

*Discipling 101*

# Leadership God's Way

## Man to Man A Discipleship Ministry



### Teaching Leadership God's Way

To encourage men to become the spiritual leaders in their homes and workplaces, to build a foundational relationship with Christ, and to apply Biblical principals at all times.

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# Leadership God's Way

## DISCIPLESHIP

*"Discipleship is not the meritorious achievement of individuals,  
but a divine commandment to all Christians"*

Dietrich Bonhoffer

## THE BASICS

### DISCIPLES: MEN GOD USES

- I. ASSURANCE
- II. WALKING WITH GOD
- III. NEXT STEP
- IV. HOW TO PRIORITIZE OUR LIFE
- V. FROM PRIORITIES TO FOCUS
- VI. ADOPTING GOD'S PRIORITIES
- VII. HOW TO STOP SPENDING & INVEST
- VIII. THE WORLD OR THE WORD, YOUR CHOICE
- IX. ILLUSTRATIONS
- X. BASIC COMPONENTS OF OUR ACTIVE FAITH
- XI. THE PROFIT OF PRAYER
- XII. RELATIONSHIP NOT RELIGION
- XIII. LORDSHIP
- XIV. LEADERS

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# Leadership God's Way

## DISCIPLES: MEN GOD USES

These are ten features of the type of man God uses. A spiritually FATT Man (Faithful, Available, Teachable & Trainable). Please review these features and assign a number from 1 to 10 with #1 being the area in which you feel you need the most improvement.

### SCORE

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. He has adopted as his objective in life the same objective God sets forth in the scriptures. (*Matthew 6:33*) – To see God's kingdom and His righteousness as the first priority.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. He is willing to pay any price to have the will of God fulfilled in his life. (*II Timothy 2:3-4*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. He has a love for the Word of God. (*Jeremiah 15:16*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. He has a servant heart. (*Matthew 20:26-28*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. He puts no confidence in the flesh. (*Romans 7:18*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. He does not have an independent spirit. (*II Corinthians 3:5*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. He has a love for people. (*I John 4:11*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. He does not allow himself to be trapped in bitterness. (*Hebrews 12:15*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. He has learned to discipline his life. (*I Corinthians 9:24-27*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. He has allowed Christ to be Lord in his life. (*Mark 14:61-62; Luke 2:10-11; John 1:14; John 14:6*)

As we start our study time together, let's pray that we are accountable to each other for a three month period and that we will meet for one hour every week in my home/office. We will be accountable to each other in our walk with God, and, especially in honesty, faithfulness, scripture memory, quiet time and our commitment to overall growth in Christ. After the three month period of time we will then evaluate our progress and direction.

In Christ,

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Bud

Date

Date



# Leadership God's Way

## ASSURANCE

### How to Know That You Know That You Know

Before we can mature as Christians we must be assured of our salvation. How can you be sure you are "saved"? Is assurance possible? The answer is yes. *I John 5:13* says, "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that You may know that you have eternal life." John was writing to fellow believers so that they might have assurance. Previously in *John 3:16*, Jesus says, "For God so loved the world He gave His one and only son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." God first loved us! Jesus states in *John 3:18*, "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." The witness of the Spirit himself gives us assurance in *Romans 8:16*, "The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."

So we have answered the question, "Is assurance possible"? God's Word gives us this assurance, but in these fleshly bodies, will we still have doubts? The answer is yes. Our feelings of assurance may wax and wane throughout our lifetime. I am my father's son, but I may not feel like a son. However that does not alter the reality of my true relationship with my father and him with me. Having doubts about assurance is something everyone experiences. Even "spiritual giants" have experienced doubts. *Jeremiah 17:9* says, "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it"? We must remember that Satan first planted doubt in Eve in order to tempt her. (*Gen. 3:1*)

Is assurance beneficial? The answer is yes. *I John 1:4* says, "We write this to make your joy complete." If we do not have assurance, we do not have joy, we are hindered in our growth and we easily fall into sin. For me, my assurance is based on Christ and Christ alone, that He is who He says He is in His Word, that His Word is the absolute Truth, and the Truth sets us free from our sin, past, present and future.

This is a good place to address how God's Word says that we must accept His Son and begin to walk with God.

### Below are the ABC & D's of salvation:

**A** - There is something to **Admit**.  
(*Romans 3:23, 6:23*)  
I am lost and I am a sinner.

**C** - There is something to **Consider**.  
(*Luke 14:26-27*)  
Count the cost. It means following  
Jesus Christ.

**B** - There is something to **Believe**.  
(*Romans 10:9, Acts 16:31*)

**D** - There is something to **Do**.  
(*John 1:12*)

### MEMORIZE – JOHN 3:16

No. 1



# Leadership God's Way

## WALKING WITH GOD

Questions to consider as we evaluate where we are in our walk with God.

