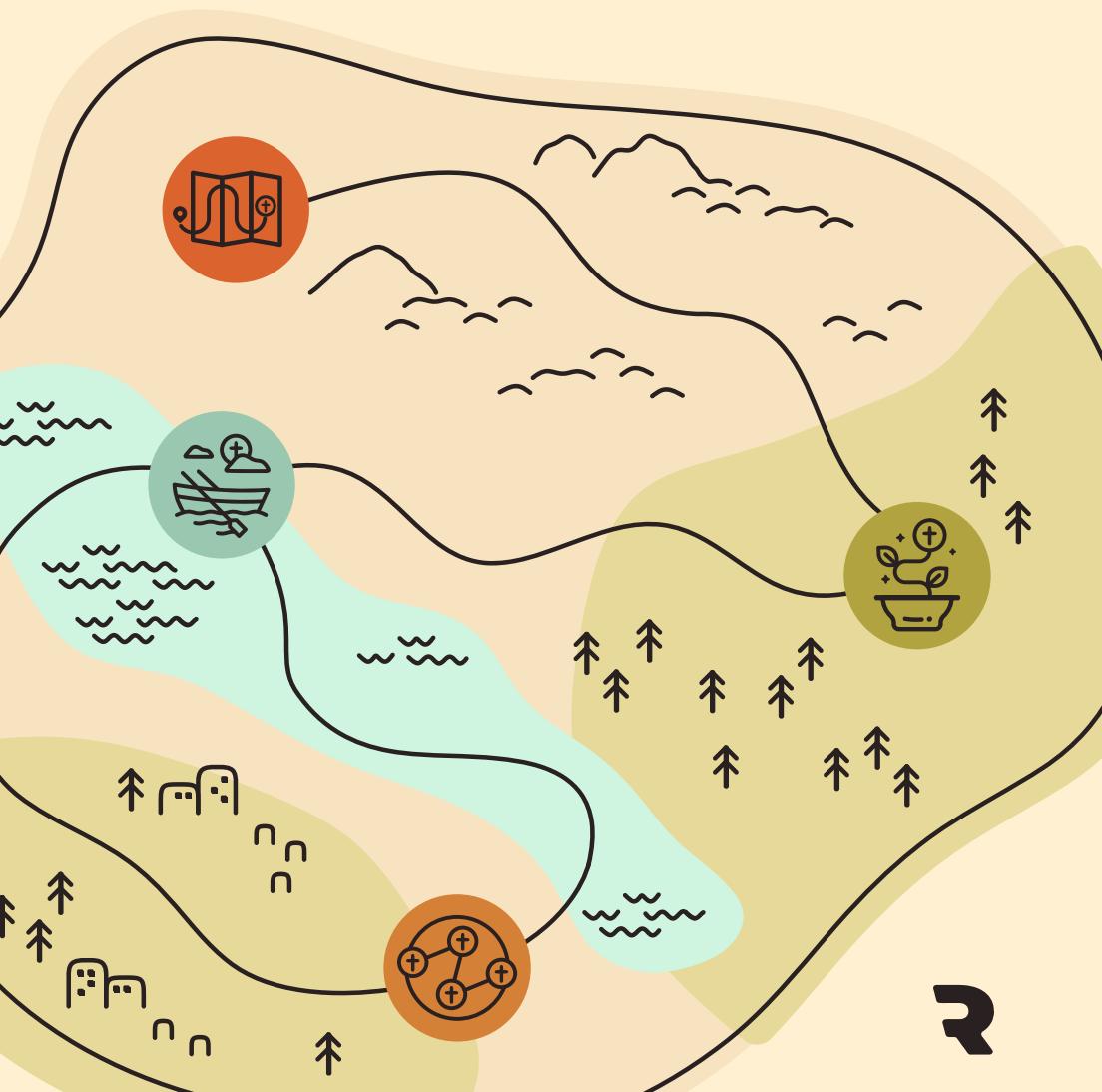




# DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY





# DISCIPLE MAKER

**“THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS,  
BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF  
THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM  
TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND  
SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF**

**THE AGE.” — MATTHEW 28:19-20**



## MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES & LIVING ON MISSION.

In the Disciple-Maker stage, your faith moves beyond inward growth to active participation in multiplying disciples and advancing God's Kingdom. You've experienced God's transformation in your life, and now you want to help others experience it too. You're not just growing—you're giving. You're leading, mentoring, discipling, and investing in others, while still remaining rooted in your own growth.

