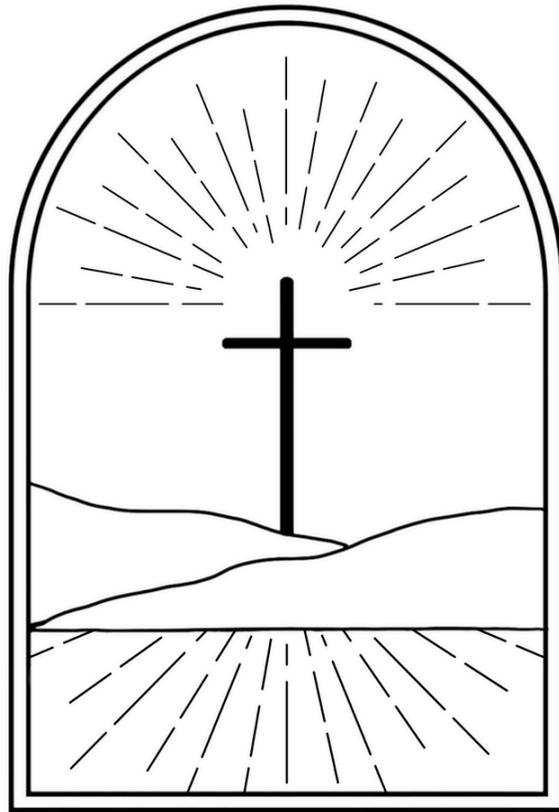


Intentional Discipleship
Follow the Leader - Fellowship

By Joe Davis



Glendale
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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Introduction to Intentional Relational Discipleship

The Power of Intentional Discipleship

1-on-1 discipleship is one of the most effective ways to foster deep spiritual growth. It creates space for honest conversation, personalized encouragement, and accountability that is often hard to achieve in larger groups. In this setting, believers can walk closely with one another—much like Jesus did with His disciples—learning, growing, and sharpening each other through authentic relationship.

The Importance of Praying for One Another

Prayer is a vital expression of love and spiritual support within the body of Christ. When we pray for one another, we carry each other's burdens, intercede for God's help and guidance, and strengthen our unity. James 5:16 calls us to "pray for each other so that you may be healed." In doing so, we not only bless others but also deepen our own dependence on God.

The Value of Weekly Consistency

Consistency builds trust and fosters lasting transformation. Weekly discipleship rhythms create a steady structure where Scripture, prayer, and spiritual growth become a natural part of life—not just occasional check-ins. Over time, these small, faithful moments add up to significant spiritual maturity.

The Necessity of Transparency

True discipleship cannot happen without honesty. When we're transparent about our struggles, doubts, and sins, we open the door to healing and grace. Transparency invites accountability, fosters genuine connection, and allows God's truth to penetrate the areas we often keep hidden. As Scripture reminds us, "The truth will set you free" (John 8:32).

Weekly Discipleship Structure

T.A.G. approach (Topic, Association, Guidance). Every week this will be our format, but the order will be **A.T.G.** If you do not have a discipleship partner, each week I'll have "20 Questions" for you to answer and reflect on with some scriptures and assisted prayers. But the goal is to find a partner.

A- Association: is the intentional investment of time, presence, and relationship between a disciple-maker and a disciple. It's walking through life together—modeling Christlikeness not just in words, but through lived example. It reflects how Jesus invited His disciples to *be with Him* (Mark 3:14) before sending them out.

T- Topic/Teaching: is the biblical truth or spiritual principle being explored in each discipleship conversation. It provides the foundation for learning, discussion, and life application. This component ensures that discipleship is rooted in Scripture—not just personal opinion or experience—and that spiritual growth is anchored in truth.

G- Guidance: is the relational and spiritual mentorship that offers wisdom, correction, encouragement, and accountability as a disciple learns to follow Jesus more faithfully. It's where biblical knowledge (Topic/Teaching) and shared life experiences (Association) are shaped into personal growth and obedience through ongoing care and direction.

1-on-1 Intentional Discipleship Discussion

Fellowship

To understand the biblical importance of Christian fellowship, recognize its role in spiritual growth and unity, and apply it by building authentic, Christ-centered relationships within the church.

Association:

Share how your week went. Any questions from last week? Share prayer requests and spend a few moments in prayer together. Invite the Holy Spirit to lead your conversations, soften your hearts, and provide clarity as you begin this journey.

