

T H E

UNIVERSAL

DISCIPLESHIP

PATTERN

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*Universal Discipleship Pattern Modules
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THE UNIVERSAL DISCIPLESHIP PATTERN

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Almost a century ago, Roland Allen stirred the 20th century by reminding us of the “spontaneous expansion” of the early church.

Now, entering the 21st century, with all the open doors to the gospel, we must reevaluate just how the apostles were able to go into an area, preach the good news, gather converts, nurture them, and move on in such a way that they could later write back and, with such confidence, “remind” them of a core of teaching that seemed to be so pervasive and so commonly understood by all (see I Thessalonians 3:3-4; II Thessalonians 2:5).

Even more perplexing is the fact that Paul and the church-planting team were often only in a city a few weeks, a few months, or at most a few years. How did they do it? That is the issue I want to address.

Q: How did Paul establish leadership?

- so quickly
- so solidly
- so reproducibly

that became the basis for the Christian Church?

A: Paul had a pattern, a standard

- that could be remembered easily
- that could be received personally
- that could be reproduced strategically

This standard is referred to in II Timothy 1:13:
“Retain the standard [hupotuposis] of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.”

Paul even knew himself to be a living standard/model/paradigm/example of God’s unlimited patience (I Timothy 1:15-17, vs: 16: hupotuposis).

The writer of Hebrews also reminds us that all the types of our salvation were sculptured according to a divine plan. And that is why Moses was warned (yes, that *is* the word, “warned”) when he was “about to build the tabernacle: “See to it that you make everything according to the pattern [tupos] which was shown you.” (Hebrews 8:5 See also Titus 2:7.)

Paul and the early church had a standard, a pattern, a model that was to be

- * remembered easily
- * received personally
- * reproduced strategically

KEY to The Universal Disciple Pattern

[] ROCK

In one way or another, you introduce people to *who* Jesus is: the Rock to build your life on. Jesus taught and the apostles developed the 'rock theology' as the foundation of our faith": Matthew 7:24-28; 16:13-20 with Deuteronomy 32:1-3, 15-18, 30; 21:33-46; I Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 2:19-22; I Peter 2:6-8.

[] WORSHIP

Through whatever process and time, the person must come to personal commitment and surrender to Jesus as Lord and God. John 20:26-31; Acts 8:26-40; Romans 10:8-15; Colossians 1:1-3:4; Ephesians 1:1-4:16.

[] WALK

Personally, the new believer must begin to *walk worthy* of Christ. To do this, he/she must *put off* the old style of living—old vices, and *put on* the life in Christ—new virtues. Colossians 3:5-15; Ephesians 4:17-5:17.

[] WORD / SPIRIT

Socially, there is a spiritual response or reaction to the new life of the new believer. Some are attracted, some are repelled. See Matthew 13:5 and 20-22; I Peter 4:1-5, 5:8-9; Acts 14:21-22; I Thessalonians 3:1-5.

But the personal transformation (caused by the putting off/putting on) impacts the convert's circle of influence (the *oikos*'/household' composed of family, neighbors, coworkers, and friends).

The core experience here is:

Word: "let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Colossians 3:16)

Spirit: "be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18)

What follows in the universal discipleship pattern is identical in order:

*Attitudes: TSTS

Teaching with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs

Singing with your heart to the Lord

Thanking God for *all* things, and whatever you do in word/deed,
doing *all* in the name of the Lord Jesus

Submitting to one another in reverence to Christ

*Actions: 5 dual sets: the same 5 pairs, the exact same order, with one basic action for each, which can be condensed or expanded

according to the audience's needs, with the minority person always first and the majority person always second.

Wife: submit

Husband: love

Child: obey

Father: train

Employee: work hard

Employer: be fair, just

Insider: pray

Outsider: speak wisely

Christ'n: be in subjection

Authorities: praise good, punish evil

Note: Colossians is compact and Ephesians is expanded. For example: the wife/husband set: Colossians 3:18-19 and Ephesians 5:22-33. The apostles, using the outline, developed the truth themes according to their audiences' needs.

[] WARFARE

Spiritually, the new disciple will be tempted to think that people are the enemy. But that is not so. For such were some of us—fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, homosexuals, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, swindlers—but we were transformed by God. Surely others can be also. I Corinthians 6:9-11, I Timothy 1:12-17 and Titus 3:1-8.

For our struggle is not against other people, but against the rulers, the powers, the world forces of this present darkness, the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12). And in this ministry we never lose heart, for even if our good news is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, “in whose case the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the radiance of Christ, who is the image of God.” II Corinthians 4:1-6, 3:12-18, and Matthew 13:3-4, 18-19.

We are to:

*Stand and Resist

*Watch and Pray

and put on the whole armor of God

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Belt of truth | 4. Shield of faith |
| 2. Breastplate of righteousness | 5. Helmet of salvation |
| 3. Preparation of feet with gospel | 6. Sword of Spirit |
| | 7. Prayer of the 4 alls |

[] WITNESS

Thus, we boldly, frankly witness with great joy, even in tribulation, which we know is our destiny, telling of His excellencies Who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, making us a new kind of humanity, renewed after the image of our Creator in Christ. I Thessalonians 1:2-10, 3:1-13, I Peter 2:9-12.

So, then, while there will be those who sneer, there will also be those who desire to hear more, and even some who believe and join us. Acts 17:32-34.

Those who believe and join us are those who have come to know Jesus as their Rock, and the *universal disciple pattern* is retained because it is remembered easily, received personally, and reproduced strategically.

By the *Universal Disciple Pattern* we put off the old self, corrupted by the various deceitful cravings and learned behavior patterns of the cultures, worldviews and social environments of the world. We are also renewed in the spirit of our minds, putting on the new self, being renewed to the true knowledge according to the image of the One who created us all—a renewal in which there is no cultural, religious, ethnic, economic, or gender distinctions, but Christ is all, and in all. Ephesians 4:17-24 and Colossians 3:9-11.

