LifePlan Session Guides (& ILLUSTRATIONS)



Scope & Sequence of a Virtual Training Huddle



Overview and Current Reality	Week
The Disciple-Maker's Commitment 3	1
4 Ds Diagram 5	
The Life Plan 9 / Diagram 12	
The Life Plan Evaluation 13	
The Big Three Keystone Habits 19 / Diagram 22	2
The Top 5s 25	
The Greatest Danger 27	3
The Characteristics of Sin 31	4
True Grace 39 / Diagram 42	5

The Disciple-Maker Preferred Future	Week
We are training disciple-makers. 48	6
We are helping disciples train in godliness. 49	7
We are helping each family unit be a love and truth center. 50 / Diagram 51	8
We are distributing the grace of God by serving one another. 52	9
We are families on mission. 53	10
We are teaching the consequences of not obeying Jesus. 54	11

The Disciple-Maker Pathway	Week
Living the Life of Christ 59 / Diagram 64	12
Matthew 6:33 Practice 67	13
Systematic Reading of the Bible 73 / Diagram 81	14

Living the 8ight Priorities 89 / Diagram 92 / Time with God 90	15
Time with Spouse 90	16
Time with Children 90	17
Time with Parents 90	17
Time at Work 91	18
Time with Unsaved People 91	19
Time with Saved People 91	20
Time at Rest 91	21
The Milk of the Word 95 / Diagram 126	22
Repentance From Dead Works 98	23
Faith in God 101	24
Baptisms 104	25
Laying on of Hands 108	26
Resurrection of the Dead 110	27
Eternal Judgement 115	28
The Meat of the Word 119 / Diagram 126	29-30
Plethos Next Steps	31





Greet and Pray.



In 2 minutes: Tell us about yourself. Why did you sign up for this Huddle? What are your passions? Tell us about your family and background.



Plethos OVERVIEW: Scope and Sequence

- Read the letter from the Plethos Team in the front of the Life Plan.
- Explain the Table of Contents.
- Review The Disciple-maker's Commitment the Discipleship Coach is making to the Huddle participants on page 3.
- Review the 4 D's of Training Huddles on pages 5-6.
- Go over the Life Plan on pages 9-11.
- Go over the Life Plan Evaluation on pages 13-16 and assign this as homework.
 - Bonus Material: Review the 2017 Barna Survey. (Find the document at <u>plethosglobal.com</u>)
- 1. What are some of your expectations coming into this Training Huddle?
- 2. What are you looking forward to the most as you take this nine month weekly adventure? Or, what are you most excited about learning and implementing from the Life Plan this year?
- 3. Have you ever been discipled before? If so, share the story. If not, why not?







Greet & Pray.



How did the Life Plan Evaluation go? What surprised you? What was a no brainer? What area needs the most growth?



Plethos OVERVIEW: The Big Three Keystone Habits on pages 19-25

- Explain what a Keystone Habit is on page 20 in the grey box and walk through each habit is on pages 20, 21 and the the diagram on page 22.
 - Keystone Habit #1
 - **Keystone Habit #1 Illustration:** The Home is the Most Effective Place to Teach the Bible
 - Reference the following tools: Bible Reading Plan on page 73-74; How to Study the Bible on pages 75-81; The Student the Fish and Agassiz on pages 83-86.
 - Keystone Habit #2
 - Reference Galatians 2:20 (Living the Life of Christ) on pages 59-64.
 - Keystone Habit #3
 - Reference the Top 5 List on page 25.



- 1. Are you practicing any of these habits already today? If so, which ones?
- 2. Prayer is an important part of Keystone Habit #1. How is prayer a huge part of each one of The Big Three Keystone Habits?
- 3. Do you have any questions about today's Training Huddle??



Home is the Most Effective Place to Teach the Bible

Keystone Habit #1 Illustration



God has instructed the family to be the primary teacher of God's Word to the next generation.

Keystone Habit #1: Systematic Bible Reading and having a way to hold yourself accountable to practice what you learn.

If a pastor preaches a chapter of the Bible each week, it would take him 22.8 years to preach through the entire Bible. Catch that? If a person depended on the pastor to teach him the Bible, it would take him 22.8 years of never missing a Sunday and attending the same church for 22.8 years. Not many people attend every Sunday or stay at the same church for 22.8 years. Not many pastors preach chapter by chapter through the Bible nor stay at the same church for 22.8 years.

The pastor is to preach the word of God week after week to instruct, inspire, comfort, strengthen, rebuke and correct each saint, but God has

given the family the job of comprehensively teaching the Word to the next generation (Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Proverbs 6:20; Ephesians 6:1-4).

If the family formally teaches or reads a chapter together 6 days a week, the family will go through the 1189 chapters of the Bible in 3.8 years. Informally the family is teaching God's word 24/7 at each teachable moment, teach, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).





Greet and Pray.



Spend some time praying for each other. Share one personal thing the group can join you in prayer about this week. Take some time to pray for each participant.



Go over "Sin is our Greatest Danger" on Pages 27-30 in the Life Plan.

The Greatest Danger Illustration: Crossing the Street



- 1. How do you respond when you hear "Sin is our Greatest Danger"?
- 2. Read the last bullet point on page 30 out loud together. Ask, "Do you see sin as your greatest danger, really?"



Sin is Our Greatest Danger

The Greatest Danger Illustration



Introduction

Sin is our greatest danger as we walk through this sinful world. As coaches we need to teach people that sin is their greatest danger as soon as they can understand.

Illustration: Crossing the Street

"How do you cross the street?" (Most say they look both ways and then cross).

"Why do you look both ways?" (Most say the reason is to avoid getting run over).

"When did you learn to cross the street?" (Most say when they were very young).

"Who taught you to cross the street and why?" (Most say their parents did to protect them).

Passages to Help Shape Context

Psalm 25:15 My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **looking to Jesus**, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

We are to **keep our eyes on Jesus Christ our Lord** as we walk through this sinful world in order to keep from being "run-over" by sin.