1. Do I have a personal relationship with Christ?

- A. Salvation *John 3:16, Romans 6:23, John 14:6*
- B. Sanctification *Eph. 2:8-9, Romans 10:9-10, John 17:17, I Thes. 5:23*
- C. Glorification *Phil. 3:20-21, I Cor. 15:42-43*

2. What am I doing about this Christ in my life?

- A. Time with Him *Matt. 6:5-13, Luke 11:1-4, Lam. 3:22-29*
- B. Church *Eph. 1:22-23, Col. 1:15-18*
- C. Good works *Eph. 2:8-13*
- D. Tithing *Gen. 14:20, II Chron. 31:5-6, Lev.27:30, Mal. 3:6-12*
- E. Giving *Acts 20:35, Luke 12:48b*

3. Do I pray?

- A. What for \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Who for \_\_\_\_\_
- C. How \_\_\_\_\_
- D. When \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Where \_\_\_\_\_
- F. How often \_\_\_\_\_

4. Husbands: Am I the spiritual leader of my home?  
*Eph. 5:25-28*

Wives: Am I submitting to my husband?  
*Eph. 5:22-24*

5. Do I apply biblical principles at all time in my home, workplace and social realm?

# Leadership God's Way

## THE NEXT STEP

Now that you know that you are one of God's children (accepted Christ as Savior), what is the "Next Step"? As a new believer in Christ, we should want to get to know the Lord. We should desire His instruction. We should become "Christ Followers".

Below are 5 steps whereby we as Christ followers mature in Christ:

1. We should desire to identify with Christ.  
*Matthew 10:32, Mark 8:29, Romans 10:9-10*
2. We should desire a closer relationship with Him.  
*Proverbs 3:5-6, Matthew 6:33, Romans 12:2*
3. We should obey His Word.  
*Matthew 7:24-27, Matthew 28:19-20, John 8:31*

Don't just be hearers of the Word, but doers of the Word. But how can we do what we don't know? This is where our bible study, scripture memory, and quiet time with the Lord really begin to reap a harvest, and where a spiritual mentor is essential.

4. We should bear much fruit. If we are to truly be Christ followers, we will bear much fruit.  
*John 15:1-8*
5. We should stop conforming to the world and take on the likeness of Christ.  
*II Cor. 5:17, Romans 12:1-2, Phil. 2:5-11, I John 2:15-17*

Accept Christ's Lordship in your life. (More on this in later lessons)

Remember that we are the called out ones, the ones who are called out to be different from the world.

These 5 steps are on going, continuous in our lives. No one ever achieves the glory God has for us here on earth. There is only one glory and that is when we see Him face to face! But we can grow and mature as God intends for us while living a life of joy and purpose.

As my friend, John West, always reminds us.....

*"Keep on keeping on and celebrate life. It will make a difference."*

We celebrate life daily by spending time with the Lord and His Word. Then as we go through the day we see our lives from God's viewpoint, not our own or the world's.

**MEMORIZE: ROMANS 12:2**



# Leadership God's Way

## HOW TO PRIORITIZE OUR LIFE

Most men I have talked to believe they have their priorities "somewhat" in line with their goals. But when challenged to really inspect their lives, they find that either their goals are flawed or their priorities are all wrong because they are neither happy nor are they achieving their goals. It's interesting that as businessmen, we put together huge business plans spending many hours and much money to accomplish a task or reach a goal in business, but we have never really thought about doing that for our marriage and families.

Socrates says, "*An unexamined life is not worth living.*" Maybe it is time we inspected ours.

I've found that the flaws most often lie in how we prioritize our lives. I mean the lives we actually live, not the one we think or wish we were living.

Here is an example: Over the past 20 years or so, I have asked men, husbands and fathers who are part of a bible study or are being disciplined at the time to arrange the following segments of their life by priority: work, family, God and self.

Invariably, they will arrange these segments the following way:

1. God
2. Family
3. Business
4. Self

However, when asked to inspect their life and priorities with the true evaluation criteria, time and money, (this means analyzing your day timer and checkbook) the priorities look very different.

### Time Criteria

1. Business
2. Family/Self
3. Self/Family
4. God

### Money Criteria

1. Business
2. Family
3. Self
4. God

Why is this true?

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What does God's Word say about what our priority should be?

*Matthew 6:33*  
*Colossians 3:23*  
*Matthew 16:26*  
*Mark 8:35*  
*John 10:10*  
*Romans 12:2*

*Proverbs 22:1*  
*Hebrews 12:11*  
*Matthew 6:10-21*  
*Matthew 6:24*  
*Proverbs 3:5-6*  
*James 1:22-25*

Take the priority test. Do you pass? What can you do today to change your priorities to align with God's will and Word?

What do you truly "value"?

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How do you define "valuable"?

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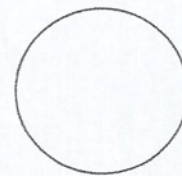
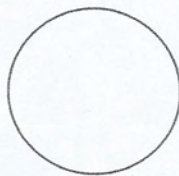
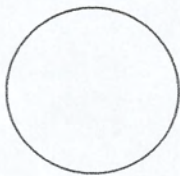
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With the help of your spiritual mentor complete the following:

Non-Christian

Carnal Christian

Christ Follower



**MEMORIZE: JAMES 1:22**

**Read Time Bandits by Stuart D. Briscoe**



# Leadership God's Way

## FROM PRIORITIES TO FOCUS

### Establishing Your Focus

Now that we understand our priorities, God, Family, Self, Careers/Business, in that order, how do we implement these priorities?

