

DISCIPLESHIP TRACK

101



VLAD SCHOOL

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Hungry Generation Membership

Culture

The culture of Hungry Generation is made out of vision, values, and unique characteristics.

Vision: *The win we want for every person.*

I. Hungry Generation exists to lead people to encounter God daily!

Values: *The convictions that shape how we live, lead, and love people.*

- **Holiness — Be Set Apart**

We live set apart by pursuing what pleases God above what is merely acceptable (*1 Peter 1:15–16; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Romans 12:1–2; Hebrews 12:14*).

- **Health — Protect the Margin**

We prioritize daily encounters with God, Sabbath, and family so we can stay healthy in every area of life (*Mark 6:31; Exodus 20:8–10; 1 Timothy 3:4–5*).

- **Humility — Remain Teachable**

We stay teachable by welcoming feedback, receiving correction, and choosing growth (*Proverbs 12:1; 15:31–32; James 4:6; Proverbs 9:8–9*).

- **Honor — Value People**

We treat people with dignity, respect, and attentiveness in the way we listen, speak, and respond (*Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 2:17; Philippians 2:3–4; James 1:19*).

- **Honesty — Speak the Truth**

We speak clearly, directly, and with grace, saying what is true from the heart (*Ephesians 4:15, 25; Colossians 4:6; Psalm 15:1–2*).

Unique Characteristics: *The traits that mark our ministry.*

II. Pray and Fast

*Fasting and prayer unlocks breakthroughs, shifts atmospheres, and fuels the fire of God in our lives. What isn't birthed in prayer won't be sustained in power (*Matthew 6:6; Matthew 6:33; Isaiah 58:6; Mark 9:29; 2 Chronicles 7:14*).*



- **Win Souls**

The greatest miracle isn't healing or deliverance, it's salvation. Saved people save people. A church that doesn't save the lost is lost (*Luke 19:10; Romans 10:14–15; Proverbs 11:30*).

- **Make Disciples**

Discipleship happens through connect groups, serving on a team, discipleship tracks, and weekend services. It also occurs through helping people discover, develop, and deploy their God-given calling (*Matthew 28:19–20; 2 Timothy 2:2; Colossians 1:28*).

- **Cast Out Demons**

Where Jesus went, He healed the sick, preached the Kingdom, and cast out demons. Deliverance involves casting out demons, breaking mental strongholds, and receiving inner healing. We don't counsel demons; we cast them out (*Mark 16:17; Luke 10:19; Matthew 10:1*).

- **Raise the NextGen**

Youth are not the leaders of tomorrow; they are the leaders of today. We don't babysit the next generation; we equip them. If we don't launch them, we lose them (*1 Timothy 4:12; Psalm 127:3–4; Joel 2:28*).

History

- III. In 2002, Hungry Generation Church was established by our Founding Pastor, Pastor Vasily.
- IV. Our Lead Pastor, Pastor Vlad is the nephew of the Founding Pastor and was called to ministry at the age of 16 as a Youth Pastor.
- V. At the age of 30, Pastor Vlad was ordained as the Lead Pastor.
- VI. Over the past 10 years, under Pastor Vlad's leadership as Lead Pastor, average Sunday attendance has grown from approximately 200 to more than 1,000 people. HungryGen Church believes in deploying those who are called. As of now, we have planted three churches and one more church will be launched in 2026.

Governance

- Hungry Generation Church is governed locally by a Board of Trustees that holds legal, financial, and administrative authority on behalf of the church.
- Spiritual leadership, doctrine, vision, and pastoral oversight are entrusted to the Elders and Senior Pastor, with an External Advisory Council providing independent spiritual accountability for senior leadership.



- Together, these bodies ensure the church remains faithful to its biblical mission while operating with financial integrity and legal responsibility.

Doctrine

Core Doctrinal Beliefs

Core beliefs are truths we hold firmly and would never compromise.

1. **The Bible.** The Bible is inspired by God and is our true and trustworthy guide for faith and life (2 Timothy 3:15–17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).
2. **Trinity.** There is one true God, the Creator and Redeemer, who has revealed Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10–11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).
3. **Jesus Christ.** Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, born of a virgin, sinless in life, mighty in works, crucified for our sins, raised bodily from the dead, and exalted at God's right hand (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31, 35; Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22; Acts 2:22; Acts 10:38; 1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Acts 1:9–11; Acts 2:33; Philippians 2:9–11; Hebrews 1:3).
4. **Sin.** Man was created good, but through sin fell from God and came under both physical and spiritual death (Genesis 1:26–27; Genesis 2:17; Genesis 3:6; Romans 5:12–19).
5. **Salvation.** Salvation is found only through Jesus Christ and His shed blood (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13–15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; Titus 3:5–7).
6. **The Second Coming of Jesus Christ.** Jesus Christ will return visibly and triumphantly, raise the dead in Christ, gather His people to Himself, and establish His millennial reign of peace (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; Romans 8:23; Romans 11:26–27; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51–52; Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7; Revelation 19:11–14; Revelation 20:1–6; Ezekiel 37:21–22; Zephaniah 3:19–20; Isaiah 11:6–9; Psalm 72:3–8; Micah 4:3–4).

