



DISCIPLESHIP Milestone

"Who am I becoming?"

Building Faith Rhythms to Last a Lifetime

"Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity."

1 Timothy 4:12

"You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

2 Timothy 2:1-2

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

1 Corinthians 11:1

What is this Discipleship Packet for?

This packet designed for new 10th graders and their parents and is intended to be an invitation into the real “meat” of the Student Ministry discipleship process here at HFFBC. This packet, therefore, is organized with three purposes in mind regarding discipleship and you:

Intro: Your Family, Jesus, & You (pg. 3-5)

Before we get into what discipleship is here at HFFBC, we want to give you a chance to understand yourself and the life God has given you thus far.

Part 1. Understanding Discipleship (pg. 6-15)



This first section simply explains what “discipleship” actually is and maybe helps explain what we believe is not or should not be. This section looks through the Scriptures as to what the Bible says about what it means to follow Jesus and how to begin to understand what Jesus means when He says, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” (Matt. 16:24)

Part 2. Growing Personally (pg. 16-21)



The second section then dives deeper and begins to lay out how you can begin or continue to grow as a disciple personally, on your own in your everyday times in Scripture and with Jesus. The emphasis here is on growing in spiritual disciplines and understanding your personality and spiritual giftedness.

Part 3. Growing Alongside Another (pg. 22-26)



Lastly, discipleship is not a “DIY (do it yourself)” journey. Discipleship unto Jesus is meant to be done alongside others, in community, and particularly with others to help guide you along the way. The emphasis on this section then is on 1-on-1 Mentoring and how we try to do this for students in grades 10-12 at HFFBC.

How is This Packet Designed to Be Used?

This packet is designed so that you (parents and students) can work through the information in this packet together and talk about it. It is also meant to be used as a springboard for deeper conversations within your family and then with the church. Part of the packet is a worksheet to fill out, some of it is just simply information, and some of it is conversation questions that are given for you to talk through with your family, but you are encouraged to come up with your own as you read together as well. **Use this for what is best for you, your family, and where you are in your journey with Jesus.** Lastly, this packet is meant to be read and considered *carefully & slowly*. The intention here is not to “accomplish” discipleship or “check a box”, so please read and dialogue at your own pace, though still with the goal of finishing it and entering fully into all that we hope for you as a member of Christ’s global church and His local body here at HFFBC.

YOUR FAMILY, JESUS, & YOU

What's your story? Where do you come from? Where's Jesus been involved thus far?

Before going any further into **"Discipleship"** and what that means for you, we have to look back first! There's only one _____ (you!) in this world and your story is unique to the history of the world! You have a certain background, family upbringing, life experience, church involvement, and relationship with Jesus thus far in your life that affects you to this today and will shape your future. Let's take some time to start there by filling out the items below.

BIRTH - *When & where* did your life begin?!

FAMILY - Think about your **family**. Write as family many names below as you wish. Who's had spiritual impact impact on your life? Put a little "cross" next to the family members who've impacted your faith significantly.

LIFE SHAPERS - What have been some of the most "life shaping" events/times in your life thus far? Write as many as you can below:

JESUS - When did you come to trust Jesus? Where? How? Why?

THE WORST - What's been the worst thing that's happened in your life thus far?

QUESTION - What question do you find yourself asking now most often?

BIBLE - Do you have a favorite Bible verse/section?

WHAT MAKES YOU... YOU?

Write one word **you** would use to describe you.

Write one word **others** would use to describe you.

CHURCH - What have you loved most about your time in the church?

JESUS IS...

"THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS..."

What are some things you love most in life?

Why God put me on this earth at this time...**Get as specific as you can! I've given you a few examples to begin with:**

- To bring Him glory (Genesis 1:26-28; Ephesians 1; Revelation 4:11)
- To create beautiful things by using my gifts/talents of _____
- To be a peacemaker in a broken world and nation
-

Part 1: Understanding Discipleship



What is Discipleship?