Teaching Points

- 1. Parents need to teach their children, as soon as they're able to understand, about the danger of sin and how to walk through this sinful world so they don't get run over by sin, get hurt, or destroyed. Men need to teach other men that the greatest danger is sin and that looking to Jesus keeps us from being run-over by sin.
- 2. God used 1,187 chapters out of 1,189 to teach people how sin entered the world, how destructive it is, and how He entered the world to save them from the destructiveness of sin (Romans 5:12; Matthew 1:21).

3. Parents are God's primary way of teaching each generation the way to overcome its greatest danger.

Passages that Note Our Role in Teaching

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

- There is only one true God and His name is LORD. vs 4 (Yahweh Exodus 3:14 Jesus is "I AM" John 8:58)
- All are to love the LORD with all they have. vs 5
- All are to learn His commands (instructions) by heart. vs 6
- All parents and grandparents (Deuteronomy 4:9) are to formally teach God's Word to their children daily. vs 7a
- All parents and grandparents are to informally use teachable moments throughout the day to impart God's Word to their children. vs 7b

2 Timothy 2:2 And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.





Greet and Pray.



We are a "fight club" and a "band of brothers". Share how we can help each other FIGHT SIN and SATAN together.

- Bonus Material: "Spiritual Warfare" and how to "FIGHT SIN AND SATAN."
 - 1. We are in a spiritual battle!
 - 2. Satan and demons (1/3 of created angels Revelation 12:4, 9) are our enemies (Ephesians 6:11-12).
 - 3. We overcome Satan by 2 Corinthians 10:5; Ephesians 6:10-18; Hebrews 2:14-15; James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9; Revelation 12:11.
 - 4. Satan's ways are given in 2 Corinthians 2:11 ("schemes" or "designs" can better be translated "concepts of the mind"); Ephesians 6:11.
 - 5. Satan's schemes are illustrated by:
 - Genesis 3:1-6 Sin looks good, delightful, desirable.
 - Luke 4:1-13 Temped to meet needs by sinning changing rock to bread when it is not God's will, gaining authority and riches by sinful ways, doing something sure to harm us to get God to save us.
 - Hebrews 3:13 Sin deceives people.
 - Hebrew 11:24-25 Sin is pleasurable for only a short time.
 - 1 John 3:8 Instructs us that sinning is of the devil.



Go over "The Characteristics of Sin" on Pages 31-37 in the Life Plan.

- **Family Exercise:** Read Galatians 5:19-21 and then Galatians 5:22-23. Ask, "What do you want in your life (home)?"
- On page 37 is a practical exercise to prayerfully confront your own sin. Read through this and complete the exercise on your own then feel free to share and discuss.



- 1. What characteristics of sin do you see in your life? Or maybe your family life?
- 2. What is God saying to you through this session?







Greet and Pray.



The gospel is simply this, "We all have sinned and fallen short of God's standard. Yet, through Jesus, we can receive His grace to be saved."

 What did you think of our discussion on sin? How did it make you feel? Do you feel like it needs to be discussed in the very beginning of a discipling relationship? Why or why not?



Go over "True Grace" on pages 39-42 in the Life Plan.

- **True Grace Illustration:** The Three Best Sons
 - Bonus Material: We are to gather as the Church to give someone the grace God has given us. If every person comes to give, most will receive something by fellowshipping with the Body of Christ. If everybody came to receive something, then many may go away saying, "I didn't get anything by coming today." If people come to give they will be blessed- see Acts 20:35.
- We Are Statement #4 Illustration: Potluck Dinner
 - Bonus Material: 2 Timothy 2:1, "You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace
 that is in Christ Jesus." "be strengthened" can be translated, "Let yourself learn to
 function..." It could read, "You then, my child, let yourself learn to function by the
 grace that is in Christ Jesus."
 - Bonus Material: In Ephesians 4:11-12 the people listed have the job of "equipping" the saints to do the work of the ministry." The Greek word translated "equip" is the word translated "mend" in Matthew 4:21. The meaning is to "restore". When we restore a person to good spiritual health, then the person will be able to use the grace they have been given to help serve and built other people up in love.



- 1. Have you thought of "grace" through these three different lenses before?
- 2. Why is the grace of God so good?
- 3. Why do we need to talk about God's grace all the time in almost every conversation?



The Three Best Sons

True Grace Illustration



3 Aspects of Grace

Grace that saves.

Grace that enables obedience.

Grace the equips for service.

Parents should not favor or love one of their children above another. If a parent does this, it has bad results.

With this in mind I told each of my three sons privately that I loved them best. Of course, this became public knowledge, but the fact is, I do love each of my sons the best!

Let's apply this to the three aspects of Grace. We are to treat each aspect of Grace as the best:

- 1. Grace that saves us from the penalty of sin (Ephesians 2:8-9) is best.
- 2. **Grace that enables us to obey the Lord** and stay on the path of righteousness and not be ruined by sin is the best (2 Corinthians 12:9; Galatians 2:20).
- 3. **Grace that equips us to serve** others distributing God's grace to help build others up (1 Peter 4:10; Ephesians 4:15-16; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:11-12) is the best. If we treat any aspect of Grace as more important than the other we hinder the work of God among people, just as a parent brings ruin by treating one child as better than the others.

Gathering to Give and Receive

We Are Statement #4 Illustrations



Introduction

We are distributing the grace of God by serving the people of God. We gather to give as well as receive.

1 Peter 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

The word gift (χάρισμα) is derived from the same root as the word grace (χάρις). Every believer has a part of the grace gifts that Jesus had in whole. The Church working together with Christ as the Head is doing the work of Jesus Christ throughout the world and in every local church.

Acts 20:35 Jesus said, 'It is more blessed to give than receive.

If everyone came only to receive something, then many would go home thinking or saying, "I didn't get anything out of church today." However, if each came to give and receive, then each would go home blessed.