Distinct Beliefs of HungryGen

Distinct beliefs are convictions we hold with strong confidence and believe are well-supported by Scripture. Christians differ on these matters, but these are the convictions you will regularly hear in our preaching and see in our ministry.

All staff and pastors must subscribe to these beliefs. Leaders are asked to affirm them in spirit, and all church members are expected to respect them, even if they don't personally agree.

1. **The Prayer Language.** Speaking in tongues is a gift of the Holy Spirit where a believer prays or worships God in a Spirit-given language, bypassing the natural



mind to connect with God at a deeper level (*Acts 1:8; Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44–46; Acts 19:6; 1 Corinthians 14:2, 4, 27–28*).

2. **Israel and the Church.** God has not rejected or replaced Israel with the Church; His covenants with Israel still stand, and the Church is not the new Israel (*Exodus 4:22–23; Romans 11:1–2, 18–20, 29; Genesis 12:3; Psalm 122:6; Zechariah 2:8*).
3. **Women in Ministry.** Women are fully called and gifted by God to serve in ministry leadership, including preaching and pastoring (*Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17; John 4:7–30; Luke 10:38–42; John 20:1–18; Judges 4:4; 2 Kings 22:14; Acts 21:8–9; Romans 16:7; Acts 18:26*).
4. **Deliverance for Believers.** A believer's spirit belongs to God, yet demons may oppress areas of the soul or flesh when given access through ancestral bondage, willful sin, or unhealed trauma; therefore, repentance and deliverance are necessary (*Ephesians 4:27; 2 Corinthians 7:1; James 4:7; Mark 16:17; Luke 13:11–16*).
5. **Conditional Security.** We reject both extremes — the idea that salvation can never be lost no matter how one lives and the fear that every sin forfeits it. Instead, we believe salvation is by grace, kept through ongoing faith, and evidenced by a life of obedience to Christ (*Ephesians 2:8–9; Romans 11:22; Hebrews 6:4–6; 2 Peter 2:20–22; Matthew 24:13*).
6. **The End Times.** We believe the rapture, tribulation, Antichrist, and thousand-year reign of Christ are all real, future events. We hold to the post-tribulation view, meaning the rapture and second coming are one event that happens after the tribulation (*Matthew 24:29–31; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; 1 Corinthians 15:51–52; 2 Thessalonians 2:1–4; Revelation 19:11–14; Revelation 20:1–6*).

Why Membership:

- Show your commitment
- Make a statement in a low-commitment culture
- Avoid going solo
- Stay on track
- Help your leaders
- Make promises, get involved

What Does Membership Look Like?

- Being active in a Connect Group.
- Becoming a part of the Serve Team.



- Contributing with your Tithes.
- Participating in Discipleship Tracks.

Lesson 1 - Daily Encounters

Vision: Hungry Generation exists to lead people to encounter God daily!

We want to take you from meeting God on Sunday to spending time with Him on Monday because Christianity isn't just a religion—it's a **relationship**. Church services and spiritual highs won't sustain you—daily time with God will. If you want to grow, spend time with Him every day—talk to Him in prayer, hear His voice through His Word, and encounter His presence in worship. A hungry heart never stops pursuing God.

I. Why Do Daily Encounters Matter?

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. John 17:3

A. We came from God.

"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine

B. We need God like a fish needs water and how trees need soil.

a. Creation came from God's words:

- i. God spoke to the earth, and **plants** came forth (Genesis 1:11)
- ii. God spoke to the waters, and **fish** came forth (Genesis 1:20)
- iii. God spoke to Himself, and **man** came forth (Genesis 1:26)

b. Water is still water without fish. Soil is still soil without trees. God is still God without man.

c. A fish out of water dies, and a tree uprooted withers. A person disconnected from God will eventually drift into dryness, anxiety, and confusion.

