

HOW TO BE A DISCIPLE

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. (Matthew 28:19–20)

The final command of the risen Christ is to *make disciples*. Yet, it seems that for all our programs, structures, processes, and budgets, the church today has largely lost sight of this vision. Therefore, we are thrilled that you have taken up the call to obey this foundational command. You're going to make a disciple!

There are undoubtedly many approaches to disciple making. Our aim is to be at once holistic and simple, thoughtful and yet accessible. That is why we've designed a discipleship pathway that utilizes many different resources in order to bring about the most life change.

This pathway is based on four essential directions that a disciple should be going: up (union with God), down (communion with others), out (justice and mercy), and back (making disciples).



The first 9 modules of your journey will deal exclusively with the first three arrows. Each module deals with one of the arrows, then the next module moves on to the next arrow, then the next, then we cycle back around. This continues for 9 modules, which means you'll have spent time dealing with each of the first three arrows for 3 modules each. Every module also has a specific *outcome*, or embodied practice that has to do with the direction of the arrow. Module 10 is devoted to the final direction: making disciples.

To get the most out of this journey, please keep the following in mind:

1. **It's not about you.** For the next several months, your discipler will be guiding you, praying for you, and pouring into you. That is good and necessary. But remember: *it's not about you*. It's about who YOU can disciple someday, just as you've been disciplined. Today is the day to start praying about who God might ask you to disciple.

2. **Commit.** Your discipler is putting a lot of time into this, and they are doing it for YOU. So you should exert the same amount, if not more energy into making this relationship work. Show up on time. Be available. Do your assignments. Chase this thing, and you won't be disappointed. It's going to change your life.

3. **Remember the point.** Remember that the point is to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus. The point is to become more like him, so that we can help others become more like him. That's what matters most!

4. **Keep a journal.** Throughout this process, you'll be asked to reflect on many things. Keeping a journal of your thoughts will help you be prepared for meaningful discussions with your discipler. Get a journal, keep it with you, and bring it to each meeting!

Finally, keep us in the loop! We want to help you and hear how it's going. Email us at spiritualformation@theransomchurch.org if you have any questions or comments.

Blessings!