If you are working a job 8 hours a day, then how do you put God first? It has to do with our **FOCUS!** If I am focused on Christ each day, then I am working with the attitude of Christ (*Phil. 2:5-8*). If I understand my role as a servant then we will be the best worker God and your boss could ask for.

What men and women need:

1. RESPECT – We want to sense fulfillment and worthiness.
2. A MISSION – Based on your passion, something to do/accomplish.
3. COMPANIONSHIP – Some one to share our mission with.
4. ORDER – A “system” to perfectly accomplish our mission.

“Your ‘system’ is designed to produce the results you are getting.” *Frederick Taylor*, the father of Scientific Management. Your faith or belief system is like this:

You are placing your faith in who or what? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your belief system? \_\_\_\_\_

If your belief system does not create a focus on God as a priority in life, then what?

\_\_\_\_\_

Check your answer. Look at your day timer and your checkbook. Where is your time going? Where is your money going? You are “spending” your most valuable commodity, time, daily. How are you “spending” it? What about your money? Have you thought about “investing” rather than spending the two most valuable commodities you have, time and money? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your belief system match with where you are spending/investing your time and money?

Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why not?

\_\_\_\_\_



Your system should create a mission, your mission a passion and your passion a relationship with God and others, making your life worth living.

1. A mission, which provides a passion beginning with the fear of the Lord, is the beginning of all wisdom.  
*Proverbs 1:7; 9:10; 14:27; 15:33*
2. Our mission based on a passion to know Christ and to make Him known is worthwhile.
3. To build a relationship with the Lord God, Jesus Christ is the beginning of our sharing our mission.
4. Christianity is a “system” worth considering as a way of gaining respect (husband, wife, father, mother, friend, leader).

Husband      Spiritual leader/companion  
*Eph. 5:23 & 25-33, Col. 3:19*

Wife          Helper/companion  
*Eph. 5:21-24 & 33*

Father        Spiritual leader/teacher/head of the home  
*Eph. 6:4, col. 3:21*

Mother       Productive virtuous nurturer/caregiver  
*Prov. 31:10-31*

Friend        Especially if not married  
*James 2:23, John 15:14*

Leader        Business/Church  
*1 Tim. 3:1,2, Titus 1:6-11*

Our Lord Jesus Christ provides all our needs. *Matthew 6:33*

He is the one who gives us respect.

He is the focus of our passion. He is our mission.

He is the one, our companion, with whom we direct and share our mission.

He provides the order, whereby He creates a system to accomplish the mission fulfilling our passion.

**MEMORIZE:** *Ecclesiastes 12:13-14*

**Read** Ordering Your Private World by Gordon MacDonald



# Leadership God's Way

## ADOPTING GOD'S PRIORITIES AS MY PRIORITIES

As we establish our priorities and begin to focus on Christ, we are adopting God's plan for our lives.  
*Jeremiah 29:11*

1. Remember your obligation is to please God, not Man. Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit in all activities.  
*Matt. 6:24*  
*I Peter 5:2*
2. Write out a list of what tasks you have to accomplish. Don't get frustrated over items not completed—move them to a new list. Periodically, review previously established priorities.  
*Romans 12:2*  
*Isaiah 26:3*
3. Establish specific short and long-term goals. Determine an order in which you feel they should be accomplished. Recognize the need to change priorities when appropriate.  
*Matt. 7:24-27*
4. Determine which of your various priorities will create lasting value. Define some absolutes, but be careful that all priorities don't become absolute necessities.  
*Prov. 3:5-6*  
*Matt. 6:33*  
*John 3:16*
5. In establishing your priorities, determine what only you can do. Seek the aid of others when possible—can they handle the task more easily? Don't do anything others can or will do. Do what God has called you to do.  
*Psalms 90:17*  
*Prov. 15:22*
6. Fit your small work assignments into available "gaps" of time. Enjoy seeing small tasks completed.  
*Eccles. 3:1*  
*Eccles. 8:5-6*
7. Act—don't react! Discipline yourself to take the initiative. Don't react to what others see as your priorities. However, don't postpone a relationship problem you could solve quickly by taking immediate action.  
*James 1:19*  
*James 2:14*  
*James 2:17-24*



8. Mix up the kind of activities you're involved with. Set aside for later action items where you've hit a stopping point. Variety adds spice to the day. Maintain a sense of balance and humor. You can't do all today.

*Psalm 61:1*

*Prov. 17:22*

*Phil. 4:8*

9. Allow adequate time to complete a priority assignment. Close the door to your office—and your mind when necessary. Quiet waters are wise counsel.

*Psalm 46:10*

*Isaiah 30:15*

*Isaiah 32:17*

*Luke 5:16*

10. Accept priority setting as a spiritual task. Realize God's timing might be different from ours. Claim the promise that "the truth (of Jesus Christ) has set us free". Relax! Enjoy! The trip is brief; enjoy it.

