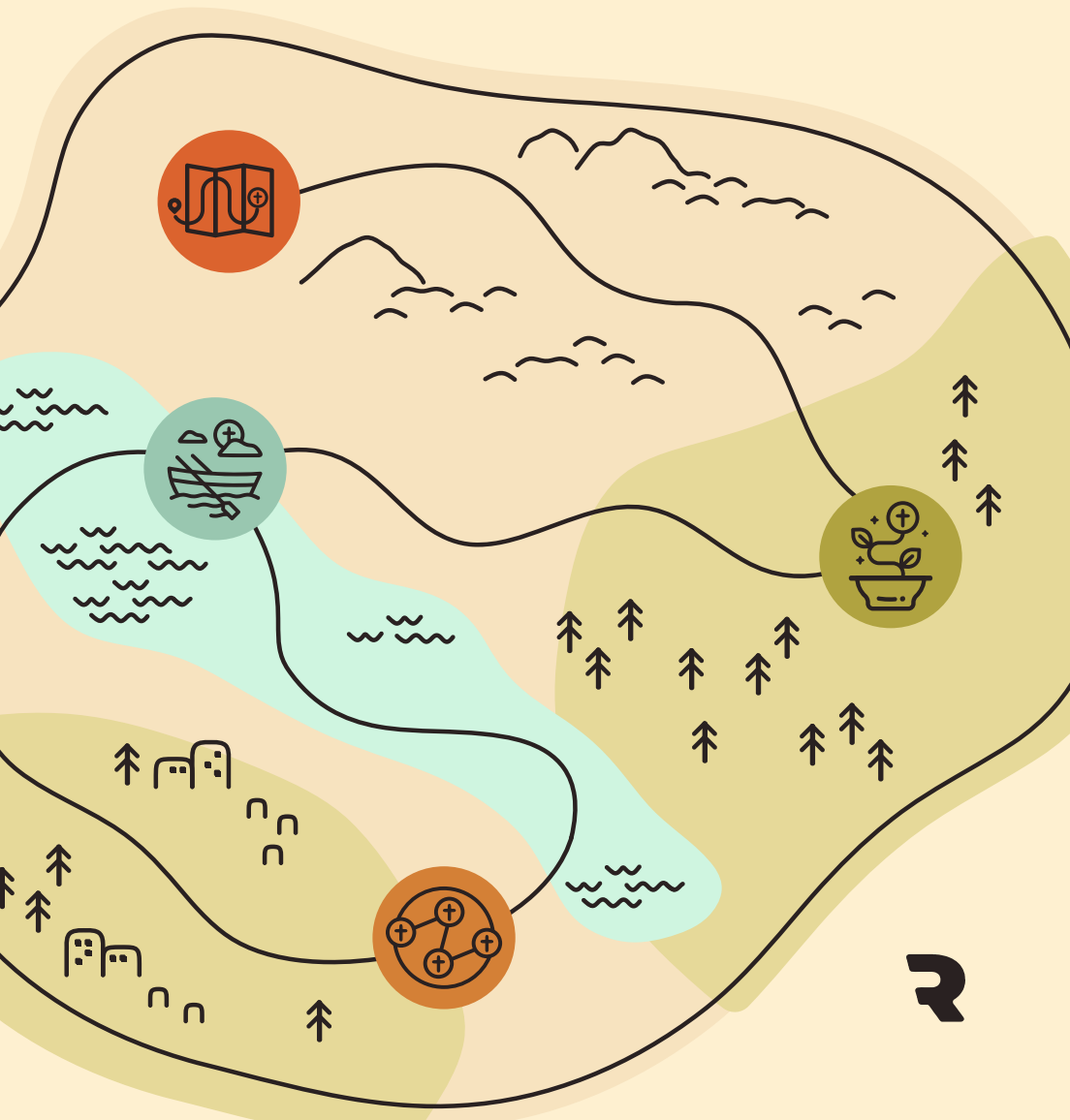




DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY





DEEPEN

“AND WE ALL... ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO HIS
IMAGE WITH EVER-INCREASING GLORY, WHICH COMES
FROM THE LORD, WHO IS THE SPIRIT.”

— 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18



BE SHAPED
BY JESUS

DO LIFE
WITH
PEOPLE

STEWARD
YOUR
PURPOSE

ALL OF LIFE IS BEING SHAPED BY & FOR JESUS.

The Deepen stage is about going from surface-level faith to surrendered, Spirit-shaped living. You're no longer just learning about Jesus—you're being formed into His likeness. The gospel is sinking deeper into every part of your life, and your faith is beginning to influence your time, decisions, relationships, and character.

Spiritually, this stage involves refining and stretching your faith. God is shaping your desires, purifying your motives, and deepening your trust.

The goal of this stage is whole-life transformation. You're becoming more like Jesus in how you think, act, and love. This stage **builds resilience, spiritual maturity, and prepares** you to live a life of deeper impact and lasting fruitfulness.

In this season of spiritual formation, you're embracing rhythms of prayer, dwelling on Scripture, community, rest, generosity, and service—not out of obligation, but because you know they shape your soul. You're aware of your weaknesses, but you're also more rooted in grace than ever before.

Your relationships go deeper and become more vulnerable. You're internally investing in community and doing life with others. In your maturing, you're actually becoming more open to the sharpening that others have upon your life.

As you've built a basis of service and giving, this is the season where you press deeper and go to a new level of surrender and stewardship of your time, talents, and treasure. You're going to become more aware of who you are and what you're truly wired for.

This is where discipleship gets deep and real. It's where you start to look more like Jesus—not just in belief, but in the way you live, love, and lead. It's where your faith becomes resilient, rooted not in emotion or convenience, but in truth and trust.

One of the critical shifts that happens as you move into the Deepen phase is this: you go from being spiritually fed to learning how to feed yourself. Early in your faith journey, you might rely heavily on others to help you grow spiritually—but as you mature, it's vital that you develop the rhythms and habits that sustain your own spiritual life. This is where real depth occurs. When you learn to feed yourself spiritually, your faith becomes stronger, more resilient, and deeply rooted in Christ.

