# the study of the books of PETER





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## WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE?

## **DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE has discipleship in its DNA**

Last words are important and Matthew records the last words of Jesus as this: **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations**, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**. **Matthew 28:19** 

Jesus told His followers that they needed to go and make disciples of every nation. The call is no different today than it was 2,000 years ago. Somewhere along the way we have forgotten or even ignored Jesus' call to make disciples. Discipleship should not be just a program one can join, but it should be deeply rooted in the believer and Church's culture and fabric.

## DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE does not rely on "One on One" discipleship

Greg Ogden in his book *Discipleship Essentials* says this, "The one-on-one sets up a teacher-student dynamic. The pressure is upon the discipler to be the answer person or the fountain of all wisdom and insight. When a third person is added, the dynamic shifts to a group process. The discipler can more naturally make his or her contribution in the dynamic of group interchange. Triad discipling shifts the model from hierarchical to relational. The greatest factor inhibiting those who are being discipled to disciple others (multiplication) is the dependency fostered by one-on-one relationships. The triad/quad, on the other hand, views discipleship as a come-alongside relationship of mutual journey toward maturity in Christ. The hierarchical dimension is minimized."

## DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE helps provide accelerated growth

The goal of every believer should be to become mature and help others become mature. *He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. Colossians 1:28* 

We believe that if each person really puts their best into Discipleship Culture that they will see exponential spiritual growth in their life and in the lives of others.

# **DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE provides accountability**

Accountability is taking the relational context of discipleship to another level. Accountability means giving your discipling partners authority to call you to keep the commitments you have made to one another. Accountability is rooted in realness and confessing sins to one another as well as keeping confidences within the D.C.

# **DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE Multiplies**

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. Il Timothy 2:2

Paul wrote this to Timothy and it actually represents four generations of disciples.

Paul ----- Timothy ----- Reliable People ----- Others

The proof of lasting discipleship is not really if I have discipled one other person. The proof of lasting discipleship is if the person I discipled has discipled another person well enough to disciple another. Has your mind been blown yet? Discipleship Culture provides a systematic way to multiply the Kingdom of God. The goal being that each person in the group would go out and disciple two to three others within a year. We believe groups of three or four work best.

## **DAILY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE**

# **Bible Study and Prayer**

Five days a week we are asking every person to spend a significant amount of time studying their Bibles and to faithfully SOAP. SOAP is an acronym that will help you get the most out of your daily Bible reading. Here is how it works.

#### S.O.A.P

**S** (scripture) • Read the Scripture assigned for that day.

Write down a verse or a passage that is the most meaningful to you.

O (observation) • Write down observations you made about the scripture you read.

A (application) • Write down how you can apply the scripture you read to your everyday life.

P (prayer) • Pray to God about the scripture you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

It is really that simple.

## **Scripture Memory**

We believe that Scripture Memory is a spiritual discipline that is essential for accelerated growth and daily living for Christ.

Pastor Chuck Swindoll wrote, "I know of no other single practice in the Christian life more rewarding, practically speaking, than memorizing Scripture. . . . No other single exercise pays greater spiritual dividends! Your prayer life will be strengthened. Your witnessing will be sharper and much more effective. Your attitudes and outlook will begin to change. Your mind will become alert and observant. Your confidence and assurance will be enhanced. Your faith will be solidified" (Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life, p. 61).

You will be responsible for memorizing scripture every week. We memorize scripture because Psalm 119 tells us that we are to hide God's Word in our heart. The key to memorizing scripture is to review it every day and to meditate on its meaning.

#### Review

At the end of the week make sure you have reviewed your lessons and be prepared to share what you have learned with your group. Write it down. Also make sure your scripture memory is word perfect before you attend your group.

## **WEEKLY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE**

Details on the next page.

## **MONTHLY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE**

Once a month all who are involved in D.C. will be getting together for a one hour meeting. This meeting will set out to accomplish three things.

- <u>1. Celebrate the Wins</u> We want to take some time every month to celebrate the victories of having a Discipleship Culture. We want to give thanks to God for forward momentum of all life change in our culture. This will also help us understand better how to make D.C. more successful.
- <u>2. Identify the Obstacles</u> We look at this first session of Discipleship Culture as a pilot program. We ¹want to know what isn't working and what tweaks need to be made along the way to help people become more like Jesus. Disciplers and Disciples alike are invited to suggest minor adjustments that may create greater impact.
- <u>3. Gain Instruction</u> Every month we will be spending part our time sharing vision and teaching more on the culture of Discipleship.

#### WEEKLY DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE

If you agree to be part of Discipleship Culture you are expected to be at all 12 weeks of meetings. The meetings will last one hour and will include accountability, reciting the Scripture memory verse, discussion of daily Bible study, and prayer.