Spiritually, this stage is marked by maturity, humility, and mission. You see your life as part of God's Kingdom work—your home, workplace, and community as places to reflect Christ and multiply disciples. You're learning to lead with love, point people to Jesus, and empower others to take steps in their journey.

The goal of this stage is multiplication. Just as Jesus poured into His disciples so they could pour into others, you're now living for more than just your own growth—you're helping others follow Jesus and continue the cycle of disciple-making.



Jesus didn't just say "Follow me." He said "Go and make disciples." This stage is about multiplying the gospel. Your life becomes a conduit of grace, truth, and transformation for others.

This is how the Kingdom grows. Not through programs, but through people. Through you. When you make disciples, you're not just impacting a moment—you're impacting generations. And in the process, your own life becomes even more vibrant, refined, and aligned with God's heart.

## THE PIVOTAL STEP OF A DISCIPLE-MAKER

The Disciple-Maker stage builds on all the pivotal steps of the earlier stages and brings them to their natural culmination—multiplying outward into others. At this point, you're not only walking as a disciple; you're helping others become disciples by replicating what God has done in you.

Here, *Joining Jesus*, *Investing in People*, and *Multiplying Your Purpose* converge into one unified calling: **Multiplying the Kingdom by making disciples**. Instead of having distinct steps for Jesus, People, and Purpose, disciple-making weaves them together—you pour into others so they can follow Jesus, grow in faith, and live on mission.



This multiplication can take many different forms and will look different across seasons of life. For some, it means leading a City Group or walking closely with a few people in their discipleship journey. For others, it may mean stepping further into leadership, taking on greater ownership, and helping others rise.

The key is to identify who you are, how you've been shaped by your own journey and what God is calling you to right now. As you discern and obey, every step you take extends the life of Jesus into others and carries His Kingdom forward.

**"MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS IS THE OVERFLOW OF DELIGHT IN BEING DISCIPLES OF JESUS."**

*David Platt*

# IDENTIFY YOUR SPHERE OF DISCIPLESHIP.

We won't all make disciples in the same way. Some of us thrive in the depth of a one-on-one relationship, while others come alive guiding a group. None of these are better, above, or more important than the others. The point isn't to do it all, but to discover the sphere where you feel most drawn, where God seems to make you most effective, and where others affirm your impact.

## ONE-ON-ONE DISCIPLESHIP

This is discipleship through personal relationships. This is mentoring, walking closely with someone, listening deeply, and modeling Christ in everyday life. It's about intentional investment in a single life.

*You'd be a good fit for this if: You naturally connect deeply with individuals, enjoy mentoring or coaching, and find joy in walking alongside someone's spiritual journey. You're patient, attentive, and willing to invest time in steady, personal growth.*



## GROUP DISCIPLESHIP

This is discipling others through guiding, launching, or facilitating a group of some kind. This may be leading a City Group, hosting at Alpha, serving in kids or youth, or helping with men's or women's groups. You guide the group, but everyone contributes to one another's discipleship.



*You'd be a good fit for leading a group if: You love bringing people together, fostering discussion, and creating a safe environment for others to share. You enjoy guiding conversations, asking good questions, and helping people learn from one another.*

## MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

This is making disciples through the impact made on others via helping to execute a ministry. Through taking on greater responsibilities within a team—you disciple others by impacting their faith and equip them to have their own Kingdom impact.



*You'd be a good fit for this if: You see the bigger picture, enjoy equipping others, and thrive on building systems or structures that help people succeed. You're comfortable delegating, developing leaders, and encouraging people to discover and use their gifts.*

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

This is the rarest sphere, and it's not something you nominate yourself for but something others affirm and invite you into. This could be pastoring, planting, being an elder in a local church or leader in a denomination or network. At this level, you disciple by shaping the direction of a church, creating systems, and building a culture where discipleship flourishes at scale.



