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What is discipleship?

Zion Evangelical & Reformed Church exists to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ, through proclaiming the Gospel, in the power of the Spirit, in north Iowa and to the ends of the earth.

At Zion, our definition of a disciple is someone who, by grace,¹ is learning to follow Jesus,² by the power of the Spirit,³ with evident growth,⁴ in every vocation of their life.⁵

By "vocation," we mean that every Christian will have the following callings upon their life: 1) a child of God,⁶ 2) married or single,⁷ 3) honoring their family obligations,⁸ 4) a member of Christ's church,⁹ 5) busy at work,¹⁰ 6) working in their community.¹¹

¹ Acts 15:11 "But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

² Matthew 4:19 "And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"

³ John 20:22 He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

⁴ 1 Timothy 4:15 "Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress."

⁵ 1 Corinthians 7:17 "Let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, to which God has called him."

⁶ 1 John 3:1 "Behold what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God..."

⁷ 1 Corinthians 7:8-9 "To the unmarried I say that it is good for them to remain single... [others] should marry."

⁸ 1 Timothy 5:8 "If anyone does not provide for members of his household, he has denied the faith..."

⁹ 1 Corinthians 12:27 "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

¹⁰ 2 Thessalonians 3:12 "...do their work quietly and to earn their own living."

¹¹ 1 Peter 2:12 "Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable... and glorify God on the day of visitation."

This definition of discipleship is

because:

wrong

Discipleship Strategies

1. Discipleship by grace

Titus 2:11–12

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

Psalm 32:8

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

1) אשכלה

2) ואורה

3) איעצה

4) עליך עיני

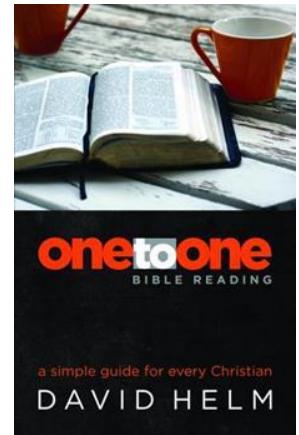
Conscious Incompetence
Unconscious Incompetence
Conscious Competence
Unconscious Excellence



Mark 9:28

And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?”

How would you start a “depression” or “addiction” ministry in your church?



What are the questions being asked in your church? How can we triage the questions or “points of failure” to see where God is leading us to grow in discipleship in these areas?

2. Discipleship in Relationships

2 Timothy 2:2

...and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

Titus 2:3 – 4

Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children...

Deut 6:7
You shall teach them...
when you sit, when
you walk, when you lie
down, when you rise...

Matt 28:19 “Go,
therefore”