DISCIPLESHIP

The New Testament Pattern

A comparative study of the epistles of Paul, Peter, James, and to the Hebrews reveals a common pattern of teaching which is clearly observed in Colossians and Ephesians and which can also be followed in I Peter and James.

This "ethical education" pattern has 4 characteristics:

1. Agreement of topics
2. Distinctive vocabulary
3. Individual development of the common topics
4. Stylized order of presentation: See G.B. Caird, *The Apostolic Age*, 1975:106-115

B.H. Streeter of Oxford University says:

"In the early church, candidates for baptism were normally adults converted from heathenism, and would include persons of very different classes-slaves, married women, fathers of families.

"Read as an address given on such an occasion, the exhortations are extraordinarily appropriate – an inspiring description of the new life into which they have been reborn, followed by encouragement to face alike the responsibilities involved and the hostility of the outside world." (The Primitive Church 1929: 122)

COLOSSIANS	EPHESIANS	I PETER	JAMES
Put Off & Put On 3:8-9	New Creation 4:22-24	New Birth 1:22-25	New Birth 1:18
New Creation 3:10-15	Put Off & Put On 4:25-5:17	Put Off & Put On 2:1-10	Put Off & Put On 1:21
Word 3:16-17	Spirit 5:18-20	Spirit 4:12-14	Word 1:22-27
Submit Yourselves 3:18-22	Submit Yourselves 5:21-6:9	Submit Yourselves 2:13-3:7	Submit Yourselves 4:7a
Watch-Pray 4:2-6	Stand-Resist 6:10-17	Watch 4:7	Resist 4:7
Stand 4:12	Watch-Pray 6:18	Stand-Resist 5:8-12	

The Universal Disciple

the christian faith transformation paradigm



WITNESS

PUT OFF (—)

PUT ON (+)

TSTS

W H

C F

E E

I O

C A

STAND
&
RESIST

WATCH
&
PRAY
1234567

WALK

WORD/
SPIRIT

WARFARE

WORSHIP

THE **ROCK**

Introduction:

The following modules were written for use in small groups or individual study for the purpose of experiencing discipleship and spiritual growth through the model developed by Dr. Thom Wolf, President of Global Spectrum in New Delhi, India. The teaching modules have been field tested in the Life Group Ministry of Pueblo Nuevo Community Church, El Paso, Texas. Some modules can be completed in one meeting lasting about 45 minutes. Others will take two or three sessions to complete. Biblical references are taken from the New International Version.

Module I The Pattern**Introduction**

The Apostle Paul and his church-planting team were often only in a city a few weeks, a few months, or at most a few years. How did they minister in an area for such a brief period of time and leave an established church of new believers behind?

Question:

How did Paul establish leadership that became the basis for the Christian Church so quickly, so solidly, so reproducibly?

Answer:

He had a pattern, a standard that could be remembered easily, received personally, and reproduced strategically.¹

Paul and the early Church had a standard, a pattern, a model that was to be retained, remembered, and reproduced.²

Learning Objective

Disciples of Jesus Christ identify the pattern of teaching in Paul's writings and in Hebrews, and to become familiar with Paul's strategy for discipleship.

Goals/Indicators

The disciple will...

1. Read and discuss the story of Moses' instructions for building the tabernacle in the desert. Exodus 25-26
2. Trace references of the pattern of teaching in:

Romans 6:17, Romans 12:2, Philippians 3:17, 2 Thessalonians 2:5, 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 1 Timothy 1:15-17, 2 Timothy 1:13, Titus 2:7, Hebrews 8:5
3. Fill out the Disciple Building Chart by labeling parts of the structure such as the foundation, the floor, the columns, and the roof.

¹ Thom Wolf, *The Universal Discipleship Pattern* (Los Angeles, 1992) 1.

² Ibid.

4. Discuss the evidence for a pattern of teaching in Paul's writings and in Hebrews.

I. The Building of the Tabernacle

How was Moses to build the tabernacle? Exodus 25:8-9

Where was Moses when he received instructions for the tabernacle? Exodus 25:40

What was going to be unique about this tabernacle? Exodus 25:8

What did you learn about the pattern that God set forth for Moses?

How does the pattern for the construction of the tabernacle relate to the pattern for our lives in Christ? 1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 Corinthians 6:19, 2 Corinthians 6:16

II. The Pattern of Teaching

Romans 6:17

But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the f_____ of teaching to which you were entrusted.

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to the p_____ of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Paul knew that we would conform to a pattern of some type. Conforming to God's pattern would require a transformation.

Philippians 3:17

Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the p_____ we gave you. Paul speaks of the pattern, *hupotuposis*³ in Greek.

2 Thessalonians 2:5

Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to t_____ you these things? Paul reminds the Thessalonians of the teaching he gave them. He reminded them later.

³ See Strongs Greek and Hebrew Dictionary, Database 1990-1993 NavPress, *Hupotuposis*-Greek-5296, *Tupos*-Greek-5179, and *Suschematizo*-Greek-4964 for studies on the concept of "pattern or form."

2 Thessalonians 3:6

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the t_____ you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our e_____.

I Timothy 1:16

But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an e_____ of for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. Paul considered himself a pattern or model or example of God's patience.

