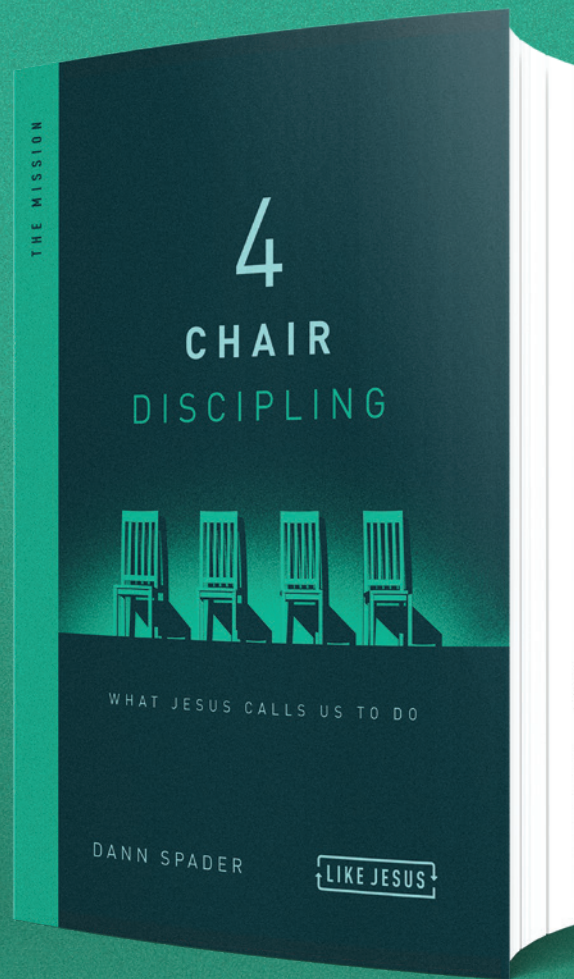


4 CHAIR DISCIPLING SMALL GROUP GUIDE



THE MISSION
WHAT JESUS CALLS US TO DO

LIKE JESUS

WELCOME TO THE **4 CHAIR** **DISCIPLING** SMALL GROUP GUIDE!

The purpose of this guide is to help you and your group members experience life-change through relationships. The Leader Guide is designed for small group settings where discovery is the central means by which learning takes place. God's Word is the source of truth, and the Holy Spirit is the guide and revealer of all truth. This creates a safe environment for real life-changing discussion about God's truth.

HERE IS THE MAIN FRAMEWORK FOR EACH SESSION:

1. LEAN IN

The purpose of this question is to get everyone in your small group to "lean in" and get involved. It's easy to answer and fun. It creates a sense of energy—so much so that group members physically lean in as they engage the discussion. The "lean in" question also frequently provides an emotional link to the "Look In" question. It also provides safety for answering the question and sets the tone for the rest of the study.

2. LOOK DOWN

This is an observation question. It's designed to help group members "look down" and see all the relevant details and facts in the Bible passage being studied. This question establishes a solid foundation for the rest of the study. Regardless of how much time someone has spent studying God's Word, everyone in the group can get involved simply by taking an observant look at what the Bible says. This question is answerable by anyone solely based on their observation of the passage without requiring any prior knowledge or reference to other related texts. No Bible college degree is required.

3. LOOK OUT

This question helps group members "look out" and see the principles of the Bible passage through the lens of the world today. The answers are not focused on your group members, but on other people. This will lead to more authentic dialogue within the group. It builds a bridge between the facts of the passage and our understanding of it as it relates to our world and our culture. It also helps individuals see the effect and the end result of those who pay attention to and those who ignore the importance of God's Word in our culture.

GET ACCESS TO VIDEO CONTENT AND DO YOUR OWN 4 CHAIR ASSESSMENT IN THE LIKE JESUS APP OR ONLINE AT:

 LikeJesus.church/app

4. LOOK IN

Here is where group members begin to personally “look in” and see what God might be nudging them to change in their lives. During this part of the study, group members begin to move from knowing to doing what God’s Word says. It’s about obedience. The goal of all Bible study is life transformation.

NOTE: Most of the time, people will be in groups of three disciple-making friends. We have experienced that the most accelerated life transformation happens in groups of three or four disciples. This creates what Greg Ogden, in *Making Disciples Jesus’ Way: A Few at a Time* (2007), calls the “hot-house” of Christian growth: “Hot houses maximize the environmental conditions so that living things can grow at a rate greater than would exist under normal circumstances. The conditions are ripe for accelerated growth. This is what happens in a triad/quad.”

Group members should write down responses of the other two in their triad so they can pray and follow-up with them in a week or so to see how they’re doing with their new commitment.

How Do The Two Action Steps Work?