C. God wants a relationship.

The LORD your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation. Psalm 149:4

We love Him because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16



II. How Do We Have a Daily Encounter?

A. Priority: Make Time for God.

But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Matthew 6:33

1. Don't fit God into your schedule; build your schedule around God. Don't prioritize your schedule instead schedule your priorities.
2. Throughout Scripture, God gave Israel manna in the morning (Exodus 16:12), told priests to rekindle the fire each morning (Leviticus 6:12), the psalmist sought Him early (Psalm 5:3), Jesus prayed before daylight (Mark 1:35)—because morning prayer is your daily tithe (Matthew 6:33), a discipline that fuels discipleship (1 Timothy 4:7), and a keystone habit that shapes the rest of your day.

“The men who have done the most for God in this world have been early on their knees. He who fritters away the early morning, its opportunity and freshness, in other pursuits than seeking God will make poor headway seeking him the rest of the day. If God is not first in our thoughts and efforts in the morning, he will be in the last place the remainder of the day.” — E. M. Bounds

“He that runs from God in the morning will hardly find him at the close of the day; nor will he that begins with the world and the vanities thereof, in the first place, be very capable of walking with God all the day after. It is he that finds God in his closet that will carry the savour of him into his house, his shop, and his more open conversation.” — John Bunyan

B. Path: Connect with God Personally

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6

1. There is only one way to God—through Jesus—but there are many ways to connect with Him. Connect with God as you are, not as someone you admire.
2. Your relationship with Him should be **personal**, not a copy of someone else's.
3. *“People connect differently, some through nature, others through worship, study, solitude, service, etc.” — Gary Thomas*
4. **12 Ways to Connect with God** (From Mercy Culture):
 - a) Adoration — Connecting with God by ministering to His heart through worship.
 - b) Conversation — Connecting with God by talking to Him. You desire to know what is on His heart and His mind in all aspects of your life.



- c) Expression — Connecting with God while creating something.
- d) Movement — Connecting with God as you move your body physically.
- e) Meditation — Connecting with God by focusing on Him and His word, allowing it to renew your mind.
- f) Remembrance — Connecting with God as you remember what He has done for you.
- g) Compassion — Connecting with God as you are serving the least of these. When you serve others, you are doing it unto Jesus.
- h) Creation — Connecting with God in or around His creation. His creation brings you into His presence.
- i) Fasting — Connecting with God as you deny your flesh and feed your spirit.
- j) Learning — Connecting with God as He teaches you new revelation you didn't know before.
- k) Reformation — Connecting with God by partnering with Him to make the crooked ways straight.
- l) Solitude — Connecting with God when you get alone to meet with Him.

C. Plan: Cultivate Three Avenues of Encounter.

In Your presence is fullness of joy. Psalm 16:11

- 1. Talk to God in prayer.
- 2. Hear His voice through His word and Spirit.
- 3. Encounter His presence in worship.

D. Preparation: A Holy Life Welcomes a Holy God.

Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you. Joshua 3:5

- i. How you live your day shapes how you encounter God, and how you encounter God shapes how you live your day.
- ii. Your daily encounters prepare you for holy visitation.

"You choose your daily encounter, but God chooses your holy visitation."
— Landon Schott

- a) Daily encounters are chosen by us; holy visitations are chosen by God.
- b) Daily encounters are relational; holy visitations are directional.
- c) Daily encounters require pursuit; holy visitations require obedience.



- d) Daily encounters grow intimacy; holy visitations change your assignment.
- e) Daily encounters change your perception; holy visitations release God's purpose.

Lesson 2 - The Cross

God remains righteous, justifying the ungodly, because Jesus paid the price for their sins.

But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness. Romans 4:5

I. Trying to See Jesus

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. Luke 19:1–3

A. Like Zacchaeus, we are born **short**.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God Romans. 3:23

We are not sinners because we sin, we sin because we are sinners.

B. Like Zacchaeus, we **can't** change.

For by grace, you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8–10

1. Noah was righteous yet he needed to be saved from the flood.
2. Nicodemus was a religious man yet Jesus told him to be born again. (John. 3:1–2)
3. Cornelius was a devout man yet God's angel told him to get Peter so that he can hear the gospel. (Acts 10:1–2)

C. Like Zacchaeus, we shouldn't hide in the **crowd**.

1. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
2. It's possible to be in a church but not be in Christ.