*You'd be a good fit for this if: Others consistently recognize and affirm your spiritual leadership, wisdom, and character. You carry vision for the whole church, love shaping culture, and feel a deep burden to guide people collectively toward Christ.*

# IDENTIFY WHO YOU'RE COMPELLED TO DISCIPLE.

Just as every disciple-maker has unique gifts and abilities, every disciple-maker will find themselves drawn to and shaped for certain people. God entrusts us with certain people based on who He has made us to be, the season of life we're in, and the opportunities He places in front of us.

Peter was uniquely called to the Jews because of his background, culture, and personality, while Paul was called primarily to the Gentiles. Their gifts, experiences, and even weaknesses positioned them for different people groups.

This matters because disciple-making isn't random—it's intentional.

**When you recognize who God may be calling you to invest in, you can disciple with greater focus and fruitfulness.** For some, that might mean walking with seekers or new believers. For others, it may be developing young leaders, encouraging the struggling, or investing in the overlooked.

As you discern who God has placed in your path, ask: Who am I uniquely equipped to disciple in this season? Who has God entrusted to me?

## CATEGORIES OF PEOPLE TO DISCIPLE

Select the ones that resonate most with you.

### EMERGING DISCIPLES

People just beginning their journey with Jesus or still exploring faith.

- Seekers** — those exploring faith, asking big questions, or spiritually curious.
- Starters** — those who've just begun following Jesus and need a strong foundation.
- Next-Gen** — kids, students, and young adults growing into lifelong disciples.

### GROWING DISCIPLES

People following Jesus but need support, guidance, or deeper roots.

- Hungry** — hungry to learn and explore Scripture.
- Servants/Doers** — eager to serve but need guidance in growth.
- Struggling Drifters** — struggling to stay anchored in faith.

### HEALING DISCIPLES

People who may feel stuck or wounded, and need intentional investment.

- Wounded** — those scarred by past pain or trauma.
- Weary** — exhausted from trials or hardship.
- Withdrawn** — pulled away from community, overlooked, or isolated.

### MULTIPLYING DISCIPLES

People ready to pour into others and expand God's Kingdom.

- Emerging leaders** — learning to steward their gifts.
- Expanders** — influencing others but need sharpening and support.



# Disciple-Making Plan

## SPHERE OF DISCIPLESHIP I FIT BEST



ONE-ON-ONE



GROUP



MINISTRY TEAM

## WHO I FEEL CALLED TO DISCIPLE

Write down some of the categories selected from page 187.



## MINISTRY JOY & IMPACT

What experiences in ministry have given you the most joy and where you have seen Kingdom fruit?

## YOUR NEXT STEP

Once you've identified your sphere of discipleship, read the pages that go with it and write down what you sense your next step might be.

## TAKING YOUR NEXT STEP

Once you've identified the sphere of discipleship you feel most drawn to, you'll find some helpful ideas on the following pages for how to take your next step.

