



D1: Discover

A Discipleship Tool for Helping Others Discover a Life-Changing
Relationship with Jesus Christ

Objectives:

- To help the individual you are in a discipleship relationship with see the need for salvation/redemption.
- To discover the Biblical pathway to a right relationship with God through grace, faith, confession, repentance and baptism.
- To provide a launching point into a New Life in Jesus Christ.

D1 - DISCOVER GUIDE

MEMORIZE

We believe that one of the best ways to live the Word of God is to carry it inside of you. As a result, each week we give you a memory verse to learn. We encourage you and your discipleship partner to memorize this verse.

FAMILY TIME

We love when individuals take the truth home to their families. We include a simple 'next step' idea each week that can help the individual that you're discipling take the Go Church DNA home to their families.

D1: Birth is a six session study designed to guide others in understanding how we should respond to God's grace. Each week, meet together and accomplish these things:

Pray: Spend time praying together.

Discover New Content: Use the P2P page as a guide to new Birth content.

Accountability: Be real with one another and make commitments to action based on the study each week (great action steps are found in the Live It section).

That's it! As you meet with someone who is considering a commitment to Jesus, here are some things to keep in mind:

- 1) **Not everyone is there yet.** You cannot force someone into a relationship with Jesus. If they're not ready, keep praying and look for times when they are more responsive.
- 2) **Grace wins.** This is God's story and the story of what He has done for us. We cannot earn grace, He just asks us to respond!
- 3) **Don't offer a solution if they don't recognize the problem.** Being 'saved' means that you must first be 'lost'. As you meet with the person that you're discipling, don't offer a solution (salvation) until they understand why they need it (they are lost and broken).
- 4) **Discipleship is the next step.** It's not enough to 'convert' and move on. Spiritual growth requires that the new Christian is in a discipleship relationship, either with your or with another person. Don't leave your relationships hanging!

READ IT

Each week, you will find several Bible passages in the Read It section. God's Word is our ultimate guide, so make sure that you read these selected passages together.

DISCUSS IT

After reading, we've prepared a number of discussion questions that dig into scriptural discoveries and life application. The majority of your time will be spent in this section.

LIVE IT

If truth doesn't shape us, then we've missed the point. Gaining the DNA that God has designed us for takes action, and the Live It section of the P2P page gives some clear next steps. Together, you should choose one or two ways that you will take action over the next week. Commit to it and provide accountability on whether those actions have occurred the next time you meet.

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D1 - REDEEMED

MEMORIZE

Romans 3:23 - 24

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

FAMILY TIME

Explain the concept of redemption to your children this week through this object lesson:

The next time your child is in trouble and is going to be punished, explain that you are going to take their punishment on yourself (and really do it!).

Afterwards, tell them that this is what God has done for us - we deserved to be punished because of the sins we commit, but Jesus took that punishment for us!

Sin is any action that separates us from God. The Bible makes it clear that each and every one of us has sinned. And the curse of sin has taken its toll on the world and in our lives - separation from God, brokenness, evil, pain, and ultimately death.

But God is not without a plan. He has chosen to redeem those who choose to honor Him as Lord of their life. Redemption means 'to buy back'. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, that is what God has done - He has bought us back from sin and death and is working at making us whole and perfect. God is in the business of redemption and He would like to redeem your life and have you join Him in this mission!

READ IT

- Romans 6:23 - The Cost of Sin
- Ephesians 2:1 - 10 - Sin and Grace
- 2 Cor. 5:17 - 21 - God the Reconciler

DISCUSS IT

1. Romans 3:23 - 24 says that 'all have sinned'. What is an example of sin in your own life? What is the cost of that sin?
2. According to Romans 6:23, what is the cost of sin in our life? Why do you think that sin has such a high cost?
3. According to Ephesians, where does our salvation come from?
4. Grace is described as 'an undeserved gift'. What is an undeserved gift that you have received? What is your feeling of this undeserved gift of redemption from God?
5. 2 Corinthians describes those who follow Christ as 'new creations'. What are some things in your life that you would love to be new (or redeemed)?
6. What would redemption look like in your life?

LIVE IT

If you have not yet:

- Share God's Story
- Share Your Story (of coming from Darkness to Light)

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Take some time to envision what a 'new life' in God might look like.

On a notecard, write down a list of things that you think might change in your life if you were to choose to walk into the redemption that God is offering.

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D1 - FAITH

MEMORIZE

Matthew 17:20

Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

FAMILY TIME

Teach your children to recognize reasons for faith in Go through the world around them - perhaps a sunset or a passing butterfly.

Take the time to stop and share those moments as a family.

Faith is complete confidence in someone or something. In Hebrews 11:1 faith is described as: *confidence in what we hope for and certainty in what we do not see*. James tells us that, *'Faith without action is dead'*. Our deeds are to be an outward manifestation of our faith. Faith is more than just a feel good mantra. Biblical faith is mighty. It is powerful. In Matthew 14:29-31 Jesus promises that nothing is impossible for those who have faith.