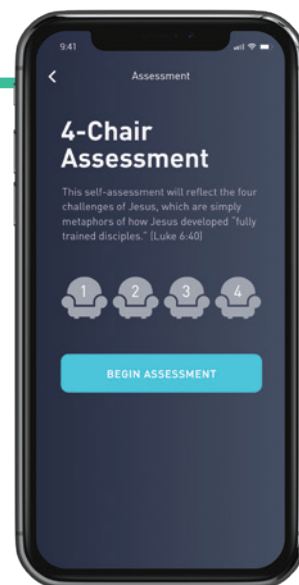
5. LOOK UP

The purpose of this action step is to get everyone in your small group to “look up” to God and pray together. It is a time of praise and prayer for everyone. This is where group members transition from the “look in” question where God may have been nudging them to change something in their lives to humbly asking God to help them do so. The group leader’s role in this step is to give the Holy Spirit enough space to do His life-transforming work in the lives of the group members.

6. LIVE IT OUT

The final step is to give everyone in your small group an opportunity to “Live It Out.” That is to share what they discovered with others and to put into action what they just learned. During this part of the study, group members are challenged to go out and share what they’ve just discovered about Jesus with at least two other people. Next, they are challenged to put God’s Word into action in a very practical way. Lastly, the group members are given instructions on how to prepare for the next time together.

As you lead your group through the 4 Chair Discipling study together, we trust that God will reveal Himself to you and your group in very special ways.



CHAPTER

1



WHERE IT ALL BEGAN



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 1: Where It All Began: www.LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Jesus created a pattern for a disciple-making way of life for us to follow.

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

We all have someone we admire and wish we could be “them.” How about you? Discuss: [in groups of three] Who’s that one person? In two minutes or less, share why.

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Have different people look up Luke 6:39-40, John 14:12, and 1 John 2:6 and have them read them aloud.

Discuss: [entire group] What did Jesus expect of His disciples? What did the Apostle John expect of those people who were disciples of Jesus?

3. LOOK OUT

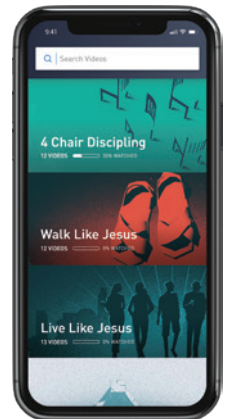
Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: In Jesus’ culture, people who were disciples of a rabbi were expected to become like their rabbi (teacher) when they were fully taught. However, most Christians in our culture seem more willing to accept Jesus as the payment for their sins than they’re willing to make Jesus the pattern for their lives.

Discuss: [in groups of three] What do you think are the distractions and/or obstacles for Christians to making Jesus the pattern for their lives?

© VIDEO 1

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at: LikeJesus.Church/4chair



4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Share: Read aloud this excerpt from the book: “Jesus as the perfecter of our faith, develops us to become ‘fully trained disciples,’ reflecting His character and priorities completely.”

Now, read aloud Luke 6:39-40 and Philippians 2:1-8.

Discuss: [in groups of three] Based on these passages, who do you really pattern your life after? Share what keeps you (distractions and/or obstacles*) from wholeheartedly patterning your life after Jesus. Be honest with yourself.

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In groups of three] Spend some time praising Jesus for giving us a pattern to live our lives—with Him and with others. Ask the Father for help to depend on the Holy Spirit for the power to live this way with others. Ask the Father to reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names that God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you’ve discovered/learned about patterning your life after Jesus. Be also prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on how the distractions and/or obstacles you faced are keeping you from patterning your life after Jesus.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Two, The Full Humanity of Jesus on pages 19-31 and respond to the questions on pages 31-32 in Ponderings.

*Definitions:

Distractions are things that make it difficult for you to pay attention or stay focused.

Obstacles are objects that you have to go around or over; something that blocks your path; roadblocks or barriers.

CHAPTER

2



THE FULL HUMANITY OF JESUS



© VIDEO 2

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
[LikeJesus.Church/4chair](https://www.LikeJesus.Church/4chair)

LEADER PREP

Watch Video 2: The Full Humanity of Jesus: [LikeJesus.church/4chair](https://www.LikeJesus.church/4chair)
Big Idea: Jesus was never less than God and never more than man.

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

We've all tried—at one time or another—to impersonate someone else.
Discuss: [in groups of three] Share briefly who that is and how that went for you. This could be a funny story...or, maybe it's a not-so-funny story.

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Have different people look up Hebrews 2:8-18 and Hebrews 5:7-10 and have them read them aloud.

Discuss: [in groups of three] In what ways did Jesus live never less than God (fully God) and never more than man (fully man)? What do these passages say about Jesus' life on earth? Be specific.

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Discuss: If Jesus was man as God intended man to be, what keeps some Christians from embracing the full humanity of Jesus?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Jesus relied on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit for living His life and ministry. Think about how the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit plays a role in your life today.

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] What keeps you [distractions and/or obstacles*] from living this way?

Since we're probably all living at full-capacity now, we'll need to eliminate or reduce so we can raise or begin to pattern our lives more closely after Jesus. [Take 20 minutes alone right now with God.] Ask Him what changes you need to make in your life to pattern it more closely after Jesus. Here are some questions that can help you in your time alone with God:

What should I begin in order to increase my dependence on the Word, prayer, and/or the Holy Spirit?

What should I raise well above my current level in order to increase my dependence on the Word, prayer and/or the Holy Spirit?