## Here is what the Weekly Discipleship Culture looks like:

- <u>1. Check In</u> [10 minutes] Start each meeting by checking in. This is the time when we are reminded to bear each other's burdens (Galatians 6:2) and sharpen one another through accountability (Proverbs 27:17).
  - A. **JOY**, **ANGER**, **FEAR**, or **SADNESS**: Sometimes it is hard for us to open up, but this exercise is very effective. These four feelings seem to be the base emotions we all feel. Share with your group the core emotion you are feeling right now and why.
  - B1. Accountability Option 1: Answer four basic questions
    - 1) How are you living a life of integrity?
    - 2) How are you protecting your spouse (current or possible future) with purity?
    - 3) How are you pursuing God with passion?
    - 4) How are you investing in the work of God? (time, talent, treasure/tithe)
  - B2. Accountability Option 2: This is an extensive list that John Wesley created over 200 years ago but is still practical today. Use it to highlight areas of your life as you check in but be sensitive of time. Don't go over every question.
    - 1) Am I consciously or unconsciously creating the impression that I am better than I really am? In other words, am I a hypocrite?
    - 2) Am I honest in all my acts and words, or do I exaggerate?
    - 3) Do I confidentially pass on to another what was told to me in confidence?
    - 4) Can I be trusted?
    - 5) Am I a slave to dress, friends, work, or habits?
    - 6) Am I self-conscious, self-pitying, or self-justifying?
    - 7) Did the Bible live in me today?
    - 8) Do I give it time to speak to me everyday?
    - 9) Am I enjoying prayer?
    - 10) When did I last speak to someone else about my faith?
    - 11) Do I pray about the money I spend?
    - 12) Do I get to bed on time and get up on time?
    - 13) Do I disobey God in anything?
    - 14) Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?
    - 15) Am I defeated in any part of my life?
    - 16) Am I jealous, impure, critical, irritable, touchy, or distrustful?
    - 17) How do I spend my spare time?
    - 18) **Am I proud?**
    - 19) Do I thank God that I am not as other people, especially as the Pharisees who despised the publican?
    - 20) Is there anyone whom I fear, dislike, disown, criticize, hold a resentment toward or disregard? If so, what am I doing about it?
    - 21) Do I grumble or complain constantly?
    - 22) Is Christ real to me?

## **2. Share Your SOAP** – [15-20 minutes]

- A. Recite memorized verse.
- B. Share observations and applications (as well as questions you may have) from the week's reading.
- <u>3. Pray</u> [15-20 minutes] Pray together. We recommend using this prayer structure: praise God, confess your sinfulness, and offer willing service to Him. Pray through what you just talked about with each other. Pray for each other, allowing the Holy Spirit to convict you and guide you. Remember, you are all just talking with your Father together! It is a holy and fun conversation!

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**P** (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

# **WEEK ONE**

Scripture Memory: I Peter 1:8-9

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Classic Scripture Memory: Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

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# **WEEK TWO**

Scripture Memory: I Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Classic Scripture Memory: I Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

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Scripture Memory: I Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priest-hood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Classic Scripture Memory: John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

• Read I Peter 2:11-12	WEEK 3 • DAY 4 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read I Peter 2:13-17	WEEK 3 • DAY 5 • DATE
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# **WEEK FOUR**

Scripture Memory: I Peter 2:24

"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed."

Classic Scripture Memory: Colossians 1:27-28

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.

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# **WEEK FIVE**

Scripture Memory: I Peter 3:8-9

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Classic Scripture Memory: Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

• Read I Peter 3:13-15	WEEK 5 • DAY 4 • DATE
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• Read I Peter 3:16-17	WEEK 5 • DAY 5 • DATE
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# **WEEK SEVEN**

Scripture Memory: I Peter 4:13

But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

Classic Scripture Memory: Psalm 46:10

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

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<b>5</b> • Read I Peter 5:10-11	WEEK 8 • DAY 3 • DATE
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# **WEEK EIGHT**

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Classic Scripture Memory: Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

• Read I Peter 5:12-14	WEEK 8 • DAY 4 • DATE
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• Read II Peter 1:1-2	WEEK 8 • DAY 5 • DATE
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	CTUDY OF FIRST & CECOND DETER 24

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**P** (prayer) • Pray to God about the verse or passage you focused on and anything else you want to lift up to Him.

# **WEEK NINE**

Scripture Memory: II Peter 1:3

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

Classic Scripture Memory: II Chronicles 7:14

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

5.	Read II Peter 1:12-15	WEEK 9 • DAY 4 • DATE
0.		
<b>A</b> .		
PF	RAY	
S.	Read II Peter 1:16-18	WEEK 9 • DAY 5 • DATE
<b>O</b> .	·	
<b>A</b> .		
PF	RAY	
	Summarize what v	you would like to share with your group

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<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 1:19-21	WEEK 10 • DAY 1 • DATE
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DDAV	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 2:1-3	WEEK 10 • DAY 2 • DATE
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A	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 2:4-6	WEEK 10 • DAY 3 • DATE
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<b>A</b> .	
PRAY	

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## **WEEK TEN**

Scripture Memory: II Peter 1:21

For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Classic Scripture Memory: Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

S • Read II Peter 2:7-10	WEEK 10 • DAY 4 • DATE
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PRAY	
S. Read II Peter 2:7-10	WEEK 10 • DAY 5 • DATE
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<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 2:13-14	WEEK 11 • DAY 1 • DATE
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PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 2:15-16	WEEK 11 • DAY 2 • DATE
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<b>A</b>	
PRAY	
<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 2:17-19	WEEK 11 • DAY 3 • DATE
O	
A.	
PRAY	

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# **WEEK ELEVEN**

Scripture Memory: II Peter 2:22

Of them the proverbs are true: "A dog returns to its vomit," and, "A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud."

Classic Scripture Memory: John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<b>S</b> • Re	ead II Peter 2:20-22	WEEK 11 • DAY 4 • DATE
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<b>S</b> . Re	ead II Peter 3:1-2	WEEK 11 • DAY 5 • DATE
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S • Read II Peter 3:3-4 WEEK 12 • DAY 1 • DATE
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<b>A</b>
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PRAY
S • Read II Peter 3:5-7 WEEK 12 • DAY 2 • DATE
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A
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<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 3:8-13 WEEK 12 • DAY 3 • DATE
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PRAY
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# **WEEK TWELVE**

Scripture Memory: II Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Classic Scripture Memory: Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future

• Read II Peter 3:14-16	WEEK 12 • DAY 4 • DATE
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C	
<b>S</b> • Read II Peter 3:17-18	WEEK 12 • DAY 5 • DATE
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