II. Trust in the Cross of Jesus

So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus," Luke 19:4–5



- D. Religion is man trying to reach God. Christianity is God reaching us. Christianity is not us trying harder to be a better person but trusting in Jesus' death to make us a totally new person.
- E. Jesus' death is both substitutionary and inclusive.
1. Our problem is sin and sins.
 - a) **Sin** is our nature; **sins** are our actions.
 - b) **Sin** is like a spider, and **sins** are like spider webs.
 - c) We are born with **sin** (the sinful nature), and it can only be dealt with through death.
 2. Jesus died **for** me.
 - a) His blood washed my sins.
 - b) The blood of Jesus clears my record (Matthew 26:28), cleanses my conscience (Hebrews 9:14), and conquers the accuser (Revelation 12:11).
 3. I died **with** Christ.
 - a) The cross killed my sin (Galatians 2:20).
 - b) Story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde: Dr. Jekyll has this evil side to him, and the only way to cure it is to put himself to death.
Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Romans 6:3
 - c) Deliverance from sin only comes by death (Romans 6:7).
 - d) In water baptism we identify with Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection.

III. Transformation Through Hosting Jesus

And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." Luke 19:5

- F. The contrast between a rich ruler and a rich sinner:
1. Luke 18 – The rich ruler is told to give up his riches for Jesus. He couldn't.
 2. Luke 19 – The rich sinner is told to bring Jesus into his house. He gives up riches.
- G. Jesus is not interested in **repairing** your life but in **replacing** your life. Jesus wants to live through you by the power of the Holy Spirit.
I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in



me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20

H. The Christian life is not just a changed life; it's an **exchanged** life.

1. Many have accepted Jesus as their Savior, but few have let Him be their life.
2. Instead of praying "Lord, help me to live my life for you", pray "Lord Jesus, live out your life through me."

Lesson 3 - Holy Spirit

And I will pray to the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever. John 14:16

“Another” is the Greek word *allos*, which means “one besides, another of the same kind.”

I. Every Christian has the Holy Spirit, but not every Christian walks in the Holy Spirit.

And a certain man lame from his mother’s womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple. Acts 3:2

And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God. Acts 3:7–8

- A. The man was lame in both legs. He was born with legs, but they could not carry him. He begged for money and had to be brought to the temple. This is a powerful picture of many Christians today.
- B. We receive the Holy Spirit with salvation, but learning to walk in the Holy Spirit does not happen automatically.
- C. *I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Galatians 5:16*
- D. Paul is writing to believers, not unbelievers. That means it is possible to **possess the Spirit** and still fail to **practice dependence on the Spirit**. The command to walk in the Spirit would be unnecessary if it happened automatically.
- E. Walking speaks of daily **direction**, not a one-time experience. The Holy Spirit can live in you without leading you.
- F. The flesh is defeated not only by **resisting** sin, but by walking in the Spirit.

II. The Holy Spirit wants a relationship with us.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14

- A. Jesus’ gift of **grace** (Hebrews 4:16).
- B. Father’s gift of **love** (John 3:16).



C. Spirit's gift of **communion**.

1. It's not communion with the Holy Spirit but the communion of the Holy Spirit. Yes we fellowship with the Holy Spirit, but 2 Corinthians 13:14 says that it's the Holy Spirit who has fellowship with us.
2. This communion belongs to everyone, not just the spiritually elite.

III. The Holy Spirit is a person.

- A. We can't have a relationship with the Holy Spirit if we view Him as a **power**, instead of a **person**. If you see the Holy Spirit as a power, you will seek to use Him. If you see Him as a person, you will seek to know Him.
- B. Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a Person, as a "He," not an "**it**" (John 14:15; 26; 16:7—8, 13—15).
- C. The Holy Spirit is a person because His work is to carry on the **ministry** of a person, the Lord Jesus Christ (John 14:16-17).
- D. The Holy Spirit is a person because He has the three elements of personality. He has a **mind** (Romans 8:27), **will** (Acts 16:6—7), and **emotions** (Ephesians 4:30).
- E. The Holy Spirit is a person because He performs **actions** that only a person can perform. He speaks (2 Samuel 23:2; Acts 13:2; 1 Timothy 4:1; Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29), searches all things (1 Corinthians 2:10), reveals or inspires (2 Peter 1:21), teaches (John. 14:26), cries (Galatians 4:6), intercedes (Romans 8:26), leads (Romans 8:14), helps (Romans 8:26), and has fellowship or communion (2 Corinthians 13:14).
- F. The Holy Spirit is a person because personal feelings are ascribed to Him. He can be grieved (Ephesians 4:30), rebelled against (Isaiah 63:10), insulted (Hebrews 10:29), lied to (Acts 5:3), blasphemed (Matthew 12:31—32), resisted (Acts 7:51), put to the test (Acts 5:9), quenched (1 Thessalonians 5:19), provoked (Psalm 106:33), and pleased (Acts 15:28).

