

Northview Community Group Coaching 2022-2023

How do we help people become deeply rooted followers of Jesus?

How do we “make disciples”?

1) Welcome & Introductions

2) Why are we here tonight?

a) To consider personal and corporate implications for the final command of Jesus

- i) And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” **Matthew 28:18-20**

(1) What is the primary command in these verses?

(2) How is the primary command fulfilled?

(3) Which part of this instruction is out of our control (and therefore not measurable)?

(4) Which part of this instruction is in our control (and therefore measurable)?

(5) What else needs to happen for disciples to be made (from other parts of scripture)?

(a) What does God need to do?

(b) What can we do?

b) To identify how the early church made disciples

- i) Matthew 28:18-20: They heard Jesus’s command... and what did they do??
- ii) Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon’s Portico.... The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.... And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus. **ACTS 5:12, 16, 42**
- iii) Rising opposition resulting in stoning of Stephen. **ACTS 6-7**

- iv) And Saul approved of his execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city....

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John... **ACTS 8:1-8, 14**

- v) Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord.

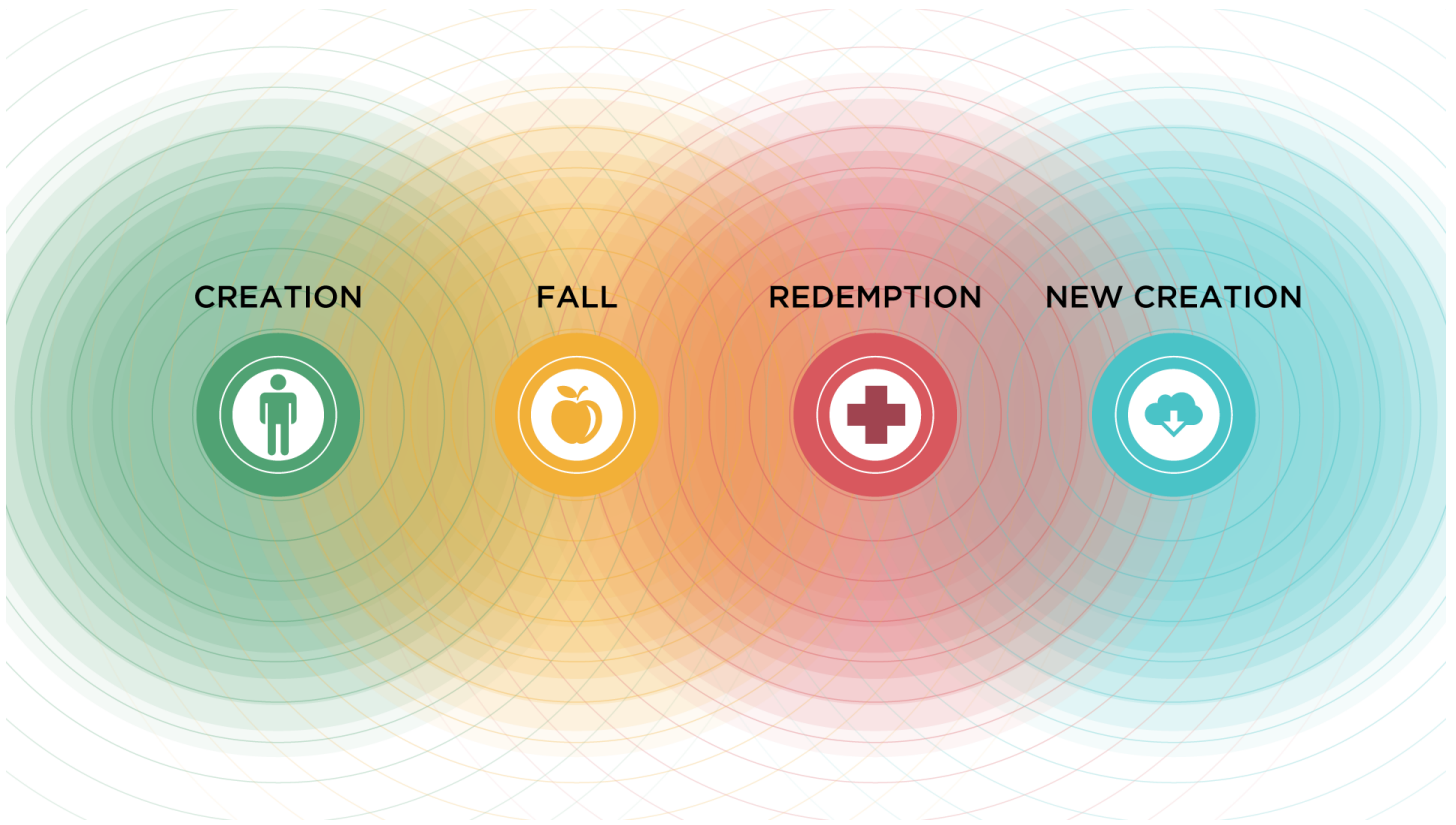
The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians. **ACTS 11:19-26**