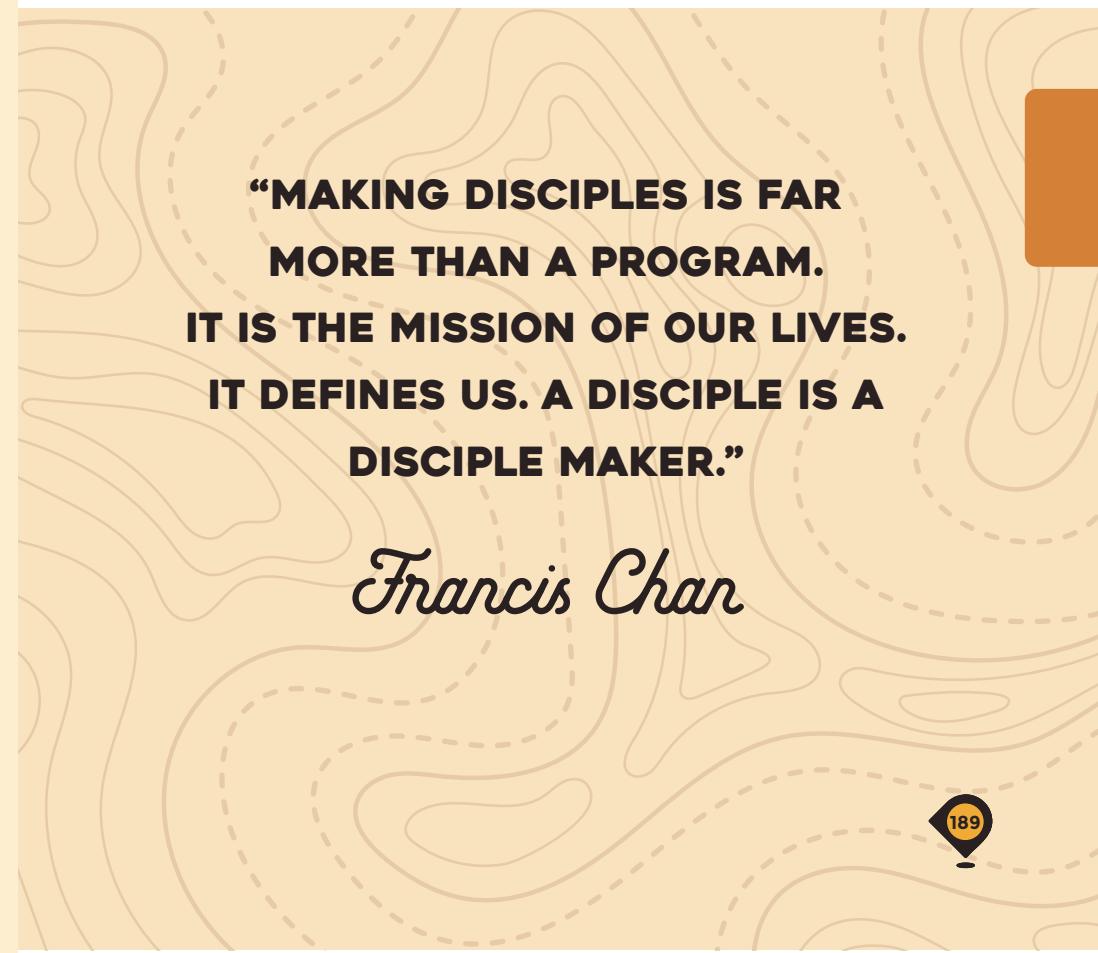
ONE-ON-ONE DISCIPLESHIP.....PAGE 190-191

GROUP DISCIPLESHIP.....PAGE 192-193

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP.....PAGE 194-195

**“MAKING DISCIPLES IS FAR MORE THAN A PROGRAM. IT IS THE MISSION OF OUR LIVES. IT DEFINES US. A DISCIPLE IS A DISCIPLE MAKER.”**

*Francis Chan*

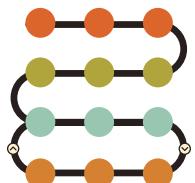


# ONE-ON-ONE DISCIPLER

If you're drawn toward personal, relational discipleship, here are some ways to begin:

## USE THIS GUIDEBOOK.

One of the biggest barriers in discipling others is not knowing where to begin. That's why this guide exists. Use it as a roadmap for your time together. Read sections, talk through where they find themselves, and walk alongside them as they take pivotal steps. Discipleship was never meant to be walked alone—we need one another to grow.



## ASK SOMEONE TO START MEETING.

God may already be placing someone on your mind—a person in your City Group, at Alpha, on your serving team, or even a coworker or friend. Invite them out for coffee or a meal. You don't need to announce, "I'm going to disciple you." Instead, simply start asking intentional questions about life and faith. Position yourself as a guide, walking alongside them and pointing them toward Jesus.

## FORM A GROUP OF 2-3.

Even though this sphere is called one-on-one, a small group of two or three can create the same depth with added accountability and encouragement. This time, be clear and invite them into an intentional process of discipleship together.



## BECOME A PATHWAY GUIDE

Another powerful step you can take is simply making yourself available to others who are walking this journey. As our church leans into disciple-making, we need mature, humble guides who are willing to walk alongside others. This might happen through a group, over coffee, or in one-on-one conversations.

### QUALITIES OF A GOOD PATHWAY GUIDE

**Spirit-Led** — prayerful, sensitive to the Holy Spirit's direction, and grounded in God's Word.

**Humble** — doesn't posture as the expert but walks alongside others as a fellow disciple.

**Faithful & Available** — willing to give time and attention, whether through groups, coffee meetings, or one-on-one conversations.