Another unique aspect of this stage, is that you never grow beyond it. Yes you will eventually begin actively making disciples, but even then, you'll never outgrow the need for deep formation. In fact, disciple-making requires it. As you step further into your purpose and begin intentionally investing in others, you'll find yourself stretched in new ways. Your need for closeness with God and other believers grows, not shrinks. Your dependence deepens. Your surrender expands.



YOUR DEEPEN JOURNEY



BUILD A RHYTHM FOR DEEP FORMATION

Allow the Holy Spirit to shape every part of your life.



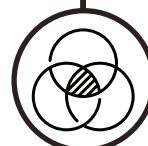
FORM A GROUP TO DO LIFE WITH

A commitment to be known, sharpened, and encouraged in faith.



STEWARD YOUR TIME

Invest your time where you're called and fruitful.



STEWARD YOUR TALENT

Use your God-given gifts with deeper intentionality and impact.



STEWARD YOUR TREASURE

Trust God with your finances by tithing.



BE SHAPED BY JESUS

ALLOW THE SPIRIT TO
SHAPE ALL OF LIFE—
ALL FOR JESUS.

PIVOTAL STEP #1

BE SHAPED BY JESUS

True discipleship means allowing Jesus to shape every area of your life—your thoughts, actions, desires, and relationships. At this point in your journey, the **Holy Spirit actively leads you into deeper layers of growth through honest self-examination.** He **convicts, comforts,** and **empowers you** to courageously face places of resistance or disobedience and humbly surrender them to Jesus.

In the Discover and Develop stages, you began meeting Jesus through Scripture and establishing daily rhythms of intentional time with Him. Those practices don't fade away—instead, **the Spirit uses them as the foundation He builds upon.** In this Deepen phase, your hunger to know Jesus more intimately grows, and you welcome the Spirit's transforming presence into every area of your life, not just the comfortable ones.

As David prayed in Psalm 139:23–24: **“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.”**

Being Shaped By Jesus is a process of surrendering every part of who you are and living with Kingdom intentionality. It's saying: “Lord, I want every part of me—my family, my finances, my habits, my health—to reflect You.” When you take time to reflect, recalibrate, and respond in each area of life, you give the Spirit space to do lasting transformational work.

STEP 01 SPIRIT-GUIDED EXAMINATION

Begin by inviting the Holy Spirit to help you see your life clearly. Before you make any plans or set any goals, pause to pray: “Spirit of God, search me and show me what matters most. Reveal where I am thriving, where I’m drifting, and where You’re calling me to grow.”

Assess where you are right now and ask the Spirit to help you discern what is truly important. This step is about awareness—not shame or striving—but honest reflection guided by grace.

How am I doing? With the Spirit's help, rate each of these life priorities on a scale of 1-10 in terms of how satisfied you feel in each area (1 being far from where you want to be, 10 being flourishing). This number is for you alone, so be prayerfully honest with yourself.

Priority: Next, ask the Holy Spirit to help you recognize what areas He wants to shape in this season. Number each life area from 1–8 in order of what you sense is most important to focus on over the coming year.

	EVALUATE SATISFACTION SCALE 1-10	PRIORITIZE RANK 1-8
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD		
MARRIAGE		
FINANCES		
CAREER		
FRIENDSHIPS		
PARENTING		
MINISTRY		
HEALTH		

STEP 02 DISCERN WHERE THE SPIRIT IS CALLING YOU TO GROW

Now that you've prayerfully evaluated each area of your life, take time to listen for the Spirit's leading. Growth in the Kingdom doesn't come from ambition alone—it comes from obedience. Ask: “Holy Spirit, where are You inviting me to grow deeper? What part of my life are You placing Your hand on in this season?”

Look back at your priorities from Step 01, and choose 2–3 areas where you sense the Spirit is drawing your attention. It might be the place where you feel the most tension—or where you feel a fresh hunger. Either way, let this choice be a response to God's prompting, not just your own pressure.

01

02

03

Once you've selected your areas to focus on, we'll guide you through a Spirit-led process of reflection, vision, and practical action—so that every part of your life is increasingly shaped by Jesus.

STEP 03 WRITE A SPIRIT-SHAPED VISION FOR EACH AREA OF LIFE

In each life area you've chosen, take time to write a vision statement—but don't just write who *you* want to become. Ask the deeper question: *"Holy Spirit, who are You forming me to be in this area of my life?"*

Write in the present tense, as a **declaration of identity and direction**. Let this statement reflect a picture of your life fully aligned with the heart of Jesus—what it would look like if this area was increasingly marked by His presence, His priorities, and His power.

Take time to search the Scriptures and let God's Word shape your vision. **Find a key verse for that area of your life and write it down.** Ask: "What kind of person am I becoming as I walk with Jesus in this area of life?"

Let your vision statements be rooted in grace, fueled by hope, and shaped by the Spirit's leading.

EXAMPLE FOR A VISION STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE:

I am a man who lovingly pursues my wife. I take the lead and initiative in our marriage spiritually, romantically, and relationally. My wife knows that she is the most important human relationship in my life. She feels honored and served by the decisions I make in my personal life; knowing I put her interests above mine. I push and encourage her to use her gifts, passions and potential; yet I don't try to make her be something she is not. My wife and my children feel safe, protected, provided for, and loved in our home and in my presence.

STEP 04 REFLECT HONESTLY & INVITE THE SPIRIT TO REVEAL

Now it's time to take an honest look at where you currently stand in this area of your life. This isn't about shame or striving—it's about humility, clarity, and openness to the Spirit's refining work.

Ask the Holy Spirit: *"Search me, God. Show me what's going well, what's broken, and where You want to heal, correct, or strengthen me."*

Growth begins with truth. You can't move forward if you won't acknowledge where you are. This is where we lay down illusions and excuses—and receive the grace to grow.

Take time to reflect and write down your current reality using bullet points. Consider facts, feelings, and observations:

What's going well in this area?

What needs growth, healing, or change?

Where do you sense the Spirit convicting or challenging you?

Are there patterns, habits, or relationships that need realignment?

Don't rush this. Be specific. Be courageous. This is how we invite Jesus deeper into the places that still need His touch. The Spirit doesn't expose to shame you, but convicts to transform you.

