

ADULT SS
BACKGROUND &
PURPOSE



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Discipling, Evangelism, Raising up leaders, Church Planting, Missions. What is the root of these five things (the “germ” he talks about)?

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What does it require to find what God values and does and then fill your life with more of these things?

- Being thankful
- In & under His Word
- Submission & humility
- Honoring His work in creation & sustaining
- Habits of Grace – reading Word, meditating, prayer, fellowship of saints are not the end – we sink our roots into Him & spread branches out in service which drives us back to learn more of Him (need Him to serve Him)
- Matt. 6:33 what does seeking look like? Knowing only part of picture – get wisdom & understanding (effort involved in bridge between facts & apprehension application)
- If “know more” than those around, then lose desire to learn more

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What does it require to find what God values and does and then fill your life with more of these things? CONTINUED

- No growth if not identifying sin & enjoy the benefits of confession through Christ
- Discipleship process that includes all God intends to work in our lives
- Trust Christ to separate you from your sin (cleanse us from all unrighteousness)
- Rom 5:8 God demonstrates His love, while still sinners Christ died for us – I John 4:19 He Love because He first loved us
- Meditation Ps.1 day & night – explaining to myself the truth I just read, I find must struggle more to understand

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What does “being a disciple”/following imply or necessitate?

- Seeing He is enough
- You are learning
- Something outside; willing to lose self-centeredness
- Share what learn/not embarrass
- Shows level of importance
- Doer not hearer
- Intentional (discipline required)
- Wisdom of God lifted up (head, heart, hand)
- Looking past brokenness, solutions, why look to Him, what do you want
- Not co-pilot or business partner more like apprenticeship i.e.) one who left Jesus in John 6 left b/c looking through their lens/needs
- Seek maturity, don't focus on age – don't hide flaws

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What does “being a disciple”/following imply or necessitate? CONTINUED

- Phil. 2 – no selfish ambition, the mindset of Christ Jesus
- Know Him; passion
- Contrast seeing what not; teachable to be lead toward object your following
- Willingness to do the hard things – often things we haven’t thought of – that indicates something outside ourselves we value
- Preventative maintenance
- Romans 12

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If we believe all of God's words in the midst of hard things, what will it keep us from?

- Sinning – being separated from God
- Doubting His Word
- 2 Peter 1 – character that continues “in Christ” will not be useless, unfaithfulness
- Consequences
- Hebrews – in obedience you will see that He is better
- Keep our eyes off ourselves, not losing sight of who God is
- Idols, going our own way

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What does this say about our following Jesus if we are not actively helping others follow Jesus?

- We don't get it
- My kingdom, masquerading as God's Kingdom causing me to miss God's priorities
- We have selective faith – take parts we want ignore parts don't think we need
- Fear of people holding us to same standard
- Lazy - caught up in our own kingdom (schedule, family)
- We don't see Jesus or “all things – whatsoever He commanded” as worthy of sharing with others
- Perhaps shows we don't love people as we ought
- Shows we don't value growing “in all aspects to Him who is the head” – Eph. 4, Rom. 8:29

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What does this say about our following Jesus if we are not actively helping others follow Jesus? (CONTINUED)

- Disobedience
- Intentional, won't come naturally
- Find benefits of “product” (benefits of knowing Christ)
- We have different priorities in following Him

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What is the progression in 2 Cor. 5 (page 1 of 3)?

- Rom. 8 chain – Justification, Sanctification, Glorification
 - Life with Christ because body dead, 6 therefore's
 - Comparing earthly life with heavenly life – v. 1-5, Therefore must walk by faith, in earthly because will be judged in heavenly, therefore live pleasing to God – v. 6-10
1. Groaning in contrast with longing based on promise of God
 2. We are all preaching something about what will make life work – when it is the gospel, it will minimize other priorities
- Everything here is a picture of something heavenly – something much greater in heaven with Jesus – we flip it and put our hope in earthly
 - V. 10 anchors what is on display (v. 11-13) and how you respond under scrutiny

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What is the progression in 2 Cor. 5 (page 2 of 3)?

- V. 11 – fear of the lord not a terror but delight and full reference point leads to how and why I interact with others
- We affect one another and so should be willing to give account for our actions respecting God
- What does being in the presence of "holy God" mean for NOW
- V. 14 – love of Christ always there when all else falls away
- Don't have a good understanding of God's love, but we have very great pictures (John, Moses, lay down you life)
- Opportunity for Jesus as Savior instead of judge as motivator (as hope, as security of belonging, of welcome)

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What is the progression in 2 Cor. 5 (page 3 of 3)?

- If Christ is author of new identity (new belonging/love), then no connection w/ old
- vv.18-21 responsibility has been transferred (continued) from Christ to us
- v.20 “mouth piece” of God result of new identity (relationship)
- Timidity resulting from not having a “Paul” experience shows don’t understand path of appropriating gospel and its necessary outcome (mission)
- v.16 Christ seen in new way – spiritual Vs. flesh – we must do the same
- New vision for how we see these crowd us and Christ – this directs our journey (mission)

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What does making disciples of Jesus include?

- Making sure you yourself are a disciple
- Engage people intentionally
- Teach people what Jesus said
- Love souls
- Be careful of cloning ourselves – a slow process, soil – how are we cultivating soil that seed is growing in
- Ask, “ Why do we want to make disciples?”
 1. Commanded
 2. Why would we want to follow Jesus? (Establishing Value)
- Learning under God to follow Jesus – then helping others to follow Jesus
- Share gospel with them

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What does making disciples of Jesus include? – cont.