**Encouraging & Equipping** — speaks life, inspires confidence, and builds others up. Helps others take their next steps of faith.

**Patient** — recognizes that growth takes time and discipleship is a process, not a quick fix.

**Good Listener** — asks thoughtful questions, pays attention, and seeks to understand before giving advice.

## TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP

Let us know you're interested at [rise.cc/lead](http://rise.cc/lead). By making yourself available, you're creating space for others to grow in Christ with the support and encouragement they need.

# GROUP LEADER

If you feel called to guide or facilitate others, you can step into leadership by launching or leading a group. At Rise, there are several opportunities to step into this kind of role and help shape a space where people grow in faith and community.

**CITY GROUP LEADER** – Shepherd a mid-sized group that gathers regularly to live out community, discipleship, and mission together in our city.

**LAUNCH A MEET-UP** – Start a simple, interest-based gathering (like hiking, coffee, or board games) that helps people connect and build friendships around shared rhythms.

**ALPHA HOST OR HELPER** – Create a welcoming space for people to explore faith by either leading discussion (Host) or supporting relationally and practically (Helper).

**MEN'S OR WOMEN'S GROUP LEADER** – Guide gender-specific groups where people can grow deeper in faith, accountability, and encouragement alongside others in the same stage of life.

**JOIN THE RISE KIDS TEAM** – Help children discover who Jesus is in a fun, engaging environment. You'll guide small groups through lessons, conversations, and activities that build faith foundations and show kids they're loved by God and seen by His church.

**YOUTH LEADER** – Build relationships with middle and high school kids by leading meaningful discussions and modeling what it looks like to follow Jesus authentically—helping raise up the next generation of disciple-makers.



## APPLY TO BE A GROUP LEADER

Group Leaders play a vital role in helping people find belonging and take next steps in their faith. Whether it's leading a City Group, hosting a Meet-Up, or guiding a men's or women's group, your leadership creates space for real growth, honest conversations, and Kingdom community to flourish. If you sense God stirring you to help others grow, this could be your next step in the journey of discipleship and leadership at Rise.

### QUALITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE GROUP LEADER

**Relationally Warm** – Creates a welcoming, safe, and authentic space where people feel seen, known, and valued. Leads with empathy and approachability, helping others open up and build genuine connection.

**Spiritually Hungry** – Models a growing, teachable heart that pursues Jesus personally and invites others to do the same. Leads from overflow, not obligation, and points people back to God's Word and presence in every conversation.

**Socially Aware** – Reads the room and leads with wisdom—balancing voices, navigating tension with grace, and cultivating an environment of respect and belonging.

**Empowering Others** – Sees potential in people and calls it out. Encourages participation, shares ownership, and equips others to use their gifts so the group doesn't just grow together—it multiplies outward.

**IF YOU'RE READY TO OPEN YOURSELF UP IN THIS WAY, LET US KNOW BY SIGNING UP AT [RISE.CC/LEAD](http://RISE.CC/LEAD). ONCE YOU FILL OUT THE FORM, WE'LL FOLLOW UP WITH NEXT STEPS.**

# MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Disciple-making doesn't always look the same. Sometimes it happens in close, personal relationships, but it can also happen through leadership—by building teams, shaping culture, and creating spaces where others encounter Jesus and grow.

Leadership isn't limited to titles or roles. It's expressed through the gifts God has given you—gifts like vision, strategy, planning, organizing, and administration. These skills strengthen ministries, bring clarity and order, and make room for discipleship to thrive.

When you lead within a ministry, you disciple both directly and indirectly. Directly, as you invest in team members, encouraging and helping them grow. Indirectly, as your leadership enables more people to experience transformation through the ministry itself.

This can happen inside or outside the church—through a ministry team, nonprofit, or parachurch organization. These gifts aren't separate from disciple-making—they make it possible and help it multiply at scale.

If you sense God may be calling you to take on more responsibility where you already serve, here's where to start:

## 01. SHOW UP & SERVE FAITHFULLY

Start by modeling what it looks like to serve with excellence, consistency, and joy. Jesus taught that the path to leadership in His Kingdom begins with serving others, not seeking positions or titles.