What should I eliminate in order to increase my dependence on the Word, prayer, and/or the Holy Spirit?

What should I reduce well below my current level in order to increase my dependence on the Word, prayer, and/or the Holy Spirit?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time praising Jesus for His full humanity. Ask the Father for help with growing in your dependence on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit to live and minister as Jesus did. Ask the Father to reveal to each group member two people they'll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you'll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you've learned about depending more fully on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on your progress in depending more fully on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit to live and minister as Jesus did.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Three, Our Mission and Motive on pages 33-39 and respond to the questions on pages 39-40 in Ponderings.

*Definitions:

Distractions are things that make it difficult for you to pay attention or stay focused.

Obstacles are objects that you have to go around or over; something that blocks your path; roadblocks or barriers.

CHAPTER

3



OUR MISSION AND MOTIVE



© VIDEO 3+4

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
[LikeJesus.Church/4chair](https://www.likejesus.com/church/4chair)

LEADER PREP

Watch Video 3+4: Mission, Motive, Method: [LikeJesus.church/4chair](https://www.likejesus.com/church/4chair)

Big Idea: Jesus empowers us to love God, love people and make disciple-makers.

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

It's been said that passion fuels priorities and even changes them. Some say there's always enough time for what you want to do. We give time to our true passions and desires. Our true passions and desires motivate us.

Discuss: [Entire group] What's one thing that you always have time for? (Let's exclude eating and sleeping.)

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Have different people look up Matthew 22:37-39 and Matthew 28:18-20. Have them read these passages aloud to the group.

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Jesus connected loving God with loving people. What other Scripture passage(s) also explain this connection?

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 20 min.] Not only is there a connection between loving God and loving people, there's also a connection between our motivation (Matthew 22:37-39) and the mission (Matthew 28:18-20) He's entrusted to us. How does our motive of loving God and loving people fuel our mission of "making disciples"?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Discuss: What does it look like when Christians disconnect loving God and loving people from “making disciples”?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 20 min.] What keeps (distractions and/or obstacles) you from loving God, loving people and making disciple-makers? How would growing in dependence on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit help you with loving God, loving people and making disciple-makers?

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 10 min.] We understand the importance of a guide when going into unfamiliar territory. The same is true with making disciple-makers. Who can you invite to help you with loving God, loving people and making disciple-makers?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to show you who can help you with loving God, loving people and making disciple-makers. Ask God to reveal to you someone you can help grow in dependence on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit to live and minister as Jesus did. Ask the Father to also reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what it looks like for you to depend more fully on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit to help you with loving God, loving people and making disciple-makers. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on your progress in depending more fully on the Word, prayer, and the Holy Spirit to live and minister as Jesus did.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Four - The Method—an Overview on pages 41-51 and respond to the questions on pages 51-52 in Ponderings.

***Definitions:**

Distractions are things that make it difficult for you to pay attention or stay focused.
Obstacles are objects that you have to go around or over; something that blocks your path; roadblocks or barriers.

CHAPTER

4



THE METHOD-AN OVERVIEW



© VIDEO 3+4 (again)

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at: [LikeJesus.Church/4chair](https://www.likejesus.com/church/4chair)

LEADER PREP

Watch Video 3+4: Mission, Motive, Method: [LikeJesus.church/4chair](https://www.likejesus.com/church/4chair)

Big Idea: Jesus gave us a pattern for recognizing people at different stages in the disciple-making journey. We can depend on the Holy Spirit with other disciple-making friends to help us move to the next chair in our disciple-making journey.

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three] What's the most challenging thing you've ever taught someone else to do? How did you go about teaching that person?

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Have each group read aloud one of these passages in their group and discuss the corresponding question:

1. Chair 1: "Come and See" (John 1:35-39) - How did Jesus develop His initial relationships with His early disciples? What does Jesus expect of people sitting in this chair?
2. Chair 2: "Follow Me" (John 1:43, Matthew 9:9, John 10:27) - What was Jesus expecting from His disciples in this chair? How did Jesus know that they were truly following him?
3. Chair 3: "Follow Me and I Will Make You Fishers of Men" (Matthew 4:19) - What was Jesus expecting from His disciples in this chair? What could these disciples expect from Jesus?
4. Chair 4: "Go and Bear Fruit" (John 15:15-16) - What is the relationship between Jesus and His disciples sitting in this chair? What was His expectation for them?

Discuss: [entire group for 15 min.] Allow one person from each group to share what they learned together.

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Jesus' desired end product of the disciple-making journey is fruit-bearing. Fruit was always a metaphor for multiplication.

Discuss: [entire group] How have you seen this type of multiplication in the lives of Christians? How have Christians been misled into reproducing "fake" fruit?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, "In which of the four chairs do you think you are currently sitting?" and "From what you know now, what do you think is your next step?"

