

**Biglife® /**

**COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION**

**MODULE 4**

# TRAINING OVERVIEW

## Foundations on which Module 4 training is built:

- Do you go prayer walking?
- Can you identify a person of peace?
- Do you know how to share your story and God’s story?
- Have you taught another person how to share their story and God’s story?
- Do you have a 3/3 Group that meets in your home?
- Have you done a model and assist with someone in their home?

If you answered **YES** to all of these questions, you are ready for module 4!

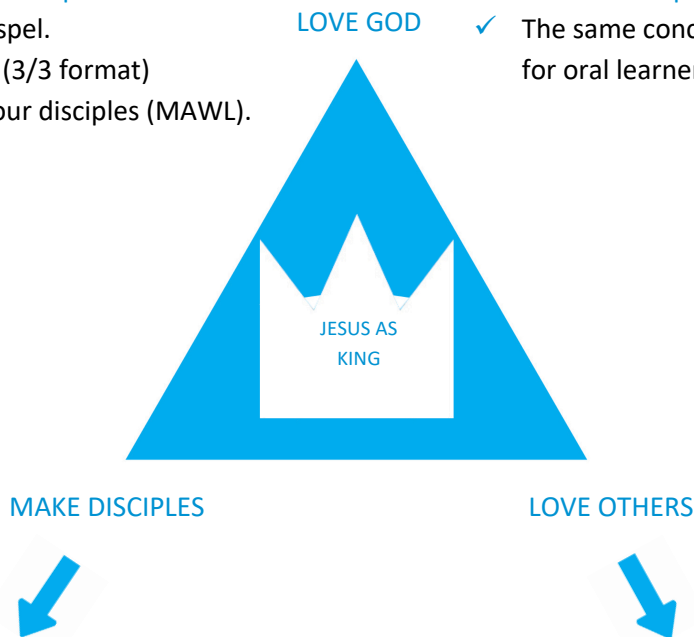
**Module 1** training focuses on the concepts listed above, and the triangle below is a visual image of the communities of disciples that we want to see form from the training. **Module 2** training is for those who have an emerging discipleship movement with multiple generations of Groups. It will give you the skills to coach the movement and steward it. **Module 3** is simply module 1 for oral learners (people who can’t read). **Module 4** is an outflow of our love for our neighbor. It teaches you how to engage your community to see change happen. It specifically focuses on a holistic approach to ministry of both meeting people’s physical and spiritual needs based upon a Strength Based approach to development.

### MODULE 1: Disciples Making Disciples

- ✓ How to share the gospel.
- ✓ How to start Groups (3/3 format)
- ✓ How to reproduce your disciples (MAWL).

### MODULE 3: Disciples Making Disciples

- ✓ The same concepts from module 1, only for oral learners (people who can’t read)



### MODULE 2: Stewarding Networks and Relationships

- ✓ You have an emerging movement and need to know how to steward and coach it.
- ✓ You will learn coaching/mentoring skills.
- ✓ You will learn how to function as a network that can reach the world!

### MODULE 4: Community Transformation

- ✓ You want to engage your community to see change happen.
- ✓ You will learn about holistic ministry.
- ✓ You will learn about Strength Based Community Development.

## INTRODUCTIONS



**PRACTICE:** Divide the group into partners and have them introduce their partner to the group after getting to know them for a few minutes.

## EXPECTATIONS



**PRACTICE:** What do you want to learn from this training? Write out your expectations on a large white paper that you can stick to the wall.

## THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

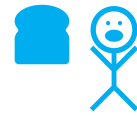


**PRACTICE:** Role-play two people debating about what is more important: Hearing the gospel or helping people with their physical needs?