How would you define it? _____

To be a "disciple" is to be a _____ / _____

of _____

& who is a "FAT" (_____) person in character

& who does lives their life as "VIP" (_____)

Where are disciples to go? 3 F's:

1. _____ **the Shepherd.** (John 10:4)

2. _____ **into the world.** (John 17:18; 20:21)

3. _____ **no one.** (Joshua 10:25; Luke 5:10; Acts 18:9)

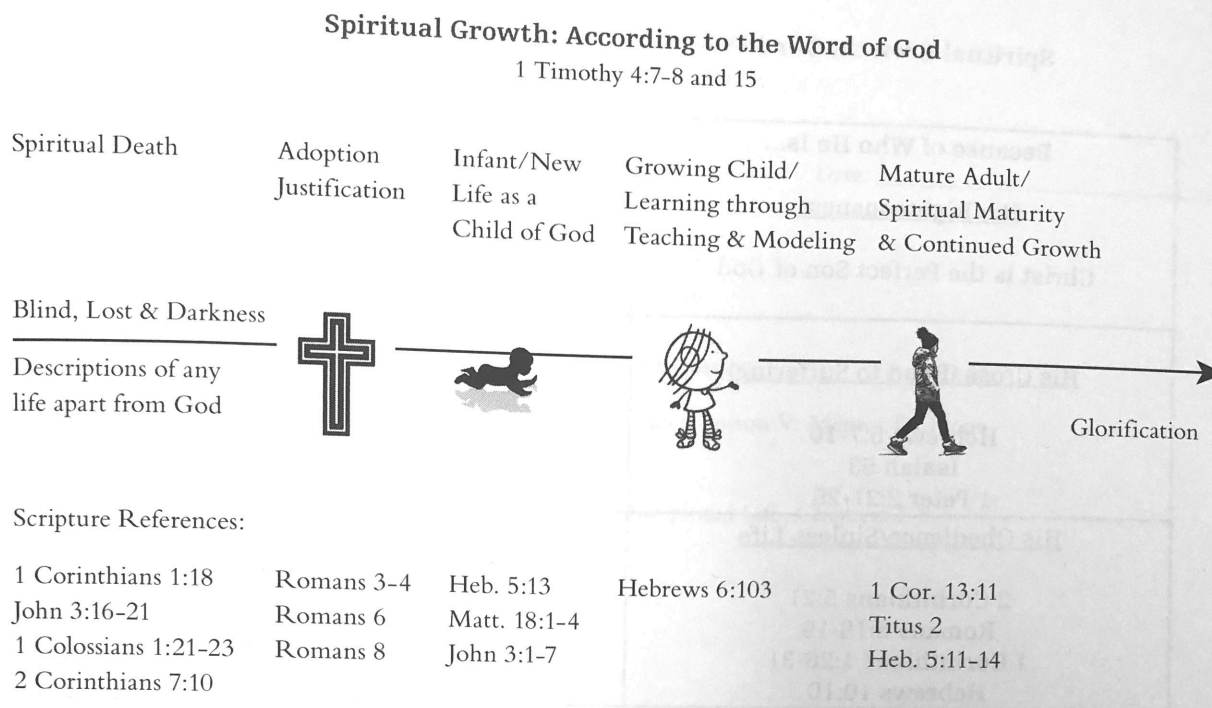
Where am I in this "Discipleship" process now?

James Fowler – Stages of Faith Development

Stages of Faith: The Psychology of Human Development

Level	Approx. Ages	Name	Characteristics
Stage 1	3-7	Intuitive-predictive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First awareness of self – egocentric; hard to see other perspectives • Birth of Imagination, unrestrained by logical thought • Highly imitative stage where children can be powerfully and permanently influenced by examples, moods, actions and stories of the visible faith of primally related adults (parents, etc.) • Programs that use wonder & imagination (like Godly Play or Catechesis of the Good Shepherd) are very successful with this age
Stage 2	6-12	Mythical-literal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition to this stage happens as the child becomes more capable of concrete operational thinking • Can use logic to justify thoughts, but not yet able to think abstractly • Fascination with private worlds of fantasy and wonder (ie – Narnia, Harry Potter, etc.) although in the perception of this stage, symbols are one-dimensional and must refer to something specific • Story, drama & myth help give coherence to experience – telling their "story" helps discover sense of self and place in the community • World based on reciprocal fairness and immanent justice
Stage 3	12+	Synthetic-conventional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition often comes when children notice contradictions in stories (ie – Genesis creation vs. evolution) leading to questions/reflection • Experience of the world extends beyond family • Many things compete for attention: family, peers, school, media, etc. • Faith must help them synthesize values and conventions – to provide a coherent orientation in the midst of competing ideals • Faith as a vehicle for creating a sense of identity and values • Many adults get stuck here
Stage 4	Late Teen- Early Adult	Individual-reflective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition often comes with "leaving home" – emotionally, physically or both – causing us to examine self, background & values • Understand and accept a higher level of commitment to ideals and responsibilities – Intrinsic responsibility (not enforced by others) • High degree of self consciousness • Sense of self develops outside of specific roles • Conceptual meanings transcend Symbols – "demythologizing stage" • Capacity for critical reflection on identity
Stage 5	Adult 30+	Conjunctive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truth is discovered from a variety of viewpoints • Second naiveté – symbols regain their power; can appreciate myth, story, ritual (own and others) because they have grasped, in some measure, the depth of reality to which they refer • Reclaiming & Reworking one's past • Commitment to justice; oriented towards others
Stage 6	Adult	Universalizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This stage is rarely achieved • Person becomes totally altruistic – incarnation of the principles of love and justice (like Ghandi, Jesus, Mother Teresa, etc.) • Feel an integral part of an all-inclusive sense of being. • Often more honored or revered after their death

Another way to look at it - where are you in this?



