

**STUDENT MINISTRY DISCIPLESHIP:<sup>1</sup>**

4 STAGES TOWARDS FULL MATURITY IN CHRIST (MATT 28:18-20; EPH 4:11-13) <sup>1</sup>	3 PARTS TO THE ENTIRE MAN (LUKE 10:27; COL 1:9-12) <sup>2</sup>					
	EDUCATE THE HEAD <i>Theology</i> (Knowledge) How they think (Col 1:28; Col 3:16; Eph 3:16-19) <sup>3</sup>	SHARPEN [Mentally] [Gal 5:22-24] <sup>4</sup>	EXPOSE THE HEART <i>Intimacy</i> (Affections) How they relate/feel (John 12:1-8) <sup>8</sup>	SOFTEN [Relationally] (Gal 5:22-24) <sup>4</sup>	EXCITE THE HANDS <i>Fervency</i> (Actions) How they act (Jas 1:22, 27; Heb 13:21; 1 Pet 4:2) <sup>5</sup>	STRENGTHEN [Practically/physically]
<b>LEADER</b> Reproducing [Transforming] <b>Guidance</b> SHEPHERD-CARE <b>MULTIPLIES / GROW IT</b> (Tit 1:5-9; Ex 18:17-23; 1 Pet 5:1-4) <sup>6</sup>	<b>Penetrative / Proficient / Training</b> (2 Tim 2:24-25; Tit 1:9; 2:1) <sup>7</sup> <i>Craving:</i> eager to teach/proclaim truth. <i>Clarity:</i> has studied a broad base of doctrine, outside resources, synthesizes and communicates difficult truths. <i>Conviction:</i> driving factor in life. <i>Commitment:</i> reads extra to help others learn.	<b>Vulnerable</b> (John 12:1-8) <sup>8</sup> -Prayer focus: God, repentance, honesty. -Communication: Discrete, but bold/intrusive. High participation, follow-up, risks -Connection: Shares openly, serves beyond their 'group'. Enjoys fellowship. -Commitment: Takes responsibility for others by bearing burdens and visits. -Scripture: Mutual leadership, focus is love/living the word. -Character: Patterns of holiness.	<b>Pro-active</b> (2 Cor 9:8; 2 Thess 1:11; Heb 10:24; Jas 3:13) <sup>9</sup> <i>Worship (Lift High the name of Jesus)</i> -Praise: leads in worship, shows others how. -Prayer: fervent, public prayer just 'tip of the iceberg'. -Preaching: seeks to help others apply. <i>Work (Build Up the body of Jesus)</i> -Spiritual gifts: seeks opportunities, equips/trains. -Concern for others: high initiative, ownership. <i>Witnessing (Reach Out to the lost without Jesus)</i> -Gospel sharing: boldly seeks opportunities.	9	3	3
<b>LABORER</b> Repeating [Performing] <b>Influence</b> FLOCK-CARE <b>MODELS / SHOW IT</b> (John 1:43-45; 1 Tim 4:12) <sup>10</sup>	<b>Perceptive / Competent / Communicating</b> (Acts 17:11; Heb 5:14) <sup>11</sup> <i>Craving:</i> eager to discuss/explain truth. <i>Clarity:</i> understands the full scope of doctrine, reads some outside resources, leads discussion of basic truths. <i>Conviction:</i> major factor in life. <i>Commitment:</i> studies and actively discusses with others.	<b>Transparent</b> (John 20:15-17) <sup>12</sup> -Prayer focus: emotional concerns, personal struggles, increasingly open. -Communication: Discrete, but hesitant to be bold, mutual participation, follow-up, moderate risks. -Connection: Meets outside of church. -Commitment: Pursues those absent and expects to be held accountable to love. -Scripture: Open application of the word. -Character: Patterns forming, dealing with major sins.	<b>Active</b> (Tit 2:7, 14) <sup>13</sup> <i>Worship (Lift High the name of Jesus)</i> -Praise: seeks opportunities, encourages others. -Prayer: prays on own, encourages others. -Preaching: ponders further application. <i>Work (Build Up the body of Jesus)</i> -Spiritual gifts: hard at work, getting skilled at gifts. -Concern for others: committed. <i>Witnessing (Reach Out to the lost without Jesus)</i> -Gospel sharing: boldly shares outside of church.	6-8	2	2