Discuss: [in same groups of three] Who can help you with moving to the next chair? Who can you help with moving to the next chair and how?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father for help with moving to the next chair. Ask him how you can help one another with moving to the next chair. Ask the Father also to reveal to each group member two people they'll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you'll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people what you've learned so far about 4 chair discipling. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the distractions and/or obstacles you're facing now in moving to the next chair in your disciple-making journey.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Five, Chair 1: The Lost on pages 53-64

CHAPTER

5



CHAIR 1: THE LOST



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 5: The Lost: [LikeJesus.church/4chair](https://likejesus.church/4chair)

Big Idea: Jesus modeled how to partner with the Holy Spirit to find, love, and challenge spiritually lost people. We can also depend on the Holy Spirit in order to respond to those who show interest and challenge them to move forward in their disciple-making journey.

© VIDEO 5

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at: [LikeJesus.Church/4chair](https://likejesus.church/4chair)

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Set-up: You'll need to get your hands on enough Where's Waldo books so each group of three can have one. You can also find Waldo on a smartphone, tablet, or laptop at this web site: [WheresWaldo.com](https://whereswaldo.com)

Share and Do: [in groups of three for 5 min.] We've all been in a place where we find ourselves looking for someone, right? Sometimes we even needed some help finding that person. Most of us have read the book or played the game Where's Waldo? We're going to take some time now and find Waldo as groups of three. The goal is for everyone in each group to find Waldo. In the search, you cannot point to Waldo when someone finds him. However, you can help one another find him through asking questions or by giving directions.

Discuss: [entire group for 5 min.] So, what did you learn together? What were your aha moments?

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Assign each group one of these two passages and have them read it aloud in their group and discuss the corresponding questions:

1. John 1:35-42 - How did John's disciples find Jesus? What did Jesus expect of them at this stage of their relationship with him? How did Simon Peter learn about Jesus?

2. John 1:43-51 - What events took place in order for Philip and Nathanael to connect with Jesus? What did Jesus expect of them at this stage of their relationship with him?

Discuss: [entire group for 15 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What were your aha moments?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: We see Jesus living the simplicity of a disciple-making way of life with people in the Gospels. He loved people from the overflow of His love for God. You could say that for Jesus, loving God and loving people fueled His mission of making disciple-makers. He depended on the Holy Spirit to find spiritually lost people, recognizing the need to meet people where they were in their relationship with God and challenging them to move forward in their disciple-making journey. Jesus did this by building relationships with them.

Discuss: [in groups of three] What do you think are the distractions and/or obstacles for Christians in loving and building relationships with people sitting in Chair 1?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, "What aspect of Chair 1 discipling is the easiest for you?" and "What aspect of Chair 1 discipling do you find most intimidating?"

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 20 min.] Share the names of the Chair 1 people you identified in Ponderings question #3, and your next step in deepening your friendship with them. How can you help one another with your Chair 1 relationships?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you partner with the Holy Spirit and others in deepening your friendships with your Chair 1 relationships. Ask him to give you the courage to take a next step this week to help them personally know who Jesus Christ is. Ask the Father to reveal to each group member two people they'll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you'll do this.

2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you've learned so far about how Jesus modeled the process of finding spiritually lost people and challenging them to move forward in the disciple-making process. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.

3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the distractions and/or obstacles you're facing now in helping a spiritually lost person move to the next chair in the disciple-making process. Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share these distractions and/or obstacles.

4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Six, Chair 2: The Believer on pages 67-78 and respond to the questions on p. 78 in Ponderings.

CHAPTER

6



CHAIR 2: THE BELIEVER



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 6: The Believer: LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Jesus modeled for us how we can fully depend on the Holy Spirit, keep prayer and God's Word central in our life and ministry, obey the Father's will, exalt the Father in every area of life, and have intentional relationships of love and integrity.

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Share: We've all started something "new" in our lives, right? It might be a new job, a new hobby, and a new relationship—to name a few. Some of our experiences have been better than others. We're going to take some time now and share one of our experiences in your group of three.

Discuss: [in groups of three for 9 min.] What is the last "new" thing you started within the past six months? What could have improved your experience?

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Assign each group one of these passages and have them read it aloud in their group and discuss the corresponding questions:

1. John 2:1-12 - Who was with Jesus on His trips to Cana and Capernaum? How did they respond to their time with him? How long were they together?

2. John 3:1-22 - Who was with Jesus when he met with Nicodemus? What did they observe Jesus doing? Where did Jesus "spend some time with them" after leaving Jerusalem?

3. John 4:27-42 - Who was with Jesus on His trip through Samaria? How did they respond to what Jesus was doing there? What did they learn together from being with Jesus?

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Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
LikeJesus.Church/4chair

Discuss: [entire group for 15 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What does this tell us about the nature of Jesus' relationship with His disciples? What were your aha moments?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: We see Jesus traveling and spending time with His disciples throughout the Gospels. For up to eighteen months, Jesus intentionally spent time together with His disciples, helping them move through this second stage of their disciple-making journey.

Discuss: [in groups of three] What do you think are some of the distractions and/or obstacles for Christians in spending intentional time with Chair 2 disciples (new believers)?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Share: You may or may not have been helped to grow as a new believer. No matter what, Jesus gave us a model on how to invest relationally in new believers (Chair 2 disciples).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, "What do you remember about how you were treated as a new believer?" and "What do you believe is the most important first step for new Christians?"