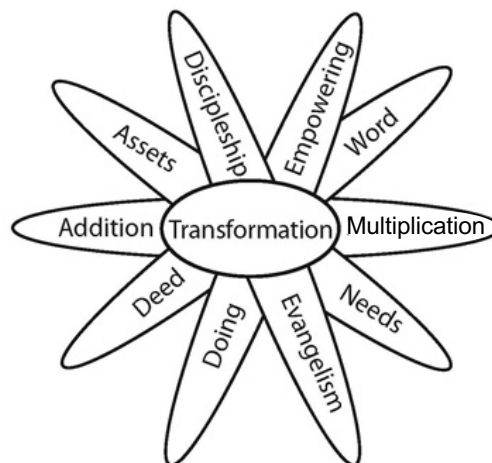
**Look up these verses on holistic ministry:**

- ✓ Matthew 28:18-20 (make disciples)
- ✓ Matthew 25:35-40 (meet people's physical needs)
- ✓ Luke 4:16-21 (make disciples and meet people's physical needs)
- ✓ Luke 10:27 (Love God with ALL of your heart, soul, mind and strength)
  - Heart = emotion, soul = spiritual, mind = intellectual, strength = physical
- ✓ Matthew 28:18-20 (Discover of all authority, nations)
  - What do you learn from the world ALL?
- ✓ Matthew 25:35-46 (Jesus judges his followers for the way they respond to the needs of the whole person)
- ✓ Luke 9:1-2, Luke 10:1, 8-9 (Who did Jesus send out and why did he send them out?)



**If Jesus were to weigh in on sharing the gospel verses meeting physical needs, where would he stand? He would make disciples AND meet people's physical needs!**

In order to see people and places transform, we need to have all elements interacting together.



## COMMUNITY AND GOOD HEALTH



**PRACTICE:** Do a skit. One person is the outsider, and the other people are a community. Define what kind of community you will pretend to be. The outsider has to try to engage with your community.



**PRACTICE:** What makes up a rural, non-urban community? Write out your thoughts on a large white paper that you can stick to the wall.



**PRACTICE:** Ask people what they think community is.



### What is community? A common unity or a oneness.

For a rural community, we define it as: A body of people who live in a geographical proximity, have common elements in their lives that give them a sense of belonging and they know each other.

## WHAT IS GOD'S VISION FOR COMMUNITY?



Break up into small groups. Look up these verses on holistic ministry. Describe God's vision for living in community.

- Ephesians 4:29-5:6
- Deuteronomy 7:12-15
- Colossians 3:5-17
- Isaiah 65:17-25
- Hebrews 13:1-5
- Isaiah 32:15-20
- Acts 2:42-47
- Psalm 82:2-4
- Psalm 133:1-3
- Acts 4:32-35
- Romans 13:1-9



### After reading these verses, what makes a community Christian?

When members of a community are seeking to live under God's control and to live biblically, it is called a Christian community.

## RELIEF, BETTERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



**PRACTICE:** Watch these videos:

- ✓ River Crossing 1: Half Way: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhZqS9dLebc>
- ✓ River Crossing 2: Super Foreigner: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVhGQ6TmtsQ>
- ✓ River Crossing 3: Two Feel Good: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-FbNxKjIK1s>
- ✓ River Crossing 4: Together: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WkflB2taZcs>



**PRACTICE:** Define and debrief: relief, betterment and development.



**Relief** is doing it for them, **betterment** is helping them to do it, and **development** is doing it together.

	RELIEF Doing it for locals	BETTERMENT Helping locals (coaching)	DEVELOPMENT Empowering locals
<b>When To Do?</b>	Short or medium term crisis	Persistent need not going away	Long-term need that is holding the community back
<b>Need</b>	Identifiable quickly	Lingering need that an outsider steps in beside to alleviate	Real need might be different than presenting need
<b>Who Does It?</b>	Outsider does for them	Outsider does with them	Insider does for themselves
<b>Fosters What?</b>	Dependency	Inter-dependency	Independent
<b>Behavior Change</b>	No behavior change	Generally a little behavior change	Behavior change with transformation
<b>Duration</b>	Short term; one time	Medium term help	Long-term transformation
<b>Resources Come From where?</b>	Outside	Generally from outside	Inside (local) people themselves
<b>Ownership</b>	Outsider	Outsider	Insider
<b>End Result</b>	A few people affected; no change in life style	A few people affected and limited change in life style	Physical, spiritual and social change taking place throughout community
<b>Examples</b>	Clothes & food given away	Tutoring kids	People being equipped to change something in their community and it is happening