- vi) Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well. Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in Asia. Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you. Greet Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners. They are well known to the apostles, and they were in Christ before me. Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of Aristobulus.... **Romans 16:3-10**

c) To identify those to whom you are GOING to make disciples. (Review your Relational Audit)

- i) Group Discussion: Talk about the Relational Audit in your groups.
- (1) What do you observe as you look at your own chart, and the chart of others in your group? How does this exercise challenge or encourage you?
 - (2) Are there particular people or groups of people whom the Lord is prompting you to reach out to as a result of this exercise?
 - (3) Do you have these (or other) names on a 5 x 5 x 5 prayer card?

d) To identify three levels at which we can communicate the gospel



Level 1 - Tell God's Story			
Creation	Rebellion (Fall)	Redemption	Re-Creation (New)
Bible Reference:	Bible Reference:	Bible Reference:	Bible Reference:
What the world _____ to be	What the world _____	What the world _____ be	What the world _____ be
Level 2 - Tell our stories... in light of God's story			
2	1	3	4
Level 3 - Live our lives... in light of God's story			
2	1	3	4

Creation (Genesis 1-2):

God spoke the world into existence. He created the heavens and the earth, and blessed it. Our world was a place where plants, animals and human beings could flourish, work, be fruitful and multiply, and live in harmony with nature, with one another and with God himself. People are created in God's image to represent him and his purposes here on earth.

Rebellion (Genesis 3 - 11):

The first people, Adam and Eve, turned their back on God's purposes and plans for their lives, and rebelled against his commands. As a result, sin and death entered the world and good things (like human relationships and the human calling to work) were frustrated. God pronounced curses on the earth that he created, and people's hearts were corrupted by evil which led to murder, the flood, and God eventually disbursed people throughout the earth after they attempted to reach him by building the Tower of Babel.

Redemption (Genesis 12 - John 20):

God could have simply turned his back on his rebellious creation and left people to their own devices, but instead he began a plan of redemption. In Genesis 12, he called an idol worshiper named Abraham to follow him and promised to bless him, to give him a land, make him into a great nation, and bless all the nations of the world through him. Abraham's offspring became known as the nation of Israel, and the rest of the Old Testament followed this nation as they came to know their God, and began to understand themselves.

Repeated stories of failure and disobedience resulting in heart-wrenching consequences, taught them that human hearts are sinful and they desperately need a savior. By instituting a system of sacrifices, the Lord showed them that their sin could be forgiven through an act of atonement: payment for sin.

As the New Testament begins, the authors of the first four books (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) argue that God's son, Jesus, was the one who fulfilled all of God's promises to Abraham and his people. He lived a perfect life, died on a cross to atone for the sins of all people, was buried and resurrected to offer his followers eternal life. He has redeemed people from slavery to sin, and ransomed us for life in his kingdom.

