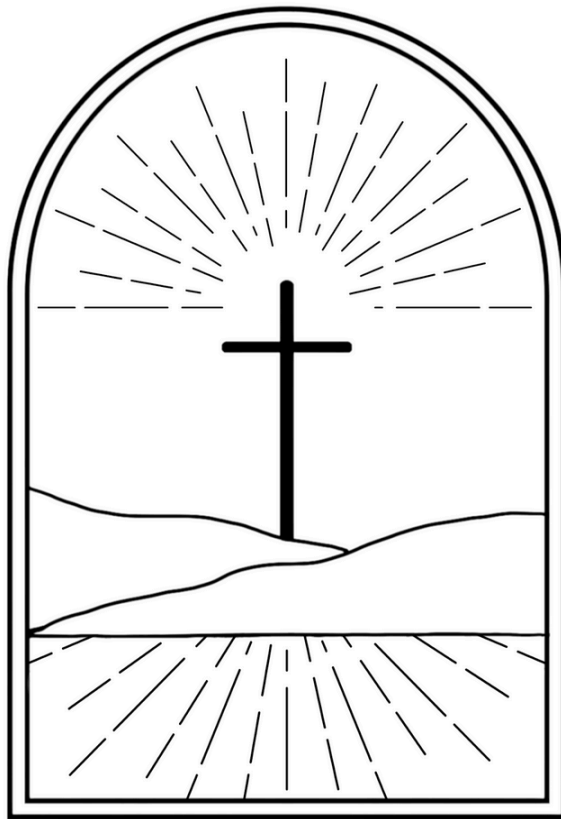


# **Intentional Discipleship**

## **Follow the Leader - Reading, Reflecting, & Responding to Scripture**

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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

### Reading, Reflecting on, & Responding to Scripture

Today we're going to talk about how God's Word isn't just something to read — it's something to transform our lives. We'll walk through what Scripture teaches, how it connects to real life, and how we can respond to it — then spend time praying together for each other.

### Association:

Get to know each other. 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 first motivated you (or could motivate someone) to start reading the Bible regularly?
- Have you ever read a verse that felt like it was "speaking directly" to something you were going through? What happened?
- Why is it sometimes hard to move beyond just reading the Bible into really reflecting and applying it?
- Think about a time you *reflected* deeply on a passage. How did that experience change you?
- What role does community (friends, small groups, church) play in helping us reflect and apply Scripture?

### Topic/Teaching:

- Read **2 Timothy 3:10-17** together
- Read **James 1:22-25** together
- Read **Titus 2** together
- According to these passages, what are the purposes of Scripture?
- What does it mean that "All Scripture is breathed out by God"?
- What do the words "teaching," "reproof," "correction," and "training in righteousness" suggest about what Scripture does to us?

### Guidance:

- What small changes could you make this week to prioritize *reading* the Word daily?
- What is one practical way you can *reflect* better when you read Scripture (e.g., journaling, prayer, quiet time after reading)?
- Is there something you've already read recently that you feel God nudging you to *respond* to?
- How could you encourage someone else (friend, spouse, child) to read, reflect, and respond to Scripture this week?
- What "next step" is God leading you to take in your relationship with His Word?
- How are you willing to let Scripture be the final authority in your decisions and convictions?

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**

### **Reading Scripture**

Read and reflect on: **2 Timothy 3:10-17 / James 1:22-25 / Titus Chapter 2**

1. Why do you think God emphasizes *reading* His Word in so many places in Scripture?
  2. What obstacles or distractions tend to keep you from reading the Bible consistently?
  3. How has your understanding of Scripture changed as you've matured in your faith?
  4. Do you approach Bible reading more like a task to complete or a relationship to cultivate? Why?
  5. What tools or methods (reading plans, apps, study Bibles) have helped you build a regular reading habit?
  6. What difference do you notice in your day or week when you spend intentional time in Scripture versus when you don't?
  7. What is one book of the Bible you've been meaning to read or study more deeply? Why?
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### **Reflecting on Scripture**

8. What does it mean to "reflect" on Scripture rather than just reading it quickly?
  9. How do you personally slow down and meditate on God's Word?
  10. Why do you think God's Word is described as being "profitable for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training" (2 Timothy 3:16)?
  11. Give an example when reflecting on a Bible verse changed your perspective or decision-making.
  12. How does reflection help us recognize sin or wrong patterns in our lives?
  13. What role does prayer play in helping you reflect on Scripture?
  14. In what ways could you deepen your time of reflection during your Bible reading?
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### **Responding to Scripture**

15. What does it look like to actively *respond* to what you read in the Bible?
16. Why is it dangerous to hear God's Word but not respond to it (James 1:22)?
17. Give an example of a time when you responded to Scripture, even when it was hard?
18. How can we encourage one another to move beyond just hearing the Word to actually living it out?
19. What are some small steps you can take this week to respond obediently to what God is showing you in His Word?
20. What specific area of your life do you feel God calling you to surrender, change, or grow based on what you've recently read in Scripture?

**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](mailto: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>