"YOU DESIRE TRUTH IN THE INNERMOST BEING." – PSALM 51:6

STEP 05 FORM A SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

This is where vision becomes action. Now that you've discerned who God is forming you to be, it's time to partner with the Holy Spirit by developing a clear, intentional plan for growth.

Ask yourself: *"What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?"*

Transformation doesn't stop at awareness—it moves through obedience. As God reveals areas of change, take the next faithful step, no matter how small. Obedience often looks like rhythms, habits, and small, faithful steps.

For each life area, write down 3–5 specific, measurable, and Spirit-aligned action steps. Think practically and prayerfully. Make sure your steps are realistic, repeatable, and rooted in discipleship—not just self-improvement.

Write down when you will take these steps—put them on your calendar, set reminders, or invite accountability. This is how formation moves from aspiration to incarnation.

Obedience is how transformation takes root. We don't just hear God's voice—we follow it. This is how we're deeply shaped by Jesus—In stillness, in community, and in everyday decisions where we choose surrender over self. **"DISCIPLINE YOURSELF FOR THE PURPOSE OF GODLINESS."**
— 1 TIMOTHY 4:7

Let these practices be your offering—simple acts of faith that open wide the door for God to do what only He can do: form Christ in you.

STEP 06 NAME THE WRONG PATH

As you walk with Jesus, there will always be other paths pulling at your soul. The call of discipleship is not just about growing toward Christ—it's also about resisting the slow drift away from Him.

Go back to the mirror from Step 4. With humility and courage, ask yourself:

"If I ignore what the Spirit is showing me... where will this lead?"

"If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?"

Write it out. Be specific. Let it sober you, not shame you. This is about seeing clearly, so you can choose wisely. Without change, drift becomes direction.

Where will your marriage go if you keep avoiding connection and working too much?

What kind of legacy will you leave your kids if you never work through your anger issues?

What will your soul become if you keep numbing out or pushing prayer to the margins?

Who will you be if the habits you're forming today continue unchallenged?

"THERE IS A WAY THAT SEEMS RIGHT TO A MAN, BUT ITS END IS THE WAY TO DEATH." – PROVERBS 14:12

So take this seriously. Look darkness in the face. And then, with hope, turn again toward the Light.

Example: Marriage



VISION STATEMENT

I am a man who lovingly pursues my wife. I take the lead and initiative in our marriage spiritually, romantically and relationally. My wife knows that she is the most important human relationship in my life. She feels honored and served by the decisions I make in my personal life; knowing I put her interests above mine. My wife and my children feel safe, protected, provided for and loved in our home and in my presence. **“Love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her... so that He might present the church to himself in splendor” Ephesians 5:25,27**

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

- We really enjoy being married to each other and sharing life together.
- We are around each other often though we are in a busy season of life.
- Communication is vastly improved

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

- We do not get enough time alone & are not where we want to be romantically.
- Kids go to sleep about 10pm, making bedtime a long, exhausting process.
- Starting to feel more like roommates than we are marriage partners

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

- We need more regular date nights.
- I have become really selfish with my time and addicted to my phone
- I haven't been praying over our marriage like I should

SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW
I will plan and schedule date nights	1st & 3rd Thursdays
We will read two books together by fall.	At bedtime to connect
My phone will get shut off each evening	On the charger by 6pm
We will meet with Marriage Team to discuss our communication challenges.	Starting this month
We will pray together daily	Even if for 1 min before work

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Too Much Work >> Not Enough Family Time or energy into my marriage >> Disconnection in my marriage >> Frustration and coldness when actually at home >> No longer even want to be home, Wife resents my calling >> No longer even want to be married >> Destruction in my family, for my kids, and even for my life calling.

Relationship with God



VISION STATEMENT

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Marriage

VISION STATEMENT



SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Finances



VISION STATEMENT

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Career



VISION STATEMENT

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Friendships

VISION STATEMENT



SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Parenting

VISION STATEMENT



SPIRIT-LED GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Ministry

VISION STATEMENT



SPIRIT-LEAD GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?

Health



VISION STATEMENT

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

WHAT'S GOING WELL:

WHAT NEEDS GROWTH, HEALING, OR CHANGE?

WHERE DO YOU SENSE THE SPIRIT CONVICTING OR CHALLENGING YOU?

SPIRIT-LEAD GROWTH PLAN

What is God calling me to do—daily, weekly, monthly, or yearly—to become the person Jesus is forming me into?

WRITE OUT THE ACTION YOU WILL TAKE	WHEN/HOW

NAME THE WRONG PATH

If I stay passive, distracted, or self-centered in this area, what might my life look like 5 or 10 years from now?



DO LIFE WITH PEOPLE

WHO KNOWS THE REAL
ME AND SHARPENS ME
TOWARD JESUS?

BUILD DEEP RELATIONSHIPS WHERE REAL GROWTH HAPPENS.

In earlier stages, you've found community through a City Group, a serving team, or men's and women's groups. **Now it's time to take these friendships even deeper.** This is where acquaintances become close friends, and friends become family. It's about sharing real life—going camping, making memories, sharing meals, and experiencing life's highs and lows side-by-side.

In these trusted relationships, something special happens spiritually. **This is the circle where you can be truly known and deeply loved. You practice honesty and vulnerability, sharing struggles, victories, and everything in between.** You wrestle openly with what Jesus is doing in your lives—encouraging, challenging, and calling one another to greater faithfulness.

These relationships aren't just comfortable—they're transformational. They include confession, accountability, and mutual care, all grounded in grace and truth. At Rise, we believe that God shapes us profoundly through these honest relationships where we lovingly challenge, confess to, and sharpen one another. This kind of intentional, trusted community is essential if we want to grow deeper and become more like Jesus.

MARKS OF TRUE FRIENDSHIPS

BY JON TYSON

When you read the Scriptures, you see that the kingdom of God moves along relational lines. On the pages of scripture, we see depth, sacrifice, joy and loyalty all modeled for us to behold. These give us clues to the kind of friends we need in our lives today.

