



CONSECRATE

TO BE SET APART

THE PATH TO DISCIPLESHIP:
KNOW, GROW, GO



Here at Bethel, we believe in the power of discipleship. Discipleship can best be described as the process of making dedicated and disciplined followers of Jesus. In order to advance the Kingdom of God, the body of Christ has been commissioned to preach the gospel and make disciples of all the nations by teaching them to obey the Word of God. There are three simple, but effective steps of this path we choose to focus on: Know, Grow, and Go. While these steps are not groundbreaking or unheard of, it is the commitment of consistency that sets a disciple of God apart from the rest. From the first to the last, each step of the path builds upon the other, takes your relationship with God to a higher level, and ensures the opportunity to be used by Him.

To “Know” God is to have entered into a relationship with Him. John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” God invested His very best, so that we may know Him. This is the foundation of everything meant to follow. To “Grow” consists of a commitment to continue to develop our faith and to become further disciplined in the truth of who God is. As we draw near to God, He will draw near to us. Although He already knows everything concerning us, He delights in His people’s desire to better know Him. He is the True Vine, if we are connected to Him, we will grow and bear the fruit the Vine produces. Lastly, as believers, we have an obligation to “Go”. Just as Jesus came to the earth to seek and save the lost, we have been called to do the same. In order to do so, we must preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. However, in the book of Romans Paul poses the question, “How can one preach unless he is sent?” If we allow Him, God will direct our path. Ultimately, that path is discipleship.

Information on Fasting	Bethel Prayer Schedule
Visit BethelWorld.org and the May 2018 devotional for information on the purpose of fasting, helpful tips while fasting and appropriate things to do and not do during a time of fasting.	Monday: Prayer at 6AM & noon in the former sanctuary. Tuesday: Prayer at 6AM & noon in the former sanctuary. Wednesday: Monthly church-wide day of Prayer and Fasting - Prayer at 6AM & noon in the former sanctuary - 7PM service.

“Know: A Relationship with God”

READ

- Phillipians 3:8 • Ephesians 3:19 • John 17:3 •
1 John 5:20 • 1 John 2:3 • 2 Peter 1:2 • John 10:14
• Acts 2:36

REFLECT

In the beginning, God made man from the dirt and they were in perfect harmony. Adam walked with God, talked with God, and knew the heart of God. They shared an intimacy that we will never truly understand on this side of heaven, but something would change. Adam put the trust of another above his creator. His sin and disobedience in the Garden of Eden not only brought death into his life, but the most disheartening part is that it ultimately broke fellowship with the only one truly worth knowing.

Thankfully, because of the work on the cross, we have been blessed with the opportunity to know Him for ourselves. According to 1 Corinthians 1:9, “God is faithful and has called us into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord”. However, fellowship with God and knowledge of Him depends on a foundation of truth: that God has made Jesus both Lord and Savior. As Lord, we designate Him as our supreme authority, influencing our every decision. As Savior, He is the redeemer of sin and the saver of our souls. It has become very convenient to make Jesus savior, but the position of Lord appears to be less appealing. As we make heaven our goal, we honor the building more than the builder and the gift more than the giver. However, to know Christ is the ultimate prize of this life and grants us eternal life in the next! Through the Word of God, sound doctrine, and fellowship with like-minded believers, we get the opportunity to know Him better each and every day.

Do you know Jesus as both Lord and Savior?

Why must Jesus be both Lord and Savior?

Why does God desire to be in fellowship with you?

RESPOND

- Repent for not allowing God to be Lord over your life
- Ask Jesus to be Lord and Savior over your life
- Seek out mature and like-minded believers to fellowship with

“Grow: Rooted in Christ”

READ

1 Peter 2:2 • Hebrews 5:12-14 • 1 Corinthians 13:11
• Ephesians 4:15 • 2 Peter 1:5-10 • 2 Peter 3:13 •
Galatians 5:7 • 2 Timothy 3:16

REFLECT

In Hebrews 5:12, the author expresses his disappointment in the progress of the saints in the church. It was his hope that they would be teaching others in what they had learned; however, he soon came to realize that they needed to be taught the basics all over again. As believers, to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Christ should be our heart's desire. When a child is born it is consistently nurtured and fed that it may properly develop physically. If we are to grow in Christ, we must do the same, but spiritually. A lack of nutrients leads to a malnourished spirit. Yet, God's expectation is that we be planted and deeply rooted in Him that we may grow accordingly and become equipped for His purpose.

If we take a look at Jesus on this earth, He too had to grow in wisdom, stature, and favor in order to fulfill His assignment. But, how do we grow? For starters, we must find ourselves immersed in the Word of God. In 2 Timothy 3:16, we learn that all scripture is inspired by God in order that we may be adequate and equipped for every good work. Essentially, spiritual growth is to become a more disciplined follower of Christ. He gives us directions and we submit to obeying them. It is through submission that we are able to receive insight and revelation that God has for us. Christ asked, “Why call me Lord and not do what I say?” It is the hearer that is committed to doing that goes from faith to faith and glory to glory.

What are things that could hinder your spiritual growth?

How do you make sure you continue to grow spiritually?

What kind of effect will your spiritual growth have on those around you?

RESPOND

- Repent for not making your relationship with God a priority
- Think of people that can help you become more disciplined in your walk
- Set aside time to read God's Word daily

“Go: Here I am, Send Me!”

READ

Matthew 28:19-20 • Acts 1:8 • Romans 10:13-15 • Matthew 9:37-38 • Acts 13:47 • Revelations 14:6 • Luke 10:1-3 • John 20:21 • Isaiah 6:8-9 • 2 Corinthians 5:18-20

REFLECT

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things? How blessed are we to be entrusted with such an assignment of reaching and winning the lost? When God asked, “Whom shall I send and whom shall go for us?” Isaiah responded, “Here I am: send me!” Through missions, we enlist ourselves to preach the gospel and win the lost, but we also strive to build up the body of Christ in other areas of the world that they may grow stronger and better equip others to do the same as well.

Jesus said to the disciples, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” They had no idea where they were going, nevertheless, they trusted Him. There is a chance that God has a desire to take you somewhere that could be out of your comfort zone. Yet, we must remember that His grace is sufficient and He will never send you on a vain errand. In 2 Corinthians, Paul refers to us as ambassadors for Christ, called to present the gospel to the world in order to reconcile the lost back to God. Yes, we are more than simply messengers; we are His witnesses! We are the proof that the blood of Jesus redeems. Therefore, since we have been reconciled we are now ministers of reconciliation. We have all been called to “GO”. Now, where do we start? For some it may be in the community; for others, it may be across the globe. Ultimately, we must be willing to go wherever the Lord sends us.

Why is it important for us to preach the gospel to all nations?

How do we prepare ourselves to be ready to “go” when God calls us?

What is God speaking to you through this devotional?

RESPOND

- Repent for any time you did not allow the Lord to send you
- Ask the Lord to give you direction in where to go
- Allow the Holy Spirit to interrupt your plans and follow Him