## STRENGTH BASED COMMUNITY VERSUS NEED BASED



**PRACTICE:** Watch the following video and then discuss what you saw in it:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1wu8igvajXLSNFzzQKCzEjgf2GOhfOhGX>

**Strength Based Worldview and Values** - Focusing on Strengths is a way people view their world and values as they help other people. This approach comes from focusing on strengths, asset, opportunities and potential. It is based on the underlying premises that all people have strengths that we want to build on. The focus of the approach is on the strengths already found in the neighborhood, and to a much less extent with what is not there or the problems. The appeal lies in its premise that communities can drive the development process themselves by identifying and mobilizing existing, but often-unrecognized strengths, and thereby responding to and creating local economic opportunity.

**Strength Based Beliefs** - The beliefs found underlying focusing on strengths include: There is always something that is working well. Solutions are within communities and organizations waiting to be discovered. Also included is the belief that there are hidden and unrecognized assets, strengths and resources in every individual, family, community and organization. Desired solutions can best be achieved when attention is focused on discovering these collectively and connecting them to a shared vision. Focusing on what is working and how to build on this creates collective resiliency.

**Strength Based Focus** - A Strength Based approach focuses on seeing personal relationships taking place while inter-relationships are also taking place. It acknowledges that coordination is important. It invites meaningful participation between all. It provides opportunities for skill building and learning. Most importantly it concentrates on solutions and potential

**Guiding Principles** - Most communities address social and economic problems with only a small amount of their total capacity. Much of the community capacity is not used and is needed! This is the challenge and opportunity of community engagement. Everyone in a community has something to offer. There is no one we don't need.

- ✓ Everyone Has Gifts with rare exception; people can contribute and want to contribute. Gifts must be discovered.
- ✓ Relationships Build a Community: see them, make them, and utilize them. An intentional effort to build and nourish relationships is the core of ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) and of all community building.
- ✓ Citizens at the Center. It is essential to engage the wider community as actors (citizens) not just as recipients of services (clients).
- ✓ Leaders Involve Others as Active Members of the Community. Leaders from the wider community of voluntary associations, congregations, neighborhoods, and local business, can engage others from their sector. This "following" is based on trust, influence, and relationship.
- ✓ People Care About Something. Agencies and neighborhood groups often complain about apathy. Apathy is a sign of bad listening. People in communities are motivated to act. The challenge is to discover what their motivation is.
- ✓ Motivation to Act must be identified. People act on certain themes they feel strongly about, such as: concerns to address, dreams to realize, and personal talents to contribute. Every community is filled with invisible "motivation for action". Listen for it.

- ✓ Listening Conversation – one-on-one dialogue or small group conversations are ways of discovering motivation and invite participation. Forms, surveys and asset maps can be useful to guide intentional listening and relationship building.
- ✓ Ask, Ask, Ask – asking and inviting are key community-building actions. “Join us. We need you.” This is the song of community.
- ✓ Asking Questions Rather Than Giving Answers Invites Stronger Participation. People in communities are usually asked to follow outside expert’s answers for their community problems. A more powerful way to engage people is to invite communities to address ‘questions’ and finding their own answer...with agencies following up to help.
- ✓ A Citizen-Centered “Inside-Out” Organization is the Key to Community Engagement. A “citizen-centered” organization is one where local people control the organization and set the organization’s agenda. When people discover what they have, they find power. When people join together in new connections and relationships they build power. When people become productive together, they exercise their power to address problems and realize dreams. The strengths based, community-driven approach is in keeping with the principles and practice of *participatory approaches development*, where active participation and empowerment (and the prevention of disempowerment) are the basis of practice. It is a strategy directed towards sustainable, economic development that is community-driven. Practical action begins with the understanding that every community has more potential resources than any one person knows. **Strength Based Practices:** Strength Base Practices are inclusive. They are action oriented and identify assets that are found in people and organizations. It leads by the leader stepping back while it nurtures a sense of ownership by those involved. When people begin to inculcate Strength Base worldview and value thinking that leads to action some exciting things happen which includes liberating people from a sense of hopelessness and cynicism and opens up learning. It gives life, focuses on what is working, and what you want. It sees and acts on what is possible and helps propel you forward. It focuses on what you can do.