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 20 min.] Share the names of the new believers (Chair 2 disciples) you identified in Ponderings question #3. What's the next step you need to take to help them grow in the basics? How can you help one another with your Chair 2 relationships?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you with helping your Chair 2 disciples grow in the basics. Ask him to give you the courage to take a next step with new believers this week. Ask the Father also to reveal to each group member two people they'll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

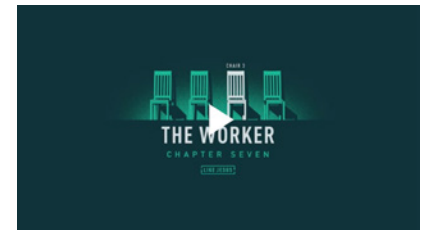
1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you'll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you've learned so far about how Jesus modeled the process of helping Chair 2 disciples grow in the basics. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the distractions and/or obstacles you're facing now in helping new believers grow in the basics. Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share these distractions and/or obstacles.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Seven, Chair 3: The Worker on pages 79-92 and respond to the questions on pages 92-94 in Ponderings.

CHAPTER

7



CHAIR 3: THE WORKER



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 7: The Worker: LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Jesus invested in a few to impact the many. Ministry workers who are learning the “new way” of living in the Spirit are empowered to embrace a life of servanthood, sacrifice, and suffering in order to experience the joy set before them.

© VIDEO 7

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
LikeJesus.Church/4chair

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Share: We’ve all had a time in our lives when we’ve had to overcome something that seemed insurmountable. Let’s take a few moments and share a funny story related to your experience.

Discuss: [in groups of three] Share a funny story related to overcoming something that once seemed insurmountable.

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Assign each group one of these passages and have them read it aloud in their group and discuss the corresponding questions:

1. Matthew 9:35-38 - What did Jesus observe when he saw the crowds? What was His solution to what he saw? What did Jesus expect of His disciples?
2. Hebrews 12:4-11, Philippians 3:8-10 - What is the Lord’s view of discipline and hardship? What does discipline produce? How are we to view suffering?
3. Romans 5:1-5, 8:1-15 - How are we to respond to sufferings? What does suffering produce? What can we expect if we allow ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit?

Discuss: [entire group for 10 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What does this tell us about what we can expect as a worker (Chair 3 disciple)?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: We see Jesus spending more time with His “few” (46 times) than with the crowds (17 times). He involved them in six “fishing” trips and five mission trips. Jesus prioritized the intentional relationships he had with His Chair 3 disciples (workers) in order for them to mature into fully trained, reproducing disciples.

Discuss: [in groups of three] How can Christians help one another in prioritizing intentional relationships with Chair 3 disciples (workers)?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, “After reading this chapter, how do you feel about Chair 3? Be honest.” and “What are some major lessons you have had to learn on your journey as a worker for Christ?”

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 20 min.] Servanthood, sacrifice, and suffering accompany the challenge to sitting in Chair 3. Share honestly about which of these are obstacles to your prioritizing intentional relationships with Chair 3 disciples (workers)? How can you help one another with your disciple-making journey?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you lead a Spirit-filled life so you can endure the difficulties of being/becoming workers in the harvest field (Chair 3 disciples). Ask him to give you the courage to prioritize investing with a few disciples. Ask the Father also to reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you’ve learned so far about how the Holy Spirit empowers us to embrace a life of servanthood, sacrifice, and suffering in order to experience the joy set before them. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the distractions and/or obstacles you’re facing now in being/becoming a Chair 3 disciple. Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share these distractions and/or obstacles.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Eight, Chair 4: The Disciple-Maker on pages 95-104 and respond to the questions on pages 104-105 in Ponderings.

CHAPTER

8



CHAIR 4: THE DISCIPLE-MAKER



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 8: The Disciple-Maker: LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Jesus modeled for us how to fully equip disciple-makers (“friends”) who were capable of multiplying more disciple-makers (“much fruit” bearers).

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Share: Gardening is much like parenting, or investing in a family member. We can only reap what we sow.

Discuss: [in groups of three] What is one of the joys you’ve experienced in parenting or investing in a family member?

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Assign each group one of these passages and have them read it aloud in their group and discuss the corresponding questions:

1. John 15:1-5 - What does Jesus expect of His branches? How does “more fruit” get produced? How does “much fruit” get produced?
2. John 15:6-11 - What can disciples of Jesus expect from abiding in Jesus? How is the Father glorified? What happens when we obey Jesus?
3. John 15:12-17 - What kind of love does Jesus expect His disciples to have for one another? What’s the difference between being a servant and a friend of Jesus? What does Jesus expect His “friends” to do now?
4. Galatians 2:20 - Who no longer lives? Who lives in disciples of Jesus? By what means are disciples of Jesus to live now?

Discuss: [entire group for 15 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What does this tell us about what we can expect as a disciple-maker (Chair 4 disciple)?