UPS Hub

Gertrude ordered a book. It's shipped by UPS from the shop she ordered from to her home address. How does it get there?

A UPS truck picks up the package from the shop and takes it to a hub in the region where Gertrude lives. All packages are sorted in the hub, including hers. The UPS truck delivers her package from that hub to her home address.

What happens if the package is taken to the hub, but is not taken by the UPS truck to the home of Gertrude, the one who ordered it? Simple, she doesn't receive the book she ordered.

Likewise, a person prays for grace to help him in a time of need (Hebrews 4:16) or God sees the in need of help even if he didn't pray; God prompts another believer, gifted with the grace needed, to share with the one in need.

Now, what happens if the disciple doesn't deliver the grace the other needs?

The Church is the Body of Christ, and Christ is the Head (the brains), as the Church gathers together to worship the Lord and to spur one another on towards love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24-25) **each person comes with something to give, his grace gift**. The person is to locate whoever needs his or her gift of grace and give it to them. If everybody comes to give, it's likely all will receive what they need and all will go away blessed. The person receiving what he needs is blessed and the person giving to meet the need is more blessed (Acts 20:35b).

Potluck Dinner

If everybody comes with something to share, it's likely an abundance of food will be provided. However, if everybody thought someone else would bring what is needed and they didn't have time to prepare a dish to pass, then there would not be enough food.

God created people to be givers and has provided all His children with something valuable to give - **gifts of grace**.





Greet and Pray.



We just completed Part One - The Overview and Current Reality.

- We gave you a picture of the Vision of #BuildtheHome and the Life Plan on pages 9-11. Hopefully you have a better picture of your *current reality* through taking the Life Plan Evaluation on pages 13-16, reviewing The Big Three Keystone Habits on pages 19-25, and going over the Gospel: Sin and Grace on pages 27-42.
- What are your thoughts so far? How has this helped you gain clarity, confidence, and courage to train disciple-makers in your home and circle of influence?
- We will dive into Part Two of the Life Plan otherwise known as the Disciple-Maker Preferred Future. You will learn six "We are..." statements. These are how we learn, live out and pass on the life and mission of Jesus. These are what we want to be and do as followers of Jesus. The "We are" statements are the target we are aiming for as disciplemakers.



Go over "We are Training Disciple-makers" on pages 47-48 in the Life Plan.



- 1. What discipleship training have you received in the past? Was it helpful? Why or why not.
- 2. Have you had the opportunity to help someone meet, know, and follow Jesus before?
- 3. Have you been discipled before? If so, share about the experience. If not, why not?
- 4. Have you discipled someone before? If so, please take some time to describe it.



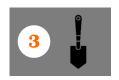




Greet and Pray.



- What was your ONE THING from last week? How did it go?
- Have you filled out your Top 5's yet on page 25? If so, talk about how you are pursuing your list in prayer and in person.



Go over "We are helping disciples to train in godliness" on page 49 in the Life Plan.



- 1. What does training in godliness look like in your life and home?
- 2. Do you have a training plan (exercise program)? If so, share it. If not, what do you want it do look it?
- 3. What are you eliminating out of your life intentionally to be spiritually fit?
- 4. What are you adding to your life intentionally to be spiritually fit?







Greet and Pray.



- Mark 5:19 Share the good things God has done for you.
- Review the "We are..." statements one and two if there is time.



Go over "We are helping families be a love and truth center" on pages 50-51 in the Life Plan.

Spend some time going over **"The Love and Truth Center" Diagram** on page 51 in the Life Plan.



- 1. Look at the Love and Truth Center Diagram. In your flesh what is the quadrant you default to? Explain your answer.
- 2. How do you move into the "Christlike" quadrant when you find yourself drifting?
- 3. What practical steps can you take to help your family be a Love and Truth Center?
- 4. What practical steps can you take to help your church be a Love and Truth Center?
- 5. What does the gospel say in light of this topic/discussion?







Greet and Pray.



- Share whatever the Holy Spirit has put on your mind that you feel led to share with the Huddle. Remember, this needs to be a safe place to be vulnerable and authentic.
- As a group give an update on your DO from last week.
- Review the "We are..." statement #3 if there is time.



Go over **"We are distributing the grace of God by serving one another"** on page 52 in your Life Plan.

- We Are Statement #4 Illustrations: UPS Hub; Potluck Dinner; 1 Peter 4:10; Acts 20:35.
- Bonus: The people listed in Ephesians 4:11-12 have the job of "equipping" the saints to do the work of the ministry. The Greek word translated "equip" in Ephesians 4:12 is the word translated "mend" in Matthew 4:21. The meaning is to "restore". When we restore a person to good spiritual health, then the person will be able to use the grace they have been given to help serve and build other people up in love.
- Bonus Scriptures for your study: Romans 12:6; 1 Corinthians 12:4; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2
 Timothy 1:6; Romans 1:1-6; Romans 1:11; Romans 12:3; 1 Corinthians 15:10; Ephesians 4:15-16



- 1. Do you know your spiritual gifts? Your family's spiritual gifts? Your circle of influence's spiritual gifts?
- 2. What does distributing the grace of God by serving one another look like in your local church? Why is the local church so important to talk about when we discuss this topic?



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Greet and Pray.



- Share whatever the Holy Spirit has put on your mind that you feel led to share with the Huddle. Remember, this needs to be a safe place to be vulnerable and authentic.
- As a group give an update on your DO from last week.
- Review the "We are..." statement #4 if there is time.



Go over "We are Families on Mission" on page 53 in your Life Plan.

- Bonus Material: Five truths to show a person's value to God:
 - 1. We are **C**reated in the image of God Genesis 1:26, 27.
 - 2. We are **R**edeemed at the greatest price 1 Peter 1:18-19; John 19:30.
 - 3. We are **R**estored over our entire lifetime Hebrew 10:14.
 - 4. We are **R**ecruited to be on God's team (#1 Draft pick) John 15:16.
 - 5. **R**eturn. Jesus is returning for us so we can be with Him forever John 14:1-3.