**TWO PATHS:**

<b>Needs</b>	<b>Strengths</b>
What is not there	What is there
Problems to be solved	Solutions to be discovered
Service to meet needs	Connections and Contributions
Consumers	Citizens
Programs are the answer	People are the answer
Money is the key	Relationship are central
Tends to spread itself to thin over time	Tends to have a snowball effect which grows
Success is service outcome measured by institutional stakeholders	Success is measured by Evidence Based Results that are established by the people

## URBAN NEIGHBOR

Mrs. Brown lives in a neighborhood southeast of the city center on the East Coast, consisting of an area 12 blocks by 8 blocks. Mrs. Brown is in her 70's, having lived in her neighborhood for 40 years. She knows many people in her neighborhood and is an accepted informal leader. She wants to see her neighborhood change as it has become really run down and has major problems. There are many cars in different stages of repair on the street. Also there is graffiti everywhere.

Most of the homes in the neighborhood are 80 to 100 year old row houses (like townhouses but with each home adjacent to the next). When they were built they were near the city center and very desirable, but as the years passed the homes became run down and the neighborhood became less desirable. During the past 40 years it became home to mostly poor, and many families who were on welfare and supporting dependent children moved in. Many of these houses became women led because they were not eligible to draw government support if the husband lived in the house. On the outskirts of the neighborhood are two subsidized government housing complexes. One has 350 units and a 250 unit complex is mostly immigrants.

Today the neighborhood has become very diverse ethnically as well as economically. There are some who are on welfare, others who would be considered working poor, some new immigrants struggling daily to get by, and yet others who are holding well paying jobs. Some of the row houses are occupied by older people who have lived there for many years. They live in limited income and cannot keep their homes up because they have no support system of family to help them. Other row houses are drug houses occupied by younger people. But because the area is close to the city center, multiple professionals have also bought the old row houses and fixed them up.

The primary businesses are on the edges of the neighborhood with ethnic restaurants and mom and pop business. There are no major grocery stores therefore food is expensive. Because the neighborhood is close to the city center there are high cost restaurants and stores that none of the neighbors can afford. There are some informal groups (volunteer associations) functioning in the area, including a neighborhood association which is not functioning very well even Mrs. Brown tries to keep it going. Most of the other informal groups are built around the specific interests of their participants. At one time an inventory of the peoples assets, skills, knowledge and interests had been taken of people in the neighborhood. They had a government sponsored five year Weed and Seed program which mobilized the community to make their area more secure. Several businesses came into the neighborhood and had some impact by providing jobs for local people. Gangs had been a major problem before the Weed and Seed program, but recently things seemed to be better.

There is a neighborhood elementary school which has low test scores with 83% on subsidized lunches. They need tutors to help with their children of which Mrs. Brown is one of them.

There are 18 churches in the neighborhood, with only one open during the week. Most churches meet in storefronts and the rest meet in the older church buildings that have existed for many years. The church buildings are generally only used on Sundays. Many of the church members no longer live in the neighborhood. The members are people that lived in the neighborhood but moved to a nicer part of town. They keep coming back because they feel like they belong to their church and do not fit in the churches nearer their homes. Even many of the pastors do not live in the neighborhood and are working other jobs to support their families.



**Describe what you see in this story.**



## CHOOSING A NEIGHBORHOOD



**How do you choose a neighborhood?** First, pray about where to go, and then go where God directs you! When you enter a neighborhood, prayerwalk it and look for the person of peace. Start a discipleship group in the person of peace's home and get to know each other. Do the one-anothers from the Bible together. After a while of growing together in community, ask them, "What are some needs that your community has?" You can use the survey below to help you identify those needs and find ways to help them solve their own problems.