- Trust/allow Spirit to work w/ seed of gospel
- Asking what does God want them to hear/seeking
- Continued growth with it encouragement
- Trust God - obedience
- Acknowledging to be a disciple
- Sense of need and desire for change
- Identify areas that need to be strengthened while we work & watch for work of God to take hold (firm foundation)

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What does making disciples include? Colossians 1:28 - 2:7

- Struggle
- Evidence of dependence in struggle
- Motivating them to do work of building/encouraging
- Striving against what we used to protect/defend from being disciplined
- Point to Christ Himself, not just change behavior
- Protect from wrong doctrine
- Continuing to “own” responsibility for their continued stability and growth in the gospel
- Making your presence & intention felt
- Includes specific goal – knit together in love

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What does making disciples include? Ephesians 3:14, 16-17; 4:14-19

- Being stabilized in love
- First salvation, and then what does it look like for them to come to the completion of Christ
- In order to head this way, must understand love (we struggle, stroke one another, etc. - because so afraid we won't seem loving); therefore pray for growth in love of God
- Rejoicing/thankful in process with them (means noticing image of God, steps of growth)

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What does making disciples include? Galatians 4:10-20

- It includes heartbreak
- At times being seen as an enemy
- Continuing after them – pursuing , vying for affection
- Wrestling for the center of identity
- Proclaiming the gospel necessitates being immersed among them which means prioritizing issues underneath the gospel
- Slow, repetitive, consistent
- You living & showing needs allows platform for gospel focus
- Work of picking through experience, values, and process of adjusting focus from them to The Head (Eph.4:15-16) with patience & love
- Owns their “problems” even while sick & ministering elsewhere

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What would be some of the inhibitors to us cultivating this germ of following Jesus ourselves and helping others follow Jesus in the church?

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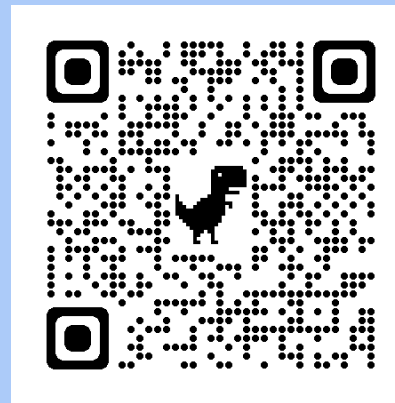
How would following Jesus deal with these inhibitors?

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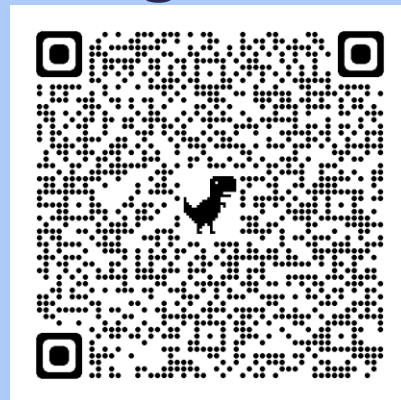
What do we need to do to strengthen this germ/root of following Jesus in our lives individually and as a church?

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- 1. Are Churches Losing the Battle to Form Christians?**
by: Brett McCracken Gospel Coalition

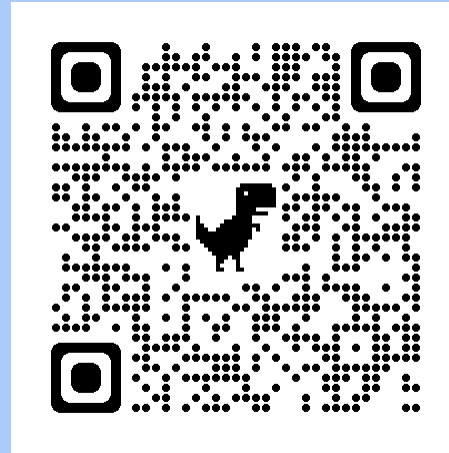


- 2. BCC Classic: Five Indicators of a Healthy and Transforming Soul Care Ministry**
by: Garrett Higbee



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3. Five Reasons We Don't Disciple (Part 1)



4. Five Reasons We Don't Disciple (Part 3)



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Why will following Jesus individually/together naturally result in a culture of **discipling, evangelism, raising up leaders, church planting, and missions**? (What is the tie? How do they flow from each other?)

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5. What is the Mission of the Church by: AJ Gibson



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Underlying Assumptions/Goals in Adult SS for church as whole:

- 1. We must shift our focus from personal maturity and growth to building healthy churches.**
- 2. We must focus on the roots, not merely the fruit.**

“SKELETON AND FLESH OF THE CHURCH” APPLIED PT. 9

CBC, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2021

IF we do NOTHING else together, the Collective People of God must:

- I. Worship God Together.** Romans 15:5-6
- II. Grow Individually and Corporately with a Growth that Comes from God.** Eph. 4:15-16
- III. Protect/Defend the Name of God—His character and Eternal Purposes.** II Tim. 1:13-14
- IV. Own the People in the Particular Expression of the Body of Christ where God has Placed you.** I Cor. 12:18, Eph. 4:16
- V. Spread the Glory of God** Hab. 2:14, I Pet. 2:9

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We have looked at public worship services, relationships, growth, culture, now finally, What would need to be lifted up/allowed if want to build healthy churches with strong roots in **faithful service**?

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Through the lens of these two goals, what were some of the changes hoped for by intentionally changing the goals during our *Future Grace* study leading to an 8 year study of that book? (longer studies over the years preceding)

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Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that **you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;**

Philippians 1:27

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ² **make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.**

Philippians 2:1-2