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Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
LikeJesus.Church/4chair

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: Dann shares that “Clearly His [Jesus’] mission was not to reach the world, as much as it was to make disciples who could reach the world. He was about birthing a movement of multiplying disciples, and this was being realized before His very eyes.”

Discuss: [in groups of three] What does it look like for Christians to help one another have this kind of laser sharp focus of growing a movement of disciple-makers (Chair 4 disciples)?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, “From your perspective, what are some of the challenges that come with parenting? How might these same challenges apply in ‘spiritual’ parenting?” and “How does family living differ from living alone? What are the advantages of family living, and what are the difficulties?”

Share: Dann shared “Never forget: our goal is multiplication. We want to reach new people (Chair 1), see them grow (Chair 2), equip them as workers (Chair 3), and then send them out to launch new ministries (Chair 4). Multiplication is our goal. We must send them out. We want them to leave. We want them to start their own families. We want them to ‘go and bear fruit.’ ”

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 15 min.] Share honestly about what keeps you (distractions and/or obstacles) from living this way with a few others? How can you help one another with becoming/being Chair 4 disciples?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you embrace the challenges of being/becoming “friends” with Jesus (Chair 4 disciples) with the Holy Spirit’s empowerment. Ask him to give you the courage to prioritize “multiplication” with a few disciples. Ask the Father also to reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you’ve learned so far about how to live a life of “multiplication” in order to experience being “full of joy through the Holy Spirit” like Jesus. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the distractions and/or obstacles you’re facing now in being/becoming a Chair 4 disciple. Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share these distractions and/or obstacles.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Nine, Sticking Points (Mark 4) on pages 107-114 and respond to the questions on p. 114 in Ponderings.

CHAPTER

9



STICKING POINTS



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 9-11: The Conclusion: LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Jesus shared with us the “sticking points” that can prevent us from becoming “much fruit” bearing disciple-makers so we can overcome them.

© VIDEO 9-11

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at: LikeJesus.Church/4chair

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Share: We’re sure that all of us have needed to assemble something in the past year. Or, maybe someone else asked us to assemble something for him or her. It might have been something pretty simple or fairly complex. Either way, let’s take a few moments in groups of three and share our experience.

Discuss: [in groups of three] Share where you got “stuck” and how you got unstuck.

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 10 min.] Assign each group one of these passages and have them read it aloud in their group and discuss these two questions:

1. Mark 4:3-4, 13-15
2. Mark 4:3, 5-6, 13-14, 16-17
3. Mark 4:3, 7, 13-14, 18-19
4. Mark 4:3, 8, 13-14, 20
 - a. What does the “sower” need to do?
 - b. What happens to the “seed” sown in this kind of soil?

Discuss: [entire group for 15 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What does this tell us about the relationship between the sower, seed, and the different kinds of “soil”?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: Dann shares that “if we take this parable at face value, it seems that 75 percent of the people who begin the journey of disciple-making never move into Chair 3 or Chair 4 faithfulness. This is why Jesus said, ‘the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.’ The ‘workers’ are Chair 3 and Chair 4 Christians.”

Discuss: [in groups of three] What do you think are some of the “sticking points” for Christians never moving into Chair 3 or Chair 4 faithfulness?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, “Which of these sticking points—worries, wealth, wants—is most challenging for you? Why?” and “What do your children (or disciples) struggle with most?”

Share: Maybe some of us have never made a commitment to the kind of life we want to live with Jesus. For some, this may be a recommitment to the life we want to live with Jesus. We’ll take some time right now for you to share your commitment in your groups of three, using the parable of the soils in Mark 4. Remember that Jesus’ pattern for making multiplying disciples wasn’t simplistic, but it was simple. It was also not easy or problem-free either. But it’s something all of us can do: (1) Do what Jesus has done. (2) Walk as Jesus walked. (3) Follow His pattern. We CAN DO what Jesus did to extent to which we walk as he did.

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 15 min.] Share honestly about your commitment to moving beyond “no life” (v. 15), “no roots” (v. 17), and “no fruit” (v. 19) to become a thirty, sixty, or one hundred-fold fruitful follower (v. 20)? How can we help one another with becoming/being Chair 4 disciples?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you overcome the sticking points of being/becoming Chair 4 disciples with the Holy Spirit’s empowerment. Ask him to give you the courage to prioritize “multiplication” with a few disciples. Ask the Father also to reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.

2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you’ve learned so far about the sticking points to living a life of “multiplication” like Jesus. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.

3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the sticking points you’re facing now in being/becoming a Chair 4 disciple. Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share these sticking points with them.

4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Ten, Barriers between Chairs (John 14) on pages 115-121 and respond to the questions on pages 121-122 in Ponderings.



BARRIERS BETWEEN CHAIRS



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 9-11: The Conclusion: LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Jesus shared with us the “barriers” between chairs to fruitfulness so we can overcome them in order to become Chair 4 disciple-making disciples.

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Share: We’ve all been faced with barriers to something we wanted or needed. Dictionary.com defines a barrier as “anything that restrains or obstructs progress, access, etc.” It can also be thought of as an obstacle. Let’s take a few moments in groups of three and share one barrier or obstacle you’re facing right now. This could be a person, place, or thing.