II Timothy 1:13

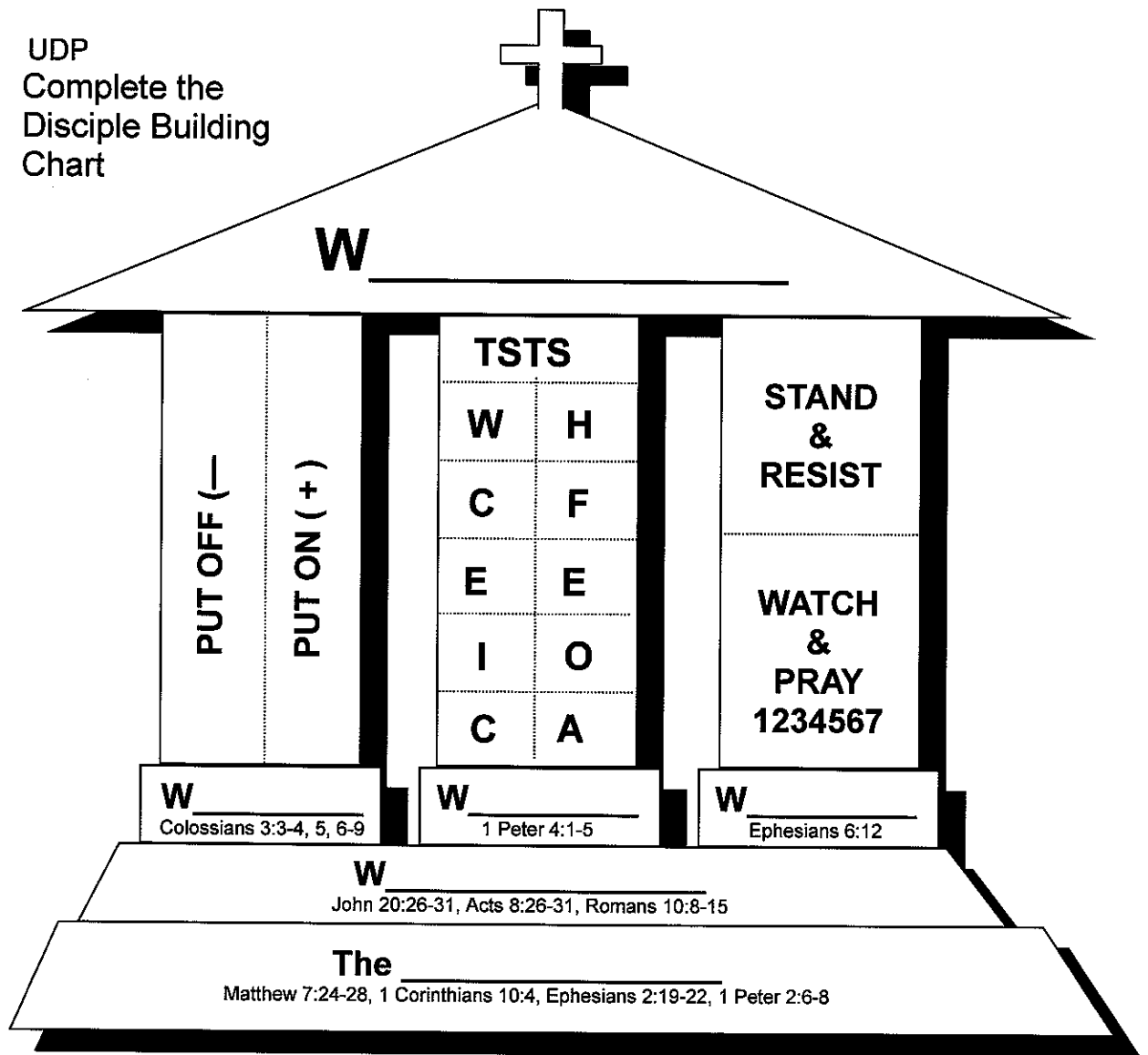
What you have heard from me, keep as the p_____ of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

Titus 2:7

In everything set them a good example by doing what is good. In your t_____ show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Hebrews 8:5

See to it that you make everything according to the p_____ shown you on the mountain.



Universal Discipleship Pattern

Rock

In one way or another, you introduce people to who Jesus is: the Rock to build your life on.

Worship

Through process & time, the new believer must come to personal commitment & surrender to Jesus as Lord & God. — 1 Corinthians 14:22-25

Walk

Personally, the new believer must begin to walk worthy of Christ: To do this, he/she must put off the old style of living...old vices & put on the new life in Christ...new virtues.
 — Colossians 3:3-10, Ephesians 4:25-5:17, 1 Peter 2:1-12, James 1:21

Word/Spirit

Socially, there is a spiritual response or reaction to the new life of the new believer, some are attracted & some are repelled. — 1 Peter 4:1-5, Colossians 3:16, Ephesians 5:18
 See verses 1 Peter 2:13-3:22 for Teaching, Singing, Thanking & Submitting as attitudes & 5 Duel Sets of Wife-Husband, Child-Father, Slave-Master, Insider-Outsider & Christians-Authorities.

Warfare

Spiritually we are tempted to think that people are the enemy but this is not so. — See 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, Titus 3:1-8, Ephesians 6:12, & 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Stand/Resist, Watch/Pray

Witness

We boldly, frankly witness with great joy, even in tribulation, which we know is our destiny, telling of his excellencies Who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, making us a global people.
 — 1 Peter 2:9-10

IV. Discuss the evidence for a pattern of teaching in Paul's writings

1. What seems to emerge as you see the evidence for a set pattern, form, or standard in Paul's writings?
2. What distinction does Paul make between the pattern of this world and the pattern he wants believers to follow?
3. What evidence do you find that indicates that the pattern was not only the teaching but the living out of the teaching as examples?

Assignment: Read the parable of the wise man who built his house on the rock.
Matthew 7:24-28

Module II The Rock

In one way or another, you introduce people to who Jesus is: the Rock to build your life on. See Matthew 7:24-28; 1 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:6-8.

Learning Objective

That disciples of Christ make a commitment to build their lives on the Rock: Jesus Christ and that they discover the biblical basis of the concept of Jesus as the Rock spoken of in the Law, the Psalms, and the Prophets.

Goals/Indicators

The disciple will...

1. Study the parable of the wise and foolish man and make application of this teaching to their lives.
2. Trace the teachings of the "Rock" through the Law, the Psalms, and the Prophets and connect these passages with the teachings of the New Testament.
3. Discuss the meaning of Jesus, the Rock, in their lives.

I. Building Your Life to Last Matthew 7:24-28

The wise man built his house upon the r_____, and it did not f_____.

The foolish man built his house upon the s_____, and it f_____. Wise people not only hear what Jesus says but they put his words into p_____.

What does it mean to build your life upon Jesus, the Rock?

