

Discipleship Course Overview

Introduction

- **Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV):** ¹⁹ "Go therefore and make **disciples** of all the nations, **baptising** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ **teaching** them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, [even] to the end of the age." Amen.
- **Acts 1:8 (NKJV):** "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be **witnesses to Me** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
- **Luke 9:23 (NKJV):** Then He said to [them] all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Jesus gave us a marching order in Matt 28:19-20: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...". No person who has decided to follow Jesus is exempt from this commission. The commission is more than just getting someone to pray the "sinner's prayer." It's about equipping them to grow in grace and truth and to take up this mission themselves.

"Disciple" comes from the Greek word "to learn", recognising a pupil-teacher relationship. Jesus' discipleship ministry exceeds the normal pupil-teacher relationship, transcending into a deeper relationship with those ready to multiply their faith by pouring out Himself through His teaching, spending intimate relational time and sending them out to proclaim the gospel and do good works.

Discipleship is the church's core mission. It is vital for the growth, health, and mission of the body of Christ. It shapes believers into Christlike followers, strengthens the body of Christ, and transforms the world. By prioritising discipleship, the church honours Jesus' command and ensures its legacy for future generations.

At the heart of discipleship lies a journey of learning. It is about mentorship, embracing, and sharing the teachings necessary to worship God and follow Christ truly. This discipleship process revolves around **conveying, communicating, and imparting divine truths**. Recognising that our decisions are shaped by a progression of understanding, believing, conviction, and ultimately, a deepening love for these truths is essential.

This is the essence of being a disciple – a lover of truth and a conduit for its dissemination.

To be a healthy, mature, faithful follower of Jesus Christ, one must be prepared to:

1. **Deny oneself** – putting aside selfish desires, what I want or what is in it for me.
2. **Take up our cross** – your commitment to serving him daily, regardless of pain or suffering.
3. **Follow Him** – understand we belong to Him and live to serve Him only.

Goal

To develop healthy, mature, true believers of Jesus Christ who walk by faith, share their faith, and multiply their faith

Objectives

- To help individuals grow spiritually
- To strengthen their relationship with God
- To equip them to serve others and effectively disciple others in their faith journey

Impact on Church

- Spiritual and personal growth
 - Deeper faith
 - Increased commitment
 - Growth through challenges
- Stronger community and mission-oriented focus church
 - More unified body of Christ
- Leadership development
- Numerical growth

Course Structure

This course is designed to align with the church's objectives and vision, aiming to create a meaningful impact on every member's life.

Module 1

Discipleship and Impact on the Church

Module Overview

Jesus is the central figure in Christianity, regarded as the Son of God and the Saviour of humanity (and has many more titles). His ministry, characterised by love, truth, power, and sacrifice, forms the basis of the Christian faith, as seen in the Gospels, and continues through His Spirit in the Church and in the lives of His followers.

Discipleship is at the heart of the Church's mission. Jesus commanded us to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19). Discipleship is essential for the growth and health of the body of Christ. It is not optional; it is fundamental. Shaping believers into Christlike followers strengthens the Church and impacts the world. By prioritising discipleship, we honour Jesus' command and build a legacy for future generations. Remember, salvation is free, but discipleship comes at a cost (Luke 9:23).

Course Objectives

- To be able to grasp the knowledge and revelation of Jesus as the central figure of Christianity
- To understand the ministry of Jesus
- To understand the core mission of a follower of Jesus Christ, the goal of our Salvation

- To understand how to align our unique gifts and passions with Christ's mission on earth

Learning Outcome

- Have the knowledge and revelation of who Jesus is
- Understand the importance of discipleship as a follower of Jesus
- Understand how to align your unique gifts and passions with God's mission to make disciples and build His Kingdom

Syllabus Content:

Part 1: Who is Jesus?

Part 2: Ministry of Jesus Christ

Part 3: The Importance of Discipleship in the Church

Part 4: Identifying God's calling on you (In relation to discipleship)

Module 2 - Section 1

New Life in Christ

Module Overview

2 Corinthians 5:17; John 3:1-7; Genesis 1:26-28, 2:16-17; John 3:16; Hebrews 10:24-25.

"New Life in Christ" refers to the transformation that occurs in a person's life upon accepting Jesus Christ as their Saviour. This spiritual rebirth brings a renewed sense of purpose, hope, and joy. It involves leaving behind old ways of thinking and behaving and embracing a new way of living in accordance with the teachings of Christ. We are no longer defined by our past mistakes or shortcomings but by the grace and mercy of God. Our new life is marked by forgiveness, love, and a deep connection to God. It offers us the opportunity for personal growth, spiritual fulfilment, and everlasting life in the presence of God.

Course Objectives:

- To understand what it means to have a new life in Christ
- To understand the concept of being born again
- To understand your new relationship with God
- To understand your new relationship with your old and new family

Learning Outcome:

- Discovering your new identity in Christ.
- Understanding what it means to walk with God daily.
- Embracing the concept of being a part of a new family in the body of Christ.