- 1. What does family disciple-making look like in your home? (Deuteronomy 6:4-7)
- 2. In what ways are you living as a family on mission in your neighborhood and community?
- 3. What does "family on mission" look like in light of the local church?







Greet and Pray.



- Share whatever the Holy Spirit has put on your mind that you feel led to share with the Huddle. Remember, this needs to be a safe place to be vulnerable and authentic.
- As a group give an update on your DO from last week.
- Review the "We are..." statements #1-#5 briefly if there is time.



Go over **"We are teaching the consequences of not obeying Jesus."** on page 54 in your Life Plan.

- We Are Statement #6 Illustration: Motivation to Obey
- Bonus Material: Why did Jesus tell the consequence of not obeying His commands? To help the person make right decisions by having all the facts. Take a look at Proverbs, it teaches the consequences of not obeying Jesus. Proverbs gives a great definition of prudence: Knowing the future results (consequences) of your present actions.
- Also, Leviticus 26 teaches the blessing of obedience and the consequences of disobedience through if/then statements.



- 1. Is this a hard topic for you today? Do you have a hard time talking about sin and giving warning to people of the danger of sin?
- 2. How do you teach the consequences of not obeying Jesus in everyday life? In your home? In your circle of influence? In your church?



Disobeying Jesus' Commands

We Are Statement #6 Illustration



Introduction

We are teaching the consequences of not obeying Jesus' commands.

Motivation to Obey

One day Dwayne told his son that he would be joining the whole family to watch his sister's dance recital and then go out for a treat afterwards. The son, refusing to go, caused such a commotion that Dwayne and the family left without him. In the end, the son got what he wanted (Coach: add your own details to spice it up).

The next year, a more experienced Dwayne, told his son, once again, they would be leaving to watch his sister's dance recital and then out for a treat. The son put up a stink again, this time however, Dwayne told his son the consequences of not going,

"Mow the grass,

scrub all floors in the house,

weed the garden,

and paint the fence,

On top of that, even if everything is done by the time we get home, you'll lose your phone and X-box for a week."

Guess what, the son decided to go.

Knowing the consequences of not obeying Jesus's commands can be a great motivation to obey.





Greet and Pray.



- Lead through the "Confess sin / Celebrate wins" exercise. Read James 5: 13-14 and Mark 5:19.
- Review the "We are..." statements #1-#6 briefly if there is time.



- **See Part 3** on page 57 in your Life Plan and explain the transition from part one (current reality) and part two (preferred future) to part three (the G.A.P.). See the diagram on page 59 and 11 to explain the Disciple-Maker's Pathway.
- Go over "Living the Life of Christ" on pages 60-64 in the Life Plan and teach through Galatians 2:20.
 - This is the #2 Keystone Habit of the Big Three Keystone Habits. Encourage them to memorize Galatians 2:20 and learn by heart the Living the Life of Christ teaching, then live this out, and pass it on in their home and circle of influence. The diagram on page 64 will really help as a visual tool.
- Galatians 2:20 Illustrations: One Million \$\$; I Can't or I Won't
- Faith in God Illustrations: Gas Pedal; Stopping the Car; Trust of a Two Year Old; Peak Physical Condition



- 1. How does this teaching impact you personally, in your heart, mind, body, and soul?
- 2. How does learning, living, and passing on Galatians 2:20 help you live a gospel fluent life?
- 3. How does learning, living, and passing on Galatians 2:20 help your relationships like marriage, parenting, work life, and in your community?



Living the Life of Christ

Galatians 2:20 Illustrations



Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me, and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave his life for me."

One Million \$\$

Joe put one million dollars into his friend Bob's bank account. Would Bob have enough money to pay his bills, buy his food, and pay for maintenance and repairs for his car?

The answer is an easy Yes!

Now suppose Bob began to show up at Joe's house hoping to borrow money for some food, repair his car and pay his past due electric bill. How would Joe respond?

"Bob, do you remember the million bucks in your bank account?"

"Yes," Bob said.

"Then why are you asking to borrow these small amounts of money?" asked Joe.

Bob replied, "I don't know how to get my money out of my bank account!"

Q. How does Joe need to help Bob? He needs to teach Bob how to access the money in his bank account.

Many Christians are like Bob, they have all the resources of Jesus available to them, but go around poor because they do not know how to use the resources of Christ, who lives in them. As disciple-makers, we need to teach them how to access these resources by faith in the Son of God.

For Bob to ignore the million dollars given to him is foolish. On the other hand, it would be foolish for us to ignore the resources of Jesus Christ who lives in us. As discerning and obedient disciples, we live out the teaching of God's word expecting Jesus to fulfill our attempt with His power.

I Can't or I Won't

A person who has repented of his sin and believed the gospel has been freed from the penalty of sin and slavery to sin (Romans 5:10; 6:6-7).

The jail gives us a revealing picture of what happens when a person repents of their sin and believes the gospel. Gilbert is condemned to death, jailed and awaiting their execution. He appeals to the president for a pardon and receives it. Gilbert is no longer condemned and is free to leave the jail cell. The jailor arrives, unlocks the door and tells Gilbert he is free to leave.

If Gilbert, holding his certificate of pardon, said to the jailor, "I *can't* leave the cell," would he be telling the truth? No. If the pardoned man were being honest he would instead say, "I *won't* leave the cell."

The same is true of the person who has repented of their sin and believed the gospel. If God says to the believer to walk away from his or her sinful habit and the believer says to God, "I can't," is the the believer speaking the truth? No. They would need to say to God, "I won't walk away from my sinful habit," in order to speak honestly. Why? God has given all believers the power to overcome sinful habits (2 Peter 1:3-4) and freed them from slavery to sin (Romans 6:6-7). The believer can walk away from sinful habits.