How does building your life on Jesus benefit you and your family?

II. The Rock in the Old and New Testaments

A. The Rock in the Law, the Psalms, and the Prophets

Trace the references to Jesus as the Rock, Stone, Cornerstone and the connection made to the Law, Psalms, and the Prophets.

Luke 24:44

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still there with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the l_____ of Moses, the p_____ and the p_____."

Matthew 16:18

And I tell you that you are Peter ⁴, and on this r_____ ⁵ I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Ephesians 2:19

¹⁹Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the a_____ and p_____, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief c_____. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

1 Peter 2:4

As you come to him, the living s_____ -- rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him...

What you see here is a reference to the pattern of the Rock appearing in the teaching of Jesus (about himself), Paul and Peter about the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁶

B. The Law, Psalms, and Prophets on the Rock in the New and Old Testaments

Trace the correlation of Jesus as the Rock in the Law, Psalms, and the Prophets. You will find that Paul quotes Moses from Deuteronomy in 1 Corinthians, Jesus quotes David from the Psalms in Matthew, and Peter quotes from the Prophet Isaiah in 1 Peter.

⁴ Ibid., *Petros*-Greek-4074 proper name for Peter, or a piece of a large rock.

⁵ Ibid., *petra*-Greek-4073, for large Rock.

⁶ Thom Wolf, "Vision 2000 Strategic Planning of the El Paso Baptist Association", El Paso: El Paso Baptist Association, May 5, 1996, p.3

	Old Testament Reference	New Testament Reference
Law	Deuteronomy 32:4 He is R_____ and His works are perfect, and all his ways are just.	1 Corinthians 10:4 (1-5) ...for they drank from the spiritual r_____ that accompanied them, and that r_____ was Christ.
Psalms	Psalms 18:1-2, 118:22 The Lord is my r_____, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my r_____, in whom I take refuge. The s_____ the builders rejected has become the c_____...118:22	Matthew 21: 42-46 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The s_____ the builders rejected has become the c_____"; the Lord has done this and it is marvelous in our eyes...1
Prophets	Isaiah 8:13-14 14 ... and he will be a sanctuary; but for both houses of Israel he will be a s_____ that causes men to stumble and a r_____ that makes them fall.	1 Peter 2:6-8 2 "See, I lay a s_____ in Zion, a chosen and precious c_____, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame. 7 Now to you who believe, this s_____ is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The s_____ the builders rejected has become the c_____." 8 and, "A s_____ that causes men to stumble and a r_____ that makes them fall."

The concept of the rock as mentioned in the Old Testament by Moses, David, and Isaiah was understood by Jesus to be himself, the Rock! The apostles Paul and Peter came to the same conclusion and understanding. This rock, Jesus, is the foundation for the Church and is the basic foundation upon which every believer is challenged to build his or her life.

III. The Meaning of the Rock for Me

1. What does the parable of the wise and foolish man say to you now?
2. In what ways can you build your life on Jesus, the Rock?
3. What does this picture of being built into a spiritual house with Jesus, the Rock mean to you?

“...you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” 1 Peter 2:5

4. What changes do you need to make in your life in order to reflect that your life is built on Jesus the Rock?

Assignment: Read the Story of Isaiah in the Temple, Isaiah 6:1-9

Module III Worship

Through whatever process and time, the person must come to personal commitment and surrender to Jesus as Lord and God.⁷ See John 20:26-31; Acts 8:26-40; Romans 10:8-15.

Learning Objective

That the disciple realizes that a commitment to Jesus Christ as his/her personal savior is also a dismissal of all other idols and allegiances in one's life and a total surrender and submission⁸ through worship and service to Jesus as Lord and God.

Goals/Indicators

The Disciple will...

1. Discuss Isaiah's experience of worship relate it to your understanding of worship.
Isaiah 6:1-9
2. Know the purpose of Christian Worship as found in 1 Corinthians 14:22-25

I. Isaiah Meets God in the Temple Isaiah 6:1-9

1. When Isaiah walked into the Temple that day, what did he see? v.1
2. What was being said by the Seraphims? v.3
3. What happened in the temple when the words "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty?" v.4-5
4. What was Isaiah's confession? v.5
5. What was God's response to Isaiah's confession? v.6-7

⁷ Thom Wolf, Universal Discipleship Pattern, 1.

⁸ See Strongs Dictionary, for *proskuneo*-Greek-4352, falling down before God

6. What was God's question to Isaiah next? v.8
7. What was Isaiah's response? v.9
8. Given Isaiah's experience with God in the Temple, how would you define worship?

II. Christian Worship Sensitive To Seekers

Christian worship is distinctively centered on the presence of God. It is an opportunity to express to God our love for him and his work in our lives. It is also an opportunity for seekers to be exposed to the presence of God as experienced in corporate worship. Read 1 Corinthians 14:22-25 and discuss the following questions.

1. Speaking in tongues is more appropriate for b_____.
2. Prophesying (to reveal the will or message of God) is more appropriate for u_____.
3. What is the effect on the Unbeliever when the church is revealing the will and message of God and he/she is able to understand?

He will be c_____ by all that he is a sinner.
 He will be j_____ by all, and the
 s_____ of his heart will be laid bare.
 He will fall down and w_____ God.
 He will exclaim "God is really among y_____!"

1. What is the basic purpose of Christian Worship?
2. What is the benefit of Christian Worship to the unbeliever?
3. In what ways do you worship Jesus as Lord and God through your family life, your community life, your vocational world, and your relationships and friendships?
4. What kinds of idols and gods will you have to turn away from in order to fully devote yourself to worship and service to the one true God, Jesus Christ the Lord?

Assignment: Read the Story of David and Bathsheba, 2 Samuel 11 & 12, Psalm 51

Module IV Walk

Personally, the new believer must begin to walk worthy of Christ. To do this, he/she must put off the old style of living...old vices, and put on the new life in Christ...new virtues. See Ephesians 4:25-5:17, Colossians 3:3-10, James 1:21, 1 Peter 2:1-12.⁹

Learning Objective

Disciples understand what it means to walk ¹⁰ worthy¹¹ of the calling in Christ Jesus through Putting-Off the vices of the old life and Putting On the new life in Christ.