## IDENTIFYING ASSETS



**PRACTICE:** With a partner, fill out the survey on page 8. Do not give any spiritual answers.



**From your survey, look at who wants to learn what, or needs what, and talk about how to connect them with the people in the community that help! This is strength-based community!**

## KNOWING YOUR NEIGHBOR



**PRACTICE:** Do you know who your next-door neighbor is? In small groups, tell people who your neighbor is in back of your house, in front of your house, and to the left and right of your house. Do you know their names and one significant thing about them?

## ROLES OF TRAINING TEAM

## WHAT'S NEXT?

IN SUMMARY, YOU SHOULD GO, IDENTIFY PERSONS OF PEACE, START A 3/3 GROUP AND MAKE SOME DISCIPLES, ASK THEM WHAT THEIR NEEDS ARE (SURVEY) AND THEN SOLVE THOSE NEEDS THROUGH STRENGTHBASED APPROACHES.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSET SURVEY

What do you like about your neighborhood?

What would you like to see different in your neighborhood?

What groups are you involved in, within your neighborhood?

What do you like to do:  
With your hands?

What do you feel passionate about?

What knowledge do you have that you might be willing to share with others

What would you like to learn if training were available in your neighborhood?

How can we pray for you?

**Persons Name**

**Phone #**

**Address**

## CASE STUDIES

### **Pantano Case Study of Focusing on Assets**

Pantano Christian Church in Tucson, AZ, a city of 500,000 had been working on reaching outside their four walls to a nearby neighborhood to begin to see that neighborhood transformed in a holistic way: physically, spiritually, emotionally and socially.

They worked in the 29th Street Corridor in Tucson, which is about one square mile made up of five separate neighborhoods. They did many things for their target areas such as cleaned up parks and streets, helped in the elementary school by painting some classrooms, tutoring kids, and reaching out to help the teachers. There was a government-funded program to weed out crime and build development, which meant they had five neighborhood associations functioning, and which the church sometimes participated in.

This was good, but this focused on seeing the bad things in the neighborhoods and not really dealing with what was already good going on there. They realized by identifying needs and focusing on them they were focusing on the negative and not the positive. Also, the people in the neighborhood felt that since this was a large middle class church of 3000 members they would supply everything necessary to fix the problems in their neighborhoods. People were dependent on professionals for all of their help instead of the way they grew up, where neighbor helped neighbor. Therefore, the neighborhoods were dependent on the church and government to fix everything and people were doing little, if anything, for themselves.

Pantano heard about an approach called Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) which had been going on for 20 years and which focused on the assets found in a neighborhood. It focused on the assets of individuals, local informal groups people participated in, as well as the more institutional organizations like community policing, schools, and non-profit organizations involved in the community.

They then learned how to prepare interviews and then initiated one-on-one interviews with the people they wanted to get to know. They asked questions about what people liked about their neighborhood and what they would like to change. They asked what skills, knowledge and passions people had that might help their neighborhood. They also asked what local informal groups they participated in and what they wanted to learn if teaching were done in their neighborhood. They also asked how they could pray for the person.

Some went door to door with neighborhood members asking these eight questions. One neighborhood sent questionnaires home with school children while another neighborhood created a door hanger and rang the bell of each home saying they were working with the neighborhood association and asked people to fill out the questionnaire and they would be back to collect them within the hour.

They learned that all people have skills, knowledge and passion for certain things but no one knew what they were. They learned how to identify the assets in each of the three groups found in their neighborhoods. They learned it was all about helping people know more about their neighbors and establishing relationships, which led to neighbors helping neighbors.

Over a period of six months they had collected answers to the eight questions from over 500 people. As they got the answers they were loaded into a database so that they could tabulate the information. What they found astonished them as here were gifted and talented people, people who wanted to be used doing things they knew what to do and were interested in. Neighborhood meetings were held to present the findings as well as through the association newsletters. Small group classes were set up around what people in the neighborhood wanted to learn which were taught by neighborhood and Pantano people.

### WHY has God saved us?

God saved us through His grace and mercy (Ephesians 2:4-6). He saved us because of His love for us (John 3:16-18), for His glory (Ephesians 1:11-14) and His desire for us to GO and spread His glory around the world (2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Habakkuk 2:14).

