

Grounded For Growth

“Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God.” -Psalms 92:13 NKJV

I. Intro

A. Vision for January series

- 1) New levels of freedom from demonic bondage.
- 2) Jesus came to “set at liberty those who are bound.”
- 3) God wants you FREE!!!

B. However, deliverance can be dangerous for those not grounded in Christ.

- 1) Encounter Weekend advice from a pastor friend.
- 2) No one could go to the event who was not active in a life group.
- 3) The spiritual backlash was so intense people backslid.

C. I felt it necessary to set up the series by explaining our discipleship process so you can be grounded.

1) At Destiny Church our purpose is...

a. *To help people discover and live out their destiny in Christ.*

- i. Not to have a crowd
- ii. Not to have a new building
- iii. These are good things but they are only means to the goal
- iv. Not to have decisions for Christ BUT...

b. It is **disciples who make disciples!!!**

2) “All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head.” -Mark 4:28 NIV

a. Jesus is describing a step-by-step approach to growth.

b. **Spiritual growth is a process not an event.**

c. He uses the analogy of growing grain for the process of kingdom growth.

- i. First the stalk
- ii. Then the head (ear)
- iii. Then the kernel (grain)
- iv. NOTE: You can't desire the *product* and despise the *process*!
- v. “There's a process tied to every purpose.” -Tony Miller

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- d. If our goal is disciples who make disciples—if that's our purpose—then what is our process? How do we make disciples?
- e. Asked ourselves as a team, "What are the essential ingredients a person needs in order to grow?"
- f. Jesus invited his disciples into his *mission*.
 - i. Discipleship goes beyond information (although information is vital).
 - ii. Discipleship is active not passive—it's joining in Christ's mission for *this* church.

II. Discipleship Pipeline Explained — The 5 C's

A. **Come** to church

*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the **habit** of doing, but encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.-Hebrews 10:25*

B. **Connect** in a Life Group

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. -Acts 2:42

C. **Commit** to membership

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D. **Contribute** through giving and serving

a. We are called to be FUNCTIONING MEMBERS of the Body of Christ.

- i. *"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ...1 Corinthians 12:12*
- ii. *God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be." -1 Corinthians 12:18 NIV*

b. We should not ask IF we should serve but HOW we should serve.

E. **Continue** to grow and disciple the church.

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III. Conclusion

- A. Gym memberships don't work if you don't work.
- B. The best diets don't work if you don't work them.
- C. This process doesn't work if you don't work it.
- D. My challenge to you? Give it your all for one year. Your life will change!
 - 1) Next Growth Gathering January 18th
 - a. Includes membership AND leadership training
 - b. We as a church need to be on one page. Unity begins with each one of us.
 - c. Do you know our vision well enough to teach it?
 - 2) Where are you in the process?
 - 3) Take the next step.