Goals/Indicators

The disciple will...

1. Read and Discuss the story of David and Bathsheba, 2 Samuel 11-12 and Psalm 51
2. Research and understand the concept of walking worthy of Christ.
3. Make a comprehensive list of things we are called to Put-Off and Put-On.
4. Evaluate his/her life to see what needs to change.
5. Pray for support of his/her group to hold him accountable for life change to occur.

I. David and Bathsheba 2 Samuel 11-12 and Psalm 51

Read the story of David and Bathsheba and discuss the following...

1. How did David get into trouble? What did he do wrong? 11:2-5
2. How did David plot to cover up his wrongdoing? 11:6-17
3. What did David do to continue his wrongdoing? 11:26-27
4. How was David confronted? 12:1-10
5. What were the consequences of David's sin? 12:11-18
6. What did David do to make things right with God? Psalm 51
7. What did David say that really pleases God? 51:16-17

⁹ Thom Wolf, Universal Discipleship Pattern. 1.

¹⁰ See Strongs Dictionary, *orthopodeo*-Greek-3716, to walk uprightly, and *peripateo*-Greek-4643, to live, comport oneself, follow.

¹¹ Ibid., *axios*-Greek-514, deserving, suitable; and *charis*-Greek-5485, acceptable.

II. Walking Worthy of Christ

Read these verses in the Bible and discuss the following...

Ephesians 4:1-2

How does a person walk worthy of the calling of Christ?

Philippians 1:27

What does my conduct have to do with the gospel of Christ?

We walk worthy of Christ when our lives become Christ-like. We become Christ-like by putting off old ways and living and putting on new ways of living. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

What does "Walking Worthy of Christ" mean to you?

III. Putting-Off and Putting On

Fill out the following chart, noting the meaning of each word, an example of how it is done, and what the corresponding behavior of attitude is. Ephesians is the expanded version and Colossians is the "Cliff Notes" version.

Ephesians 4:25-5:17	Put-Off	Put-On
v.25	F _____ How do you speak falsehoods?	Speak truthfully
v.26	A _____ to sin When does anger become sin?	Resolve quickly
v.27	Do not s _____ In ways do we steal?	Work with hands and share
v.29	No unwholesome t _____ What is unwholesome?	Only speak what is helpful for building up, according to their needs, to benefit those who listen.
v.30	Get rid of b _____ How are people bitter?	Be kind
v.30	Get rid of r _____ and a _____ How does rage and anger affect you?	Be Compassionate

Ephesians	Put-Off	Put-On
v.30	Get rid of b _____ A Brawl is a noisy quarrel or fight. What happens in a brawl? How are people affected?	Be Forgiving
v.30	Get rid of s _____ Slander is speaking a damaging report that destroys the reputation or well being of another person. How is this done among believers? How can prayer requests become slander?	As God Has
v.30	Get rid of m _____ Malice is a desire to harm or to see others suffer. What kinds of things would be classified as malicious?	Forgiven You
5:3	Sexual I _____ What is sexually immoral?	Sexual Morality
5:3	I _____	Purity
5:3	G _____	Contentment
5:4	O _____ Offensive in behavior, expression, or appearance including words, actions or expression. What kinds of things are obscene?	Decency
5:4	Foolish T _____ What is foolish conversation?	Wholesome Talk
5:4	Course J _____ What kind of jokes are course?	Clean Joking Thanksgiving

Paul urges us to live a life of Contrasts....or a Before and After...

Before

Living in darkness
Fruitless deeds of darkness

Living unwisely
Living foolishly

After

Now live as c_____ of light v.5:8
Now e_____ the darkness by your
deeds v.5:11-13
Now live as w_____ 5:15
Now understand the Lord's w_____. 5:17

Colossians 3:3-10

v.5

Put-Off

Sexual I _____
See Ephesians

Put-On

Sexual Morality

v.5

I _____
(See Ephesians)

Purity

v.5

L _____
What does lust do if not
controlled?

Self-Control

v.5

E _____ desires

Godly desires

v.5

G _____
(See Ephesians)

Contentment

v.5

I _____
What can become idols to us?

Worship God Only

v.8

Get rid of a _____
(See Ephesians)

Peace

v.8

Get rid of r _____
(See Ephesians)

Love

v.8

Get rid of m _____

Good Will

v.8

Get rid of s _____

Wholesome Talk

v.8

Filthy I _____
What are examples of filthy
language?

Clean Language

v.9

L _____
What are examples of how we
lie?

Truth Telling

Paul urges us once again to live a life of Contrasts from the old to the new life in Christ.

Before

Life from your earthly nature
 Living and Walking this way
 Live like the old self
 Live unrenewed and dead

After

Put to d_____ your earthly nature v.3
 Now r_____ yourself of these ways of living v.7
 Put on the n_____ self....v.9
 Be renewed in knowledge in the i_____ of the
 Creator v.10

1 Peter 2:1-12

v.1

Put-Off

M_____ (See Ephesians)

Put-On

Peace

v.1

D_____ How do we deceive others?

Honesty

v.1

H_____ How are we hypocritical?

Consistency

v.1

E_____ How is envy harmful?

Contentment

v.1

S_____ (See Ephesians)

Wholesome Talk

v.1

Sinful d_____

Live as aliens, strangers,
 live good lives

Paul urges me in 1 Peter to live not as scattered and discarded stones but as living stones...