### THE 4 COMMANDS [Matthew 28:19-20]

1. Go
2. Make disciples
3. Baptize them
4. Teach them to obey



### THE 4 CALLS

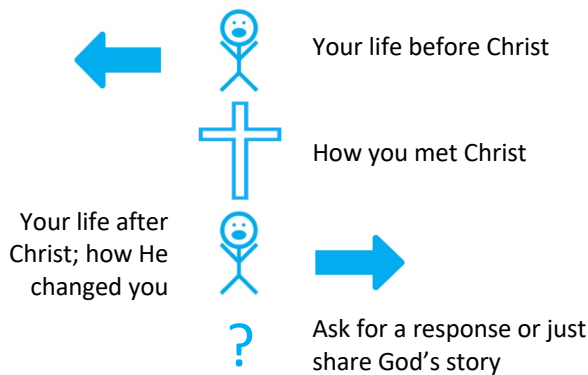
1. The Call from Above: Mark 16:15
2. The Call from Below: Luke 16:27-28
3. The Call from Inside: 1 Corinthians 9:16-17
4. The Call from Outside: Acts 16:9

### WHO? Your Relational Network

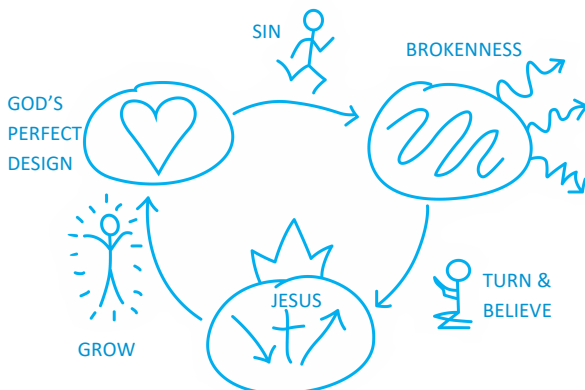
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Write down the names of 20 people you know that do not have a relationship with God. Pray for them and share your story and God's story with them.

### HOW? Share Your Story



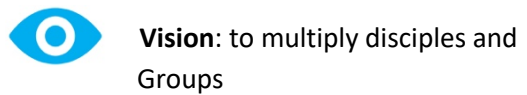
### HOW? Share God's Story



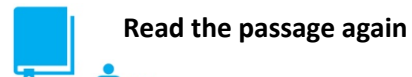
### GROUP MEETING FORMAT [3/3]



- ✓ How did you obey?
- ✓ Who did you train?
- ✓ Did you share your story or God's story with anyone?



- 👍 What did you like?
- 👎 What did you find challenging?



- 👤 ↑ What does it teach about God?
- 👤 ← What does it teach about people?

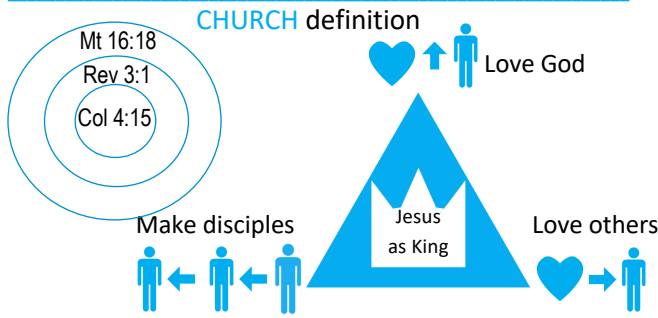


**Pray and listen to God.** How can you obey? Who can you train? Who can you share with? Share your commitment with the Group.



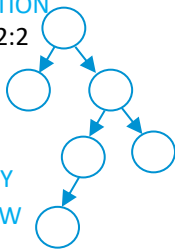
**Practice:** Role-play how you will obey or retell today's lesson. End with **prayer**.

