

Disciple Making – A Heritage Approach

There is a distinction between discipleship and disciple-making. Where being a disciple of Jesus/discipleship, may be an individual pursuit, disciple-making is a community and personal calling from Jesus,

¹⁸ *Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.*

¹⁹ *Therefore, **go and make disciples** of all the nations,^[a] baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

Our approach is centered on our core values, when taken as a whole form a description of a disciplined person:

A disciplined person is -

Christ centered

Lives by God’s Word

Spirit-empowered

Lives on mission

Cares deeply for the whole person

Values community and belonging

Lives generously

Desires to be relevant

Thoughts we embody, as we pursue disciple making at Heritage:

*spiritual formation happens in many venues and in many ways

*it is not a one-time event, it is by and large a process, over time

*it involves UP-IN-OUT: UP (spiritual practices), IN (one-another’s), OUT (on mission)

*it happens best in community, together with others, in a team approach

*community may be with one or two, but also in small groupings, larger gatherings, in-person and digital

*leadership emerges as we develop character and calling

*we will have a bias toward “try it”

*disciple making is not a straight line of progression or outcome

*our approach envelops every generation, from cradle to grave

*we want to be outcome focused-habit fueled-content flavoured

*we look for ways that are simple, effective, and reproducible

*meetings, programs, classes, initiatives, seminars and similar serve the pursuit of disciple making

*we do not track at the same pace or in the same way as others in our church family

*a personal discipleship/growth plan would be a good guide

Our pattern will follow – What’s next?

To help cater to the diversity of approaches and pace of growth, we will endeavour to provide access and develop opportunities for participation. Our approach will be guided by self-assessment and an encouraging challenge for **What’s next?** for people. We hope to be able to layer our approach based on needs and resources available. Anything from individual mentoring/coaching to Sunday morning services and conferences.

My Personal Disciple Making Calling;

As I learn and grow as a Jesus follower, these are my pursuits and what I desire to foster in others as I live and minister in the church family:

CHRIST-CENTERED

Jesus is my highest value. In everything I do, I seek to move closer to the image of Jesus Christ, discipling others and undergirding all of life with prayer.

LIVE BY GOD'S WORD

The Bible is God's inspired word and my complete guide for every aspect of faith and life today.

SPIRIT-EMPOWERED

I understand that a vibrant relationship with God's Spirit is essential to effective living. I will pursue, teach, equip, and model a Spirit-led life and celebrate God's work in transforming people.

LIVE ON MISSION

Through God's strength, I desire to live out the good news of Jesus in all aspects and every phase of my life, wherever that takes me. I want to impact the world both locally and globally with the message of God's love for all.

CARE DEEPLY FOR THE WHOLE PERSON

I am hands-on in meeting the needs of people at Heritage as well as those in our community and throughout the world. I pursue personal wholeness along with Restoration, Nurturing souls and Serving others.

VALUE DIVERSITY, COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

I pursue building a strong community of diversity, belonging and engagement: spiritually, socially, inter-generationally and cross-culturally. I want to participate in a welcoming and inclusive, non-threatening and grace-filled community where anyone can both seek and grow in Christ.

LIVE GENEROUSLY

God has given me so much, and continues to meet my needs. Ultimately, I am a manager not owner, so I live with joyful generosity and thankfulness, freely giving of my time, talents and resources in service to Him.

DESIRE TO BE RELEVANT

I strive to understand our times and creatively speak God's truth with excellence and authenticity.