

WHY A FOUNDATION/GROWTH (D-201) COURSE?

Lesson 1

Intro – Everyone is in at least one of five categories (This sequence also represents God’s will for everyone on the planet)...

LOST >

- a. SAVED > CONSOLIDATED > DISCIPLE > LEADER .
- b. FRUIT > REMAIN > MATURE > PRODUCE .
- c. NEW BIRTH > CELL, CHURCH > D-201 / SELF > L-301 / SENT OUT

***Gen 1:28** – “And God blessed them and God said unto them, ‘**Be fruitful, and multiply...**”

***John 15:16** – “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you that you should go and **bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain.**”

***Mark 11:12-14, 20-21** – “The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree ... he went out to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he **found nothing but leaves** ... Then he said to the tree, ‘May no one ever eat fruit from you again.’ And his disciples heard him say it ... In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree ...

Peter remembered and said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, look! The fig tree you **cursed** has withered!’”

***Mt 28:19** – “**THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS...**”

***DISCIPLESHIP REPRESENTS 4 THINGS. THESE WILL BE OUR FOCUS IN D-201...**

1. FOUNDATION – DEPTH

***Psalms 11:3** – “If the **foundations** are destroyed, what will the righteous do?”

***1 Cor 3:10-11** – “By the grace God has given me, I laid a **foundation** as an expert builder ... For no one can lay any **foundation** other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

- Analogies of “Building” ... “Painting” ... “School”

2. MATURITY – CONTINUING, GROWING & CONQUERING

***Mk 3:15, 17, 19, 20** – “...when they hear **Satan immediately comes and takes away the word** ... immediately receive it with joy and **they have no root** ... endure for a while; then... the fall away. ... but the **cares of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things** enter in and choke the Word, and it proves unfruitful ... But those that were sown on **good soil** are the ones who **hear the Word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty fold, sixty-fold and a hundredfold.**”

***Col 2:6-7** – “So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, **continue** to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”

***John 8:31(Message Bible)** – “If you **stick with this**, living out what I tell you, you are my disciples for sure...”

- DISCIPLES v DECISIONS
- CONTINUING: Analogy of “Parable of the Sower of Seed” – No Defense (Birds of Air) ... No Root (Rocky Soil) ... Cares of Life, Deceitfulness of Riches & Desire for Other Things (Thorns) v Good Soil (Bear Fruit: 30, 60 & 100 fold)
- GROWING: Analogies of “Giving Birth - Then What” – Purpose of the Basepath School
- CONQUERING: Psalms 18 – From: Sinking > Rescued > Conquering > Pursuing
- Analogy of “Sparklers, Candles & Trick Candles”

3. **OBEDIENCE - APPLICATION**

**Mt 28:19-20 – “Therefore Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

**James 1:22 – “Don’t merely listen to the word, deceiving yourselves. Do what it says.”*

**Luke 6:46 – “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”*

**John 6:60, 66-67 – “On hearing it, many of His disciples said, ‘This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?’ From this time many of His disciples turned back and no longer followed Him. ‘You do not want to leave too, do you?’ Jesus asked the twelve.*

- The “ENGRAFTED WORD” Saves
- Analogy of “CAFETERIA STYLE CHRISTIANITY”
- Jesus knew He could do more with 12 SOLD OUT, RADICAL DISCIPLES than a whole multitude of half-hearted, lukewarm believers

4. **CONNECTING – TO A LOCAL BODY OF BELIEVERS & A CELL GROUP**

**Ps 68:6 – “God sets the lonely in families, ... but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.”*

**Acts 2:42-47 – “They devoted themselves to ... fellowship, ... All the believers were together ... Every day they continued to meet together ... They broke bread in their homes and ate together ...”*

- Did you know that there are “30 ONE ANOTHERS” in the New Testament?
- In discovering a “church home”, it’s important to know their “VALUES” and “VISION”
- “Most people do not commit themselves to a church until they have attended for several months.” – Jack Hayford, Pastor Van Nuys, CA
- A CONNECTION based upon COMMITMENT, not CONVENIENCE
- This helps to “CLOSE THE BACK DOOR”
- We understand that Valleyview is NOT for everyone. We are praying that God will send us those that will “fit” and are meant to be here.

Conclusion:

In order to benefit the most from this course, it is very important that you commit to attending EVERY CLASS AND THE RETREAT. This may involve great sacrifice, but that is part of discipleship and our Christian walk. In a very real sense this is our “boot camp” to prepare us for what we might face.

Our mid-week classes (beginning later this month and going through April) will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. and end no later than 8 p.m. There will only be the class itself (no worship). We apologize for the inconvenience, but it is not for children. If enough express interest, we will attempt to provide childcare. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.