*Luke 10:41*

*Phil. 4:4*

*Isaiah 55:8-9*

Some "don'ts" to remember:

- Don't substitute activity for living God's way.
- Don't substitute busyness for God's work.
- Don't substitute religion for a relationship with Him.
- Don't substitute frenzied, compulsive behavior for contentment.

**Learn that "NO" is an acceptable answer.**

***"If Satan can not make you sin, he will make you busy."***

.....Corrie Ten Boom



# Leadership God's Way

## HOW TO STOP SPENDING & INVEST

The answer to this question is to invest in eternal things. But what are eternal things?

There are only two things that are eternal. God/God's Word and people are the only things that are eternal.

1. God/God's Word

*John 1:1, Gen. 21:33, Deut. 33:27, Psalm 119:89; 3:36; 5:24; 6:40; 6:54, Romans 6:23*

2. People

*Eccl. 12:5, Matt. 19:29, John 3:15-16, Matt. 25:46, Luke 18:18&30, I Tim 1:16, Titus. 3:7, I John 5:11*

Why invest and not spend? This answer is easy, but the doing is more difficult. As a business man I want to invest my time and money, not spend it. Spending and investing are two different things. When I "spend" my time it is gone, but when I "invest" time I expect a return, not just of the principle, but the principle plus interest or time multiplied. The same applies to money. You would never "invest" your money and not expect a return of that money plus interest or money multiplied. Of course spending money means that the money spent is gone.

Therefore, if I am "investing" my two most valuable things, time and money in my life, I want to invest them, not spend them on eternal things. Things that will not only out live me, but things that will our live me, my children and their children's children. The two things worth investing in are God's Word and people because they will go on for eternity!

Where are you spending your time?

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Where are you spending your money?

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Where would you like to invest your time?

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Where would you like to invest your money?

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# Leadership God's Way

## THE WORLD OR THE WORD, YOUR CHOICE!

What is your focus? Where is your priority? Who do you serve?

We are all focused on something, someone, some idea or some thought. This focus leads us to prioritizing our lives. We prioritize so that we can be intentional about our focus. An unintentional aim or focus misses the target every time. However, if we are intentional and take careful aim we hit our targets more often than not. Our priorities come out of what we focus on. How you prioritize your life determines how you live your life.

What are your priorities? God's Word or the World?

What is the difference in the Word and the World?

### WORLD

The difference is the **L**, the L = the **LIE**

### WORD

God's Word = the **TRUTH**

The "L" stands for the lie. See *Gen. 3:4-5* and *Rom. 1:25*

Discuss what the "world" is selling us today. We buy what catches our eye. What catches our eye is what we focus on. What we focus on becomes our priority and our priority determines who or what we serve.

Let's ask ourselves these questions:

1. What is your focus?  
*John 14:1-3 & John 14:6, John 15:5 & 8*
2. Where is your priority?  
I have \$1,000,000 to give to you if you meet with me one hour each day. What will you do?
3. Who do you serve?  
*Matt. 6:24, 23:8, Luke 16:13*

We have not received the Spirit of the world. *I Cor. 3:16, I Cor. 2:12-16*

Are you accepting and focusing on or putting into priority the lie in any form today?