Faith in God

Faith in God Illustrations



Stopping the Car

A person seeking to live God's way without exercising faith in God is like the person pushing his car to his destination. The person seeking to stop a sinful habit in his own power is like a person sticking his leg out the door of his car to stop the car. The Christian seeking to live in his own power and not by faith in God is living by his sin nature or according to the flesh and is living like an nonbeliever.

When a person is seeking to stop sinning in some area, the person attempts to stop doing the sinful habit expecting the Lord to fulfill his attempt with His power.

Gas Pedal

When a person gets into his car to go to his destination, he turns on the car, puts it in gear, and then steps on the gas pedal expecting the power of the engine to move the car to the destination. A person gains the power to live God's way when he is saved by faith in Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Being saved in Christ is like a person receiving a car to travel to necessary destinations. He lives his daily life God's way attempting to obey God and expecting Him to fulfill his attempts with God's divine power. In the same way, the driver steps on the gas pedal expecting the car to get him to his desired destination.

Trust of a Two Year Old

(Exercising faith in God)

If I ask a trusting two year old to jump straight up onto my coffee table without using her hands, then she will attempt to jump up on it. The moment she attempts to jump up on it, I fulfill her act prompted by faith with my power by picking her up and placing her on top of the table.

This is the same for us when we attempt to obey God by faith. Our attempt to obey will be fulfilled with God's power.

Peak Physical Condition

The Green Bay Packers do not play every game in perfect physical condition. If each player waited until they were in perfect physical condition, the team might continually play shorthanded. In the same way, Christians

are not perfect, but need to be doing their assignments from God as imperfect people. If a Christian sins right before beginning to serve the people God sent him to serve and then disqualified himself from the assignment, then God's work might not get done. The Milk doctrines of "Repentance from Sin" and "Faith in God" enable the Christian to overcome imperfections and get God's assignment done.





Greet and Pray.



- How are you doing implementing "The Big Three Keystone Habits" in your life?
- Review the "Living the Life of Christ" on page 64 (Keystone Habit #2) in you have time.



Go over "Matthew 6:33 Practice" on pages 67-72 in the Life Plan.

• Spend the time to break down each M633 track and show how each one supports the other. The Big Idea is, "Practice obeying God's commands in every area of your life."



- 1. What insight jumped out at you as we went through Matthew 6:33 Practice?
- 2. Have you understood M633 this way before this session? If so, explain. If not, what was new?
- 3. How do Galatians 2:20 tie into M633? How the is "gospel" central to Galatians 2:20 and M633?
- 4. Have you found in your life when you practice M633 you have provision, protection, you produce fruit, and have intimacy with Jesus? If so, share a story.







Greet and Pray.



- Review "Keystone Habit #1" Systematic Bible Reading and having a way to hold yourself accountable to practice what you learn.
- Share what God is teaching you through your systematic Bible reading?



Go over "Systematic Reading of the Bible" on pages 73-81 in the Life Plan.

- How to Study the Bible Illustrations: Compound Interest; The Puzzle
- Bonus Material: The Student, The Fish, and Agassiz on pages 83-86.



- 1. Have you been taught how to read and study the Bible? If so, share. If not, what was most helpful for you today?
- 2. What is your currently reality in this area? Share your Bible reading rhythms and routines. (Remember, this is a safe place to be vulnerable and authentic)
- 3. What are some best practices you have found helpful?



Systematic Reading

How to Study the Bible Illustrations



Reading Systematically Through the Word

Or, reading the Bible in an organized way.

Recommendation: Read Genesis 1-11 and then through the New Testament three times. Afterwards, begin to read through the entire Old Testament in chronological order.

practice what we have learned.

Compound Interest

Like systematically saving money in a compound interest account, if we commit to reading God's word in an organized way, year after year, our understanding (investment) will abundantly grow.

For instance, if a young person saved \$50.00 a month at 7% compounding interest, after 50 years he would have invested \$30,000 and would have \$275,000 in their 50 year old account.

If an older person invested \$250.00 a month for 10 years at 7% compound interest, they will have invested \$30,000.00 and would have \$43,000.00 in their account. Illustrations fall short yet give us an idea of the understanding we can gain over the years by systematically reading the Bible and holding ourselves accountable to

The Puzzle

When we put together a thousand piece jigsaw puzzle, the first thing we do is systematically find the corners and all the pieces with a straight side. Next, we start finding pieces to fill in from the outer edge to the middle. The more pieces we get in place, the easier it is to see what the picture is on the puzzle.

The same is true of reading the Bible. The more we study, the more we begin to put together in our understanding how each part of the Bible fits together (The Big Picture), how God has saved us from the ruin and destruction of sin and how we can experience His salvation now and forever.





Greet and Pray.



This is the halfway point for the Life Plan content. Please press the pause button and turn to pages 10-17 for some review. Take some time to fill out the "Life Plan Evaluation" on pages 13-16 in the Life Plan.

• What jumped out at you as you took the "Life Plan Evaluation" for the second time?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on pages 89-92 in the Life Plan. Give an overview.

- The 8ight Priorities Illustrations: Big Rocks; Pizza Slices
- Please focus on the diagram on page 89 and show how the 8ight Priorities connects to the big picture of the Life Plan.
- Focus on Time with God on page 90. The purpose of this priority is to know God intimacy.
- Bonus Material: What does the quote, "Success is knowing what appointments to keep," have to do with priorities? Discuss it.



- 1. Highlight "Prayer". What is your current reality in this area? Share about your prayer life.
- 2. How has prayer impacted your life and the life of others? Share a story.
- 3. What are some best practices you have found helpful?



Big Rocks & Pizza Slices

The 8ight Priorities Illustrations



Big Rocks: by Stephen R. Covey

In his book The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, Covey illustrates the need to put our most important priorities in life first, otherwise, they will not fit into your life at all.

Imagine a barrel in front of you. Next to the barrel are three different sizes of rocks. The few large rocks represent the most important values in your life. The medium sized rocks, of which there are more, are the many good things in life that can easily consume our time. The many small pebbles represent the millions of opportunities and aspects of life that call for our attention.