Adoption – “God’s act of making otherwise estranged human beings part of God’s spiritual family by including them as inheritors of the riches of divine glory. This adoption takes place through our receiving in faith the work of Jesus Christ the Son, being born of the Spirit and receiving the Spirit of adoption.”²⁸

Scripture References: Romans 8:12-16 and Galatians 3:26 and 4:6

Justification – “The divine act whereby God makes humans, who are sinful and therefore worthy of condemnation, acceptable before a God who is holy and righteous. More appropriately described as ‘justification by grace through faith,’ this key doctrine of the Reformation asserts that a sinner is justified (pardoned from the punishment and condemnation of sin) and brought into relationships with God by faith in God’s grace alone.”²⁹

Scripture References: Galatians 3:7-8 and 13-14; Romans 3:23-26, 30, and 5:9-10; and Acts 13:38-39

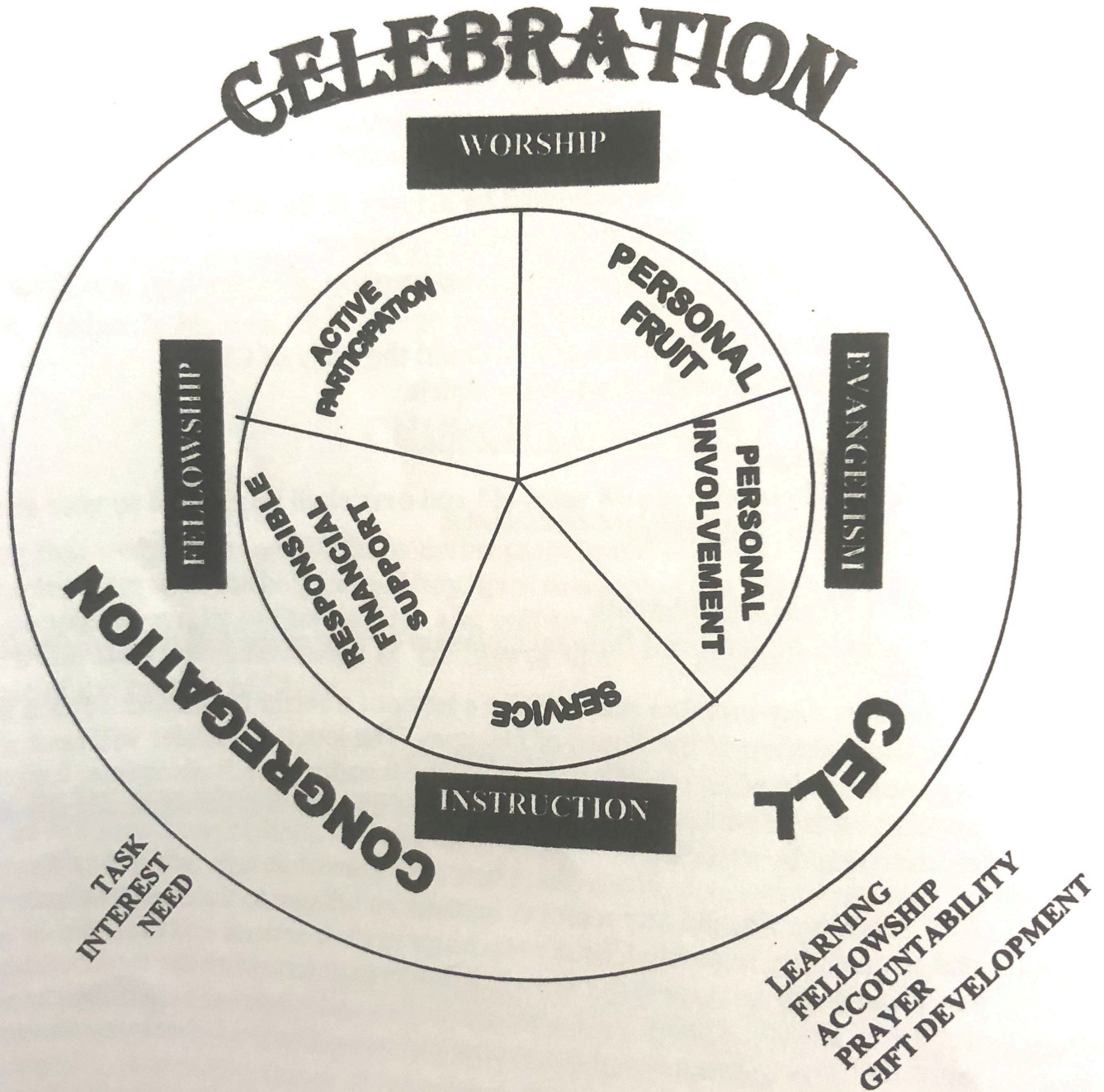
Sanctification – “From the Hebrew and Greek, ‘to be set apart’ from common use, ‘to be made holy.’ The nature of sanctification is twofold in that Christians have been made holy through Christ and are called to continue to grow into and strive for holiness by cooperating with the indwelling Holy Spirit until they enjoy complete conformity to Christ (glorification).”³⁰

