 2 Timothy 2:24–25 | Titus 1:9 (NIV) | Isaiah 32:17 (NIV)

