

## **MASTER'S PLAN- 12 MONTH DISCIPLESHIP PROCESS AND TIME LINE**

The Master's Plan is designed to help a new believer go through the various stages from an unbeliever to a fully devoted to Jesus Disciple-Maker of other disciples who will also become Disciple-Makers.

The stages are as follows: Unbeliever, Believer in Jesus, Follower of Jesus, Disciple of Jesus, Servant of Jesus, and a Discipler for Jesus.

It all begins when someone moves from being an Unbeliever to becoming a born-again Believer in Jesus.

**THE BELIEVER'S COURSE** - Within the first couple of months of a new believer's life in Christ, someone is won to the LORD.

Immediate follow-up begins with a trained follow-up worker who goes over the plan of salvation again and prays with the new believer again and then gives the new believer assurances of salvation and records the new Christian's name, address, e-mail address, phone number and any specific prayer requests. A Bible is given to them if they don't have one.

Follow-up begins immediately with a next day phone call and in-home visit within the first 72 hours.

Personal follow-up continues with a same-sex coach or mentor who will walk with the new believer through the 8 weekly lessons of "The Basic Bible Studies" designed for new Christians.

The new believer is invited into a LIFE GROUP (preferably the Life Group of the person who led them to the Lord or their follow-up worker) that meets weekly for prayer, fellowship, and encouragement in God's Word, evangelism and praying for their lost friends. *Everyone* is welcome to a LIFE GROUP regardless of whether or not they are believers. These groups are "open" and can run from 3 to 25 people. Weekly attendance and involvement in the LIFE GROUP is strongly encouraged for the new believer. The LIFE GROUP is the "life-line" for the new believer and this group becomes their spiritual family. Our hope is that, someday, everybody in our church will be in a weekly LIFE GROUP.

The new believer is then encouraged to attend the Believer's Pre-Encounter Classes that will prepare them for the Encounter Weekend Retreat.

**The Believer's Pre-Encounter Classes** (4 sessions)- The prerequisite for the Encounter Weekend.

**The Encounter Weekend Retreat** (9 sessions)- The Encounter weekend is a powerful tool that God uses to truly set people free to walk in daily victory over the enemy and in the life of the Holy Spirit. Sessions include training in the

power of the cross, forgiveness, inner healing, sexual purity, being set free, the filling of the Holy Spirit and the vision of The Master's Plan.

**THE FOLLOWER'S COURSE-** 3 months (12 weekly sessions x 2 hrs.)

This "Post-Encounter" class is designed to help the Believer who has been through the Encounter Weekend to grow and become "More than a Believer" and to become a faithful Follower of Jesus. Classes include material on basic Biblical doctrines, practical daily holiness and establishing a dynamic daily meeting with Jesus. Assignments include weekly Bible memorization and reading the New Testament through once in 3 months.

The growing Follower of Jesus is encouraged to continue to attend their LIFE GROUP for weekly support, encouragement and prayer.

**THE DISCIPLE'S COURSE-** 3 months (12 weekly sessions x 2 hrs.)

This next level of classes is designed to help the Follower of Jesus to grow and develop and become "More than a Follower" and to become a Disciplined Disciple of Jesus. Classes include material on Bible doctrine, practical Christian family life and what it means to be a true disciplined learner (the definition of a Disciple) of Jesus. Assignments include reading, weekly Bible memorization and reading the New Testament through again in this next 3 month quarter.

The developing Disciple of Jesus is encouraged to continue to attend their LIFE GROUP and to add 3 people to their Leader's LIFE GROUP during the 3 months. The Disciple is preparing to someday launch their LIFE GROUP. This is valuable "observation" time for the Disciple of Jesus who will eventually become a Disciple-Maker of Jesus.