Scripture References: Romans 8:28-29, John 17:17, Ephesians 4:17-5:21, Thessalonians 4:3-4, 7-7, & Colossians 3:1-17

Glorification – “The last stage in the process of sanctification, namely, the resurrection of the body at the second coming of Jesus Christ and the entrance into the eternal kingdom of God. In glorification believers attain complete conformity to the image and likeness of the glorified Christ and are freed from both physical and spiritual defect. Glorification ensures that believers will never again experience bodily decay, death or illness, and will never again struggle with sin.”³¹

Scripture Reference: Isaiah 26:19; Matthew 24; John 5:21, 24, 28-29; 1 John 3:2-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11; and Revelation 21:3-8

Discipleship at HFFBC as a whole:



Review:

1. Four Vital Areas of a Healthy Church

- a. Worship
- b. Instruction
- c. Fellowship
- d. Evangelism

These four areas run right through the center of the circle and signify the four areas of ministry where every member should be involved.

2. Five Things Every Member is Expected to Take Seriously as a Disciple of Christ

1. Personal involvement in Spiritual disciplines.
2. Active participation in Worship, Instruction, Fellowship, and Evangelism.
3. Responsible financial support.
4. Using personal Spiritual gifts to build the body of Christ.
5. Give evidence of the fruit of the Spirit.

These five areas take up the inner circle, signifying the inner, heartfelt commitment every disciple makes to the Lord, to themselves, and to the local church family.

3. Three Types of Groups Doing Ministry in Our Church

- a. **Celebration** – This group gathers to worship. The goal is to magnify the holiness and glory of God. Since the emphasis is between an individual and God, the size of the group is unlimited and the fellowship of the group is unnecessary.
- b. **Congregation** – A congregation is defined as a group of people small enough so that everyone knows the other's name and perhaps something about each other. It is a group that gathers for one of three reasons:
 1. To accomplish a common TASK
 2. To be involved in a common INTEREST
 3. To meet a common NEED

A congregation that meets for one of these reasons should provide opportunities for learning, fellowship, nurture, prayer, and Spiritual gift discovery and development.

- c. **Cell** – A cell group is defined as a small group of people who know each other so well that they would not hesitate to call each other in the middle of the night with a serious need. The Holy Spirit, for the sake of serious Spiritual care, mutual encouragement, and accountability, brings a cell group together.

It is possible that a cell group and a congregation may, in fact, be the same group and may meet for the same reasons.

How "Discipleship" plays out in our Student Ministries:

A. Celebration - Same as the whole church! We believe students are to be involved in the whole life of the whole church. This is why from grades 10-12 we don't provide you with a separate Sunday School class, but we encourage you to join the adult classes and to contribute to those classes. You are able to go on Mission trips with adults, serve in ministries alongside adults, gather together for [worship](#) with the rest of the people of God, and fully engage with all that the church is meant to be. This is where the dream of being **5-to-1 church** can become a reality - that a teenager would graduate from high school having at least 5 other adults other than their parents in his/her life that they can rely and that have had a significant impact on their spiritual growth. We believe if a student has at least 5 of these relationships, then their relationship with Jesus will have a much better chance of thriving even more so when they go off to college or to the workplace, than if they don't have any Christian relationships with adults other than their parents.



Do you fully participate in worship on Sunday mornings?

Do you fully participate in an Adult Sunday School class?