IV. Growing in the Holy Spirit like Jesus.

- A. We are **born** of the Spirit (John 3:5).
 1. Jesus was born of the Spirit (Matthew 1:18).
- B. We are to be **filled** with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).
 1. Jesus was filled with the Spirit (Matthew. 3:16).
 2. Indwelling versus Infilling:



- a) The indwelling occurs one time, infilling is a repeated experience.
 - b) The indwelling follows salvation, infilling follows surrender.
 - c) The indwelling is about possession, infilling is about power.
- C. We are to be **led** by the Spirit (Romans 8:14).
- 1. Jesus was led by the Spirit (Matthew. 4:1).
- D. We are to be **empowered** by the Spirit (Acts 1:8).
- 1. Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to do ministry (Luke 4:14).

Lesson 4 - Money Management

He who trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like foliage (Proverbs 11:28).

From the book of Proverbs, we can use the analogy of a tree to explain and discuss our finances. A tree has roots, a trunk, branches, and fruit. These four components can also be seen in our finances. When each is strong, the financial tree will flourish.

I. The root of the tree represents a basic attitude towards finances.

A. Be **content**, not covetous (1 Timothy 6:6–10).

1. The first root of a successful financial tree is contentment. You must realize that you are first spirit, not material. Therefore, you will be using material things for only a short time on this earth before someone else will have them. They cannot be the basis of your life because they are fleeting, impermanent, and temporal.

B. Trust in **God**, not in riches (Philippians 4:19).

1. God is your source for everything in life! If you depend upon money to be your security, you will become arrogant when you seem to be prospering and desperate when you seem not to have enough. God is the one who blesses you financially, and He will take care of you through every circumstance; your employer, your friends, relatives, or the government is not your source!
2. Remain dependent upon the Lord for your daily bread, and don't trust in your own ability to provide. Make your needs known to God, and believe that He will provide all that you need. Give Him all the credit for any success and prosperity you have, and don't blame Him when things seem to go wrong. When you acknowledge Him as your Source, He will take care of you, regardless of the economy or circumstances of your life.

C. Be **generous**, not greedy (Proverbs 11:24–25).

1. When you hold onto the little you have and refuse to share, you will only lose the little you thought you had! Proverbs 11:24–25 tells us that generosity and sowing to the needs of others will be blessed. It is one of the paradoxes of Scripture, but it is true, nonetheless. When you give freely as the Spirit directs, you will be blessed for your generosity and willingness to share.
2. Generosity is an attitude of the heart, not a set amount. You cannot give what you do not have. God does not regard the amount you give, but the degree of



sacrifice and the willingness on your part to give it (Luke 21:2–4; 2 Corinthians 8:12).

D. Walk in **faith**, not fear (2 Corinthians 9:8–11).

1. God never rewards selfishness and fear that keeps you thinking only about yourself. You are called to be a giver, trusting God to supply you with “seed” and to meet your needs as you concern yourself with others. If you work out of fear that you will not have enough, then you limit God’s blessings to you.
2. You must learn to live by faith, trusting that God will be there tomorrow just as surely as He is today. It is faith that pleases God, and when you exercise faith and believe that He will take care of you, He delights to do just that.

II. The trunk represents the basic principles of finances.

A. Tithe **10%** of all your income (Malachi 3:1–12).

1. The tithe is the beginning point in managing your finances as a Christian. When you give your tithe, you first give to God in gratitude for the past, then as your priority for the present, and finally as your faith for the future. He, in turn, will “open the windows of heaven, and pour out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10, KJV).

B. Save **10%** of your income (Proverbs 21:20).

1. After you give to the Lord, pay yourself. The Japanese typically save 25%; Europeans, 18%; and Americans, 5%.
2. A system of regular, methodical saving over the course of many years can reap astounding results.
3. When you begin saving, first set aside three months’ income in the bank as a hedge against rough times. Then, begin long-term savings by investing in safe compound interest situations that you do not touch.

C. Budget the remaining **80%** of your income.

1. Develop a specific plan, or budget, for your money. Know what your monthly income and expenditures are, and plan what you will do with your money each month.
2. A budget is a plan for prosperity. Most of us have enough money, but we wasted it on the wrong priorities.
3. Then tithe gets top priority, then housing, food, clothing, and transportation. Everything else should receive a lower priority.