Still, even those with the strongest faith can waiver. Just moments after his great faith allowed him to walk on water, the apostle Peter began to sink when he took his eyes off Jesus and instead began to focus on the weather around him. Like Peter, it is only when our eyes are completely focused on God that our faith will remain steadfast (Mt. 14:22 - 33).

READ IT

- Hebrews 11 - Examples of real faith
- 1 Peter 1:6-9 - The value of faith
- Matthew 17:14-20 - The power of authentic faith

DISCUSS IT

1. How did the actions of the men and woman in Hebrews 11 reflect their deep faith in God and his promises? What stumbling blocks would they have?
2. Discuss any stumbling blocks to your faith.
3. Read James 2:14-26. Explain why faith without works is dead.
4. What are some things that we have faith in other than God? How are the things we have faith in displayed in our actions?
5. Share a time you witnessed the power of faith in your own life. What are the things that have helped you embrace a faith in God?

LIVE IT

As the book of James said: *'Faith without action is dead.'* Find a way to put your faith into action this week!

Create a list of doubts that you have about God, His Word, and His Kingdom. Choose one (or more, if time permits) to resolve this week. Resolve your doubt this week by talking to others who have had the same doubt, researching why that doubt is not valid, or simply talking to God and asking Him to give you the wisdom to believe through the doubt.

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D1 - REPENTANCE

MEMORIZE

Acts 2:38

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

FAMILY TIME

Help your family understand what authentic Biblical repentance looks like this week:

- Share an example of repentance from your own life.
- Illustrate repentance by explaining what turning 180 degrees look like. You are going one direction and then you start moving the complete opposite direction. That is repentance!

What exactly is repentance? It is not about being sorry for getting caught, wallowing in our guilt or feeling remorseful. True repentance begins with Godly sorrow and then requires a profound change from the inside out. Repentance is a process. It involves:

- Realizing our sin separates us from God
- Confessing our sins to God
- Asking for His forgiveness
- Mentally and physically turning away from our sin
- Reorientating ourselves towards God.

It is only through repentance that we can restore our broken relationship to God. In Acts 2:33-38, when the Israelites realized they'd crucified the son of God they were cut to the heart and asked Peter what they should do. He replied, *"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."* Christ followers are characterized by a lifetime of repentance that helps them become the people God intended them to be.

READ IT

- Psalm 51:7-17 - The heart of repentance
- 2 Corinthians 7:9-10 - Grief leading to repentance
- 1 John 1:5-10 - Living in the Light

DISCUSS IT

1. How is repentance often misconstrued? What does true repentance look like?
2. What's God's role in our repentance?
3. Are there any sins in your life you find yourself holding on to rather than repenting?
4. What is the cost of refusing to repent?
5. What does sorrow have to do with repentance? What role do you have in preparing your heart for a right relationship with God?

LIVE IT

Draw a heart on a paper. Write things that have a place inside of your own heart on the inside of the paper heart. Write things that do not belong in your heart on the outside of the paper heart.

Take time this week to pray over this picture and ask God to help you live in active repentance.

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D1 - BAPTISM

MEMORIZE

Galatians 3:27

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Post-resurrection, the first example we have of Baptism occurs on the day of Pentecost when over 3,000 people entered into a relationship with Christ. The crowd, convicted by Peter's words, asked what they needed to do to be saved. Peter replied,

Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout the book of Acts we are given similar examples of salvation (Acts 2:41, Acts 8:26-39, Acts 9:18, Acts 10:47-48, Acts 16:13-15 and Acts 16: 16-34). In each of these accounts, conviction results in immediate repentance, confession and immersion into water.

FAMILY TIME

Discuss what you have learned about baptism with your family. If you discern that your children are ready to move in the direction of accepting Christ as their Savior, have them write out a letter to God.

In this letter, have them answer the questions:
Who is Christ to you?
Why do you need Christ in your life?
How will your life look different with Christ in it?

Elsewhere in the New Testament, baptism is aligned with spiritual rebirth (John 3), clothing oneself with Christ (Gal. 3:27) and connection to Christ's resurrection (Rom. 6). The Biblical importance of baptism as our response to the Gospel cannot be over-stated.

READ IT

- Acts 2:37-41 - Baptism as the response to repentance
- 1 Corinthians 12:13 - Baptism brings us unity
- Romans 6:1-4 - Baptism seals us with Christ

DISCUSS IT

1. What pattern in regards to repentance and baptism do you notice as you read the scriptures provided?
2. What is baptism and what does it represent?
3. Why do you think Scripture provides multiple images of Baptism? Which impacts you the most?
4. How would you walk someone through scripture if they asked you what they must do to be saved?
5. Have you been baptized? If so, what role do you feel it plays in your relationship with God? If not, what are you waiting for?