## 02. HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR TEAM LEAD

Reach out to your Team Lead—or connect after a Sunday gathering—to let them know you'd like to take on more responsibility. Express a heart to be helpful wherever there's a need and a willingness to learn.

## 03. BRING YOUR “MAKING DISCIPLES PLAN”

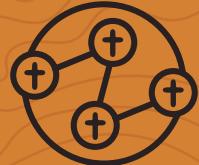
Bring the responses from page 188 to your meeting with your Team Lead. This framework will help guide the conversation about how you can intentionally disciple others through your role.

## 04. LEAD WITH HUMILITY

Don't come in demanding leadership. Instead, approach the conversation with humility and teachability. Be ready to listen, receive feedback, and follow the direction of those God has already placed in leadership.

## 05. GROW. GROW. GROW.

Once you do step into greater responsibility, the Jesus, People, Purpose practices from the Deepen stage will matter more than ever. Leadership in the church is a sacred calling. If you only pour out but never fill up, you'll eventually run dry. Keep pursuing Jesus deeply so that what you give flows from overflow, not exhaustion.



**A DISCIPLE MAKER IS  
SOMEONE WHO HAS MOVED  
FROM BEING THE RECIPIENT  
OF THE CHURCH'S MISSION  
TO BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR  
THE CHURCH'S MISSION.**

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

The Disciple-Maker stage is a season of multiplication, mission, and spiritual legacy. You're no longer focused only on your own growth—you're partnering with Jesus to see that growth take root in others. What began as inward transformation now overflows into outward investment.

This is where discipleship becomes movement. Every conversation, every prayer, every intentional investment is a seed that can bear eternal fruit. When you pour your life into others, you're joining Jesus in His mission to "go and make disciples of all nations." You become part of the unbroken chain of faith that stretches from the first followers of Jesus to the people He's calling today.

Disciple-making doesn't require perfection; it requires presence. It's showing up, walking alongside others, and pointing them toward the One who changes everything. As you lead, guide, and invest, the same Spirit who formed Christ in you is now forming Christ through you.

As Paul wrote to Timothy,

**"AND THE THINGS YOU HAVE HEARD ME SAY IN THE PRESENCE OF  
MANY WITNESSES ENTRUST TO RELIABLE PEOPLE WHO WILL ALSO  
BE QUALIFIED TO TEACH OTHERS." — 2 TIMOTHY 2:2**