III. The branches represent miscellaneous principles dealing with finances.

A. Curb your **spending**.

1. Pay cash for your purchases. Generally, you will spend more money if you use credit cards. Keep careful track of your spending. There are many good software programs to help.
2. Be on guard against the temptation to overspend during holidays or when on vacation. Instead, plan ahead for such times.
3. Never be motivated by the word sale. Don't grocery shop hungry! Don't overextend yourself when purchasing a car.

B. Use wisdom in **investing** (Ecclesiastes 11:1—2).

1. Never gamble; there is no "getting rich quick" to solve all your financial worries.
2. All major investments should have the consent of both partners in a marriage. Spouses should view the perspective of the other with respect and should move forward only when both feel comfortable.

C. Avoid **borrowing** (Proverbs 22:7).

1. Only borrow on appreciating items, such as a house. Most people will also have to borrow to purchase a car. However, never borrow on unsecured loans (credit cards).
2. Never participate in anything illegal. That is never justified.

D. Be **hard working** and diligent (Colossians 3:22—24; 2 Thessalonians 3:10—12).

1. Laziness and idleness are never acceptable. Be diligent and work hard. At your place of employment, do your work as unto the Lord.
2. Remember, however, that you work to live, not live to work. Work provides your living, but it is not your life. Work comes after God, family, and ministry.
3. Be a good steward of your household. Take care of things that must be repaired, and teach your children a strong work ethic. Refuse to tolerate laziness in yourself or your household.

IV. The fruit comes as a result of good financial management.

- A. An **inheritance** for your children is one of the fruits of good financial management (Proverbs 13:22).
 - 1. The first fruit of a long life of good habits of spending, saving, and investing is having an inheritance.
 - 2. This means that you will have enough at the end of your life for yourself and enough to leave to your children and even your children's children.
- B. **Souls won** by investing financially in God's kingdom is a wonderful fruit from wisely managing your finances (Proverbs 11:30).
 - 1. When your finances are in order, you possess expanded influence around the world to win people to the kingdom of God.
- C. You will reap an eternal **reward** for all you do to promote the kingdom of God with your finances (Mark 10:29—30).
 - 1. Everything that you give to the kingdom of God for the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission will be given back to you, if not in this world, then in the world to come.
 - 2. You will also be given expanded influence in the eternal Kingdom of the Lord Jesus if you use the finances of this world to prove your faithfulness (Luke 19:11—26).

Summary: Building a strong financial base in our lives takes diligence, hard work, sacrifice, and a commitment to godly principles of money management. As Christians, we do not view money as an end in itself but only as a means to provide for our families and advance the kingdom of God. As we are learning to handle our finances in a godly fashion, we begin by giving God ten percent in the tithe. That acknowledgment of Him as the one who owns everything we possess keeps our perspective right. Next, we make a budget and stick to it, planning to eliminate outstanding debt. Then, we begin a steady plan of saving and investing. A strong and healthy financial foundation will yield the fruits of material inheritance, souls won for the Kingdom, and eternal rewards in heaven.

Lesson 5 - Take the Garbage Out

And suddenly, they cried out, saying, “What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?” Matthew 8:29

Since the devil is not God, he can't be in many places at once, so he does most of his dirty work through his agents—demons. Demons are called evil spirits, unclean spirits, familiar spirits, lying spirits, and even angels of Satan.

The Bible mentions a few names of demons: the spirit of fear (2 Timothy 1:7), the spirit of lust (Hosea 5:4), the spirit of bondage (Romans 8:15), the spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:11), the spirit of pride (Proverbs 16:18), and spirit of divination (Acts. 16:16).

Demons entice, harass, torture, compel, enslave, cause addictions, defile, deceive, and attack the physical body.

I. Believers Can Be in Bondage

- A. God delivered His people from the bondage of Egypt.

And the LORD said, “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.” Exodus 3:7

- B. Spiritual bondage is like grave clothes, **restricting** our ability to live for Jesus.

And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.” John 11:44

- C. Deliverance is the children's bread.

But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs.” Matthew 15:26

- D. Christians are **warned** not to give the devil a foothold.

Nor give place to the devil. Ephesians 4:27

- E. Believers can be influenced by demons (come under the control of an indwelling demon), but they can't be owned by a demon.