# Leadership God's Way

## ILLUSTRATIONS

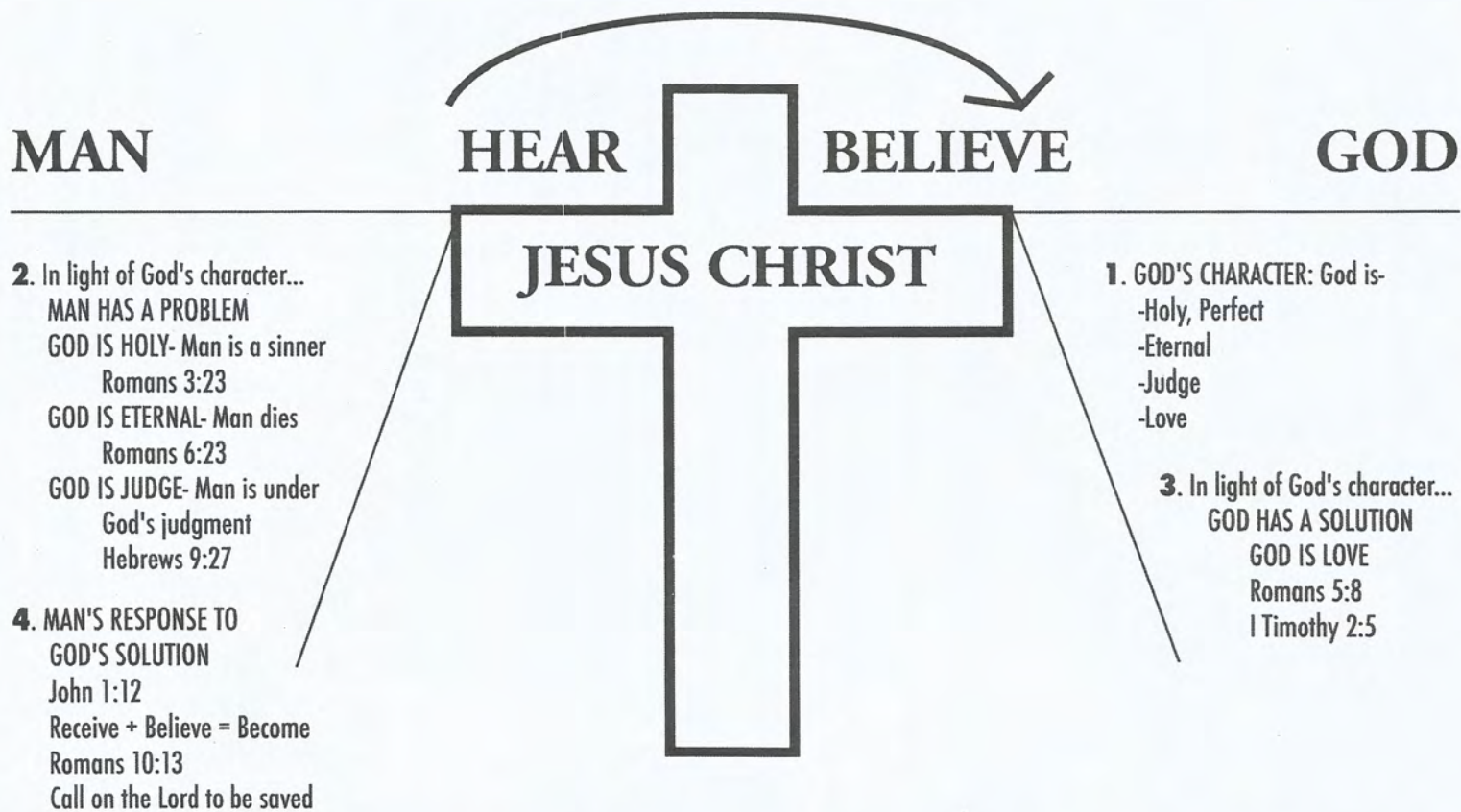
The following pages show three valuable tools for the maturing Christian. We should acquaint ourselves with these tools in order to reach the lost world (**The Bridge**), to become obedient servants (**The Wheel**) and to take God's Word into our hearts (**The Hand**).



# The Bridge Illustration

## 5. CROSSING OVER TO ETERNAL LIFE

John 5:24-



- 1. GOD'S CHARACTER-** God is the originator and sustainer of all that exists. God is Holy (Perfect), God is Eternal, God is Judge and God is Love. (Write down the phrase God is \_\_\_\_\_. Ask them to put description(s) of God's character in the blank. Make sure that Holy, Eternal, Judge and Love are included.)
- 2. MAN HAS A PROBLEM-** Man does not measure up to God's Character. God is Holy- Man is a sinner. God is Eternal- Man dies. God is Judge- Man is under the judgment of God. (Look up the verses Rom 3:23; 6:23 and Hebrews 9:27)
- 3. GOD HAS A SOLUTION TO MAN'S PROBLEM-** God is Love. God demonstrated His love by sending His Son to die on the cross for our sins (Look at Romans 5:8). Christ the God-Man is the mediator between God and Man. (See I Timothy 2:5)
- 4. MAN'S RESPONSE TO GOD'S SOLUTION-** In order to receive the benefit of God's Solution everyone must receive Christ and believe in Him. (John 1:12) Everyone must pray to the Lord and seek His salvation (Romans 10:13).
- 5. CROSSING OVER TO ETERNAL LIFE-** Hear the Message, Believe in Christ (to believe is to entrust yourself to) and He promises (1) Eternal Life, (2) No Judgment and (3) that we will Cross Over from Death (Man's Side) to Life (God's Side.) John 5:24

**CONCLUSION:** Will you cross over from death to life? Call on the name of the Lord to be saved (Romans 10:13) Pray to God a prayer like this. God you are holy, eternal and the judge of all people. I am a sinner under the sentence of death and under your judgment. I believe that Jesus came to save me from eternal judgment. Father, I put my faith and trust in Christ's death to save me from the penalty of my sin. I praise you for your love for me and for the free gift of forgiveness through Jesus Christ.



# THE NAVIGATOR WHEEL ILLUSTRATION

Balanced Life  
Appendix One



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## **CHRIST IS THE CENTER** (*2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 2:20*).

Just as the driving force in a wheel comes from the hub, so the power to live the Christian life comes from Jesus Christ, the Center. He lives in you in the Person of the Holy Spirit, whose expressed purpose is to glorify Christ.

## **OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST** (*Romans 12:1; John 14:21*).

The rim represents the Christian responding to Christ's lordship through wholehearted day-by-day obedience to Him.

## **THE WORD** (*2 Timothy 3:16; Joshua 1:8*).

The spokes show the means by which Christ's power becomes operative in your life. You maintain personal contact with God through the vertical spokes — the Word and prayer. The Word is your spiritual food as well as your sword for spiritual battle. It is the foundational spoke for effective Christian living.

## **PRAYER** (*John 15:7; Philippians 4:6-7*).

Opposite the Word is the spoke representing prayer. Through prayer you have direct communication with your Heavenly Father and receive Provision for your needs. As you pray, you show your dependence on and trust in Him.