Discuss: [in groups of three] Share what the obstacle is and what you’re currently doing about it.

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Assign each group one of the three barriers to explore. Have them read aloud the Scriptures in their group and discuss the corresponding questions:

1. Moving from Chair 1 (“no fruit”) to Chair 2 (“fruit”): John 15:1-8, 1 John 1:9, Hebrews 12:5-6 — What is the barrier to bearing “fruit”? How do you overcome this barrier?

2. Moving from Chair 2 (“fruit”) to Chair 3 (“more fruit”): John 15:1-8; Hebrews 12:11, 15; Hebrews 10:35-36, 38-39 - What is the barrier to bearing “more fruit”? How do you overcome this barrier?

© VIDEO 9-11

Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
LikeJesus.Church/4chair

3. Moving from Chair 3 (“more fruit”) to Chair 4 (“much fruit”): John 15:1-8; Psalm 91:1; Colossians 1:29 — What is the barrier to bearing “much fruit”? How do you overcome this barrier?

John 15:1-8 (NIV)

¹ “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Discuss: [entire group for 10 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What does this tell us about the difficulties between the four levels of fruit bearing?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: Dann shares “In this parable (John 15:1-8), the four levels of fruitfulness correspond to the four chairs. Chair 1 represents ‘no fruit,’ as the lost person can do nothing to yield a harvest for God. Chair 2 represents ‘fruit,’ because a new believer begins to grow a harvest for the Lord. Chair 3, the worker, represents ‘more fruit.’ But Chair 4 represents ‘much fruit,’ the disciple-making disciple. According to Jesus, the Father’s ultimate goal for every one of us is to move us to the ‘much fruit’ level, so that we can prove we are His disciples and thus bring Him glory. ‘By this my Father is glorified,’ Jesus claims, ‘that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples’ (John 15:8 ESV). However, not every believer ultimately bears much fruit. There is a definite progression of fruit-bearing with some definite barriers between each level. Fortunately, Jesus also exposes barriers that keep us from getting to the next level, and gives His Father’s remedy.”

Discuss: [in groups of three] Which “barriers” ensnare most Christians you know from moving to the next level?

4. LOOK IN

Go straight to the heart of the matter (30 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Briefly share your responses to these two questions you were asked in Ponderings, “What aspect of this chapter is most interesting to you? and “Why would it be easy to settle into the “more fruit” chair?”

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 15 min.] Share honestly about which “barrier” ensnares you from moving to the next level. How can you help one another with moving to the next level?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you overcome the barriers of being/becoming Chair 4 disciples with the Holy Spirit’s empowerment. Ask him to give you the

courage to prioritize “multiplication” with a few disciples. Ask the Father also to reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.
2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you’ve learned so far about the barriers between the four levels of fruit bearing. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on the barrier you’re facing now in moving to the next level in becoming a disciple-making disciple (Chair 4). Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share this barrier with them.
4. For our next time together: Read Chapter Eleven, Full-Orbed Disciple-Making on pages 123-133 and respond to the questions on p. 134 in Pondering

Learn to make disciples the way Jesus did. Read and study all 3 parts of *Like Jesus*:

1. MISSION

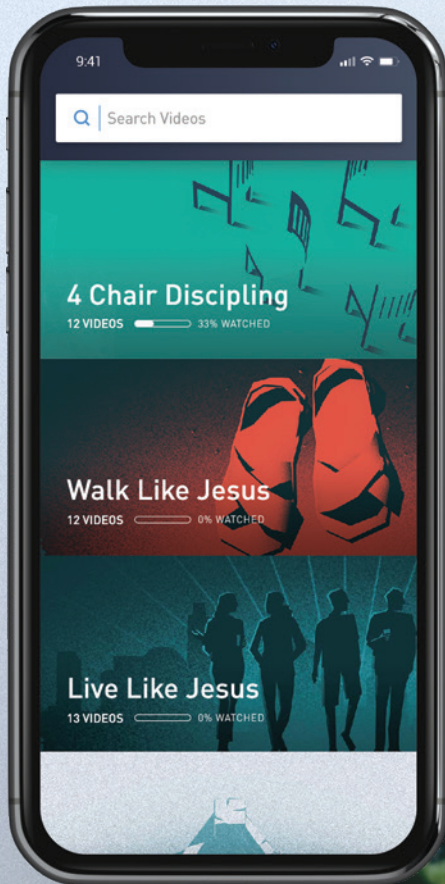
4 Chair Discipling

2. METHODS

Walk Like Jesus

3. MODEL

Live Like Jesus



The Like Jesus app is versatile and has a web portal (www.LikeJesus.church) as well as a stand-alone app for iOS and Android.

- FULL E-BOOKS
- ALL VIDEO CONTENT
- LEADER GUIDES FOR EACH BOOK
- SMALL GROUP ENGAGEMENT
- CHURCH APP INTEGRATION
- DISCIPLE-MAKING ASSESSMENT



 LikeJesus.church

 LIKE JESUS

CHAPTER

11



FULLY-ORBED DISCIPLE-MAKING



LEADER PREP

Watch Video 8 again: LikeJesus.church/4chair

Big Idea: Disciple-making happens “out of my love for God, using my gifts and talents, to multiply the character and priorities of Christ in as many people as possible.”