FRIENDS WHO WILL RISK FOR YOU

PRISCILLA AND AQUILLA

GREET PRISCILLA AND AQUILA, MY CO-WORKERS IN CHRIST JESUS. THEY RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR ME. NOT ONLY I BUT ALL THE CHURCHES OF THE GENTILES ARE GRATEFUL TO THEM. GREET ALSO THE CHURCH THAT MEETS AT THEIR HOUSE.
ROMANS 16:3-5

Paul traveled as an apostolic leader and was often forced to move and flee due to persecution. Being his friend came at a cost. But Priscilla and Aquilla were willing to risk themselves for Paul. They risked their resources to support his calling; they risked their time to help plant churches with him; they risked their hearts by uniting themselves to a call.

Pay attention to the folks who say yes. Who will believe in the crazy idea, join you for the last-minute road trip, invest in your latest vision, and stand by you when it costs them status, reputation or resources. Build your life with people like this. Be a friend like this.

FRIENDS WHO ENCOURAGE YOU

BARNABAS

We live in a critical and cynical time. People feel entitled to lash out and criticize like it's a societal right. Sniping post on social media, subtle jabs in the lobby, passive aggressive emails, brutal confrontations. It is soul destroying and demoralizing. A steady diet of criticism and complaint will bleed a man's heart dry.

But there are also people who build you up. Those who come alongside you to stir your faith and build your spirit. Barnabas was a man like this.

He gave generously to the fledgling Christian movement. **Acts 4:36-37**

He assured the believers of the genuine conversion of a persecutor-turned-Christian named Saul, later known as Paul. **Acts 9:26-27**

He brought Saul to teach believers at Syrian Antioch, releasing him into ministry. **Acts 11:25-26**

He joined Saul in bringing relief to the Christians in Judea. **Acts 11:30**

FRIENDS WHO REFRESH YOU

ONESIPHORUS

MAY THE LORD SHOW MERCY TO THE HOUSEHOLD OF ONESIPHORUS, BECAUSE HE OFTEN REFRESHED ME AND WAS NOT ASHAMED OF MY CHAINS. ON THE CONTRARY, WHEN HE WAS IN ROME, HE SEARCHED HARD FOR ME UNTIL HE FOUND ME. 2 TIMOTHY 1:16-18

Certain people give you life simply by their presence. They have the ability to lift you out of whatever sorrow or pain you are in and bring you back to joy. They irrigate your heart in times of relational drought.

Henri Nouwen commented about friends like this. He said, **“When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand.”**

FRIENDS WHO FIGHT FOR YOU.

EPAPHRODITUS

BUT I THINK IT IS NECESSARY TO SEND BACK TO YOU EPAPHRODITUS, MY BROTHER, CO-WORKER AND FELLOW SOLDIER, WHO IS ALSO YOUR MESSENGER, WHOM YOU SENT TO TAKE CARE OF MY NEEDS. PHILIPPIANS 2:25

There are people who support your vision, and then there are people who support you. These are the ones you can count on when the warfare gets real. They cover you in prayer. They fight for your heart. They join you in your cause. They rescue you when you get stuck. They refuse to quit on you when things get hard. And they are loyal when others turn away.

These people remind us of the faithfulness of Jesus. They are another incarnation of the stubborn love of God. When life gets hard, they dig in. They have your back, stand beside you, and clear a path in front of you. They ensure you never go to war alone.

FRIENDS WHO TELL YOU THE TRUTH

NATHAN

REBUKING A KING CAN BE HARD. REBUKING HIM FOR MURDER AND ADULTERY IS HARDER STILL. YET NATHAN HAD THE COURAGE TO DO THIS TO KING DAVID FOR HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH BATHSHEBA AND MURDER OF URIAH. “YOU ARE THE MAN!” NATHAN TOLD DAVID. (2 SAMUEL 12:5-7)

Yet, this rebuke was done in love, and Nathan remained loyal, even to the ends of his days. Proverbs 27:5 says, “Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Wounds from a friend can be trusted.”

You don’t need people hyping you up, overlooking your weaknesses, ignoring your faults. You need friends like Nathan who will call you out, then stand beside you to help you walk out the consequences.

BECOMING THE FRIEND YOU LONG FOR

Jesus calls us to lay down our lives for our friends. He calls us to love one another as he has loved us. **The best way to find true friendship is to become one yourself.** I know it can feel forced and even strained to begin to move toward others in these ways, but you never know how God will move when you obey His commands of love. You never know how even the smallest acts of relational courage could mature into oaks of belonging in your life.

You never know when the holy place in your heart will open.



PIVOTAL STEP #2

FORM A GROUP TO DO LIFE WITH.

At this point in your discipleship journey, it's important for you to lead the way in forming deeper, intentional community. But how exactly do you build a group like this?

First, you need a foundation of friendship and relationship. If you haven't yet connected with others through a City Group or serving on a team, start there. **These environments naturally help you build connections, identify people you resonate with, and foster initial relationships built around shared interests and mission.**

Once you've identified people you connect with and desire deeper spiritual friendships with, **make the ask**. Invite them into something intentional. Ask if they'd be open to regularly gathering for purposeful spiritual sharpening and community.

WHO COULD YOU ASK?

Who are the people you connect with and would like to go deeper in your discipleship journey with? **Aim for a group of 3-8 people.**

Here are a few helpful tips for starting and deepening this kind of group:

01. SHARE A MEAL TOGETHER

There's a reason Jesus gathered around tables. Sharing meals breaks down walls and builds connection. Eating together creates a relaxed and natural space where friendships deepen, conversations become authentic, and genuine community takes shape. Food draws us together—it helps shift the environment from formal to relational, making space for trust and comfort to grow.

02. GIVE LIFE UPDATES

Begin each gathering by honestly sharing what's going on in your lives—marriage, parenting, relationship with God, work, and health. This is a great place to share how you're doing with your growth plan. What's going well, where you're struggling, or where you're feeling stuck. This practice moves us purposefully beyond casual conversation into deeper authenticity. Remember, transparency is good, but vulnerability is transformative. Transparency is simply sharing information; vulnerability allows others to speak into your life and shape you spiritually. It opens the door for accountability, encouragement, challenge, and care.