LIVE IT

Read through the salvation accounts this week. Note what is asked of those convicted and what their response is.

Salvation accounts: Acts 2:37-41, 8:9-13, 8:34-39, 9:17-19, 10:39-48, 16:27-34, 19:1-5

Many people repeat Peter's confession (Matt. 13:16) when they are baptized. This week, write your own confession of who Christ is to you. Think of this as a 'vow' to God. If you have the chance, make this confession when you are baptized.

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D1 - HOLINESS

MEMORIZE

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

FAMILY TIME

Discuss what you have learned about holiness with your family. Then, as a family look at your lifestyle and identify any areas in which you need to make the choice to pursue righteousness. For example, you might decide a show your family watches does not hold up to the holiness of God.

The word holy means "separate." One of God's most unique characteristics is His consummate holiness. He is described as *majestic* in His holiness. In Leviticus 18:2 we are commanded: "*Be Holy For I am Holy.*" But what does that mean? To be holy involves the pursuit of righteousness; not just in some areas of our life but in all areas of our life. God disciplines us that we may share his holiness. This quote by Jerry Bridges very accurately describes our personal call to holiness, "Many Christians have what we might call a "cultural holiness". They adapt to the character and behavior pattern of Christians around them. As the Christian culture around them is more or less holy, so these Christians are more or less holy. But God has not called us to be like those around us. He has called us to be like himself. Holiness is nothing less than conformity to the character of God."

READ IT

- Psalm 29 - God is wholly holy
- 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 John 3:6-10 - Children of God are holy
- Colossians 1:21-23 - Moving from brokenness to holiness

DISCUSS IT

1. How is holiness viewed in our culture? How is it different from the holiness described in the Bible?
2. Describe God in terms of His holiness.
3. What is the only way we are able to attain holiness? What does a holy life look like? Why should Christ's followers strive towards being holy?
4. What are some things in our lives that might contribute to our un-holiness? Why do you think that God cannot abide un-holiness in His people?
5. What can you do to live a life that better conforms to God's vision of holiness?

LIVE IT

Read Matthew 5.

Jesus' Sermon on the Mount is a call to live a righteous life - a life that reflects God's holiness (v.48). As you read, consider which areas of your life do not line up with Jesus' words.

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Draw a line down the middle of a piece of paper and write 'Unholy' on one side and 'Holy' on the other. On the side labeled 'Unholy', list things in your life that do not have any place in God's Kingdom. For each item, write an alternative action that it can be replaced with on the side labeled 'Holy'.

Choose one item to work on this week.

Initial: _____ Date: _____

D1 - THE COST

MEMORIZE

Matthew 10:38

Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

FAMILY TIME

As a family, choose something to give up for the week (the Bible calls this a fast). Some ideas include: dessert, television, or another activity that you all might enjoy. Use the time you would normally spend enjoying that activity developing a relationship with God by reading His Word or praying together.

Culturally, we are bombarded with the health and wealth gospel promising Christians that their new lives will be free of sorrow and pain. When the opposite proves true, they feel disillusioned and question their faith. Our Christ, the one who redeemed us and all those dearest to us made no such promises. Rather Jesus said we would be hated and suffer because of Him. The Apostles found this to be true, all but one of them were martyred because of their faith. In its simplest form, following Christ just means putting what He wants before what we want everyday. We do this by actively seeking His will for our lives through communicating with Him, spending time in His Word and developing a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

READ IT

- Matthew 8:18-22 - The cost of following Christ
- Matthew 10:32-39 - Loving God before all else
- Matthew 19:16-26 - Christ before wealth

DISCUSS IT

1. What are some of the costs that were talked about in the Scripture? How can these things stand between Christ and someone's heart?
2. What things act as security blankets in your life and keep you from stepping out in faith?
3. In what ways have you been putting human relationships before your relationship with Christ? In what ways have you been putting 'stuff' before your relationship with Christ?
4. At this point in your life, what has Christ called you to sacrifice in order to accept His freedom?
5. What are some things that you would be unwilling to sacrifice for the sake of Christ?
6. What do you think it means to lose your life for Christ's sake?

LIVE IT

Read the story of Stephen (Acts 7:54-60).

Stephen was the first disciple who was martyred. Place yourself in his shoes:

- What was he thinking in those last moments?
- Do you believe that he found Christ worth the cost?

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This week, choose one area in your life (just one!) that is keeping you from following the Lord with all your heart, mind and soul. It might be something tangible (like a hobby) or it might be something that you're struggling with internally (such as guilt). Write it down and hand it over to God in prayer and action. At the end of the week, find a creative way to dispose of the paper and give your stumbling block it's own personal funeral service.

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