A **DISCIPLE** hears, obeys, and shares Jesus' commands



**MULTIPLICATION**

2 Timothy 2:2



**POUR DEEPLY INTO THE FEW**

- Paul (1<sup>st</sup> Gen)
- ↓
- Timothy (2<sup>nd</sup> Gen)
- ↓
- Faithful people (3<sup>rd</sup> Gen)
- ↓
- Others (4<sup>th</sup> Gen)

**GOD'S VISION** is for every person, people and place



Look for **PERSONS OF PEACE** (Luke 10:1-11)



**PRAYER WALKING**



B.L.E.S.S. Prayer



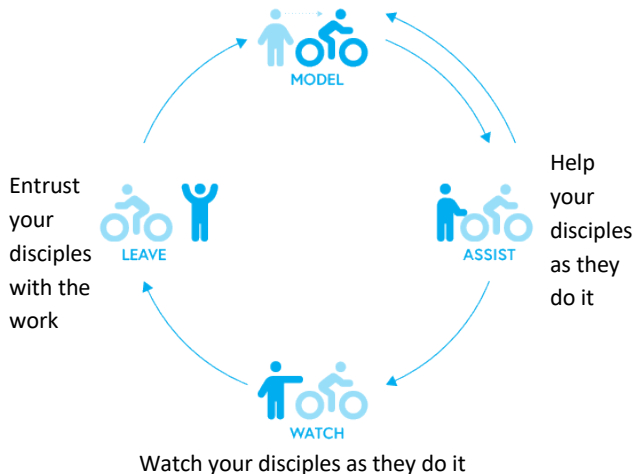
**DUCKLING DISCIPLESHIP**

**ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP**



2-3 people of the same gender; read scripture and apply to life; pray together; confess sin

Show your disciples how to do it



**Signs of John (Seekers)**

John 2:1-12; John 4:46-54; John 5:1-17; John 6:1-14; John 6:15-25; John 9:1-41; John 11:1-46; John 14:1-11

**Hope Series (Seekers)**

Luke 18:9-14; Luke 12:13-34; Luke 15:11-32; Luke 19:1-10; John 3:1-21

**Discover Series (Seekers/New Disciples)**

**DISCOVER GOD**

Genesis 1; Genesis 2; Genesis 3; Genesis 6:5 to 8:14; Genesis 8:15-9:17; Genesis 12:1-7 & 15:1-6; Leviticus 19:2 & Deuteronomy 32:3-4; Exodus 20:1-21; 1 Samuel 16:1-13; 2 Samuel 7:1-28; 2 Samuel 11:1-27; 2 Samuel 12:1-25; Psalm 51:1-17; Isaiah 53

**DISCOVER JESUS**

Matthew 1:18-25; Matthew 3:7-9,13-15; Mark 5:1-20; John 10:1-30; Luke 18:31-42; Luke 19:1-9; Matthew 9:9-13; Hebrews 4:14-16 & 10:1-14; John 14:1-15; John 16:5-15; Luke 22:14-20; Luke 22:47-53 & 23:13-24; Luke 23:33-56; Luke 24:1-7, 36-47; Acts 1:1-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

**Start Track (New Disciples)**

- [1] Why/Who/How [2] Holy Spirit: John 14:15-18; Titus 3:4-7 [3] Tell Your Story: Mark 5:1-20 [4] Tell God's Story: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23 [5] Follow and Fish: Mark 1:16-20 [6] Baptism: Romans 6:3-4; Acts 8:26-40 [7] New Identity: Ephesians 1:3-14; Romans 6:6-14 [8] The Bible: 2 Timothy 3:14-17 [9] Talk with God: Matthew 6:9-13 [10] Hard Times: Acts 5:17-42; Matthew 5:43-44 [11] Becoming Healthy Disciples: Acts 2:36-47, 1 Corinthians 11:23-34



[1] Gather together: Hebrews 10:19-25



[2] Baptism: Acts 16:22-34



[3] Read the Bible: Psalm 119:105-112



[4] Communion: Matthew 26:20-30



[5] Fellowship: Philippians 2:1-11; 1 John 1:1-7



[6] Giving and ministry: Acts 4:32-37; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11



[7] Praying together: Acts 12:1-17



[8] Praise and worship: Psalm 100:1-5, Ephesians 5:15-20



[9] Witness: Romans 10:8-15; Acts 8:1-8



[10] Caring leaders: Hebrews 13:7-9, 17