But the story does not end here! As the Scriptures continue after Jesus' death, burial, resurrection and ascension, the Holy Spirit inspires Biblical authors to talk about the final future for all people. We call this:

Re-Creation (Acts to Revelation)

When Jesus ascended to heaven, he sent the Holy Spirit to represent him on earth. The Spirit opens people's hearts and minds to understand the significance of Jesus' life, death and resurrection (2 Corinthians 4:1-6). He guides people into truth, oversees the church, and produces "fruit" such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness and self-control in God's people (Galatians 5:22-24), so that they begin to live in ways which reflect the character of God in the world. God is working to unite all things together under Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:8-10), and Christians are invited to join in God's work of reconciling the world to himself (2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2)

The Spirit is now at work re-creating Jesus' people: we become more truly human as we more accurately reflect the image of God. One day, Jesus will return to re-create the world itself. People will not leave earth to live with God in heaven, but God himself will come to earth, to dwell with his people (Revelation 21:3-5).

e) To clarify our Biblical call to corporate missions

- i) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. **2 Corinthians 5:17-20**

1) Paul embraces the role of Ambassador. How would you describe this role?

2) What makes for a good ambassador vs a bad one?

- ii) Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. **Eccl. 4:9-12**

- iii) After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. **Luke 10:1-3**

f) To identify the commonalities within your Community Group

a) Uncommon Common's Game

- i) Write down the least common thing that you all have in common!
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b) Reminders

- i) Grow where you are already planted
- ii) Look for the Need
- iii) Simplex vs Multiplex
- iv) Just Do Something

g) To help practically prepare your Community Group to get involved!

- a) Share your Testimonies
- b) Create a Ministry Budget
- c) Regularly pray for your ministry

d) Individual Brainstorming Session

REALM	DESCRIPTION	MISSIONAL IDEAS
Work	Are there opportunities at your job, or someone's job in your group, to be missional?	
Celebrations	Can birthdays or holidays be spent in a way that promotes engaging with those who don't know Jesus?	
Businesses	Are there restaurants or other businesses that you regularly frequent that you could choose to intentionally invest in?	
Neighbours	Are there neighbors surrounding you that seem open to the gospel that you could reach out to?	
Church Partners/ Programs	Do you know of any organizations that Northview is already partnered with that would be a good fit for your community group to serve at?	
Resources	Do you have financial or physical assets that could be of use in loving others? How could they be used?	
Routines	What are the daily routines that you do that you could invite someone into?	
Skills	What knowledge or practical skills do you possess that could benefit another person's life?	
Hobbies/ Passions	What activities make you come alive? How could you use those to bless others?	

e) Missional Suggestions

REALM	MISSIONAL IDEAS
Work	<p>Try the Stock the Fridge Idea! This could be at your work, or someone else's in the group, or at your local school's staff lounge or firehall or police department. Ask if you can, once a month, have your community group go out and buy drinks and snacks for their fridge. Stock it full and then leave a note on the fridge saying that your community group has done this because you are thankful for their service, and that you will continue to pray for them.</p>
Celebrations	<p>Consider using birthdays and holidays as a connecting point for those in your life. Maybe picking someone, or multiple people from your 5x5x5 connect card would be a good start. Find out their birthday, and bring them a gift/ take them out for a meal. Or maybe send them a Christmas card with a gift card in it and an invitation to the New Year's Eve Service. Or maybe you are into baking, and you want to bake cookies for those on someone else's 5x5x5 card in your community group. Holidays and celebrations naturally connect people, so let's use them for the glory of God!</p>
Businesses	<p>Do you have a coffee shop or a restaurant or even a hardware store that you regularly go to? If so, why not really get to know the person behind the counter. Being kind, tipping well, supporting local businesses, and being genuinely interested in others beyond the purchased transaction can lead to real gospel conversations. Maybe you could even have your community group at the coffee shop and see what happens.</p>
Neighbours	<p>Eat together! You need to do it, so why not invite others? If your group has a real heart for hospitality, maybe once every month you could bypass doing your regular "CG discussion" but instead invite friends or neighbors to join your group for dinner and a casual evening and let the conversation flow where the Spirit leads. Or maybe it looks like doing a block party once or twice a year for those on your street or in your strata if you live close by one another. There are even some grants that can be used for such block parties. I applied and received \$400 dollars to help run a socially distanced block party during Covid through the Vancouver Foundation and their Responsive Neighbourhood Small Grant. Maybe your group could check this out?</p>
Church Partners/ Programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Archway Foodbank's Christmas Bureau has an amazing Christmas program in which individuals, families, and groups can sponsor a senior for a Christmas Hamper. It's a great program helping those in need in our community. More info can be found at: https://www.abbotsfordfoodbank.com/christmas-bureau/ 2) We have some contacts that work with families and individuals that fled Ukraine after Russia invaded. If a group is interested, please contact Connor at cbelsher@northview.org 3) Northview runs several Breakfast Programs at Schools in our local school district. If you are interested, please contact cbelsher@northview.org 4) To connect with our four formal partners, please look at this website: https://northview.org/local-outreach/