Scattered Stones

Dead to Sin
 Stagnant in Life
 Discarded Lives
 Unholy
 Without Purpose
 Living in Shame
 Stumbling and Falling
 Forgotten by God
 Nothing to really say
 Living in Darkness
 Disconnected to Others
 Living without God's mercy

Living Stones

As newborn b_____, desire spiritual milk, v.2
 Growing up in our s_____. v.2
 Living Stones being b_____ into Christ...v.5
 Holy l_____ v.5
 As a Priesthood to the w_____, v.5
 Without w_____, Trusting in Christ, v.6
 Standing on the solid r_____ v.7-8
 Chosen by g_____ v.9
 Declaring the p_____ of God v.9
 Living in his wonderful l_____. v.9
 Connect as the f_____ of God. v.10
 Living in God's m_____. V.10

James 1:21

Put-Off

Put-On

v.21

Get rid of all moral
f_____ What else
could be listed under this
category that you have not
already listed?

Moral purity
Do the Word!

IV. Evaluating My Life and Getting the Support I need to Change

1. As you have reviewed those things that we are called to Put-Off and Put-on in order to walk worthy of Christ...

What did you find that you need to Put-Off Now?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What did you find that you need to Put-On?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Which ones are going to be a challenge for you?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

2. What areas of your life, that needs changing, are you willing to openly share with your group so they might pray for you and support you in a relationship of accountability? Why don't you stop now and ask God for the help, the strength, and the wisdom you need to live the new life and to walk worthy of the calling of Christ.

Assignment: Read the Story of Joshua Entering the Promise Land, Joshua 1-4

Module V Word/Spirit

"Socially, there is a spiritual response or reaction to the new life of the new believer (1 Peter 4:1-4). Some are attracted, some are repelled. But the personal transformation (from putting off/putting on) impacts the covert's circle of influence (the oikos/household composed of family, neighbors, coworkers, and friends)." ¹²

¹² Thom Wolf, Universal Discipleship Pattern, 1-2

Learning Objective:

Disciples of Christ will understand how “letting the Word ¹³ of Christ dwell in you richly” and “being filled ¹⁴ with the Spirit” cause a personal transformation that has a spiritual impact on one’s oikos or household.

Goals/Indicators The disciple will...

1. Read and discuss the story of Joshua leading the people of Israel into the promise land and the role the word of God played in that event. Joshua 1-4
2. Identify the teaching, singing, thanking, and submitting pattern found in Ephesians 5:18-20, Colossians 3:16-17, James 1:22-27, 1 Peter 2:11-12
3. List examples of teaching, singing, thanking, and submitting and explain how these actions might be done.
4. Identify the Five Dual Sets of Relationships that are impacted by the Word and Spirit in the disciple’s life and list the corresponding actions and verses that relate to each relationship. See Five Dual Sets in Ephesians 5:22-6:9, Colossians 3:18-4:61, 1 Peter 2:11-3:7
5. Create a Personal Inventory of which relationships need changing in order to allow the Word and Spirit to richly dwell and fully fill.
6. Participate in a time of prayer in their group concerning the relationships that need to come under the authority of the Word and the Spirit.

I. Joshua Leading the People of Israel into the Promise Land, Joshua 1-4**Discussion**

1. Besides being strong and courageous, what else did God tell Joshua to do? 1:7
2. How often was the Book of Law supposed to be used or referred to? 1:8
3. What was God’s promise to Joshua if he kept the word of God central to all he did? 1:8
4. What kind of effect does the Word of God have on a follower of Christ? See Psalm 1

¹³ See Strongs Dictionary, *logos*-Greek-3056, Christ’s words, what he said.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, *pleroma*-Greek-4138, completely full, filled up completely

II. Teaching, Signing, Thanking, and Submitting TSTS
Read these verses and fill in the blanks...

Ephesians 5:18-21

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead be filled with the s_____. S_____ to one another with p_____, h_____, and spiritual s_____. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving t_____ to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. S_____ to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Colossians 3:16-17

T_____ and a_____ each other with all wisdom... And as you s_____ p_____, h_____ and spiritual s_____... with g_____ in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the n_____ of our Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Admonish – to counsel against something; caution; warn.

Note: The Pattern of teaching, singing, thanking, and submitting is not readily apparent in James and Peter but one does see a reference of the Word and the affect of the Spirit on the life of the disciple.

James 1:22-27

Do not merely listen to the w_____... d_____ what it says, v.22
If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his t_____, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

1 Peter 2:11-12

Live as a_____ and s_____ in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good l_____ among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good d_____ and glorify God on the day he visits us.

III. Examples of Teaching, Singing, Thanking, Submitting (List some examples of...)

Teaching

Singing

Thanking

Submitting

IV. The Five Dual Sets of Relationships Impacted by the Word and Spirit

Wives and Husbands

Ephesians 5:22	Wives s _____	Husbands l _____	v.25
	Wives r _____	Husbands l _____	v.33
Colossians 3:18-19	Wives s _____	Husbands l _____	
James 4:7	Wives and Husbands s _____ to God.		
1 Peter 3:1-7	Wives s _____	Husbands c _____ r _____	

Children and Fathers

Ephesians 6:1-4	Children o _____	Fathers don't e _____
Colossians 3:20-21	Children o _____	Fathers Don't e _____
James 4:7	Children s _____	Fathers s _____

Employees and Employers

Ephesians 6:5-9	Slaves o _____	Masters do not t _____
Colossians 3:22-4:1	Slaves o _____	Masters p _____
James 4:7	Slaves and Masters s _____ to God	
1 Peter 2:18-21	Slaves s _____	

Insiders (in the family of God through a relationship with Christ) and Outsiders

Ephesians 6:19	Insiders p _____ for fearless w _____ with outsiders
Colossians 4:5	Insiders be w _____ and k _____ what to say to outsiders
James	NA
1 Peter 3:15	Insiders be p _____ to give a word of hope to outsiders

Christians and Those in Authority

Ephesians	NA
Colossians	NA
James	NA
1 Peter 2:13-17	Christians s _____ to those in a _____ such as m _____, k _____, and g _____.

V. Personal Inventory

Check the relationships in which you sense God leading you to place under his authority.