PAUL

|

TIMOTHY

|

**FAITHFUL
MEN**

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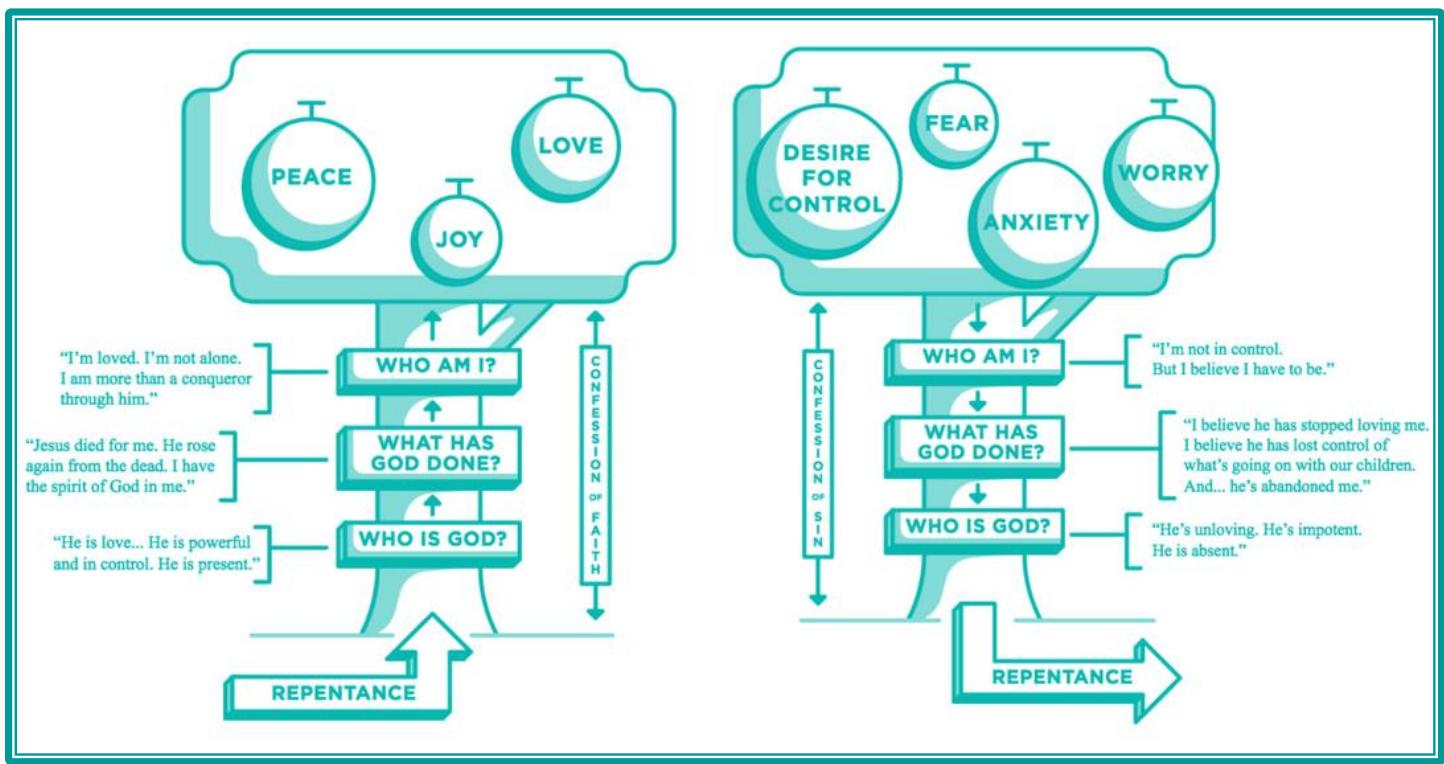
OTHERS

Haustafeln in Ephesians, Colossians, I Peter, etc.

3. Discipleship in Asking Questions

“Adam, where are you?”

“Who do you say that I am?”