B. Congregation - This is a smaller subset group of the Celebration community. For student ministries, this is why we offer Youth Groups, small group Bible studies, specific youth retreats, service projects, and regional ministry "Go" trips. Everyone is meant to know each other's name so that we can grow deeper together in [fellowship](#) & [instruction](#) together.



Do you fully participate in Wednesday Youth Group?

Do you fully participate in youth retreats, "go" trips, service projects, small groups, etc.?



C. Cell - Lastly, the cell is an even more defined and smaller subset of the congregation that exists as a place to grow with just a few others in the areas of even deeper and more specific [instruction](#) and intentional [evangelism](#). For our church at HFFBC, the cell category plays out most specifically in 1-on-1 mentoring opportunities and in the Student Servant Leadership Development group called the "Doulos." This is what each student is invited into upon entrance into the 10th grade.



Do you have a mentor?

Do you desire to grow deeper as a servant-leader?



Another way to think about "Discipleship"
as KNOWING. GROWING. GOING.

KNOW JESUS

What are the ways you can do this at church?

What are the ways you can do this personally?

GROW TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS

What are the ways you can do this at church?

What are the ways you can do this personally?

GO TO SERVE & TELL THE WORLD ABOUT JESUS

What are the ways you can do this at church?

What are the ways you can do this personally?

Why is Discipleship Important Anyway?

It is to be done _____

Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)

"And let us consider how to _____ one another to _____ and _____, not neglecting to _____, as is the habit of some, but _____ one another, and all the more as you see the _____ drawing near."

It looks to _____ **and not to** _____

Hebrews 12:1-2 (ESV)

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and _____ which clings so closely, and let us _____ with _____ the _____ that is set before us, looking to _____, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Summary - 8 Keys to Biblical Discipleship

Count the cost

"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?" (Luke 14:26-28)

Personal faith

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Fellowship with other believers

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." (Acts 2:42)

Deep learning

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!" (Romans 11:33)

Mentoring/imitating

"Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us." (Philippians 3:17)

"So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us." (1 Thessalonians 2:8)

Evangelism

"And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves." (Luke 10:2-3)

"...make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

Servant leadership

But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:25-28)

Perseverance to the end

"But the one who endures to the end will be saved." (Matthew 10:22)

“When Christ
calls a person,
He bids them
_____ and
_____.”



- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Part 2: Growing Personally



“Discipleship” is done together, but to be a disciple of Jesus, we must each learn from and follow Him faithfully **personally** and **individually** as well. How do we encourage you to do this well during your high school years?

Consider some of these discussion questions for students & parents to talk through together:

- How would you describe your daily rhythm? How do you start and end your day?
- What do you drift to in your mind and heart when you’re alone? E.g., what do you daydream about?
- What’s your “go-to” activity when you have 15 minutes of “free time”?
- Does God feel most like a friend, counselor, Father, King, Dictator, fairy tale, or lawyer to you? Or something else? Just pick one! **Note, this is not a time to choose the right answer, but rather an honest chance to evaluate where you personally relate with God right now. Be honest!*
- What’s your personal Bible reading rhythm as of today? Prayer rhythm as of today?
- What spiritual disciplines are hardest for you? Easiest? Pick one of the below for each.
Meditation, prayer, fasting, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, service, confession, worship, guidance, celebration
- When you’ve experience spiritual growth in your life, what has helped make that happen? Why?

We want to encourage you & partner with you to grow personally in 2 areas during these years in high school:

1. Developing healthy personal **Spiritual Disciplines**



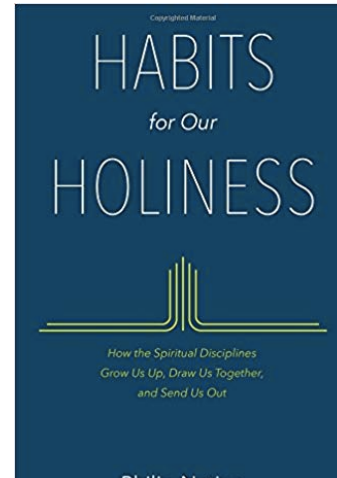
2. Understanding your **Spiritual Gifts & Personality**



1. Developing healthy personal Spiritual Disciplines



We've included as a gift for each student Philip Nation's book *Habits for Our Holiness*, which is a great book to help you more clearly understand what spiritual disciplines are and how they lead to mission. We encourage you to read through this book personally!