II. Main Open Doors to Demons

- A. Inheritance (family of origin doing witchcraft)
- B. Intrusion (abuse, trauma, broken home, moment of weakness)
- C. Involvement (witchcraft, occult, demonic objects, abortion, illicit sex, deliberate, careless, willful sin like drugs, and porn)



III. The Process of Deliverance

A. **Recognize** the signs that you might have a demon:

1. Sleep —attacks that come in your sleep
2. Thoughts — intrusive thoughts and hearing voices in your head
3. Emotions — controlling, negative, and toxic emotions
4. Desires — intense desires for habit-forming things
5. Sex — sexual perversion and spirit spouses
6. Health — chronic sickness
7. Behavior — compulsive behavior
8. Spiritual — extreme restlessness in a spirit-filled environment or hostility toward deliverance
9. Generational — recurring problems from your parents that are repeating in your life

B. **Repent** for any sins that might have opened the door to demons.

C. **Release** any unforgiveness and bitterness.

D. **Renounce**:

1. All contact with the occult, sorcery, witchcraft, oaths, rituals, demonic vows, demonic ceremonies, blood covenants, false gods, and false religion.
2. Ungodly soul ties.
3. Generational curses.
4. Word curses.

E. **Rebuke** the unclean spirit and commend it to go to the pit.

Lesson 6 - Serving

His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' Matthew 25:21

I. Volunteer versus Servant

A. Volunteer:

1. Chooses to help; sees it as optional.
2. Works for an organization or cause.
3. May stop when it gets inconvenient.
4. Acts out of kindness or interest.

B. Servant:

1. Sees it as a joyful responsibility.
2. Works unto the Lord.
3. Stays faithful even when unseen.

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23—24

- C. Volunteering is a great first step into the life of the church, but God **calls** us to go further.
- D. If we only see ourselves as volunteers, we can feel like we're doing God a favor. But when we see ourselves as servants, we realize it's an honor.
- E. Jesus didn't come to volunteer but to **serve**.
- F. *Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many. Mark 10:43—45*
 1. Jesus didn't recruit volunteers; He called disciples who serve out of love and surrender.

II. Serving is a Mark of Discipleship

- A. Selfishness is the language of fallen humanity. It is the dark, unholy trinity of "me, myself, and I."



1. Adam reached for the tree in selfishness, and sin, pain, and death entered the world.
 2. Jesus, the last Adam, stretched out His hands on the tree in selflessness, and through Him came redemption, healing, and life.
- B. Jesus did not just preach a message; He **modeled** a new kind of humanity—one marked by humility, sacrifice, and service.
1. He washed His disciples' feet. He touched the broken. He embraced the lowly.
 2. He showed us that in God's Kingdom, greatness is not found in being admired, but in being available to serve.
- C. The difference between a prodigal and a disciple can be seen in their **attitude** toward serving.
1. "Give me what is mine" was the cry of the prodigal son.
 2. "Make me like one of your servants" was the heart of the repentant son.
 3. Sonship is received freely, but servanthood costs us something.
 4. Slaves serve because they are forced to. Sons serve because they choose to. A slave loses freedom against his will, but a son surrenders his freedom in love. That is what Jesus did, and that is what true discipleship looks like.

III. Serving is Fulfilling Your Assignment

- A. Volunteers fill **slots**. You are not a volunteer simply filling a slot. You are a member of Christ's Body, and you are created to express your God-given function connected to the Body.
- B. Filling the needs of an institution more than serving from the grace God placed in you will burn you out faster than almost anything else.
- C. *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:1*
- D. *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them... Romans 12:6*
- E. You are a member of the Body, not just a worker in a system.
 1. Your service is not random. It is connected to your identity in Christ and to your function in His Body.
 2. When you see yourself as a member of Christ's Body, serving is no longer something you do to help leadership out. It becomes part of how you live as a disciple of Jesus.

- F. The goal of the church is not merely to fill ministry needs.
 - 1. The church should not exist simply to use people to meet organizational demands. We are here to equip people to fulfill their spiritual assignment.
- G. Serving should flow from **grace**, not pressure.
 - 1. When you serve only because there is a need, but not from the grace God has placed on your life, burnout comes quickly. Grace gives strength for service.
- H. Growth in serving is a **process**.
 - 1. Not every assignment will perfectly match your greatest gift on day one. But healthy ministry should move people toward serving more and more from grace, not less and less.