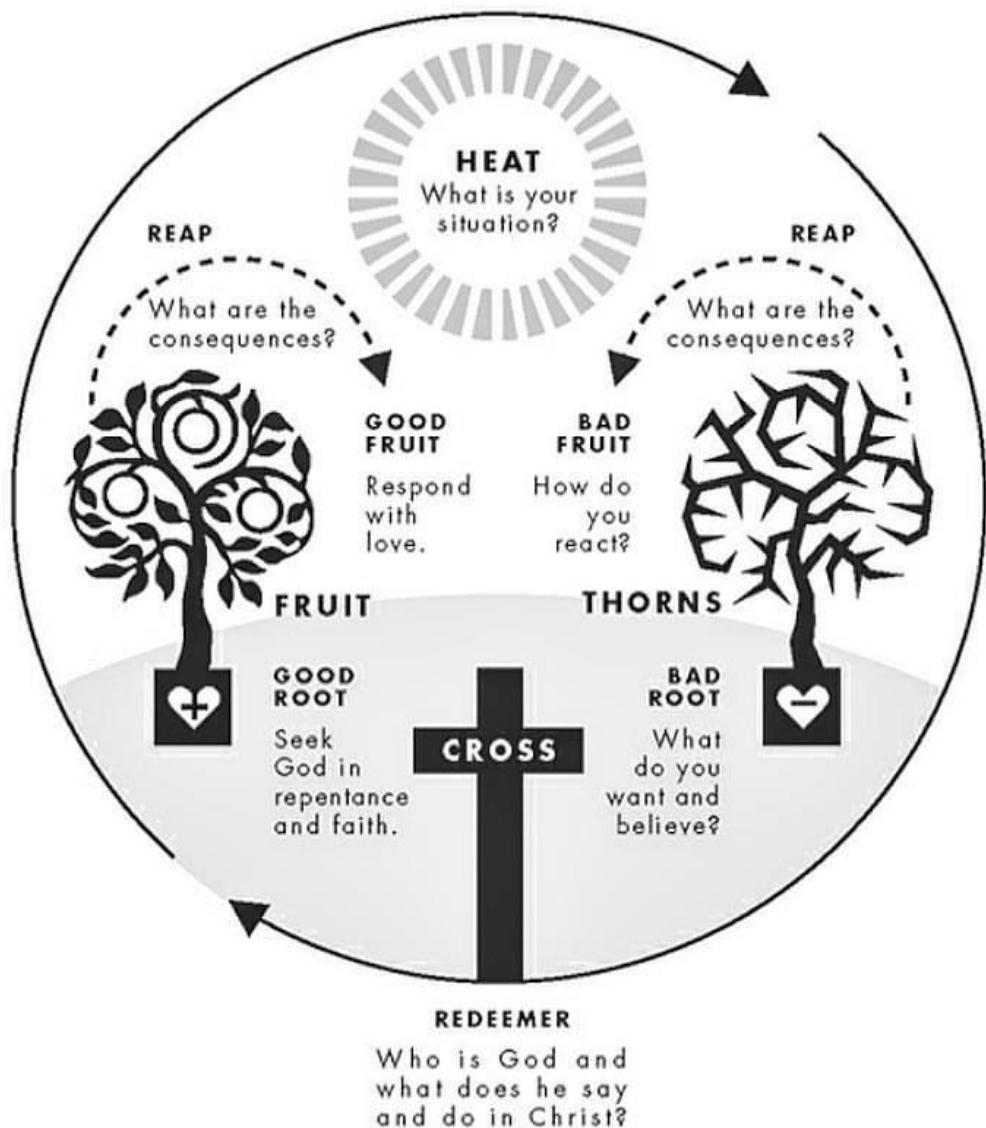


FIGURE 6.1 How Do People Change?

4. Discipleship in Spiritual Gifts

Heidelberg Q. #31

Q. What is He called “Christ,” that is, Anointed?

A. Because He has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; our High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of His body has redeemed us, and who continually intercedes for us before the Father; and our Eternal King, who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.

I Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Discipleship Discussion

Discipleship Resources

Walter Marshall *The Gospel Mystery of Sanctification* (1692)

Rosaria Butterfield *The Gospel Comes With A House Key* (2018)

Timothy S. Lane & Paul Tripp *How People Change* (2006)

Jen Wilkin *Women Of the Word* (2014)

Paul David Tripp *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands: People in Need of Change*
Helping People in Need of Change (2002)

Bob Kelleman *Gospel Conversations* (2015)

Bryan Chapell *Holiness By Grace* (2003)

Jeff Vanderstelt *Gospel Fluency* (2017)

_____. *Saturate: Being Disciples of Jesus In Every Day Life* (2015)

Jerry Bridges *Transforming Grace* (1991)

_____. *Gospel For Real Life* (2002)

_____. *Respectable Sins* (2007)

Tim Chester & Steve Timmis *Total Church* (2007)

_____. *Everyday Church: Gospel Communities on Mission* (2012)

Stuart Robinson *The Church of God as an Essential Element of the Gospel* (1858)