If we put the pebbles in first, filling the barrel, we'll most likely leave little room for the giant rocks. However, if we put the largest rocks in first and the fit the rest around them in the barrel, we'll honor our values and capitalize on our priorities.

Pizza Slices

We all have the same 24 hours in a day and 168 hours in a week, right? Imagine that each day is a pizza pie with eight slices. Though each one of us chooses how and when to eat our 8 slices we all end up eating our pizza every single day.

Now, some of us, due to personality, season, circumstance, gifting etc, have a greater capacity to do more within our day and so our pizza may be larger, though still cut into eight slices.

Some of us have a capacity fit for the key things in life with little room left over. Our pizza may be smaller, though still cut into eight slices.

Each pizza pie is cut into eight pieces and each pizza represents 24 hours. How we incorporate our priorities into our schedule is up to each of us, and in Christ we can live out our capacity without the need to compare and contrast with one another's pizza. We need to live within our limits God's way. When we do, this will create a lot of freedom in our lives and the lives of those around us.





Greet and Pray.



- Share what God is teaching you about prayer.
- How can we pray for each other? Share one thing we can pray for today together?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on page 90 in the Life Plan. Focus on Time with Spouse.

The purpose of this priority is to know your spouse - intimacy.

• Bonus Material: How does keeping Time with Spouse enable us to live The Life Plan?



- 1. What is your current reality in this area? Share about your marriage a bit.
- 2. How do you make your wife radiant, promote her health and strength, foster love, and cherish her?
- 3. What are some best practices you have found helpful?







Greet and Pray.



- Share how you worked toward making your wife radiant this past week?
- Share any marriage insights you might have discovered this past week?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on page 90 in the Life Plan. Focus on Time with Children and Time with Parents.

- Bonus Material:
 - 1. 2 Timothy 3:14-17 Are your children being made wise for salvation?
 - 2. Deuteronomy 4:9; 6:4-9; Psalm 78:1-8 How are you training your children, grandchildren? Who has the primary task of training the next generation?
 - 3. Keystone Habit #1 Illustration: Home is the Most Effective Place to Teach the Bible
 - 4. When you teach **Time with Parents** focus on teaching the children their need to spend time learning from their parents.



- 1. What is your currently reality in this area?
- 2. Share your about how you intentionally invest in your (grand)children spiritually.
- 3. What are some best practices you have found helpful?



Home is the Most Effective Place to Teach the Bible

Keystone Habit #1 Illustration



God has instructed the family to be the primary teacher of God's Word to the next generation.

Keystone Habit #1: Systematic Bible Reading and having a way to hold yourself accountable to practice what you learn.

If a pastor preaches a chapter of the Bible each week, it would take him 22.8 years to preach through the entire Bible. Catch that? If a person depended on the pastor to teach him the Bible, it would take him 22.8 years of never missing a Sunday and attending the same church for 22.8 years. Not many people attend every Sunday or stay at the same church for 22.8 years. Not many pastors preach chapter by chapter through the Bible nor stay at the same church for 22.8 years.

The pastor is to preach the word of God week after week to instruct, inspire, comfort, strengthen, rebuke and correct each saint, but God has

given the family the job of comprehensively teaching the Word to the next generation (Deuteronomy 6:4-7; Proverbs 6:20; Ephesians 6:1-4).

If the family formally teaches or reads a chapter together 6 days a week, the family will go through the 1189 chapters of the Bible in 3.8 years. Informally the family is teaching God's word 24/7 at each teachable moment, teach, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16).





Greet and Pray.



- Share how you intentionally spent time with your children this past week?
- Share any insights you might have discovered?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on page 90 in the Life Plan. Focus on Time at Work. (Give a picture of God's design for work.)

• Bonus Material: How does our time at work enable us to fulfill Matthew 28:19-20? It takes faith to keep within our priority boundaries and not over work or under work. How are you doing keeping the priority of work in balance?



- 1. What is your current reality in this area? Share about your work and what you do.
- 2. What are the opportunities of growth for you in this priority? Do you over work or under work?
- 3. Take some time to share about the impact of Colossians 3:23 when it comes to your work and the assignments God has uniquely given you.







Greet and Pray.



- Share how you are working on the 8ight Priorities?
- Share any insights you might have discovered?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on page 90 in the Life Plan. Focus on Time with Unsaved People. (Share about "how" to do evangelism.)

- Bonus Material: How does the priority of "time with unsaved people" work itself out in the life of Joseph?
 - 1. Genesis 39:2 God gives us success.
 - 2. Genesis 39:19-20 Lied about and imprisoned.
 - 3. Genesis 39:22-23 God gives success.
 - 4. Genesis 40:13, 14, 23 Opportunity and then forgotten.
 - 5. Genesis 41:9 Opportunity that leads to promotion verses 41, 46.
- How do we fulfill this priority in our home, at work, in our neighborhood and in our community as we go about life?



- 1. What is your current reality in this area? Share about your approach to evangelism.
- 2. What are the opportunities of growth for you in this priority? Have you shared the gospel one on one in the last month? If so, tell the story. If not, why not?
- 3. Take some time to share about how you said "yes" to Jesus.







Greet and Pray.



- Share about a gospel conversation you have had recently?
- Share the names of your Top 5's from page 25 in the Life Plan?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on page 90 in the Life Plan. Focus on Time with Saved People. (Discuss God's design for the Church and living in Christian community.)

What is your view of the Church? What does the Bible say about the Church?

• Bonus Material: Make a list of Bible references that reveal different gifts given to believers for the common good. Where and when are these gifts used?



- 1. What is your current reality in this area? Share about your church experiences.
- 2. What are the opportunities of growth for you in this priority? Are you living in biblical community?
- 3. Share your thoughts on this statement, "We are distributing our gifts of grace to one another. We gather as the church to give as well as receive."