03. SPEAK INTO ONE ANOTHER'S LIVES

Don't just share—invite and offer spiritual input. Ask for guidance. Give encouragement. Share wisdom from your own walk with Jesus. Help each other notice where God is at work and what next steps He might be prompting. Offer gentle accountability as you each pursue obedience and faithfulness. These conversations may feel awkward at first, but over time, they become the moments that shape and strengthen both your faith and your friendships.

04. GROW TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY

This intentional community should have a clear spiritual purpose.

Consider reading and discussing a book of the Bible, choosing a thoughtful book to journey through, or tackling a discipleship study together. The key is purpose. Your gatherings should consistently point each other back to Jesus, Scripture, and the growth He desires in your lives. You'll find that as you intentionally pursue growth together, your faith deepens, and your relationships become even stronger.

05. CONTINUE TO SHOW UP

Community doesn't grow overnight—it deepens through consistency. Keep showing up, even when schedules get busy or it feels like you're not seeing immediate fruit. Faithful presence builds trust, and trust builds transformation. Every time you gather, share, pray, or listen, you're allowing God to shape not just your relationships, but your heart. Over time, you'll look back and realize that simply showing up—week after week—was one of the most powerful things you did.

By embracing these intentional rhythms—meals, vulnerability, and spiritual growth—you'll cultivate an environment where authentic discipleship naturally happens and true community thrives.

“TO BE LOVED BUT NOT KNOWN IS COMFORTING BUT SUPERFICIAL. TO BE KNOWN AND NOT LOVED IS OUR GREATEST FEAR. BUT TO BE FULLY KNOWN AND TRULY LOVED IS, WELL, A LOT LIKE BEING LOVED BY GOD. IT IS WHAT WE NEED MORE THAN ANYTHING. IT LIBERATES US FROM PRETENSE, HUMBLER US OUT OF OUR SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND FORTIFIES US FOR ANY DIFFICULTY LIFE CAN THROW AT US.”

Timothy Keller





STEWARD YOUR PURPOSE

KINGDOM STEWARDSHIP.

LEVERAGING YOUR TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE TO REFLECT THE HEART OF JESUS AND ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM.

If discipleship means becoming who Jesus would be if He were you, then one of the key questions we must wrestle with is this: **how would Jesus steward my time, my talent, and my treasure?**

As you deepen your discipleship, you begin to recognize that everything you have is a gift from God—and He calls you to intentionally leverage it for His Kingdom and His purposes.

You're no longer asking "How much do I have to give?"—you're asking "How can I give back to the One who has given me all that I have?"

This season is about increasing intentionality with every area of your life —**time, talent, and treasure**— so that your daily life becomes a clear expression of your true purpose: loving God, loving others, and joining Him in His redemptive work.



PIVOTAL STEP #3

STEWARD YOUR TIME

INVEST YOUR TIME WHERE YOU'RE CALLED & FRUITFUL—CREATING MARGIN TO RESPOND TO WHAT MATTERS MOST.

Once you begin to understand how God has wired you, you can start making better decisions about how to use your time. You're not just reacting to the urgent or saying yes to everything—you're learning to invest your energy where God bears the most fruit through you.

You begin asking:

"Where do I sense God consistently working through me?"

"What should I say no to in order to say yes to what matters?"

"How can I bring Kingdom purpose into the places I'm already spending time?"

Whether you're meeting with clients or co-workers, sitting in the carpool line, doing projects around the house, or chatting on the sidelines at your kid's soccer game—you begin to see each moment as an opportunity to reflect the love, wisdom, and presence of Jesus.

You also start creating margin—not to do more, but to be more available. When you're not rushed, you're more likely to notice people, respond to needs, and follow the Spirit's promptings.

Jesus didn't cram His schedule full—He always had time for people. As His disciple, you're learning to live with that same kind of purposeful presence.



PAUSE + REFLECT

WHERE IS MY TIME BEARING FRUIT OR DRAINING LIFE?

WHAT MIGHT I NEED TO STOP? Tasks that drain your energy, feel like a grind, flow from guilt or pressure rather than joy or calling, and keep you from what matters most.

WHAT MIGHT I NEED TO START? Opportunities God may be prompting you toward—aligned with your gifts, showing early fruit, stirring excitement or quiet curiosity, and opening space where He might want to use you.

WHAT MIGHT I NEED TO CONTINUE? Things you're already doing that God calls you to approach with renewed purpose—fruitful, energizing, and opportunities to love Him and others.

BONUS READ: *At Your Best* by Carey Nieuwhof is a practical and faith-centered guide to time management and energy stewardship. If you often feel stretched thin or want to make the most of the time God's given you, this book is an excellent place to start.

AT YOUR BEST



How to Get Time, Energy &
Priorities Working in Your Favor

Carey Nieuwhof

Bestselling author of DIDN'T SEE IT COMING



PIVOTAL STEP #4

STEWARD YOUR TALENT

UNDERSTAND HOW GOD UNIQUELY WIRED YOU—AND SERVE FROM A PLACE OF CLARITY, NOT OBLIGATION.

You were created on purpose, for a purpose. Your gifts, skills, passions, personality, and even your past experiences were never random. They are tools in God's hands—and when surrendered to Him, they become powerful instruments for Kingdom impact, both in and outside of the church.

In this season, you begin asking:

"How has God uniquely gifted me?"

"Where do I see fruit when I serve others?"

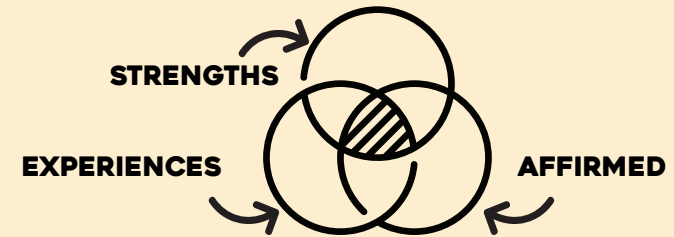
"What have others affirmed in me that I might be overlooking?"

You start shifting from simply filling a need to discerning where you're most fruitful. You realize that burnout often comes from saying yes to everything—or saying yes out of guilt. Stewardship isn't about doing more. It's about saying yes to what's yours to carry—and no to what's not. The better you understand how God can use you, the more intentionally and sustainably you can give your time and energy.

"AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A GIFT, USE IT TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER, AS GOOD STEWARDS OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE." – 1 PETER 4:10

DISCOVER YOUR KINGDOM SWEET SPOT

Stewarding your talent is about finding the place where your gifts, fruitfulness, and what others affirm converge—the intersection where God's unique design in you meets the needs of the world around you.



1. GIFTS & ABILITIES

What do you naturally do well? What skills or strengths come easily to you? These are divine deposits. Scripture reminds us that God has entrusted you with certain abilities not for self-promotion, but for Kingdom participation.

2. EXPERIENCES MARKED BY JOY AND FRUITFULNESS

Think back to moments where serving brought you both life and impact. When did you feel most alive while also seeing God use you to bless others? Those experiences are often clues to your calling. Joy and fruitfulness are like signposts pointing toward the work God has specifically equipped you for.

3. AFFIRMATION FROM OTHERS

Often others see in us what we overlook in ourselves. Pay attention to what people consistently affirm: "You're great at that," or "When you did that, it really made a difference." The Body of Christ helps us recognize our gifts more clearly so that we can walk in them more confidently.



PAUSE + REFLECT

GIFTS & ABILITIES

Spend some time reflecting on and listing out both your **spiritual gifts** and **abilities**. Pages 160-165 are filled with some helpful lists.

JOYFUL & FRUITFUL EXPERIENCES

What are some areas of ministry that you've gotten to experience that fill you with joy and you see you're very effective at? What makes you come alive? These can be both inside and outside of the church.

AFFIRMATION FROM OTHERS

What have others affirmed or spoken into your life? This could be a word of encouragement, an affirmation of impact, or even a prophetic message over your life.



WHERE DO THESE CONVERGE?

REVIEW & SEEK THE SPIRIT

Look over your notes for your giftings, experiences, and affirmation and begin to seek the Spirit's guidance in what He might be calling you to step into in a deeper way. Write down some notes as you process and pray:

WHAT IS YOUR NEXT STEP?

Maybe it's exploring a new serving opportunity, committing to a ministry team, or setting aside time to grow a particular skill. Write down one or two specific actions you can take and when so you can begin walking in greater alignment with your Kingdom purpose.

WHO DO I NEED TO TALK TO?

Share what you're sensing with someone who knows you well—your team lead, city group leader, or trusted friend. Ask them to pray with you and speak into what they see. Sometimes the people around you can confirm what the Spirit is stirring within you—or help you see something you've missed.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS



ADMINISTRATION

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks.

Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28

APOSTLESHIP

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing and training. **Acts**

15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10

CRAFTSMANSHIP

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications. **Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13**

DISCERNMENT

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations. **Acts 5:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6**

EVANGELISM

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take steps toward Jesus. **Acts 8:5-6, Ephesians 4:11-14**

EXHORTATION

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. **Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25**



FAITH

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe that God will move and to wait for Him to do so. **Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9**

GIVING

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to give faithfully and even radically for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth. **Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7**

HELPS

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to invest time and talents into the lives of other Christians in order to free them to be more effective in their own gifting and ministries. **Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28**

HOSPITALITY

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to sacrificially create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church. **Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2**

INTERCESSION

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to pray for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results. **Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16**

KNOWLEDGE

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to understand and to bring Biblical clarity to circumstances. **1 Cor 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3**



LEADERSHIP

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people on their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture or vision. **Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17**

MERCY

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy that results in care for those who are hurting. **Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8**

MISSIONARY

The missionary gift is the divine strength or ability to understand and reach others in their specific context while embodying their culture as an ambassador of the Gospel. **Acts 8:4, 13:2-3, 22:21; Ephesians 3:6-8**

MUSIC WORSHIP

The gift of music/worship is the divine strength or ability to sing or play an instrument for the purpose of helping others worship God. **Deuteronomy 31:22; 1 Samuel 16:16; 1 Chronicles 16:41-42; 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 34:12; Psalm 150**

PASTOR / SHEPHERD

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to identify and care for the personal needs of others and help them take their next steps toward Jesus. **John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3**

PROPHECY

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to apply the truth of God's Word to people's situations in a way that is clear, direct, and relevant. **Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4**

SERVICE

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to see and meet practical needs within the body of the Church, especially when those needs are related to unseen areas of work. **Acts 6:1-7, Romans 12:7, Galatians 6:10, 1 Timothy 1:16**

TEACHING

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from God's Word in order to bring understanding and growth to other Christians and help them take steps toward Jesus. **Acts 18:24-28, 20-21, 1 Corinthians 12:28**

WISDOM

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of God's Word in a practical way, bringing Biblical clarity to a situation that leads to personal breakthrough or life change. **Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8**

HEALING

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying of hands for healing. **Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10**

TONGUES & INTERPRETATION

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God in prayer, especially in private. In public, it should be accompanied by interpretation. **Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14**



IDENTIFY YOUR TALENTS & ABILITIES.

God has uniquely shaped you with strengths, passions, and abilities—and He intends to use them in making disciples. When you understand how He's wired you, you can serve with greater clarity and confidence. The more you know how God has equipped you, the more intentional you can be in using those gifts to build His Kingdom. **Circle the 3-5 abilities that you see as your greatest strengths.**

—

Adapting — the flexibility to meet people where they are and adjust as circumstances shift.

Analyzing — the ability to discern, evaluate, and wisely speak into people's lives.

Coaching — training, equipping, and developing others for growth.

Coordinating — helping people and resources come together for discipleship environments.

Counseling — listening well, offering care, and guiding others through challenges.

Developing — cultivating growth and maturity in people over time.

Directing — setting healthy direction and helping others stay on course.

Empathy — understanding and sharing the struggles and joys of those you disciple.

Encouraging — speaking life, inspiring faith, and building people up in Christ.

Facilitating — making discipleship environments possible, guiding conversations, and drawing others in.

Implementing — turning vision into action, ensuring steps are followed through.

Improving — helping others take the next faithful step toward Christlikeness.

Influencing — shaping lives through example, words, and presence.

Leading — inspiring vision, modeling faithfulness, and guiding others forward.

Learning — continuing to grow in your own faith and understanding.