## **FELLOWSHIP** (*Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:24-25*).

The horizontal spokes concern your relationship to people — believers, through Christian fellowship, and non-believers, through witnessing. Fellowship centered around the Lord Jesus Christ provides the mutual encouragement, admonition and stimulation you need.

## **WITNESSING** (*Matthew 4:19; Romans 1:16*).

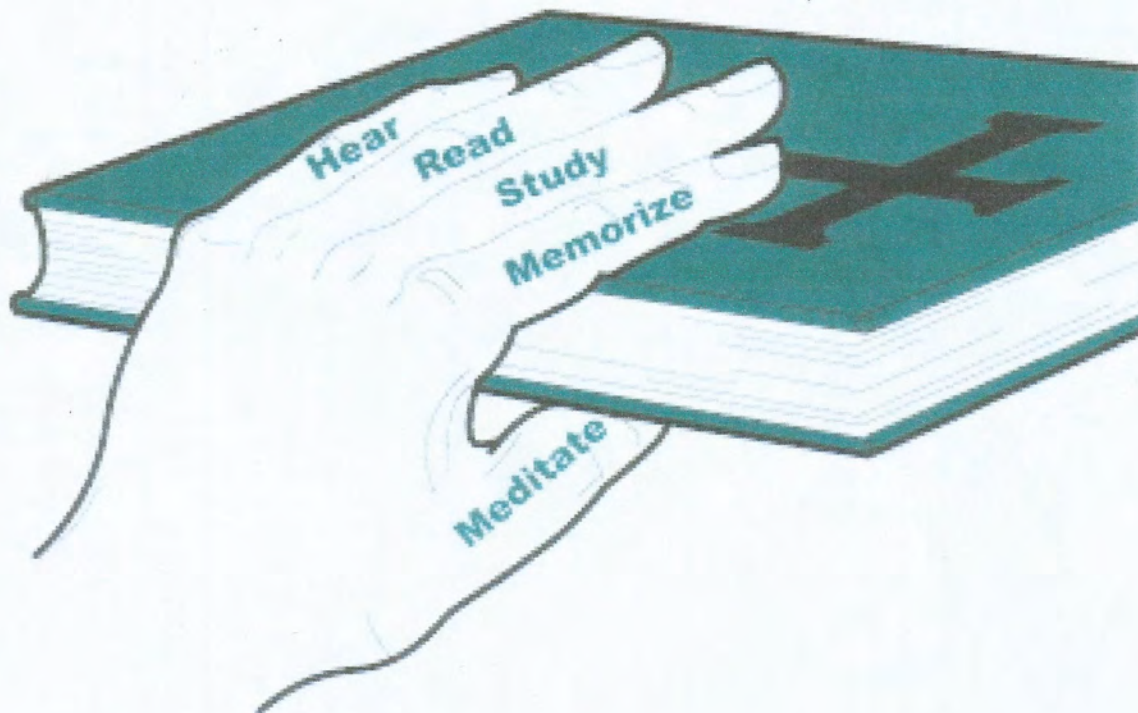
The first three spokes prepare you for passing on to others all you have received from the Lord. This is accomplished through witnessing, sharing your own experience of Christ and declaring and explaining the gospel, God's power to save.

The Navigators, Colorado Springs, CO

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**HEAR – *Romans 10:17***

Hearing the Word from godly pastors and teachers provides insight into others' study of the Scriptures as well as stimulating your own appetite for the Word.

**READ – *Revelation 1:3***

Reading the Bible gives an overall picture of God's Word. Many people find it helpful to use a daily reading program which takes them systematically through the Bible.

**STUDY – *Acts 17:11***

Studying the Scriptures leads to personal discoveries of God's truths. Writing down these discoveries helps you organize and remember them.

**MEMORIZE – *Psalms 119:9, 11***

Memorizing God's Word enables use of the Sword of the Spirit to overcome Satan and temptations...to have it readily available for witnessing or helping others with a "word in season."

**MEDITATE – *Psalms 1:2, 3***

Meditation is the thumb of the Word Hand, for it is used in conjunction with each of the other methods. Only as you meditate on God's Word--thinking of its meaning and application in your life--will you discover its transforming power at work within you.

The Word Hand – The Navigators



# Leadership God's Way

## BASIC COMPONENTS OF OUR ACTIVE FAITH

There are basic components of our active faith (day-to-day). These may be initiated by the Holy Spirit or by us, but scripture makes it clear that these components are basic responsibilities of an active faith.

- A. Prayer (You speaking to God)  
*John 15:7, Philippians. 4:6-7*
  
- B. Bible study (God speaking to you)  
*Acts 17:2-3 & 11*
  
- C. Fellowship (You speaking to and with other believers)  
*Matthew 18:20, Hebrews 10:24-25*
  
- D. Witnessing (You speaking to and with unbelievers, the "lost")  
*Matthew 4:19, Romans 1:16*
  
- E. Scripture Memory (Hiding God's Word in your heart)  
*Psalms 119:11*
  
- F. Worship (Giving and receiving praise and honor to and from God)  
*Romans 12:1*



# Leadership God's Way

## THE PROFIT OF PRAYER

Let's look in *Job 21:15*.