**THE SERVANT'S COURSE-** 3 months (12 weekly sessions x 2 hrs.)

The Servant's Course is designed to further grow the Disciple of Jesus into a selfless Servant of Jesus who leads by serving others as Jesus did. The original 12 Disciples of Jesus needed to be trained and coached by our Lord to truly become Christ-like Servants who delighted in ministering to others and putting their needs ahead of their own ambitions and desires. Classes include further Biblical teaching into the heart and vision of the Father for His world as well as training in the areas of: servant-hood, LIFE GROUPS, evangelism, spiritual warfare, intercession and counseling new believers.

After an interview with the pastor the growing Servant of Jesus is encouraged to launch their own LIFE GROUP during this 3 month period of time and to attend the Re-Encounter Weekend Retreat for Servant-Leaders. Assignments include reading, weekly Bible memorization, active sharing of their faith with unbelievers,

and reading the New Testament through again (for the third time since the Encounter)

### **The Re-Encounter Weekend Retreat**

This retreat continues the process of preparing the Disciple of Jesus to become “More than a Disciple” and to truly become a Servant of Jesus who is a servant-leader of their own LIFE GROUP. Attitudes, vision, faith, temptations, spiritual warfare, and the dynamics of dying to self and the spiritual health and vitality of servant-leaders are dealt with in the power of the Holy Spirit at the Re-Encounter. The heart issues of true Servants of Jesus are explored and cleansed by the sanctifying of God’s Word and His Spirit.

### **THE DISCIPLEMAKER’S COURSE- 3 months (12 weekly sessions x 2 hrs.)**

The Disciple-Maker’s Course completes the year’s long training from Believer to Disciple-Maker of Jesus. In this advanced course the Servant of Jesus continues to grow and learn and moves into the area of making Disciples of Jesus just as our Lord commanded us to do. These classes include training in Christian maturity, the Holy Spirit and fruitfulness and Disciple-Making disciples who will in turn become Disciple-Makers of Jesus. Additional training will be given in the areas of spiritual gifts, contagious Christianity, harvesting souls, and the mature Christian’s life and walk with God.

The Disciple-Maker continues to serve their LIFE GROUP and begins to mentor, coach and disciple the people of their group. Assignments for this last 3 month quarter of training includes: reading, growing their LIFE GROUP to 10 people, getting their LIFE GROUP people to attend the Encounters and begin down the path of the Master’s Plan courses, active sharing of their faith, Bible memorization and a fourth journey through the New Testament.

The devoted Disciple-Maker of Jesus continues the multiplication process with their LIFE GROUP. As the Disciple-Maker serves their new LIFE GROUP and demonstrates faithfulness, fruitfulness (the group grows and souls are saved), and commitment to the vision of reproduction and multiplication they will be invited into their leader’s LEAD GROUP. These are small groups of no more than 12 that are “closed” in the sense that they are not open to everyone. LEAD GROUPS are for faithful, fruitful servant-leaders who have all been through the above training in its entirety. These groups meet each week for mutual love, encouragement, training, prayer, accountability, and strategizing on how to reach more people for Jesus.

Eventually, each servant-leader will see the people in his/her LIFE GROUP move through the Believer’s, Follower’s, Disciple’s, Servant’s and Disciple-Maker’s courses and classes and these people will open their own LIFE GROUPS. At

that point, the Disciple-Maker will begin to form his/her own LEAD GROUP that will someday have 12 faithful leaders.

Jesus modeled discipling in this way. He poured His life into 12 faithful, fruitful men and then He empowered and enabled them to go out and continue discipling others - just like He had disciplined them. He said that "as the Father has sent Me, so send I you!" (John 20:21) They were SENT and they WENT and did what He had told them to do... make disciples of Jesus who would make more disciples of Jesus.

The apostle Paul understood ***The Master's Plan*** when he wanted to establish the new disciples in Ephesus the Bible records that he found about 12 men and he poured his life into them for a concentrated time of about 2 years (Acts 19:1-10). The end result of all this focused attention on these key men, who in turn disciplined others, would result in the entire sub-continent of Asia Minor hearing the Word of God regarding Jesus and His plan of salvation in just a couple of years!

Later Paul would write to his young pastor-disciple these words: **II Timothy 2:2 -- *The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.***