Mentoring — walking alongside others with wisdom and intentionality.

Motivating — sparking courage, perseverance, and action in those you disciple.

Organizing — creating order and clarity so discipleship has room to thrive.

Problem Solving — helping others navigate obstacles in faith and life.

Recruiting — inviting others into discipleship opportunities and building teams.

Resourcing — providing tools, Scripture, and encouragement for growth.

Serving — modeling humility by meeting the needs of others.

Strategizing — thinking ahead about how to multiply disciples effectively.

Teaching — explaining truth clearly and helping others apply it.

Welcoming — creating an environment of belonging and openness.

Writing — communicating truth, encouragement, or guidance in lasting ways



STEWARD YOUR TREASURE

**“WE HAVE FOUND IN OUR OWN
HOME, AS HAVE THOUSANDS OF
OTHERS, THAT GOD’S BLESSING
UPON THE NINE-TENTHS, WHEN WE
TITHE, HELPS IT TO GO FARTHER
THAN TEN-TENTHS WITHOUT HIS
BLESSING.”**

Billy Graham



A Theology of Tithing

EVERYTHING BELONGS TO GOD

All throughout Scripture, God reminds His people: “Bring me my tithe.” The tithe was never a random percentage—it was an act of recognition that everything we have already belongs to Him (Psalm 24:1). The way God instructed His people to honor this truth was by bringing the tithe to His temple—His dwelling place among His people. Today, that same principle continues as we give our tithe to Christ’s body, the church.

Tithing is not about meeting God’s needs—as if He lacked anything—but about shaping our hearts. It is a tangible way of saying, “Lord, I trust You first with my life, and I will not worship what You’ve placed in my hands.”

MALACHI AND THE CALL TO RETURN

One of the clearest biblical windows into God’s heart on the tithe is in Malachi 3. God confronts His people for withholding what belongs to Him:

**“WILL A MERE MORTAL ROB GOD? YET YOU ROB ME.
BUT YOU ASK, ‘HOW ARE WE ROBBING YOU?’
IN TITHES AND OFFERINGS.” –MALACHI 3:8**

Here, God frames withholding the tithe not just as disobedience, but as robbing Him. The issue isn’t the money—it’s the covenant relationship. He ties their return to Him directly to their stewardship. God isn’t after their resources; He’s after their hearts.



THE PATTERN OF TITHING IN SCRIPTURE

ABRAHAM’S FIRST RESPONSE (GENESIS 14)

Abraham encounters Melchizedek, the priest-king of Salem—widely understood as a foreshadowing of Christ. Abraham’s instinctive response is to give Him a tenth. Notice: this was before the Law of Moses was ever given. The tithe predates the law—it reflects what God’s people naturally do when they recognize His greatness.

THE TORAH CALLS THE TITHE HOLY

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.
Leviticus 27:30

In the Law, God clarifies that the tithe is not just money—it is holy. To set aside the tithe was to treat a portion of one’s increase as **sacred**, **devoted**, and **untouchable** before the Lord.

WISDOM LITERATURE COMMENDS FIRSTFRUITS

Proverbs 3:9 carries this forward: **“Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.”** Firstfruits are about priority. God is not honored with leftovers— He is honored when He comes first.

THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Paul teaches the Corinthians: **“On the first day of every week, each of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income.” – 1 Corinthians 16:2.** This mirrors the tithe pattern—intentional, proportional, regular—without making it a legal requirement.



GRACE-MOTIVATED GENEROSITY

Paul then expands the vision: giving should be **sacrificial, cheerful,** and **motivated by grace**. The Macedonian believers gave “beyond their ability,” not out of law but out of love. This is the New Covenant vision of stewardship.

EACH OF YOU SHOULD GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE DECIDED IN YOUR HEART TO GIVE, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER. AND GOD IS ABLE TO BLESS YOU ABUNDANTLY, SO THAT IN ALL THINGS AT ALL TIMES, HAVING ALL THAT YOU NEED, YOU WILL ABOUND IN EVERY GOOD WORK.

—2 CORINTHIANS 9:7-8

OLD COVENANT LAW VS. NEW COVENANT LOVE

The New Testament does not command tithing as a law. We are not under the Old Covenant. Instead, we are under the New Covenant, where the law is fulfilled in Christ and summed up in this: Love God and love people.

But here's the tension: if love is the standard, shouldn't it take us further than law, not less? As Randy Alcorn points out, **“When New Testament believers, living in a far more affluent society than ancient Israel, give only a fraction of what was required under the Law, we must reevaluate our concept of ‘grace giving.’”**

The Israelites, with far less, gave far more. And they did so without the indwelling Spirit. We have the Spirit of God in us—shouldn't our generosity reflect even greater love?



WHY I STILL BELIEVE IN TITHING

“Tithing is the pattern I see in scripture, what God calls His people to. But also, it's a pattern of trust where I've experienced God's faithfulness to me and my family over and over and over.

Personally, I've seen God's faithfulness to me and my family over and over through this practice. The tithe keeps my heart aligned: it reminds me God is first, my provider, and that my money is not my master.

And if the New Covenant command is to love God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength, the last thing I want is to handle my money in a way that places Him last in priority.” —Pastor Jason Clarke

CONCLUSION: TITHING IS A PIVOTAL STEP IN OUR DISCIPLESHIP TO JESUS

Tithing is not ultimately about numbers—it's about our love and trust in our Creator. It's a practice that matures us, teaching us to trust God with what feels most tangible. Every time we tithe, we declare with our wallets what we profess with our lips: **Jesus is Lord!**

The tithe is a wise, biblical pattern that points us toward a greater reality: everything belongs to God. And when we surrender the first and best to Him, we declare our trust, grow in faith, and participate in His Kingdom work on earth. God longs to bless you, entrust you with more, and invite you to participate in eternal Kingdom impact with all that you have.

LISTEN TO A SERMON EXPLAINING THE SIGNIFICANCE AND POWER THAT TITHING HAS IN OUR LIVES AS DISCIPLES.





PIVOTAL STEP #5

BEGIN TO TITHE

TRUST GOD WITH YOUR FINANCES BY TITHING—AND LET GENEROSITY REORIENT YOUR HEART AROUND HIS KINGDOM.