	a) Inasmuch (Serving Refugees), Cyrus Center (Serving Youth), Salvation Army (Serving the Homeless), Food Bank (Serving those in need of food).
Resources	Do you have financial assets that could be used to support those in need? Maybe you have a snow shovel that you can use to shovel not just your driveway, but your neighbors. Look at the things that you have and they might give you an insight into how you and your community group can serve others.
Routines	Maybe you have a routine of going shopping for groceries every Monday. Why not see about reaching out to one of your 5x5x5 contacts and another community group member and do it all together? Sometimes it is not our big events, but our regular lives that show people the most about who we are, and ultimately, who God is.
Skills	Do you have a certain skill that you can bless others with? Maybe you are a handyman and someone in your life, or the life of your group, is aware of an elderly or infirmed individual who needs some help? Can your community group have a yard work/ house maintenance day for them? It might not be something that you enjoy doing, but serving Christ isn't primarily about it being fun. It is about loving others as Christ loved us.
Hobbies (Passions)	Do you love the world cup? Why not invite people over to watch the game with you? Do you love basketball? Why not consider coaching a team and building into those kids. Have your community group come along and buy drinks for the players on the team even if sports isn't their passion. Have them help provide rides to games or help fundraise for jerseys or equipment. The list could go on and on! If you are passionate about something, others likely are too. Maybe the first step is to see if others in your group share a passion of yours or could support you in your passion?

Top 3 Corporate Missional Ideas

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

For More information on “Level 3: Living our lives in light of God’s story”....

- Consider enrolling in the Gospel Shaped Work class in the future
- Watch some of these videos:
 - Applying the gospel to work in the Fashion Industry: <https://vimeo.com/611998158>
 - Applying the gospel to work in the Travel Industry: <https://vimeo.com/611048914>
 - Applying the gospel to work in the Justice System: <https://vimeo.com/60487432>

Homework - If you want to practice!

- i) Choose 1 person from the left side of your relational audit grid, and think through how to tell their story in light of God’s story.
 - (1) Step #1 - Rebellion - What do they think IS wrong with the world?
 - (2) Step #2 - Creation - What do they think the world OUGHT to be like?
 - (3) Step #3 - Redemption - What do they think CAN be done to make things better?
 - (4) Step #4 - ReCreation - What do they think WILL be the outcome of their efforts?
 - (a) Where do you agree with their assessment of the situation?
 - (b) Where do you disagree with their assessment of the situation?
 - (c) How could you engage them in a gospel conversation on this topic?
- ii) OR choose one area of brokenness you experience in your daily life / employment / volunteer work.
 - (1) Step #1 - Rebellion - What IS going wrong?
 - (2) Step #2 - Creation - What OUGHT to be happening instead?
 - (3) Step #3 - Redemption - How CAN this issue/situation be redeemed? (What can I do?)
 - (4) Step #4 - ReCreation - How WILL this issue/situation be resolved when Jesus’ returns?