Syllabus Content:

- Part 1 – Your New Identity
- Part 2 – Walking with God
- Part 3 – Your New Family

Module 2 - Section 2

Belonging to a Church

Module Overview

Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 2:19; Psalm 92:13-14; Galatians 3:27-28; Romans 16:3-5; Acts 14:23

Belonging to a church can provide a sense of community, spiritual support, and a place to connect with others who share your beliefs and values. Being a part of a church can also offer opportunities for personal growth, service to others, and a feeling of belonging to something greater than oneself. Whether attending services, participating in events, or engaging in outreach activities, belonging to a church can enrich your life and provide a support system during joyful and challenging times.

Course Objectives:

- To understand the importance of belonging to a church
- To understand your role in a church
- To understand the vision and core values of New Wine Church

Learning Outcome:

- Well-grounded in your spiritual journey
- Confident to embrace New Wine Church as your family Church
- Confident to start the journey of walking into and embracing your ministry

Syllabus Content:

Part 1 – The Biblical Basis for Membership

Part 2 – The Ministry and You

Module 2 - Section 3

Lessons of Life

Module Overview

Genesis 1:26.

The module focuses on understanding that man is God's vessel. God created man to serve as a container for Him, with a body made from dust to exist, a spirit to receive God, and a soul to live through the mind, emotion, and will. The human spirit is meant to connect with God, with a mind to understand Him, an emotion to love Him, and a will to choose Him. God's desire was for man to accept the Tree of Life, representing God Himself as man's life. This shows God's intention to be life to man and presents man with the choice between the Tree of Life, symbolising a dependent life with God, or the Tree of Knowledge, symbolising an independent life away from God.

Satan's plot to spoil man involved contaminating the human soul and deadening the spirit. Man's body was ruined to become flesh. Through man's fall, Satan's evil became one with man's soul and manifested as evil in the body. The significance of man's fall includes transgressing God's commandment, being condemned, and being estranged from God. Man was also spoiled from fulfilling God's purpose of expressing His image and representing Him with dominion. Satan's evil infiltrated man's soul and body, deadening the spirit and leading to sin and death.

God's salvation comes from Christ's death and His life, saving us from sin and death. Christ came as the Son of God, became the Life-giving Spirit, and now lives in us. Life has the Triune God within us. To be regenerated is to have God's life and to become His children in His kingdom. The washing of regeneration purges our old natural life, while the renewing of the Holy Spirit transforms us into the image of God with divine life and nature.

Course Objectives:

- To understand the purpose of the creation of man as a vessel with a receptacle, that is, a spirit, to receive God into our lives.
- To understand the intention of God in man
- To understand the significance of the fall of man and the plan of God to save man
- To understand the regeneration and transformation of man

Learning Outcome:

- Understand our divine purpose as the vessels of God
- Understand and embrace the divine life within everyone
- Discover the power of salvation, regeneration and transformation, which leads to a life shaped in the image of God

Syllabus Content:

Part 1 - God's creation and purpose

- The Creation of Man
 - Focus: To make it clear that the creation of man was to make man a vessel with a receptacle, that is, our spirit, to receive God into us as our life.
- A Vessel of God
 - Focus: The focus of this lesson is man being God's container. To see that the man, created by God, is a vessel of God.
- God's Intention in Man
 - Focus: God wanted man to take the Tree of Life, that is, God Himself, into man as man's life.

Part 2 - Spoil of Man by Satan

- Satan's Plot to Spoil Man
 - Focus: To see Satan's plot to spoil man's being by contaminating the entire human soul.
- The Real Significance of Man's Fall
 - Focus: Through man's fall, Satan's personality became one with man's soul, and he was taken into man's body to be sin, working as evil in man's fleshly members.

Part 3 - The Salvation of Life and Regeneration

- The Salvation of Life
 - Focus: God's salvation is not only by the death of Christ but also by His life to save us from both sin and death.
- The Definition of Life
 - Life is the Triune God dispensed into us and living in us.
- Regeneration

- Focus: Explore the fact that to be regenerated is to have the life of God so that we may be His children living in His kingdom according to the divine nature.
- The Washing of Regeneration and the Renewing of the Holy Spirit
 - Focus: To explain the washing of regeneration, being to purge away the old things of our natural life, and the renewing of the Holy Spirit, being to reconstitute us and transform us with the divine life and the divine nature into the image of God.

Module 3 - Section 1

Living for Christ – In a VUCA World

Module Overview

Romans 8:35-39; Colossians 1:10; Luke 9:23.

Living for Christ means actively following and embodying the teachings, values, and example of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life. This may involve showing love, compassion, and forgiveness, and seeking to live a life of faith, integrity, and righteousness. Today, the world faces numerous challenges threatening our faith, family values, relationships, health, and well-being. This has led to the term VUCA being used to describe an environment characterised by volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity. This requires organisations and individuals to adapt quickly and effectively to rapid changes to succeed.