<input type="checkbox"/> Wives and Husbands	<input type="checkbox"/> Children and Fathers
<input type="checkbox"/> Employees and Employers	<input type="checkbox"/> Insiders and Outsiders
<input type="checkbox"/> Believers and Authorities	

These are the areas in my life that I want God's word to richly dwell and I want his Spirit to fully fill so that I come under his authority for my life and so that all my relationships become transformed to a Christ-likeness. Take a moment and ask your group to pray for you as you seek to bring these relationships under the authority of Jesus Christ.

Assignment: Read the Story of David and Goliath, 1 Samuel 17

Module VI Warfare

Spiritually, the disciple will be tempted to think that people are the enemy. But that is not so. For such were some of us...fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, homosexuals, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, swindlers...but we were transformed by God. Surely others can be also (1 Cor. 6:9-11, 1 Tim:12-17, and Titus 3:1-8).¹⁵

"For our struggle is not against other people, but against the rulers, the powers, the world forces of this present darkness, the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places." (Eph 6:12) And in this ministry we never lose heart, for even if our good news is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, "in whose case to god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the radiance of Christ, who is the image of God." (2 Cor. 4:1-6).

As disciples, we are to...

1. Stand and Resist
2. Watch and Pray
3. Put on the whole armor of God
 - Belt of Truth
 - Breastplate of Righteousness
 - Shod feet with gospel of peace
 - Shield of faith
 - Helmet of salvation
 - Sword of Spirit
 - Prayer of the 4 "alls"

¹⁵ Thom Wolf, Universal Discipleship Pattern, 2

Learning Objectives

Disciples of Jesus Christ will understand that they are in a spiritual battle and that they learn how to stand and resist, watch and pray, and equip themselves with spiritual armor to be victorious against the evil one.¹⁶

Goals/Indicators

The disciple will...

1. Read the story of David and Goliath and discuss the kind of weapons and warfare David chose to win against Goliath. 1 Samuel 17
2. Research the context of spiritual warfare in Ephesians, Colossians, and 1 Peter.
3. Discover the Pattern of Watching-Praying and Standing-Resisting in Ephesians 6:10-17, Colossians 4:2-6, James 4:7, and 1 Peter 4:7.
4. Understand how a Spiritual Warrior uses the Armor of God described in Ephesians 6:14-17.
5. Understand how to become a Spiritual Wrestler by researching different battle levels, praying the 4 "alls" in Ephesians 4:18 and by participating in Strategic Intercession.

I. The Story of David and Goliath 1 Samuel 17

1. Who was the enemy in this story and what was his plan against the people of Israel? 17:8-11
2. How long did he challenge the people of Israel? 1 Samuel 17:12-16
3. What did David compare Goliath to and how successful was he in the past? 17:31-36
4. What was the basis for David's confidence to win the battle? 17:37
5. What kind of armor and weapons did King Saul recommend for David? 17:38-39
6. What kind of weapons did David use instead? 17:40
7. What did David rely on for his strength to win the battle? 17:46-49

¹⁶ See Strongs Dictionary, *diabolos*-Greek-1228 and *santanas*-Greek-4567 for devil.

II. Battleground of Spiritual Warfare

Ephesians 6:10-13

Finally, be s_____ in the Lord and in his mighty p_____ v. 10
Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your s_____ against the
devil's schemes. V.11

For our struggle is not against f_____ and b_____ but against
r_____, a_____, p_____, and s_____
f_____ v.12

Put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to
s_____ your ground, and after you have done everything, to s_____.
v.13

James 4:7

R_____ the devil and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:8-9

Your e_____ the devil prowls around like a roaring l_____ looking for
someone to devour. v.8
r_____ him, s_____ firm in the faith... v.9

What kind of struggle are we in as disciples of Jesus Christ?

Who do we struggle against?

How can we be assured of victory in this struggle?

III. Patterns of Watch-Pray, Stand-Resist

Ephesians 6:10-18 Stand-Resist, Watch-Pray

Put on the whole a_____ of God so you can take your stand against the devil's
s_____. v.11 and stand your g_____ v.13 And
p_____... be a_____ and always keep p_____ v.18

Colossians 4:2-6,12 Watch-Pray, Stand

Devote yourselves to p_____, being w_____ and t_____ v.2
p_____ for us, too, that God may open a door for our Message v.3
...that you may s_____ firm in all the will of God. v.12

James 4:7 Resist

R_____ the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 4:7, 5:8-12 Watch, Stand – Resist

Be clear minded and s_____ - c_____ so that you can pray. V.7

Be s_____ - c_____ and a_____ v.8

R_____ him, s_____ firm in the faith... v.9

What are we commanded to do to succeed in spiritual warfare?

What does self-control have to do with Watching-Praying, Standing-Resisting?

What prevents us from clear thinking and self-control?

What role does prayer have in spiritual warfare?

IV. Using God’s Armor (Ephesians 6:14-17)

The Armor of God is a c_____ test to see if we are prepared for battle.¹⁷

The Spiritual Warrior Uses God’s Armor

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---|
| 1. T_____ | Belt v.14 | Absolute Truth of God, Truthfulness
Beginning Point |
| 2. I_____ | Vest v.14 | Breastplate of Righteousness |
| 3. D_____ | Shoes v.15 | Readiness to share the gospel of
peace |
| 4. O_____ | Shield v.16 | You extinguish darts with obedience |
| 5. P_____ | Helmet v.17 | Keep your heart pure before God
Isaiah 59:1-2, 2 Cor. 10:3-6 |
| 6. A_____ | Sword v.17 | The Word of God is our Authority
Isaiah 50:4-11 |
| 7. B_____ | Intercession v.18 | |

How did you score on the Character Test?

What areas in your life need to change so you might be ready for battle?

What would you like to ask your group to pray for today concerning your readiness?

¹⁷ Erwin R. McManus, “Spiritual Warfare: Intercession Anticipates Outcomes, The Warrior” a seminar presented at Laser: An Urban Initiative For the Reclamation of Cities, Los Angeles: Global Spectrum and Global Impact, 14.

V. Spiritual Wrestling and Strategic Intercession¹⁸

The disciple functions as a Spiritual Wrestler when he confronts the evil one in a spiritual struggle/wrestling match (Eph 6:12) and draws on the power of Jesus Christ for victory.