Greet and Pray.



- Share about a gospel conversation you have had recently?
- Share the names of your Top 5's from page 25 in the Life Plan?



Go over "The 8ight Priorities" on page 90 in the Life Plan. Focus on Time at Rest. (Give the purposes of the day of rest and why we need to take some rest each day.)

- Bonus Material:
 - 1. Does Romans 14:1-12 have anything to say about taking a day of rest?
 - 2. What does Psalm 127:2 teach us about some rest each day?
 - 3. Does it take faith in God to take the rest we need?
 - 4. Does it take saying no to some things to get the rest we need?
 - 5. When does God expect us to fore go our rest?



- 1. What is your current reality in this area? Share about how you and your family rest.
- 2. What are the opportunities of growth for you in this priority? Are you taking a sabbath? Do you have a plan for self care? How are you leading your family in this area?







Greet and Pray.



• Take a look at the 8ight Priorities Diagram on page 92 in the Life Plan. What priority are you focused on? Share what you are doing about it.



Go over "Milk of the Word" on pages 95-97; 126 in the Life Plan.

- Bonus Material: Questions to ask.
 - 1. What is Paul saying in this passage about the necessity of knowing the Milk of the Word? If a person doesn't know the foundational doctrines, then they will not be skilled in the teaching of righteousness (Hebrews 5:12-13; 6:1).
 - 2. What does this passage of scripture say about solid food (Meat of the Word)? Solid food equals the teaching of righteousness, that is, knowing and obeying the commands of Jesus (Matthew 28:20 Hebrews 5:13-14; Romans 6:16).
 - 3. What does this passage identify as the Hebrew Christians' problem? Lazy, sluggish, a lazy and careless workman, dull (Hebrews 6:11-12). What is the solution? Read 2 Timothy 2:15.
 - 4. What are the six foundational teachings? Read Hebrews 6:1-2. (Note: The proper translation of word translated "washings" in ESV and NAS is "baptisms". The same Greek word is translated "baptism" in Colossians 2:12. The translation should read "baptisms" since there is no need to teach infant Christians about Jewish ceremonies.



- 1. What are your thoughts on the Milk of the Word?
- 2. Have you learned the Milk of the Word? Is is part of your life? Do you pass it on to others?







Greet and Pray.



- Confess sins / Celebrate wins.
- This whole session will be focused on repentance.



- Bonus Material: How do we teach children in the faith the Milk of the Word?
 - Introduce it early and repeat it often." Dave Hentrich
 - "Show people in the Bible practicing the Milk of the Word Doctrines. Make learning and living the Milk Doctrines (teachings) a person's own responsibility." - Mike Wildenberg
- Go over "Repentance from Dead Works" on pages 98-100 in the Life Plan.
- Repentance from Dead Works Illustrations: Clean Slate; Repentance from Sin: 119



- 1. Share your views on repentance.
- 2. Share a time when repentance led to salvation and no regret.
- 3. Talk about the difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow.



Repentance from Dead Works

Repentance from Dead Works Illustrations



Repentance from Sin: Clean Slate

The unBeliever

This illustrates what happens when a person repents of sin and believes the gospel. The "slate" is a small chalk board, written on it is every sin a person has committed and will commit. When the person repents and believes the gospel, then all that person's past, present, and future sins are forgiven. The slate is wiped clean. The person is pardoned once and for all from the penalty of sin, which is death (Romans 6:23; Revelation 21:8).

The Believer

This illustrates why repentance from sin is foundational for the believer. The "slate" is a small chalk board that records a believer's sin which breaks fellowship with the Lord. This sin prevents Jesus from helping them live the abundant life and causes the Lord to discipline them. When a believer repents, forsakes his sin and confesses it to God (1 John 1:9), he is restored to fellowship with God, fully forgiven.

Repentance from Sin: 119

Car Stuck on the Side of the Road

This illustration demonstrates the great benefit God gives to the believer when he or she repents of their sin and the need of the believer to receive God's benefit and go joyfully on their way.

Pete begins a trip and is joyfully going down a busy highway when all of a sudden his car stops. He can't fix it and calls 911. Eventually a tow truck is sent to help Pete out. The tow truck driver finds a simple fix and tells Pete that he can safely carry on the rest of his vacation.

An hour later a state trooper stops and asks if he can assist Pete with anything. Pete tells the trooper that his car had broken down, is now fixed and that he needs no help. The officer then asks him why he hasn't continued on his trip? Pete replied that he is too disappointed about his car breaking down that he can't continue on.

What do you suppose the state trooper thinks of his answer? He's probably thinking that Pete is broken down and needs help!

When we sin and get off the road of righteousness, we call 119 (1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"). God forgives our sin and cleanses us from all unrighteousness. We are not supposed to stay on the side of the road, but are to head down the road of righteousness rejoicing that we have been forgiven of our sin and restored, fully capable of continuing on our journey.

The Emergency Number

The person who has repented of their sin and believed the gospel is free form the penalty of sin, however, Christians are still able to sin. When the believer sins they break fellowship with God and are cut off from God's resources and God's power. Thankfully, God has provided a way to allow the believer to be restored to access His resources and power.

Just call 119.

1 John 1:19 "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

When we all 119 we are forgiven for our sins and cleansed from all unrighteousness. We're restored to full access to God's resources and the power He has given us (2 Peter 1:3-4; Galatians 2:20). We can go on joyfully with our life in full fellowship with the Lord.





Greet and Pray.



- How are you doing processing the Milk of the Word?
- Have you been able to teach and apply the doctrine of repentance in your home this past week?



Go over "Faith in God" on pages 101-103 in the Life Plan.

• Faith in God Illustrations: Gas Pedal; Stopping the Car; Trust of a Two Year Old; Peak Physical Condition



- 1. Share about the last time you took a step of faith.
- 2. The upcoming generation struggles with "fear". How can this teaching help them overcome their fear? Talk about healthy fear and the statement "faith over fear".
- 3. How does Galatians 2:20 fit into this discussion?