Overview of the Spiritual Disciplines and How They Lead to Mission based on Philip Nation's book, *Habits for Our Holiness*

Name	Definition	How It Leads To Mission
Worship	Worship is focusing our heart's affection on God, while rejecting everything else.	Worship is an opportunity for the unbelieving world to see a celebration of the gospel.
Bible Study	Bible study is regularly engaging the Scriptures in a way that produces a habitual holiness that is fueled by God's truth and grace.	Bible study allows us to grow up so that we can reach out, while at the same time, reach out so that we can grow up.
Prayer	Prayer is two-way communication between humans and God, and it's initiated by love.	Prayer informs us of our role in God's mission, and is a way for us to seek God's kingdom to reign in the hearts of those living in our community.
Fasting	Fasting is completely or partially eliminating food or drink to spend time in prayer for biblical purposes.	Fasting reveals what's underneath our heart and motives by showing us the barriers that are preventing us from engaging in the missional task ahead of us.
Fellowship	Fellowship is spending time with others and mutually submitting to one another for disciple making and mission.	Fellowship provides us with the opportunity to work together to share the gospel with others.
Rest	Resting is submitting to God's presence, in order to be sustained and get fulfilled.	Resting is a testimony to our world that we are delivered from the need of self-reliance.
Simple Living	Simple living is loving God, rather than the abundance of things.	Simple living declares that our money and possessions are merely tools to assist us as we participate in God's kingdom.
Servanthood	Servanthood is allowing the love of God to motivate our way of life.	Servanthood transforms us into a signpost that points people to Jesus.
Submission	Submission is surrendering to God's love, grace, mercy, and his salvation.	Submission allows us to become showpieces of God's grace to the world.
Spiritual Leadership	Spiritual leadership is birthed from God, and is about leading others with discernment.	Spiritual leadership gives us the opportunity to guide others to submit to God, and participate in his mission.
Disciple Making	Disciple making is being intentional and single-minded to help others follow Jesus as the Lord of their lives.	Disciple making is mission.

2. Understanding your **Spiritual Gifts and Personality**



Understanding ourselves is key to understanding and knowing what God's call on our life is. Therefore, we're giving each student a deep challenge to complete the included "**Spiritual Growth Assessment Process**" (Lifeway). This is an intense process but one we think is worth it and will be revealing to you. This is not for anyone to critique or analyze you with, but simply something for you to see better where you are in spiritual growth and walk with Jesus. This is not a legalistic something, but is something rather that we hope will free you to see yourself more clearly and honestly, and something that will hopefully urge you to deeper discipleship to Jesus.

We've also included, as a gift to each student as well, a great **DISC Personality Types & Spiritual Gifts** test to help you understand yourself better and how you fit in ministry. To find this or similar tests online, we recommend going to www.uniquelyyou.org. You can find many wonderful resources there.

** NOTE - Neither of these are meant to be turned-in to Pastor Steven or anyone else on staff at the church (though we'd be delighted to talk with you more!). These are for your own personal spiritual growth as a maturing believer in Jesus.*

COMBINE the Two!

Craft a Personal "Rule of Life"

Learn more about www.ruleoflife.com

What is a "Rule of Life"?

- *"Your personal rule of life is a holistic description of the Spirit-empowered rhythms and relationships that create, redeem, sustain and transform the life God invites you to humbly fulfill for Christ's glory."* (Steve Macchia, *Crafting a Rule of Life*, pg. 14)

WEAVING TOGETHER YOUR PERSONAL RULE OF LIFE

	SPIRITUALLY (TIME)	RELATIONALLY (TRUST)	PHYSICALLY (TEMPLE)	FINANCIALLY (TREASURE)	MISSIONALLY (TALENT)
DAILY / REGULARLY					
WEEKLY					
MONTHLY					
QUARTERLY/ SEASONALLY					
ANNUALLY					

PERSONAL RULE OF LIFE STATEMENTS

MY ROLES

MY GIFTS

MY DESIRES

MY VISION

MY MISSION

Part 3: Growing Alongside Another



What is Mentoring?

“Mentoring is not about coming to *know* something; that would be education. Mentoring isn’t about learning to *do* something; that would be training. Mentoring is about showing someone how to *be something*. It’s about *becoming* a learner and follower of Jesus Christ.” (Regi Campbell)

A definition - “Mentoring is a trusted partnership where people share wisdom that fosters spiritual growth and leads to transformation as mentors and mentees grow in their love of God, knowledge of self, and love of others.” (Natasha Sistrunk Robinson)

“To put it simply: **mentoring is intentional discipleship.**” (Natasha Sistrunk Robinson)

Why Mentoring?