Living for Christ in this VUCA world can be challenging, for in today's fast-paced and constantly changing society, one can easily get lost in the chaos and lose sight of one's spiritual beliefs. However, by staying grounded in our faith and focusing on living a life that reflects the teachings of Christ, we can navigate the challenges of a VUCA world with Christ's grace, faith, perseverance, and strength.

Course Objectives:

- Discuss the positive impact that experiencing Christ's presence in this VUCA world can have on a believer's life, such as increased faith, peace, and spiritual growth.
- Provide practical tips and strategies for believers to deepen their connection with Christ and experience His presence daily.

Learning Outcome

- Maintain a strong Christian character despite the volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous environment
- Able to identify and walk in one's calling
- Able to navigate through life challenges with grace and resilience and positively influence your community.
- Be a beacon of light in a world filled with turmoil and uncertainty.

Syllabus Content:

- Understanding the VUCA world and how to live victorious for Christ in the world
- Steps for Living for Christ
- Practical Christ-centred daily routine for thriving in a VUCA world

Module 3 - Section 2

Growing Your Relationship with God

Module Overview

Since the beginning of creation, God has desired a personal, intimate relationship with us through His Son, Jesus Christ, for His glory. He wants a continuous, influential relationship that deepens as we grow in intimacy with Him.

“Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness” (Genesis 1:26).

“For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16 NLT).

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:1-3 NKJV).

Eternal life is about having a lasting relationship with God, personally and intimately. It begins here on earth, not just in heaven. Like any relationship, it needs to be nurtured and strengthened daily. We are created for God’s purpose and to bring glory to Him.

“But let him who glories glory in this: that he understands and knows Me [personally and practically, directly discerning and recognising My character], that I am the Lord, Who practices loving-kindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth, for in these things I delight, says the Lord” Jeremiah 9:24 (AMPC).

“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen” 2 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

“Practice and cultivate and meditate upon these duties; throw yourself wholly into them (as your ministry) so that your progress may be evident to everybody.” 1 Timothy 4:15 (AMPC).

Course Objectives:

- Developing a deeper understanding of the Word of God
- Making the scriptures the foundation of your life
- Levelling up your relationship with God through prayer

- Reading, studying, and meditating on the Word
- Searching the Scriptures effectively
- Cultivating an effective prayer life
- Understanding the role of the Holy Spirit

Learning Outcome

- Gaining confidence in studying and understanding the Bible
- Developing the ability to dialogue with God through prayer and meditation
- Experiencing the joy of having an effective prayer life and seeing the impact in daily living
- Cultivating a strong sense of trust and faith in God through spiritual practices and personal experiences

Syllabus Content:

- Part 1 – Growing in the Word
- Part 2 – Growing Your Relationship with the Holy Spirit
- Part 3 – Elevating Your Prayer Life
- Part 4 – Dialoguing with God

Module 3 - Section 3

Evangelism in Discipleship

Module Overview

Evangelism plays a crucial role in discipleship as it involves sharing the message of the Gospel and inviting others to experience a relationship with God. By actively engaging in evangelism, individuals spread Christ's teachings and inspire and encourage others to deepen their spiritual journey. As disciples grow in their understanding and commitment to their beliefs, they are better equipped to mentor and guide others toward spiritual growth and fulfilment. Ultimately, evangelism is vital to the ongoing process of discipleship, fostering a community of individuals who support and uplift one another on their shared faith journey. By actively engaging in evangelism and discipleship, believers can fulfil the Great Commission and impact the world for Christ.

Course Objectives:

- Understand what evangelism is
- Understand the importance and role of evangelism in discipleship
- To know the different modes of evangelism
- Know how to evangelise effectively
- Know how to overcome challenges and objections in evangelism

Learning Outcome:

- Understand and appreciate the importance and urgency of evangelism.
- Be enabled, encouraged, and empowered to preach the Gospel.

Syllabus Content:

- Understanding what Evangelism is and why we should evangelise
- How to prepare to share the gospel
- Approaching the Unsaved – Outreach and In-reach
- Strategies for sharing the gospel

Module 4

Practical Discipleship

- Group Study and Discussion on the Book of Luke –
 - The Life of Jesus
 - The Ministry of Jesus
 - Mode of His Discipleship
- Group study and discussion on the Book of Acts –
 - Role of the Holy Spirit in the early church
 - The early church spread the Good News
 - The power of God in the life of a disciple
- Group Discussion on Meditation and Studying the Bible
- Prayer Meeting with the WAIT Team
- Evangelism Training with the Evangelism Team
- Biblical Economy Teaching
- Finding Your Voice Teaching
- Praise and Worship Experience Teaching
- Project