Faith in God

Faith in God Illustrations



Stopping the Car

A person seeking to live God's way without exercising faith in God is like the person pushing his car to his destination. The person seeking to stop a sinful habit in his own power is like a person sticking his leg out the door of his car to stop the car. The Christian seeking to live in his own power and not by faith in God is living by his sin nature or according to the flesh and is living like an nonbeliever.

When a person is seeking to stop sinning in some area, the person attempts to stop doing the sinful habit expecting the Lord to fulfill his attempt with His power.

Gas Pedal

When a person gets into his car to go to his destination, he turns on the car, puts it in gear, and then steps on the gas pedal expecting the power of the engine to move the car to the destination. A person gains the power to live God's way when he is saved by faith in Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Being saved in Christ is like a person receiving a car to travel to necessary destinations. He lives his daily life God's way attempting to obey God and expecting Him to fulfill his attempts with God's divine power. In the same way, the driver steps on the gas pedal expecting the car to get him to his desired destination.

Trust of a Two Year Old

(Exercising faith in God)

If I ask a trusting two year old to jump straight up onto my coffee table without using her hands, then she will attempt to jump up on it. The moment she attempts to jump up on it, I fulfill her act prompted by faith with my power by picking her up and placing her on top of the table.

This is the same for us when we attempt to obey God by faith. Our attempt to obey will be fulfilled with God's power.

Peak Physical Condition

The Green Bay Packers do not play every game in perfect physical condition. If each player waited until they were in perfect physical condition, the team might continually play shorthanded. In the same way, Christians

are not perfect, but need to be doing their assignments from God as imperfect people. If a Christian sins right before beginning to serve the people God sent him to serve and then disqualified himself from the assignment, then God's work might not get done. The Milk doctrines of "Repentance from Sin" and "Faith in God" enable the Christian to overcome imperfections and get God's assignment done.





Greet and Pray.



- Did you have an opportunity to learn, live out, or pass on "Faith in God" this past week?
- Where are you lacking faith today? Let's pray for each other.



Go over "Baptisms" on pages 104-107 in the Life Plan.



- 1. What new insight have you learned today? What stood out to you?
- 2. Have you been baptized? If so, share your story. If not, why not?
- 3. Have you taught your family about baptism?
- 4. How is the gospel essential to teaching on baptisms?







Greet and Pray.



- What was your ONE THING from last week? Did you do it?
- Do you have any questions about the Milk of the Word so far?



Go over **"Laying on of Hands"** on pages 108-109 in the Life Plan.



- 1. What new insight have you learned today? What stood out to you?
- 2. Have you practiced "Laying on of Hands" in your home and/or circle of influence? If so, share your story. If not, why not?
- 3. What has been your church experience when it comes to "Laying on of Hands"?
- 4. Why is the laying on of hands essential/foundational?







Greet and Pray.



Did you lay hands on someone and bless them or pray for them this past week? If so, share the story. If not, why not?



Go over "Resurrection of the Dead" on pages 110-114 in the Life Plan.

• Bonus Material: Check out the book, "More Than A Carpenter." by Josh McDowell



- 1. What new insight have you learned today? What stood out to you?
- 2. What is the significance of this teaching for everyday life?
- 3. Why is the resurrection of the dead essential/foundational?
- 4. How does this teaching give you hope and share hope with others?







Greet and Pray.



- How has the gospel been specifically significant to you this past week?
- How have you grown in learning, living, and passing on the gospel this past week?



Go over "Eternal Judgement" on pages 115-117 in the Life Plan.

• Why is eternal judgement foundational? Knowledge of eternal judgment gives the believer motivation to forsake sinful ways, imitate Jesus, and to seek to get the message of salvation to those who haven't repented and believed the gospel.



- 1. What new insight have you learned today? What stood out to you?
- 2. What is the significance of this teaching for everyday life?
- 3. Why is teaching eternal judgement essential/foundational?
- 4. How does this teaching change our you live your family?







Greet and Pray.



- Why is the "Milk of the Word" essential/foundational?
- How has the focus on learning, living, and passing on the "Milk of the Word" helped you the past month?



Go over "Meat of the Word" on pages 119-122; 126 in the Life Plan.

• Faith in God Illustrations: Gas Pedal; Stopping the Car



- 1. Were you familiar with Hebrews 5:11-6:2a in the past? What key insights have you leaned about how the Milk of the Word and Meat of the Word work together in discipleship?
- 2. What is the significance of eating solid food (meat) for everyday life?
- 3. How does this teaching change how you train disciple-makers in your home and circle of influence?



Faith in God

Faith in God Illustrations



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Greet and Pray.



- Share your favorite choice of meat and how you like it cooked.
- Share you favorite grilling story.



Go over "Meat of the Word" on pages 122-126 in the Life Plan.

 The "Big Three Keystone Habits" are essential to learning, living, and passing on the "Meat of the Word". Make sure you take some time to review "The Big Three Keystone Habits" on pages 19-25.



- 1. Are you hungry for the "Meat of the Word"?
- 2. What key insights have you leaned about how the "Meat of the Word" today?
- 3. What is the significance of eating solid food (meat) for everyday life?
- 4. How does this teaching change how you train disciple-makers in your home and circle of influence?







Greet and Pray.



- Share you favorite part of the huddle over the past year.
- If you had to summarize what you learned over the past year in one sentence what would it be?
- Describe the past year in six words. Then, explain.



Go over **"The Life Plan" and "The Life Plan Evaluation"** on pages 10-17 in the Life Plan. Please take some time to have them fill out The Life Plan Evaluation and then discuss it together.

- Ask: What jumped out at you as you took "The Life Plan Evaluation" again?
- Ask: How do you plan on continuing to carry out Matthew 28:19-20 and Deuteronomy 6:4-7 in your home and circle of influence?



What are your next steps as a result of going through this Huddle together this past year?