- What has been your experience with fellowship in the church—positive or negative? Why?
- Can you think of a time when Christian fellowship encouraged or challenged you?
- In what ways have you felt included or excluded in a church community?
- How has God used relationships in your life to grow your faith?
- What specific barriers (fear, busyness, hurt, etc.) make deep fellowship difficult for you?

Topic/Teaching:

- Read **Acts 2:42-47** together
- Read **Hebrews 3:12-15** together
- Read **Hebrews 10:24-25** together
- Read **1 Corinthians 1:9-10** together
- Read **Romans 12:4-5** together
- Read **Ephesians 4:15-16** together
- What do these verses teach us about the role and purpose of fellowship in the early church?
- Why do you think fellowship is listed alongside things like prayer and teaching in Acts 2:42?
- How does biblical fellowship go beyond just social interaction?
- What is the difference between attending church and being in fellowship?
- What does it look like when the church is “joined and held together” as Ephesians 4 describes?

Guidance:

- What does it look like for you to contribute to the health and unity of your church body?
- Are there any broken relationships within the church that need reconciliation? What steps can you take toward healing?
- How can you use your spiritual gifts to build up others in your church community?
- How would your life look different if you viewed church not just as a place to attend, but a family to belong to?
- What distractions or commitments are currently pulling you away from consistent connection with other believers?
- How can you help foster a culture of authenticity and accountability in your church relationships?

Close in prayer, asking God to plant His Word deep in your hearts and to give you the courage to apply it to your life.

20 Questions Personal Study & Application

Fellowship

This week I'll have Scripture to help guide you through each question. Take several days to answer if needed.

1. **What does true Christian fellowship look like according to Scripture?**
Acts 2:42–47
2. **How does fellowship help believers grow in spiritual maturity?**
Ephesians 4:15–16
3. **What role does love play in Christian community?**
John 13:34–35
4. **Why is gathering together regularly important?**
Hebrews 10:24–25
5. **What does walking in the light with others mean?**
1 John 1:7
6. **How can I bear others' burdens in fellowship?**
Galatians 6:2
7. **How do spiritual gifts strengthen fellowship?**
1 Corinthians 12:4–7
8. **What does it mean to be "one body in Christ"?**
Romans 12:4–5
9. **What hinders authentic fellowship in the church today?**
1 Corinthians 1:10–13
10. **How should I respond when conflict arises in Christian community?**
Matthew 18:15–17
11. **Why is humility essential for unity?**
Philippians 2:1–4
12. **How does confession and prayer build fellowship?**
James 5:16
13. **What example of fellowship does Jesus set with His disciples?**
John 15:12–17
14. **How can hospitality strengthen church community?**
1 Peter 4:8–10
15. **What does it mean to "rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep"?**
Romans 12:15
16. **How can I help others feel heard, known, and valued in the church?**
Colossians 3:12–14
17. **What should my attitude be when someone in the church needs correction?**
Galatians 6:1
18. **How does serving together deepen fellowship?**
Philippians 1:3–5
19. **What does it mean to be devoted to one another in brotherly love?**
Romans 12:10
20. **What promise does Jesus give when we gather in His name?**
Matthew 18:20

Challenge: Who is one person you could walk alongside into an intentional discipleship relationship with?
If you need help finding someone, contact Joe: 417-224-6064 or joe@glendalechristian.org

Additional Resources

Right Now Media

If you haven't downloaded RightNow Media yet, make sure you check it out! Click [this link](https://api.fluro.io/correspondence/681e187747a949003659fbae/clickthrough/https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/glendale) (<https://api.fluro.io/correspondence/681e187747a949003659fbae/clickthrough/https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/glendale>) to create your free account and start browsing more than 20,000 videos! With this app, you can listen to audiobooks, podcasts, and Bible studies by yourself, or stay connected and participate with a friend or family. Parents, make sure you check out the kids section for biblical shows, music, and studies for kids of all ages! This resource is a 100% free gift from the church. Take advantage and check it out!

Follow the Leader | Reading, Reflecting, & Responding to Scripture: "Scripture Practice" - John Mark Comer
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/900373>

Follow the Leader | Prayer & Fasting: "Prayer Practice" & "Fasting Practice" - John Mark Comer
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/836788> | <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/836794>

Follow the Leader | Giving: "Generosity Practice" - John Mark Comer
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/893650>

Follow the Leader | Fellowship: "Community Practice" - John Mark Comer
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/900374>