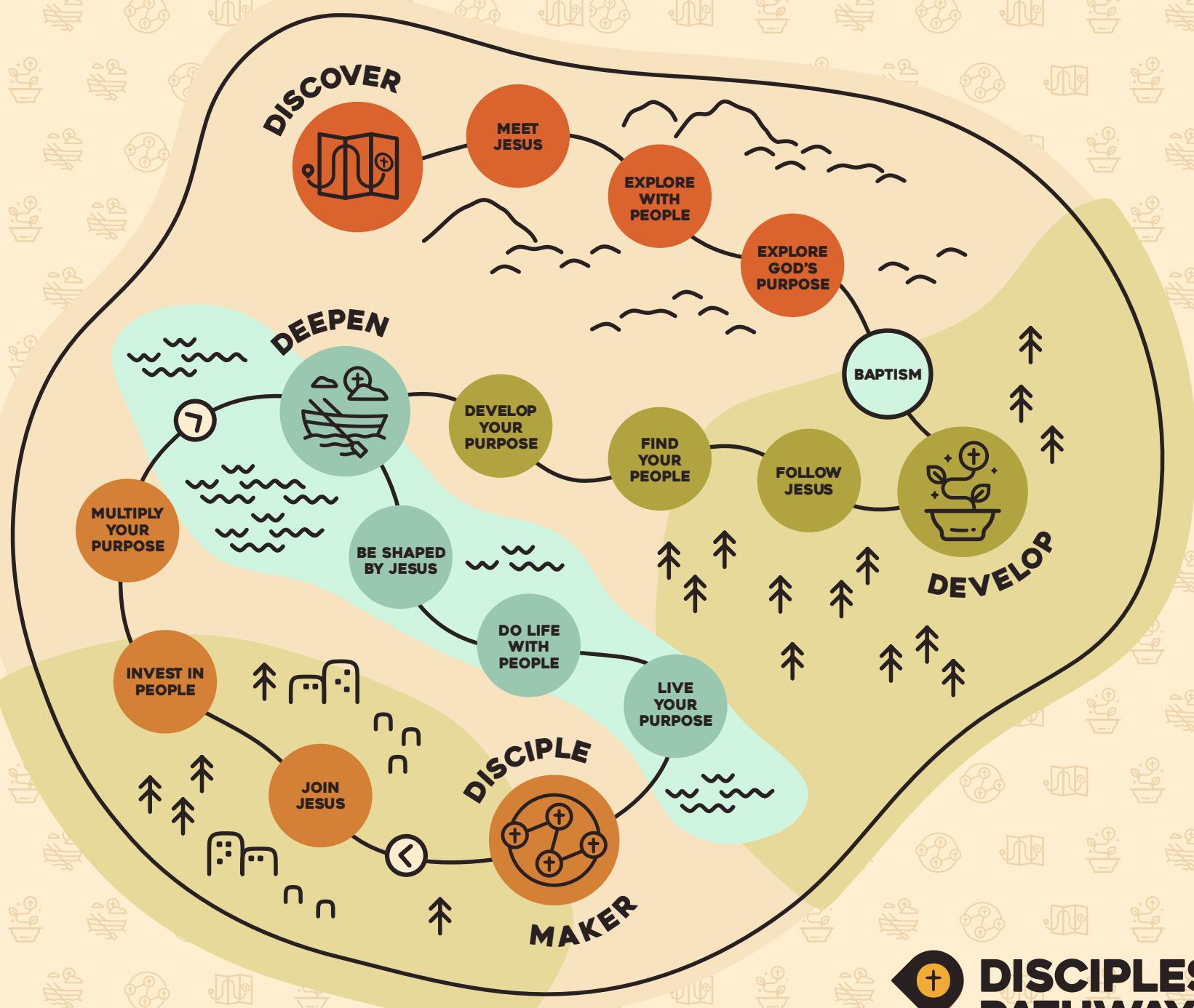
So live as a sent one in this season.

Join Jesus in His mission.

Invest in people with intention.

Multiply your purpose for the Kingdom.

And trust that as you make disciples, the Spirit is expanding the life of Jesus through you—impacting generations and advancing His Kingdom one life at a time.



**DISCIPLESHIP  
PATHWAY**

# NEVER BEYOND, ONLY DEEPER.

Discipleship is the lifelong journey of every follower of Jesus. From the moment we say “yes” to Him, we begin a journey of transformation that continues for the rest of our lives.

We don’t move beyond discipleship; we move deeper into it. Deeper into grace when we fail. Deeper into trust when life doesn’t go as planned. Deeper into surrender as the Holy Spirit continues to refine us. The longer we walk with Jesus, the more we realize that maturity isn’t about mastering a set of lessons—it’s about becoming more like Him in heart, mind, and character.

Following Jesus is not a class to complete or a checklist to achieve. It’s a relationship that keeps shaping us from the inside out. As we grow, He invites us into new levels of obedience, new opportunities to love, and new steps of faith. Some seasons will stretch us; others will strengthen us. But in every season, God’s purpose remains the same—to form Christ in us so His life can shine through us.

That’s why discipleship never ends. Even as we lead others, we remain learners. Even as we pour out, we stay dependent on His Spirit. Even as we teach, we continue to be taught. The most effective disciple-makers are those who never stop being disciples themselves.

**SO KEEP COMING BACK TO THIS PATHWAY.**

**REPEAT THE EVALUATION. SEE HOW YOU'RE GROWING.**

Jesus is not finished with you.

The Spirit is still forming you.

The Father is still leading you.

And the path of discipleship will always lead you closer to His heart.

Keep walking.

Keep listening.

Keep letting Him shape your life.

Because we never move beyond discipleship to Jesus—only deeper in it.

**“SO THEN, JUST AS YOU RECEIVED CHRIST JESUS AS LORD,  
CONTINUE TO LIVE YOUR LIVES IN HIM, ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN  
HIM, STRENGTHENED IN THE FAITH AS YOU WERE TAUGHT, AND  
OVERFLOWING WITH THANKFULNESS.” — COLOSSIANS 2:6-7**





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**RISE.CC/PATHWAY**