At the Deepen stage of your discipleship journey—you will begin to see your money not as something to control, but as something God has entrusted you with. And the most significant step you can take in this area is to start tithing—giving the first 10% of your income back to God through the local church.

Tithing rarely feels easy at first. You probably won't ever feel "ready." But when you take that step of obedience, something shifts. God shows up and begins to reorient your heart. What once felt like a loss becomes a declaration: **"God, I trust You with all of it."**

Tithing is a declaration that everything you have is from God and for God. And it's a step we've seen radically transform people's spiritual lives time and time again.

"BRING THE WHOLE TITHE INTO THE STOREHOUSE. TEST ME IN THIS," SAYS THE LORD ALMIGHTY, "AND SEE IF I WILL NOT THROW OPEN THE FLOODGATES OF HEAVEN." – MALACHI 3:10

FROM GIVING TO KINGDOM STEWARDSHIP.

Giving often starts spontaneous and unstructured, but God's vision for generosity is deeper, fuller, and more transformative than we first imagine. Part of maturing as a disciple is learning to see giving not just as an occasional act, but as an **ongoing practice of stewardship under Christ.**

MOVE FROM CASUAL GIVING

SPONTANEOUS – Giving only when you feel like it in the moment.

SPORADIC – Inconsistent, without rhythm or plan.

SPARING – Offering what's leftover rather than what's best.

This kind of giving often starts the journey—but it keeps **you** at the center: your mood, your margin, your control.

TO KINGDOM STEWARDSHIP

PRIORITY – God comes first, so you give your first and best (Proverbs 3:9).

PERCENTAGE – You set aside a clear portion of your income as an act of worship.

PROGRESSING – As God entrusts you with more, you grow in generosity, increasing your capacity to bless.

Kingdom Stewardship puts **Jesus** at the center—His Kingdom, His provision, His mission.

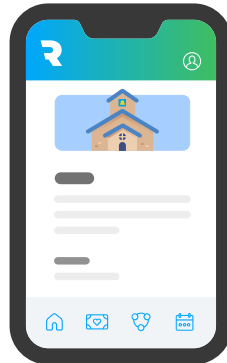
WAYS TO GIVE AT RISE

GIVE ONLINE

The easiest and simplest way is to **set up a giving profile online**. We use a donation portal called **Church Center**. This allows you to create a giving profile, setup your giving, and even track donations.

GIVE ONLINE AT [RISE.CC/GIVE](https://rise.cc/give)

Or by downloading the **Church Center App**



GIVE IN-PERSON AT A GATHERING

Sundays are a time where we can give in person as an act of worship. We are intentional about not passing a plate, in order to allow people to give joyfully, not under compulsion. You can give via check, cash, or card at our giving station.

MAIL IN YOUR GIFT

You can setup recurring giving through Bill Pay at your bank so that a check comes directly in the mail each month— or mail a check to:

Rise City Church
1220 NE Kelly Ave
Gresham, OR 97030



Create a Tithing Plan

Creating a plan helps you turn good intentions into intentional generosity—aligning your heart and resources with God's Kingdom.

HOW MUCH I WILL GIVE:

HOW OFTEN I WILL GIVE:

Will you give weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly? Pick a rhythm that works with your income and helps you stay consistent. *i.e. Monthly on the 10th*

WHAT IS MY “WHY”?

Clarify your heart behind the habit—because generosity becomes joyful when you remember why you're doing it.

WHAT DO I HOPE TO SEE GOD DO IN MY LIFE AS I TAKE THIS STEP?

Do you long for deeper trust? Financial peace? Stronger faith? A more generous heart? Let your giving be a prayer in action—believing that as you give, God is forming something new in you.

WHERE DOES YOUR GIVING GO?

At Rise, we're committed to making the most of every dollar entrusted to us—fueling the mission to Rise Up and Saturate our City with the Gospel. Every part of our budget is intentionally aligned with that calling.

OUTWARD REACH

We give away a portion of our budget through Kingdom Builders—supporting church planting, local outreach, global missions, and strategic partnerships. This is how we live beyond our walls and extend the hope of Jesus to our city and the world.

Learn more at rise.cc/kingdom-builders



MINISTRY IMPACT

We invest directly into ministries that make disciples—like Rise Kids, Rise Youth, City Groups, and our Sunday gatherings. These environments help people encounter Jesus, grow in their faith, and take next steps in community.



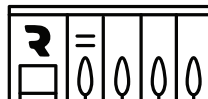
STAFFING + PERSONNEL

We believe the church is built through people, not just programs. That's why we invest in a high-capacity staff team who equip volunteers, disciple leaders, and help carry the vision forward with excellence and care.



OPERATIONS + FACILITY

We invest in the spaces and systems that make ministry possible—from our building and equipment to the behind-the-scenes operations that create a welcoming, functional, and effective home for the mission.



CLOSING THOUGHTS

The Deepen phase is a season of surrender, maturity, and Spirit-led transformation. You're no longer just building new rhythms—you're allowing the Holy Spirit to search your heart, refine your character, and lead you into greater obedience. This is where faith grows resilient, love grows sacrificial, and your life begins to reflect Jesus in deeper, unseen ways. Every time you pause to listen, every step of surrender, every act of faithful stewardship—these are forming you into a disciple rooted firmly in Christ.

As Paul urged the Ephesians,

"I PRAY THAT FROM HIS GLORIOUS, UNLIMITED RESOURCES HE WILL EMPOWER YOU WITH INNER STRENGTH THROUGH HIS SPIRIT. THEN CHRIST WILL MAKE HIS HOME IN YOUR HEARTS AS YOU TRUST IN HIM. YOUR ROOTS WILL GROW DOWN INTO GOD'S LOVE AND KEEP YOU STRONG." (EPHESIANS 3:16-17)

So go deep in this season.

Build a rhythm for deep formation.

Form a group to do life with.

Steward your time with holy intention.

Steward your talent for Kingdom impact.

Steward your treasure with faith and generosity.

And trust that as you walk with Jesus, the Spirit is deepening your roots, strengthening your faith, and equipping you for a life that bears lasting fruit.