Mark 9:25-29	Teaches that p_____ is vital to Spiritual Wrestling.
Luke 18:1-8	Teaches that we should be p_____ in p_____.
2 Cor. 10:3-5	Teaches that our weapons are d_____ not h_____.
Ephesians 6:18	Teaches that we should p_____ on all occasions.

The Wrestler does battle on four levels/varieties.¹⁹ :

Territories/Rulers	
Geographical Jurisdictions	Daniel 10
Tyrannies/Authorities	
Institutionalized Powers	Luke 22:47-53
Thought Forms/Powers of the Dark World	
Conceptual Blindness	2 Cor. 3:12-4:5
Thralldom/Spiritual Forces of Evil	
Person-Specific Bondages	Mark 1:29-34

Thralldom – is a form of personal bondage.

When Wrestling against forces we are to Pray (Ephesians 6:18)

- On a _____ occasions
- With a _____ kinds of prayers and requests
- A _____ keep praying
- Pray for a _____ the saints

Spiritual Wrestling becomes most effective when it becomes Strategic Intercession²⁰!

A Military Action...Engaging The Enemy

Three Types of Intercession:

- Logistical Praying – Supplying the daily needs we have.
- Tactical Praying – Battles needed to win the war, certain person's salvation
- Strategic Praying – Major strikes against the Enemy, Satan.
Enemy, Weapons, Struggle, Objective

¹⁸ Thom Wolf, "Spiritual Warfare: Intercession Anticipates Outcomes, The Wrestler," a seminar presented at Laser: An Urban Initiative For the Reclamation of Cities, Los Angeles: Global Spectrum and Global Impact, 14.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Carol Davis, "Strategic Intercession," a seminar presented at Laser: An Urban Initiative For the Reclamation of Cities, Los Angeles: Global Spectrum and Global Impact, 15.

A Personal Action...Rebelling Against the Status Quo

Personal Prayer – Prayer Journal (Date, Request, Date, Answer)

Team Prayer – Prayer Journal (2's 3's, Knees, Standing, Scripture

Triplet Prayer – Person Specific (Church Planting Teams & New Believers)
Everyday Alone and Once a week as a Triplet

Prayer Teams – Support Teams & Short Term Teams

Prayer Walks – Church Planting Team, Short Term Teams, New Believers

Prayer Houses – Establish a House of Prayer

What do you want us to pray for?

Give us something that is so impossible that only God can do it.

Go door to door and ask them if there is a need to pray for.

Discussion:

1. What is the primary weapon in Spiritual Wrestling?
2. How will praying the 4 "Alls" change your prayer habits?
3. What kind of prayer is most effective when confronting the enemy?
4. What kinds of Personal Action Praying would you like to participate in?

Assignment: Read the Story of Daniel and His Three Friends, Daniel 3

Module VII Witness

We boldly and frankly witness (Tell what Jesus has done in our lives) with great joy, even in tribulation, which we know is our destiny (1 Thessalonians 1:2-10, 3:1-13, 1 Peter 2: 11-12), and we tell of his excellencies who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, which results in making us a global people (Peter 2:9-10).²¹

²¹ Thom Wolf, Universal Discipleship Pattern

So, then, while there will be those who sneer, there will also be those who desire to hear more, and even some who believe and join us (Acts 17:32-34). Those who believe and join us are those who have come to know Jesus as their Rock, and the universal disciple pattern is retained, remembered, and reproduced.²²

By the universal disciple pattern we all put off the old self, corrupted by various deceitful cravings and learned behavior patterns of the cultures, worldviews and social environments of the world, and are renewed in the spirit of our minds, putting on the new self, being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created us...a renewal in which there are no cultural, religious, ethnic, economic, or gender distinctions, but Christ is all, and in all (Ephesians 4:17-24 and Colossians 3:9-11).²³

Learning Objectives

Disciples of Jesus Christ will understand how being a witness²⁴ completes and restarts the cycle of the universal discipleship pattern.

Goal/Indicators

The Disciple will...

1. Read and Discuss the Story of Daniel and His Three Friends, Daniel 3
2. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10 and discuss what it means to declare God's praises.
3. Develop a personal story of how God has changed his or her life.
4. Develop intentional plans to declare God's praises to someone this week.

I. The Story of Daniel and His Three Friends, Daniel 3

Read and Discuss Daniel 3

1. What were Daniel and his friends being asked to do? v.8
2. How did God protect them? v.19-27
3. What was the King's response to what happened in the furnace? v.28-30
4. How did Daniel and his friends declare God's praises?

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ See Strong's Dictionary, *marturia*-Greek-3141, record, report, testimony, witness.

II. **Declaring²⁵ God's Praises (See 1 Peter 2:9-10)**

We are a c_____ people, a r_____ priesthood, a
h_____ nation, a p_____ belonging to God! v.9

Our task is to d_____ the Praises of God who called me out of
d_____ into his wonderful l_____. v.9

Once we were not a p_____ but now we are the p_____
of God.

Once we had not received God's m_____, but now we have received
his m_____! v.10

Discussion:

1. What does it mean to declare God's Praises?
2. What has God done for you that would cause you to want to Praise Him?
3. What are some examples how you might declare his praises this week?

III. **Developing A Personal Story About God's Work in Your Life**

1. Briefly discuss what your life was like before you received Jesus as Savior.
2. How did you know you need to have Jesus in your life?
3. How has Jesus changed your life since you believed in Him?

IV. **Making Plans to Naturally Declare What God has Done**

1. In your circle of influence (family, neighbors, coworkers, and friends) who is most likely to be receptive to hear what God has done in your life?
2. Take a minute, now and ask God to develop that person into a person of peace (See Luke 10:1-10).
3. Give examples of how you might declare praises of God in a natural conversation.
4. Take a minute, now and ask God to lead you into opportunities to declare his praises this week.

²⁵ Ibid, exegeomai-Greek-1834, to consider out loud, unfold, declare, tell.