

# Building A JOYFUL & CHRIST-EXALTING DISCIPLE-MAKING Culture

Over the course of several months, the Faith Church Elders have sought the Lord about where he may have us go next. Where are we strong? What needs attention? What should we focus on? Who should we become?

As we prayed, studied Scripture, and discussed at length, it became clear that God wants us to become a more vibrant disciple-making church in the coming years. He wants us to become a church where every member is equipped to make disciples.

What does this look like? How do we get there?

Look inside!

## NEXT STEPS

## FOR FAITH?

The Faith Church Elders & Staff are excited to lead you in a 3-year journey where we can make this disciple-making vision part of our culture. This means learning together from God's Word, aligning our ministries to the vision, and creating specific avenues of application. In view of this, each year we will focus on one aspect of being a disciple.

2018-2019: In Communion

2019-2020: In Community

2020-2021: On Mission

## FOR ME?

Pray for Faith's leadership and congregation to embrace God's purposes for us.

Utilize the Study Guides during the Vision sermon series

Read *Trellis & the Vine* by Colin Marshall and *Discipling* by Mark Dever (At Book Table!)

### Questions or comments?

Reach out to a Faith Church Elder! We would enjoy speaking with you about this.

COMING TOGETHER TO FULFILL  
God's Vision

**A 3 YEAR FOCUS**



# Disciple-Making



***Ok, so before you tell me about “making disciples,” can you tell me what a disciple of Jesus is?***

Good question! A disciple of Jesus is someone who is in communion with God through Christ, in meaningful community with other Christians, and committed to Jesus’ disciple-making mission.

Sound familiar? It should. This is something that the Faith Church Elders & Pastors have been trying to teach you over the last 5 years. We know you’ve been growing in this. We want to continue to help you in being a disciple!

***Got it. So what is disciple-making?***

Disciple-making is the deliberate and relational practice of evangelizing non-believers, establishing believers in the faith, and equipping mature believers to do the work of ministry (Ma. 28:16-20; Eph. 4:11-16).

It not only happens on Sunday mornings, but also when Christians spend regular time with believers and non-believers around the Word of God (1 Thess. 2:1-12). It’s something that every Christian is called to do, but it’s not something that every Christian does alone. It’s bringing the Word of God to bear in every relationship – whether that’s with your neighbor, co-worker, friend at church, kids, or spouse.

***I think I get it. But why is this really important?***

First, Jesus modeled it for us and then commanded it of us! Jesus spent three years with 12 men, modeling disciple-making. The Apostle Paul poured his life into other men too (2 Tim 2:2). And Jesus commanded us to do the same with others (Matt. 28:16-20).

It’s also right in front of us! Think about all of your relationships, be that with Christians or non-Christians. We have many family, friends, neighbors, classmates, and co-workers who need to know Jesus and who need encouragement to grow in their faith.

***Uh, is this just a new program?***

Nope. Disciple-making isn’t a new program to add to your already busy schedule. Rather, it’s a mindset that should shape your existing relationships and spheres of influence.

## A SNAPSHOT OF DISCIPLE-MAKING

***I’m digging this so far. But can you paint the picture for me? What does this disciple-making look like in everyday life?***

Good question! Consider this snapshot of disciple-making from our church family...

*Andy & Patty Hunt (Cincinnati)*

One spring day we noticed a young family across the street from us holding a yard sale. So we walked over and introduced ourselves. Jeff and Kim were in their 20’s with a two year old and Kim was obviously expecting. We learned twins were due within weeks. We took over a meal after the twins arrived and Patty offered to help with scheduling and all the logistics of having so many, so little, and so close together. We had been through a similar road with our kids (our first four were 4 years old and younger). Several weeks later Kim invited Patty over. She was at her wits end. Trying to care for two infants and a demanding two year old was inflicting a terrible toll. To make matters worse the twins were on different schedules.

Patty almost moved in to Kim’s house over the next week. She helped get the twins on a similar schedule for feeding and sleeping which was a huge relief. But more than that she cemented a friendship. We began to share meals together once in a while. I began to work out with Jeff and when he expressed an interest in entering the Miami Valley Triathlon we formed a team and began training in earnest.

Eventually Jeff and Kim along with a cousin of Kim’s and her husband joined us in reading and discussing the Bible together. Somewhere around John chapter 9 they trusted Christ for forgiveness and new life. They now live in Charlotte and continue to walk with God and are active in discipleship and leadership in their church. Our friendship and commitment to them continues even though distance separates us.