<b>FOLLOWER</b> Responding [Norming] <b>Acceptance</b> SELF-CARE <b>MIMICS / KNOW IT</b> (Matt 9:9; Acts 18:24-26) <sup>14</sup>	<b>Receptive / Conversant / Understanding</b> (1 Pet 2:2-3; Heb 5:12-13) <sup>15</sup> <i>Craving:</i> excited when hearing truth. <i>Clarity:</i> certain about basic gospel, the Godhead, sin, the cross, grace, faith, works. <i>Conviction:</i> present when at church. <i>Commitment:</i> reads on own.	<b>Authentic</b> (John 1:47) <sup>16</sup> -Prayer focus: relational and emotional concerns, increasingly personal. -Communication: Growing discretion, testing trust, shares/confesses struggles, focus on problems, low risks. -Connection: Social at church, not much beyond. -Commitment: attendance expected, honest. -Scripture: Beginning to apply the Word, asks healthy questions. -Character: Aware of sin / confessing and fighting.	<b>Reactive</b> (1 Cor 3:1-4; 14:20; 1 John 2:12) <sup>17</sup> <i>Worship (Lift High the name of Jesus)</i> -Praise: responds when prompted. -Prayer: responds when prompted. -Preaching: applies explicit exhortation. <i>Work (Build Up the body of Jesus)</i> -Spiritual gifts: some interest, identifying gifts. -Concern for others: present when prompted <i>Witnessing (Reach Out to the lost without Jesus)</i> -Gospel sharing: Willing to share in church.	3-5	1	1
<b>OBSERVER</b> Rejecting [Forming] <b>Ignorance</b> CARELESS <b>MINIMIZES / FORGO IT</b> (John 6:60-65) <sup>18</sup>	<b>Naïve / Ignorant / Misunderstanding</b> (Acts 17:21, 32; Eph 4:18; 2 Tim 4:3-4; 2:25-26) <sup>19</sup> <i>Craving:</i> not present, faked. <i>Clarity:</i> confused/cold about basic gospel, Godhead, sin, cross, grace, faith, works; arrogant/apathetic focus on facts, sight but no insight. <i>Conviction:</i> not present, faked. <i>Commitment:</i> limited attention/attendance	<b>Superficial</b> (John 2:24-25; Acts 8:18-23; Luke 10:40) <sup>20</sup> -Prayer focus: physical needs, common concerns. -Communication: Facts, information, critiquing, awkward/mechanical questions, focus on performance, low/no risks -Connection: Superficial connection, only while in group, no ownership, regularly absent. Enjoys 'Helloship'. -Scripture: Top down leadership, rehashes sermons and highly informational. -Character: unaware/uncaring toward major habitual sin.	<b>Passive</b> (Tit 1:16; Jas 2:14) <sup>21</sup> <i>Worship (Lift High the name of Jesus)</i> -Praise: won't unless forced, refuses. -Prayer: won't unless forced, refuses. -Preaching: prompts confusion, resistance <i>Work (Build Up the body of Jesus)</i> -Spiritual gifts: no-evidence, faked. -Concern for others: superficial / hypocritical. <i>Witnessing (Reach Out to the lost without Jesus)</i> -Gospel sharing: none.	0-2	0	0