IV. Serving is Not a Stepping Stone

- A. Stop turning every assignment into a ladder. Take the grace God has given you and use it.
- B. God does promote people, but serving is not a ladder to something greater. Serving is great work.
 - 1. When we see serving as a stepping stone, we begin to treat hidden faithfulness like a hallway to greatness instead of a holy assignment in itself.
 - 2. Faithfulness does expand your capacity and prepare you for more responsibility, but the focus should never be on the next assignment. The focus should be on faithfulness in the current one.
 - 3. Romans 12 does not say, “Use your gift until you get promoted into something more important.”
- C. Things do not have to change the world to be valuable in God’s eyes. Not everyone is called to be world-changing, but everyone is called to be God-pleasing.
- D. **Visibility** does not equal **value**. The heart is not visible, but it is essential to the body. In the Body of Christ, some parts are public, but many are powerful because they are hidden. You are not less important because you are not on stage. You are still a member with a necessary function.
- E. Titles can be given by people, but **towels** are chosen by servants. Serving is not about the title; it is about the towel. Do not serve for applause. Serve for impact.

Lesson 7 - Groups

The early church met in homes. They gathered around tables, not altars. They broke bread in living rooms, not sanctuaries. The movement that turned the Roman Empire upside down was not powered by programs and buildings—it was powered by people who did life together in a close, committed community.

This is the heart behind our Connect Groups. We are returning to the original model—intentional, relational, home-based community—because that is where life change has always happened.

So, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart. Acts 2:46

I. Small Groups: A Pattern Throughout Scripture

Connect Groups are not a modern church trend. The principle of intentional, small-group community runs through the entire Bible.

A. Abraham (Genesis 14:14–16)

1. Abraham's household included 318 trained warriors. His identity, his community, and his mission were all defined by his household.
2. In the ancient world, the house you belonged to shaped who you were.

B. Moses (Numbers 11:16–17)

1. When Moses was overwhelmed leading millions of people, God's solution was not to make Moses a better leader. God anointed a team. He divided the people into groups: some as small as ten, so that every person could receive real care, real accountability, and real connection.
2. God has always worked through small groups.

C. Jesus

1. Jesus ministered to thousands. But He poured His life into twelve.
2. The Son of God, who could have spent His three years preaching stadium events, chose to build a small group. He ate with them, traveled with them, answered their questions at midnight, and wept with them.
3. If Jesus prioritized intentional small community, so should we.

D. **Revival** in a House:

1. Jesus healed in a house. (Matthew 9:23–24)
2. Jesus discipled in a house. (Mark 9:33–35)
3. The Last Supper was held in a house. (Matthew. 26:17–18)



4. The Holy Spirit was poured out in a house. (Acts 2:2–4)
5. The Church was born and gathered in houses. (Acts 2:46)
6. People were saved and baptized in a house (Acts 10:1–48)

II. Why You Should Join a Connect Group

A. Because **Jesus** had a small group.

1. This is perhaps the simplest and most powerful reason. Jesus—fully God, all-knowing, all-powerful—chose twelve ordinary people and did life with them for three years. He didn't lead from a distance. He was present, relational, and intentional.
2. If the Son of God valued a small group, we have no good reason to skip one.

B. Because you were made to **belong**.

1. The New Testament describes the church as the household of God (Ephesians 2:19). A Connect Group is where that household becomes tangible.
2. You will have people who know your name, remember your prayer requests, sit with you in grief, and celebrate your victories.

C. Because you will **grow** faster.

1. Spiritual growth accelerates in the community. When you wrestle with God's Word together, hear someone else's perspective, ask the questions you're afraid to ask on Sunday morning, and are held accountable during the week—something shifts. The sermon plants the seed; the Connect Group is where it gets watered.

As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend. Proverbs 27:17

2. Iron cannot sharpen iron from a distance. There has to be contact—and yes, there will be heat, friction, and noise. But that friction is not a problem. It is the process. The people in your Connect Group will challenge you, encourage you, and hold you accountable in ways that no sermon, podcast, or devotional ever could.

D. Because you don't have to go through it **alone**.

1. Life is hard. Loss, failure, illness, confusion, and doubt come for everyone. Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 says two are better than one because when one falls, the other lifts them up.
2. Your Connect Group is that **lifeline**. You were never meant to carry the weight of life by yourself.



E. Because you will live out the New Testament.

1. The New Testament contains 59 “one another” commands: love one another, encourage one another, forgive one another, pray for one another, bear one another’s burdens, confess to one another.
2. These commands are impossible to obey in isolation. A Connect Group is the environment where New Testament Christianity actually happens.
3. A healthy Connect Group is more than a Bible study or a social gathering. It is a full-orbed community that provides:

F. Fellowship

G. Evangelism — a safe place to invite friends who aren’t yet following Jesus

H. Learning — wrestling with Scripture in conversation and community

I. Ministry — caring for each other’s practical and spiritual needs

J. Training — growing in gifts, skills, and Christlike character