

Growing the Body

What adjustments do I need to make in order to carry out His will (obey His commands)???

I. Jesus' Teaching about the Church—Matthew 16:13-19

Principal: The Church belongs to _____, not me or you.

Principal: Christ will _____ Church and it help _____ grow.

Application: What role will _____ play in Christ's building of His Church?

II. Jesus' Teaching about Sowing and Reaping—Mark 4:26-29 (see also 1 Cor. 3:6)

The emphasis here is on growth of the _____ under God's initiative in the interim phase between Christ's and His disciples' proclamation of the church and the ultimate manifestation of the _____ by Christ.

An Application based on the Parable:

1. Empty Field: _____
2. Seeded Field: _____
3. Growing Field: _____
4. Harvest Field: _____

III. Jesus' Command: The Great Commission

- 1) The Model: _____
John 20:21 (Evening of Resurrection, based on context of verses 1, 18, 19)
- 2) The _____ (to what extent) and the _____:
Matthew 28:18-20 (One-two weeks later—see verse 1,2, 10, 16)
- 3) The Message—Luke 24:44-49 (About 40 days after Resurrection)
- 4) The Means (Power and Strategy)—Acts 1:8 (40 days after Resurrection)

Three Key Elements in The Great Commission

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

IV. Lessons from the Apostles

- 1) _____ (Acts 16:6-8)
- 2) _____ (Acts 4:29)
- 3) _____ (Acts 4:31)
- 4) _____

(Ephesians 4:11-16; Acts 20:24; Romans 12:4-8)

V. Individual Application: *Finding your way!!!*

What's God's will for every believer?

What adjustments do you need to make in order for you to carry out God's will consistently and for the rest of your life (i.e. what's keeping you from obedience—unbelief or a lack of trust, sin, lack of knowledge/skills, etc.)?

Surrender to God then pray and ask Him to show you what type of ministry He wants you to do. Once you are willing to obey Him in evangelizing and discipling, sincerely ask Him to reveal to you your function in the body of Christ.

God's model and design for growth is evangelism and discipleship. Naturally and logically, this means that both parts of His model must be present for growth of His kingdom: Each believer is to take the gospel to unbelievers. Each believer is to build up other believers.

DIE-sciplship (Discipleship)

Israel's privileged position and spiritual failure;
the believer's privileged position and possible failure

1 Corinthians 10: 1-14

Israel's spiritual advantage

1. **All** liberated Israelites enjoyed the supernatural guidance (Ex. 13:21) and protection (Ex. 14:19–20) of the pillar of **cloud** in their Exodus from Egypt.
2. **All** Israelites **passed through the sea** and experienced a miraculous deliverance from those who sought to take their lives (Ex. 14:21–28).
3. The Israelites **were all baptized into Moses**, that is, united with their spiritual head, God's servant, who became the object of their trust (Ex. 14:31; cf. John 5:45).
4. The Israelites **all** enjoyed **spiritual food**, the supernatural bread from heaven (Ex. 16:4,15).
5. **All** of Israel enjoyed the **spiritual drink** in the desert (Ex. 17:6). According to Paul, **Christ** was the source of this supernatural water.

The Corinthians had similarly experienced God's _____ (cf. Luke 1:79) and protection (cf. 1 Peter 1:5).

The Corinthians experienced a miraculous deliverance – _____ (cf. Heb. 2:14–15; Gal. 1:4).

The Corinthians had been baptized into the _____ (1 Cor. 12:13) of

Corinthian Church's spiritual advantages

which He is the Head (Eph. 1:22) and in whom they trusted (Matt. 12:21; Eph. 1:12).

The Corinthians too had eaten bread from _____ (cf. John 6:31–34).

_____ too was the source of supernatural water for the Corinthians (cf. John 4:10–14).

Principles:

1. **The presence of supernatural privileges in the lives of Old Testament Israelites did not produce automatic _____.**
2. **The presence of supernatural privileges in the lives of believers do not produce automatic _____.**

Purpose of the Believer: _____ (1 Cor. 6:20, 10:31; Rom. 15:5, 6; Eph. 2:10 with Matt. 5:16; 1 Pet 2:9, 12; and Luke 19:10)

Purpose of the Church: _____ (Ephesians 4:11-13)

God’s commission to all Christians (Matthew 28:18 - 20)

At the end of Jesus’ ministry, He gave a command:

*And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go** therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **teaching** them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*

What did the disciples hear (understand) when Christ issued this command?

Jesus starts His ministry: (Matthew 4:18-20; Luke 5:1-11):

*Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, “**Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.**” Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.*

Definition of disciple –

What is Christ’s message?

What is Christ’s method?

What is the typical church’s method/model?

What are the next step? Become FAT (**F**aithful, **A**vailable, **T**eachable)

TEAMS model for discipleship

T _____

E _____

A _____

M _____

S _____

An example of a four-week monthly model is below:

- Week #1 – Normal week emphasizing the TEAMS model. Additionally, we will emphasize the importance of daily quiet time and prayer time alone with God to establish our spiritual discipline. Work on character trait and/or leadership skills throughout the week. One-on-one meeting.
- Week #2 – Evangelistic Outreach – No group meeting. Additionally, we will emphasize the importance of daily quiet time and prayer time alone with God to establish our spiritual discipline. Work on character trait and/or leadership skills throughout the week. One-on-one meetings.
- Week #3 – Normal week emphasizing the TEAMS model. Additionally, we will emphasize the importance of daily quiet time and prayer time alone with God to establish our spiritual discipline. Work on character trait and/or leadership skills throughout the week. One-on-one meetings.
- Week #4 – Service outreach in the community. We will minister and serve together. Additionally, we will emphasize the importance of daily quiet time and prayer time alone with God to establish our spiritual discipline. Work on character trait and/or leadership skills throughout the week. One-on-one meeting.

Evaluation: measure success and effectiveness by how many mature group members have “graduated” from the group to make disciples and multiply the body of Christ.