*"Who is the Almighty, that we should serve Him? And what profit do we have if we pray to Him?"*

Here we are going to look at God's Word and see the answer that God has for us regarding, THE PROFIT OF PRAYER.

### 1. PRAYER PREPARES

*Jude 1:20* says, "But you beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit."

Jude is writing this letter to discuss salvation, but the threat of subversive teachers compelled him to exhort his readers to, "contend earnestly for the faith".

We are told to be prepared for our opposition by praying.

**Illustration:** Proper Preparation Prevents Poor Performance

There is PROFIT IN PRAYER because PRAYER PREPARES and not only prepares, but prayer also provides.

### 2. PRAYER PROVIDES

*Matthew 7:7-8* says, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, it will be opened."

*Jeremiah 33:3* says, "Call unto me and I will tell you great and mighty things which you knowest not."

**Jeremiah 33:3** is God's telephone number.

Our problem is we don't call on Him....



Not only does PRAYER PROVIDE, but

### 3. PRAYER PURIFIES

*I Timothy 2:8 says, "I desire, therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."*

We are to seek purity in our own lives. Prayer can be a time of cleansing for us.

I love to work hard, and I always have. In the winter, cutting our own wood for the fireplace is a good example of hard work, but you really get dirty. It's great though, you get warmed twice!

Have you ever gotten just real dirty? I hate to stay dirty.

I want to be clean. My kids used to call me Mr. Clean. So once I work real hard I want to get totally clean. God knows we work in a filthy world, but He wants to purify us by His Word. We become totally clean (purified) by immersing ourselves in prayer.

PRAYER PREPARES, PRAYER PROVIDES, PRAYER PURIFIES AND,

### 4. PRAYER PROFITS

*I John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

*Hebrews 4:16 says, "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of Grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*

**So as we have seen from God's Word, there is PROFIT IN PRAYER.**



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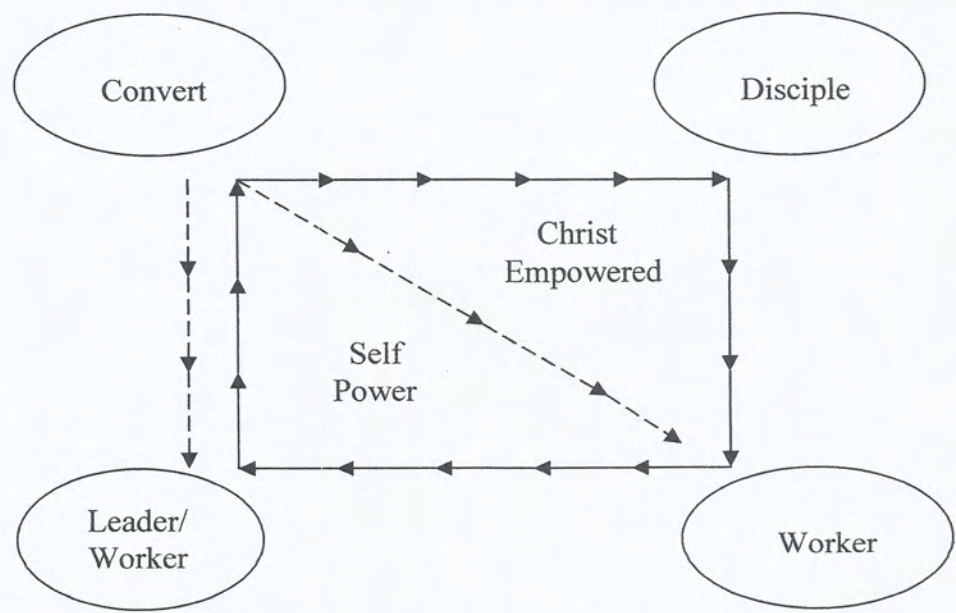
# Leadership God's Way

## IT'S THE RELATIONSHIP NOT RELIGION THAT COUNTS

I asked a group of men representing several different churches who have been in a bible study with me for many years this question. "What is the first thing that happens to a new believer who joins your church?" One answered quickly and jokingly, "They get their tithing envelopes." We laughed and then began to discuss and finally agreed that their church "plugged the new believers in", that is, they asked them to join a Sunday School class, to join the choir, or to "serve" in some capacity. But then we began to talk about how the church was doing with this plan. Then the discussion even got livelier. Most agreed that this was not what should happen but did not know what else to do. As we discussed a little further they finally decided that we ought to "teach" them God's Word and build our relationship with the Lord. But, how?

We decided to analyze the final words that Jesus Christ had to say to His disciples. We know it as the Great Commission (*Matthew 28:19-20*).

Leroy Eims, in his book *The Lost Art of Disciple Making*, uses a diagram that I have adapted and modified. It looks like this:



Ideally, a convert would first be discipled, then find his place of service as a worker and then, with maturity, become a leader and a convert/disciple maker himself.