1. **It’s Biblical** - Try to think through all the different 1-on-1 relationships in the Bible that you could think of as “mentoring” relationships. There’s many!
2. **It’s Intentional** - While groups of people meeting together are wonderful and have many advantages, the listening and speaking that can take place in a 1-on-1 or 1-on-2 environment is much more authentic and intentional.
3. **It’s Needed** - It has been well-documented that, according to various studies, Gen. Z could be the “loneliest generation” ever.¹ One researcher says that “loneliness has the same impact on mortality as smoking 15 cigarettes a day, making it even more dangerous than obesity.” Mentoring and intentional discipleship is a key part of the Christian answer to this plague in our world.
4. **It’s Possible** - I know everyone’s busy, but mentoring is possible, even for the busiest of the busy. We all eat lunch, we all try to stay healthy, we all have things we love to do. Mentoring can and should be more informal than formal, meaning that you can mentor or be mentored while doing things you already do, just “WITH” another person. See Alvin Reid’s book, *WITH: A Practical Guide to Informal Mentoring and Intentional Disciple Making*.

¹ Just Google “loneliest generation” and see the many articles that pop up. See this article for just one example. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/05/03/gen-z-loneliest-generation-social-media-personal-interactions-column/574701002/>

Why Mentoring? And What Does the Bible Say?

"Have a mentor; Be a mentor - the biblical model of mentoring" article by LifeWay (January, 2014)

"We are living in an interesting time in history. For what is likely the first time in the history of the Christian church, generations aren't worshipping together. It now appears normal to see older generations meeting together wearing suits and singing hymns, boomers wearing Hawaiian shirts and singing peppy songs about how Jesus changed their lives, and emerging generations meeting in dark rooms singing in minor keys. But, from an historical perspective, this is not normal. Beyond that, it is ultimately harmful to the church.

Interestingly enough, it's not what young adults actually want, either. Far from a "leave us alone" mentality, today's young adults are very interested in learning from, interacting with, and forming bonds with previous generations. This desire for connection with people outside of their age demographic can be seen as a subset of the overall desire for relationships and community, but because of the specific and unique nature of these particular relationships, the characteristic of "connection" stands on its own. According to our research:

- 45 percent of unchurched young adults identified the opportunity to receive advice from people with similar life experiences as very important.
- 68 percent of churched young adults identified the opportunity to receive advice from people with similar life experiences as very important.

After seeing the statistics above and hearing the overwhelming voice of young adults regarding this matter, a couple of conclusions can be drawn, one very broad and one very specific:

- Both churched and unchurched young adults desire a maximum number of small group activities that promote relationship and belonging.
- Both churched and unchurched young adults desire a maximum number of opportunities to connect with a mentor.

Young adults place heavy value on connecting with people who have more life experience than they do. Some would call this mentoring or cross-generational ministry; the bottom line is that they want to learn from someone else's experiences. Mentoring is a biblical idea. Although the word "mentor" itself is never used in Scripture, the principles applied when using that terminology are found throughout the biblical text. We see numerous examples of mentoring relationships taking place

throughout the Bible. In some cases, individuals were involved in multiple mentoring relationships. Sometimes mentoring happened on a one-to-one basis, and in other cases, mentoring took place in a group setting. However, the group was always small enough to listen to, and interact with, each individual. Jesus mentored 12, sometimes three and, on rare occasions, one.

- Jethro mentored Moses. Moses mentored Joshua and the elders of Israel. And Joshua mentored the other remaining leaders of his army.
- Eli mentored Samuel. Samuel mentored Saul and David. Ahithophel and Nathan the prophet also mentored David. David became Israel's greatest king. David mentored his army commanders and government officials to establish the united nation of Israel. David also mentored Solomon. Solomon mentored the Queen of Sheba, who returned to her people with his wisdom in the form of Proverbs that applied God's laws.
- Elijah mentored Elisha. Elisha mentored king Jehoash and others.
- Daniel mentored Nebuchadnezzar, who humbled himself before God.
- Mordecai mentored Esther. Esther mentored King Artaxerxes, which led to the liberation of God's people.
- Priscilla and Aquila mentored Apollos, and this resulted in a much-improved ministry for Apollos.
- And finally, Jesus mentored the twelve apostles who established the Christian church. The apostles mentored hundreds of other leaders, including Paul. Paul mentored Titus, Timothy, and many others. Timothy mentored "faithful men" such as Epaphras. Epaphras and the other faithful men mentored others also, which led to a chain reaction that resulted in dozens of new churches in Asia. Ultimately, this specific mentoring chain is the beginning point of our churches today.