1. LEAN IN

Get started with fun, easy, and engaging questions (10 minutes).

Share: It’s been said, “If you want to go FAST go ALONE. If you want to go FAR go TOGETHER.” You’ve also probably heard, “If you want it done right, do it yourself.” The writer of Ecclesiastes shared, “Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken (4:12). Let’s take a few moments in groups of three and share a time when you discovered that “together” is better than “alone.”

Discuss: [in groups of three] Briefly share what the incident was and what happened.

2. LOOK DOWN

Find the answers in the Scripture passages (25 minutes).

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Assign each group one of these groups of Scriptures to explore. Have them read aloud the Scriptures in their group and discuss the corresponding question:

1. 1 Corinthians 4:16-17, 11:1 — What does this tell us about the simplicity of a Jesus-like disciple-making way of life?
2. Acts 11:26, 22:4, 24:14 — What does this tell us about the relationship between Jesus and disciples?
3. 2 Timothy 2:2, 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 — What does this tell us about the nature and impact of a disciple-making way of life?

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Videos can be viewed in the Like Jesus app or online at:
LikeJesus.Church/4chair

LEADER NOTE:

You’ll want to direct the entire group to the three appendices at the back of the book.

Appendix 1

For Elders and Overseers.

Appendix 2

Building a Disciple-Making Ministry.

Appendix 3

Graphic Overview of 4 Chair Discipling (You’ll especially want everyone to know about this one.)

Discuss: [entire group for 10 min.] Allow one or two people from each group to share what they learned together. What are the aha moments?

3. LOOK OUT

Connect the world of the Bible to our culture (10 minutes).

Share: Dann shares “Disciple-making is a lifelong journey of becoming like Christ and helping others to do the same. It is the greatest of all journeys and the highest of all callings. Just imagine! We can do what Jesus did if we walk as Jesus walked. We can even do greater things because, by His grace, we have a greater amount of time to invest in others and teach them to do the same. A life of learning to ‘think and act like Jesus’ is a life well lived. This kind of life is called Kingdom living.” We’ve learned in our disciple-making journey with others that it’s not about trying harder but it’s about trusting more.

Discuss: [in groups of three] What keeps (distractions and/or obstacles) most Christians you know from Kingdom living?

4. LOOK IN

Discuss: [in groups of three for 15 min.] Briefly share your response to this question you were asked in Ponderings, “What happens when we try to bear fruit in our own strength, without relying on the Holy Spirit? Can you recall a time when you tried to do just that?”

Discuss: [in same groups of three for 15 min.] Share your response to Ponderings question #4: “Where are you in the journey? What chair do you tend to live in?” How can you help one another move forward in your disciple-making journey?

5. LOOK UP

Pray together (10 minutes).

[In the same groups of three] Spend some time asking the Father to help you take a step forward to the next chair with the Holy Spirit’s empowerment. Ask him to give you the courage to multiply the character and priorities of Christ in as many people as possible. Ask the Father to reveal to each group member two people they’ll share what they learned this week and when. Ask him also to reveal to you two friends you could continue this disciple-making journey together.

6. LIVE IT OUT

Share what you discovered with others and put it into action (5 minutes).

1. Write down the two names God has given you to share with this week. Also, write down when you’ll do this.

2. This week, share with the two people on your list what you’ve learned so far about how you can partner with others to multiply the character and priorities of Christ in as many people as possible. Be prepared to share with those God brings unexpectedly across your path.

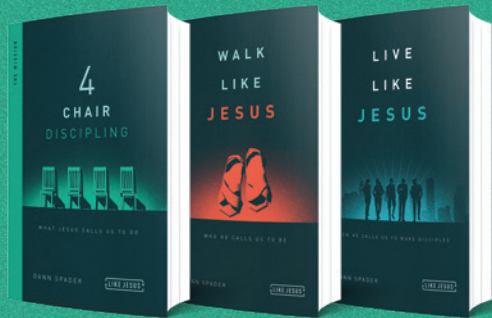
3. Set aside 10-15 minutes this week to reflect on what’s keeping you moving forward to the next level in your disciple-making journey. Also, contact the person on your left (in your group of three) this week to share this with them who you’re going to continue the journey.

4. Continue your disciple-making journey by always asking, “How’s the journey going?” when you see one of your group members.

THE MISSION
OF JESUS

THE MODEL
OF JESUS

THE METHODS
OF JESUS



CREATING A CULTURE OF DISCIPLE-MAKING, LIKE JESUS DID.

Dr. Dann Spader is the founder of Sonlife Ministries and currently serves as president of Global Youth Initiative. He has dedicated his life to disciple-making, and more than 1 million people in over 100 countries have been trained to make disciples through organizations he has led. Dann is the author of 4 Chair Discipling, Walk Like Jesus and Live Like Jesus.



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