However, tragically for the Church and for the convert, the convert is most often moved to a place of service without being discipled. When this happens, the Church gets a worker who will soon burn out or move on to another Church because he is still looking for the relationship with God that being discipled brings.



This convert thinks the problem is with the church when the real problem lies with the convert and his lack of maturity through being disciplined. Truthfully, I've found that there are fewer disciple makers than those converts willing to be disciples.

Looking at the diagram, we can see how the process works as a whole if the convert is disciplined thus allowing the Holy Spirit to show him his gifts. He then uses these gifts as a worker (his service) and then on to a leader/worker as he matures and becomes a disciple maker himself helping bring many others to Christ through his evangelical work (making converts) and discipling them himself (discipleship).

This process is best seen in *Matthew 28:19-20*.

Jesus tells His disciples:

What to do: v. 19a – Go make disciples (not converts, not church goers, not good people or good doers).

How to do it: v. 19b – Baptizing. This is our evangelical effort. These are true converts ready to be disciplined and learn god's Word.

v. 20a – Teaching them to obey all that He has taught you. This is discipleship with maturity.

The promise: v. 20b – He will be with us always. This is His promise if we obey Him in making disciples.

Many ask me why there are not more true disciples in our churches. The answer is because there are not enough disciple makers. But, why are there not more disciple makers? Here is where the process breaks down. Looking again at the diagram we see how the process should work; convert to disciple, to worker, to leader/worker. But if the disciple segment is skipped and we send babes in Christ directly to worker or even worse, if they are successful men or women in the world system, we may send them directly to the leader/workers. Then what we have done is a disservice both to the church and to the convert. The church has a new believer who is ill equipped to serve, much less lead. The new believer sees this new activity as just like those he has served on in the world's system. He becomes discouraged or burned out and moves on. I have seen this happen over and over in the church and this even happened to me. The results were that I was disenchanted with the work for the church and burned out because I was operating in and of my own power.

**IMPORTANT!** Can you see that without discipleship (look at the lower half of the rectangle) we are still working out of our own power? However, when properly disciplined, we now have Christ working in us renewing our minds daily (*Romans 12:1-2*). Now we work in His power and we serve where He leads, not where we or the world tells us to serve.

I pray that we all see the need for completing the process so aptly put by our Lord in the Great commission.

**MEMORIZE:** *Matthew 28:19-20*



# Leadership God's Way

## LORDSHIP MEANS A RELATIONSHIP NOT RELIGION

We are going to serve something or someone with our lives. But who or what do we make Lord/Master of our lives? Many have tried religion and found it less than fulfilling. So who, what, where, when and how do we build a relationship that is fulfilling?

Below are some answers:

- A. With Whom Do You Build A Relationship?
  - 1. One worthy. *1 Chron. 16:25, Heb. 3:3*
  - 2. When our relationship with God is fixed, then we can build relationships with others.
- B. What Is A Relationship?
  - 1. A connection; a condition of belonging to the same family; a state of condition that exists between people or groups that deal with one another.
  - 2. Webster's Dictionary – Having close harmonic connection having like attitude. *Phil. 2:5-8*
- C. Where Do You Build A Relationship?
  - 1. Where God has placed you. *Acts 1:8*
- D. When Do You Build A Relationship?
  - 1. Now, after the receipt of the free gift of grace.  
Like a newborn babe, we need nourishment immediately to continue to grow and be healthy.  
Growth is not optional. *1 Peter 2:2*
- E. How Do You Build A Relationship?
  - 1. Seek out a spiritual mentor
  - 2. See illustrations (Wheel, Hand and Leroy Eims' charts - Lesson #10)
  - 3. Quiet time – constant, consistent, victorious
  - 4. Pray and plan to win with purpose

## LORDSHIP

- A. Eternal life through a relationship with Jesus. *John 17:3*
- B. Abiding. *John 15*
- C. Jesus is Lord. *Mark 14:61-62, Luke 2:10-11, John 1:14, John 14:6*



# Leadership God's Way

## LEADERS INVESTING IN LEADERS

Eternal investments are what leaders invest in. True leaders are spiritual mentors. The only eternal investments are people and God's Word. Spiritual mentors invest in these two: people and God's Word (*John 6:27, Matt. 4:4, Col. 3:23*)

### THE SPIRITUAL MENTOR "DISCIPLE MAKER"

The spiritual mentor invests his life in another with the purpose of that person passing on the disciplines passed to him. He is your accountability partner, your teacher, your friend and brother in Christ. He is a fellow sojourner whose desire is to see you run the race set before you in such a manner as to please God (*Heb. 12:1*). He will help you "not grow weary or lose heart" (*Heb. 12:3*). He will help you abide in Christ and let Christ abide in you (*John 15*). He will help you die of self on a daily basis by helping you develop a constant, consistent and victorious quiet time with the Lord. He will help you have joy in your life by developing eyes to see (*Luke 24*) and ears to hear (*Matt. 13*) God's still small voice in the turmoil of a sin driven world.

We then will be able to not conform to the world, but be transformed by God's daily presence in our lives (*Romans 12:1-2*).

List who you are investing in.

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List how you are investing in God's Word.

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**MEMORIZE:** *Romans 12:1*