SHEPHERD THE ENTIRE **MAN**, TOWARDS FULL **MATURITY**, WITH THE RIGHT **METHOD**, FOR THE ULTIMATE **MISSION (COL 1:28)**<sup>22</sup>  
 WAY—TRUTH—LIFE<sup>23</sup>  
 BELIEVE > OBEY > ENJOY

<sup>1</sup> Portions of this chart have been adapted from Garrett Higbee's GPS Tool.

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<sup>1</sup> **Matthew 28:18–20 (ESV) — 18** And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**Ephesians 4:11–13 (ESV) — 11** And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, **12** to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, **13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

<sup>2</sup> **Luke 10:27 (ESV) — 27** And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

**Colossians 1:9–12 (ESV) — 9** And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **10** so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. **11** May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, **12** giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

<sup>3</sup> **Colossians 1:28 (ESV) — 28** Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

**Colossians 3:16 (ESV) — 16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

**Ephesians 3:16–19 (ESV) — 16** that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, **17** so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18** may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, **19** and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>4</sup> **Galatians 5:22–24 (ESV) — 22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **24** And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

<sup>5</sup> **James 1:22 (ESV) — 22** But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

**James 1:27 (ESV) — 27** Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

**Hebrews 13:21 (ESV) — 21** equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**1 Peter 4:2 (ESV) — 2** so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.

<sup>6</sup> **Titus 1:5–9 (ESV) — 5** This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— **6** if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. **7** For an overseer, as God’s steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, **8** but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. **9** He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

**1 Peter 5:1–4 (ESV) — 1** So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: **2** shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for

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shameful gain, but eagerly; **3** not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. **4** And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

**Exodus 18:17–23 (ESV)** — **17** Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. **18** You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. **19** Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you! You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, **20** and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. **21** Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. **22** And let them judge the people at all times. Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. **23** If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace."

<sup>7</sup> **2 Timothy 2:24–25 (ESV)** — **24** And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, **25** correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,

**Titus 1:9 (ESV)** — **9** He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

**Titus 2:1 (ESV)** — **1** But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.

<sup>8</sup> **John 12:1–8 (ESV)** — **1** Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. **2** So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. **3** Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. **4** But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, **5** "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" **6** He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. **7** Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. **8** For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

<sup>9</sup> **2 Corinthians 9:8 (ESV)** — **8** And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

**2 Thessalonians 1:11 (ESV)** — **11** To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power,

**Hebrews 10:24 (ESV)** — **24** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

**James 3:13 (ESV)** — **13** Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

<sup>10</sup> **John 1:43–45 (ESV)** — **43** The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." **44** Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. **45** Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

**1 Timothy 4:12 (ESV)** — **12** Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

<sup>11</sup> **Acts 17:11 (ESV)** — **11** Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

**Hebrews 5:14 (ESV)** — **14** But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

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<sup>12</sup> **John 20:15–17 (ESV) — 15** Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” **16** Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’ ”

<sup>13</sup> **Titus 2:7 (ESV) — 7** Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity,

**Titus 2:14 (ESV) — 14** who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

<sup>14</sup> **Matthew 9:9 (ESV) — 9** As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

**Acts 18:24–26 (ESV) — 24** Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. **25** He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. **26** He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

<sup>15</sup> **1 Peter 2:2–3 (ESV) — 2** Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— **3** if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

**Hebrews 5:12–13 (ESV) — 12** For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, **13** for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child.

<sup>16</sup> **John 1:47 (ESV) — 47** Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!”

<sup>17</sup> **1 Corinthians 3:1–4 (ESV) — 1** But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. **2** I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, **3** for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? **4** For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human?

**1 Corinthians 14:20 (ESV) — 20** Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.

**1 John 2:12 (ESV) — 12** I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name’s sake.

<sup>18</sup> **John 6:60–65 (ESV) — 60** When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” **61** But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? **62** Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? **63** It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. **64** But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) **65** And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

<sup>19</sup> **Acts 17:21 (ESV) — 21** Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

**Acts 17:32 (ESV) — 32** Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.”

**Ephesians 4:18 (ESV) — 18** They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.

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**2 Timothy 4:3–4 (ESV) — 3** For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, **4** and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

**2 Timothy 2:25–26 (ESV) — 25** correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, **26** and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

<sup>20</sup> **Luke 10:40 (ESV) — 40** But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.”

**John 2:24–25 (ESV) — 24** But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people **25** and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

**Acts 8:18–23 (ESV) — 18** Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, **19** saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” **20** But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! **21** You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. **22** Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. **23** For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.”

<sup>21</sup> **Titus 1:16 (ESV) — 16** They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

**James 2:14 (ESV) — 14** What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

<sup>22</sup> **Colossians 1:28 (ESV) — 28** Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

<sup>23</sup> **John 14:6 (ESV) — 6** Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.