

the study of  
**FIRST  
SAMUEL**



**DISCIPLESHIP  
CULTURE**





# DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE

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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 disciplined 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. II 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 disciplined one other person. The proof of lasting discipleship is if the person I disciplined has disciplined 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.

**1. Celebrate the Wins** – 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.

**2. Identify the Obstacles** – We look at this first session of Discipleship Culture as a pilot program. We want 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.

**3. Gain Instruction** – 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 8 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:**

**1. Check In** – [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 three basic questions

- 1) *How are you protecting your life with purity?*
- 2) *Share a win that you've had investing in the work of God? (Time, Talent, Treasure)*
- 3) *How are you glorifying God in your thought life?*

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.

**3. Pray** – [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!

### WEEK 1

*My heart rejoices in the Lord! The Lord has made me strong. Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me. No one is holy like the Lord! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.* 1 Samuel 2:1-2

*For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.* Matthew 7:8

### WEEK 2

*But the next morning the same thing happened—Dagon had fallen face down before the Ark of the Lord again. This time his head and hands had broken off and were lying in the doorway. Only the trunk of his body was left intact.* 1 Samuel 5:4

*For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.* Romans 15:4

### WEEK 3

*But the people refused to listen to Samuel's warning. "Even so, we still want a king," they said. "We want to be like the nations around us. Our king will judge us and lead us into battle."* 1 Samuel 8:19-20

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."* Luke 6:38

### WEEK 4

*The Lord will not abandon his people, because that would dishonor his great name. For it has pleased the Lord to make you his very own people.* 1 Samuel 12:22

*No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to us all. 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.* 1 Corinthians 10:13

### WEEK 5

*But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."* 1 Samuel 16:7

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is true worship.* Romans 12:1

### WEEK 6

*David continued to succeed in everything he did, for the Lord was with him. When Saul recognized this, he became even more afraid of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David because he was so successful at leading his troops into battle.* 1 Samuel 18:14-16

*Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.* Hebrews 13:7

### WEEK 7

*But then David's conscience began bothering him because he had cut Saul's robe. He said to his men, "The Lord forbid that I should do this to my lord the king. I shouldn't attack the Lord's anointed one, for the Lord himself has chosen him." So David restrained his men and did not let them kill Saul.*

1 Samuel 24:5-7

*Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.* Revelation 22:12-13

### WEEK 8

*Who will listen when you talk like this? We share and share alike—those who go to battle and those who guard the equipment." From then on David made this a decree and regulation for Israel, and it is still followed today.* 1 Samuel 30:24-25

*The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.*

Psalms 145:18-19

**S** • Read I Samuel 1:1-18

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**PRAY**

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

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

**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 Samuel 2:1-2

*Memory Verse: "My heart rejoices in the Lord! The Lord has made me strong.*

*Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me.*

*No one is holy like the Lord! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Matthew 7:8

*For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 2:27- 3:14

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*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

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Scripture Memory:  
I Samuel 2:1-2

***Memory Verse: "My heart rejoices in the Lord! The Lord has made me strong.***

***Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me.***

***No one is holy like the Lord! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.***

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Matthew 7:8

***For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.***



**S** • Read I Samuel 4:12-22

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**WEEK TWO**

Scripture Memory:

1 Samuel 5:4

*But the next morning the same thing happened—Dagon had fallen face down before the Ark of the Lord again. This time his head and hands had broken off and were lying in the doorway. Only the trunk of his body was left intact.*

Classic Scripture Memory:

Romans 15:4

*For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 6:19- 7:15

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**S** • Read I Samuel 8:1-9

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**PRAY**

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Classic Scripture Memory:

Romans 15:4

***For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.***

**S** • Read I Samuel 8:10-22

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**WEEK THREE**

Scripture Memory:

1 Samuel 8:19-20

*But the people refused to listen to Samuel's warning. "Even so, we still want a king," they said. "We want to be like the nations around us. Our king will judge us and lead us into battle."*

Classic Scripture Memory:

Luke 6:38

*Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 10:9-27

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*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

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**WEEK THREE**

Scripture Memory:

1 Samuel 8:19-20

***But the people refused to listen to Samuel's warning. "Even so, we still want a king," they said. "We want to be like the nations around us. Our king will judge us and lead us into battle."***

Classic Scripture Memory:

Luke 6:38

***Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.***

**S** • Read I Samuel 12:1-19

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

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

**WEEK FOUR**

Scripture Memory:

1 Samuel 12:22

***The Lord will not abandon his people, because that would dishonor his great name. For it has pleased the Lord to make you his very own people.***

Classic Scripture Memory:

1 Corinthians 10:13

***No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to us all. 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.***

**S** • Read I Samuel 14:1-15      WEEK 4 • DAY 4 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**PRAY**

*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

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

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

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

**WEEK FOUR**

Scripture Memory:  
1 Samuel 12:22

*The Lord will not abandon his people, because that would dishonor his great name. For it has pleased the Lord to make you his very own people.*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
1 Corinthians 10:13

*No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to us all. 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.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 14:47 – 15:9

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**PRAY**

**S** • Read I Samuel 15:10- 23

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**PRAY**

**S** • Read I Samuel 15:24 - 35

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**PRAY**

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**WEEK FIVE**

Scripture Memory:  
I Samuel 16:7

*But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Romans 12:1

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is true worship.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 16

WEEK 5 • DAY 4 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**PRAY**

**S** • Read I Samuel 17:1-31

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**PRAY**

*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

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Classic Scripture Memory:  
Romans 12:1

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is true worship.*



**S** • Read I Samuel 17:32 – 58

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**PRAY**

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**S** • Read I Samuel 18:1-16

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**S** • Read I Samuel 18:17 – 19:10

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**PRAY**

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**WEEK SIX**

Scripture Memory:  
1 Samuel 18:14-16

*David continued to succeed in everything he did, for the Lord was with him. When Saul recognized this, he became even more afraid of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David because he was so successful at leading his troops into battle.*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Hebrews 13:7

*Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 19:11 - 24

WEEK 6 • DAY 4 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DAILY RUNDOWN:**

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

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**PRAY**

**S** • Read I Samuel 20

WEEK 6 • DAY 5 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**WEEK SIX**

Scripture Memory:  
1 Samuel 18:14-16

*David continued to succeed in everything he did, for the Lord was with him. When Saul recognized this, he became even more afraid of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David because he was so successful at leading his troops into battle.*

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**PRAY**

*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Hebrews 13:7

*Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.*

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**S** • Read I Samuel 21      WEEK 7 • DAY 1 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**S** • Read I Samuel 22      WEEK 7 • DAY 2 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**S** • Read I Samuel 23      WEEK 7 • DAY 3 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**PRAY**

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**WEEK SEVEN**

Scripture Memory:  
I Samuel 24:5-7

*But then David's conscience began bothering him because he had cut Saul's robe. He said to his men, "The Lord forbid that I should do this to my lord the king. I shouldn't attack the Lord's anointed one, for the Lord himself has chosen him." So David restrained his men and did not let them kill Saul.*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Revelation 22:12-13

*Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.*

**S** • Read I Samuel 24

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**S** • Read I Samuel 25

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**PRAY**

*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

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**S** • Read I Samuel 26      WEEK 8 • DAY 1 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**S** • Read I Samuel 27      WEEK 8 • DAY 2 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**S** • Read I Samuel 28      WEEK 8 • DAY 3 • DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**WEEK EIGHT**

Scripture Memory:  
I Samuel 30:24-25

*Who will listen when you talk like this? We share and share alike—those who go to battle and those who guard the equipment.” From then on David made this a decree and regulation for Israel, and it is still followed today.*

Classic Scripture Memory:  
Psalm 145:18-19

*The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them*

**S** • Read I Samuel 29

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**S** • Read I Samuel 30-31

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**PRAY**

*Summarize what you would like to share with your group*

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