These scriptural references aren't necessarily meant to show that young adults desire relationships of this nature because they want to follow the biblical model. However, emerging generations recognize almost naturally that they have a lot to learn, and the Bible affirms a relationship model that can be used to meet that need. Moreover, because they live with such an experiential interest in life, that learning process is most effective walking side-by-side with someone, rather than just sitting in a classroom."

How we see Student Mentoring at HFFBC

Below are some of the key distinctives we make here at HFFBC within our student ministry regarding mentoring:

- **Intentional mentoring is encouraged and promoted to all students beginning in 10th grade.** You can start earlier if you'd like, but this is where we are choosing to start it as a ministry.
- **A mentor is to be someone other than a parent or other family member.** While we highly encourage parents to be the primary mentor in their kids' life, what we're putting forward is something different, but very important - having a mentor in addition to their parent-mentor relationship they've had since birth.
- **Mentoring is only to be done between people of the same gender.** While we encourage male-female youth groups and small group times, mentoring times are times for guys to meet with guys and girls to meet with girls.
- **Mentoring is encouraged to be 1-on-1 but 1-on-2 or even 1-on-3 is still okay.** Sometimes meeting in mentoring groups is best, depending on the individuals, but we do encourage mentoring to be done on a 1-on-1 basis as something we hope for.
- **Mentor/Mentee relationships should be approved first and foremost by parents and then the Pastor of Student Ministries should be aware as well.** We want to make sure that this is as healthy of a relationship as possible, and that begins with parents and students communicating well about the mentor relationship and the person doing the mentoring.
- **Mentors will be screened by the Pastor of Student Ministries and will meet with that Pastor in advance of the first get-together.**
- **Mentors of high school students must be at least 21 years old.**
- **Mentoring meetings between mentor and mentee should try to take place once a month.** This is a good goal to set, though it is not legalistic of course :)
- **Mentoring "curriculum" is not provided or mapped out necessarily,** though resources and topics can be encouraged and provided for various seasons or for certain issues that arise.
- **Mentoring is meant to be informal, life-on-life intentionality to help towards maturity and growth in Christ-likeness.** But there are necessary formal things that need to be put in place to make sure mentoring is done well (mentor training times, screening, planning ahead, etc.). This is not to micro-manage from the church side, but to rather help the mentoring ministry thrive and have the best chance of success.
- **The Fundamentals of Mentoring in a Nutshell:**
 - Leading & learning, Following & listening, Training others to live rightly & to distinguish the difference between good and evil (acquainting us with the teachings of righteousness)
- **Three Stages of Mentoring** - inspiring mentees to...
 - 1) know & love God, 2) know their identity in Christ, 3) love their neighbors

How to find a Mentor at HFFBC - "the process":

1. **Attend "Discipleship Milestone" class.** As part of the Milestones path established by the Student Ministries at HFFBC, all 10th graders and their parents are invited to this annual "Discipleship Milestone" class to begin the process of understanding, discerning, and dialoguing about the discipleship process at HFFBC, and particularly, how to begin a mentoring relationship within the church as a maturing believer in Christ.
2. **Read, review and take your time to soak in the materials and resources provided in the "Discipleship Milestone" packet.** Then, as part of attending the class above, parents and students receive a packet for them to begin talking through together. Students and parents should read through this packet carefully and slowly, asking questions along the way and making sure all information and understanding is clear regarding the discipleship process - what the Scriptures say, what we at HFFBC believe, and how we intend to help maturing young believers grow into adult disciples of Jesus upon graduation.
3. **Fill out the "Mentoring First Steps" page.** After reading through the packet and materials together and agreeing with it, students should fill out the "Mentoring First Steps" page included in this packet, and return it to the Pastor of Student Ministries. This can then begin a conversation on helping establish this process for students.
4. **Get together with the Pastor of Student Ministries to talk through your desire to be mentored.** In this meeting, with just the student or with the parents as well, we will talk through and pray through what you wrote in the "Mentoring First Steps" page and will help you move forward in beginning a mentoring relationship.
5. **Fill out a "Mentoring Expectations" sheet to give to your mentor when you first meet.** As provided in the packet, it is critical to have your expectations written out and communicated to your mentor at the beginning so that it will be as successful as possible. Therefore, after meeting with the Pastor of Student Ministries and getting "the go ahead" to meet with your mentor, you should begin working through that page. This is an extra step that will help things go really more smoothly, I promise!
6. **Jump in with both feet and trust in the Lord's working in your life as you learn and grow in Christ "alongside another"!**

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Matthew 16:14; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23



He left His Father's throne above—
So free, so infinite His grace—
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O my God, it found out me!

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th' eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ
my own.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray—
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee!

"And Can It Be" by Charles Wesley (1738)