

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Disciple-Making Covenant

I will commit to the following expectations:

1. I pledge myself fully to the Lord with the anticipation that I am entering a time of accelerated spiritual transformation.
2. I will meet with my D-Group for approximately one and one-half hours every week, unless providentially hindered.
3. I will complete all assignments on a weekly basis before my D-Group meeting, in order to contribute to the discussion.
4. I will contribute to an atmosphere of confidentiality, honesty, and transparency for the edification of others in the group as well as my own spiritual growth.
5. I will pray every week for the other men/women who are on the discipleship journey with me.
6. I will begin praying about replicating the discipleship process upon completion of this group.

Signed Mentee \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Spiritual Journey Inventory

Use these questions in your D-Group to get acquainted with each other.

1. After coming to the Lord, I finally understood \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The closest I have felt to God in my life was \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The farthest I felt from God was \_\_\_\_\_.

4. If I could change one incident in my life it would be \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

5. One incident in my life that I would never change would be \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

6. The turning point in my relationship with God was \_\_\_\_\_. Why?

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Sample H.E.A.R. Entry

**Read:** Philippians 4:10-13

**Date:** 11-30-13

**Title:** Secret of Contentment

#### **H (Highlight)**

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

#### **E (Explain)**

Paul was telling the church at Philippi that he has discovered the secret of contentment. No matter the situation in Paul’s life, he realized that Christ was all he needed, and Christ was the one who strengthened him to persevere through difficult times.

#### **A (Apply)**

In my life, I will experience many ups and downs. My contentment is not found in circumstances. Rather, it is based on my relationship with Jesus Christ. Only Jesus gives me the strength I need to be content in every circumstance of life.

#### **R (Respond)**

Lord Jesus, please help me as I strive to be content in You. Through Your strength, I can make it through any situation I must face.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Sample Bible Reading Plan (e100)

1. Creation – Genesis 1:1-2:25
2. The Fall – Genesis 3:1-24
3. The Flood – Genesis 6:5-7:24
4. God’s Covenant with Noah – Genesis 8:1-9:17
5. Tower of Babel – Genesis 11:1-9
6. The Call of Abram – Genesis 12:1-20
7. God’s Covenant with Abram – Genesis 15:1-21
8. Isaac’s Birth and “Sacrifice” – Genesis 21:1 – 22:19
9. Jacob and Esau Compete – Genesis 27:1-28:22
10. Jacob and Esau Reconcile – Genesis 32:1-33:20
11. Sold Into Slavery – Genesis 37:1-36
12. Prison and a Promotion – Genesis 39:1-41:57
13. Ten Brothers Go to Egypt – Genesis 42:1-38
14. The Brothers Return – Genesis 43:1-44:34
15. Joseph Reveals His Identity – Genesis 45:1-46:7
16. The Birth of Moses – Exodus 1:1-2:25
17. The Burning Bush – Exodus 3:1-4:17
18. The Ten Plagues – Exodus 6:28-11:10
19. The Passover and the Exodus – Exodus 12:1-42
20. Crossing the Red Sea – Exodus 13:17-14:31
21. The Ten Commandments – Exodus 19:1-20:21
22. The Golden Calf – Exodus 32:1-34:35
23. Joshua Succeeds Moses – Joshua 1:1-18
24. Crossing the Jordan – Joshua 3:1-4:24
25. The Fall of Jericho – Joshua 5:13-6:27
26. Israel’s Disobedience – Judges 2:6-3:6
27. Deborah Leads Israel – Judges 4:1- 5:31

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

28. Gideon Defeats the Midianites – Judges 6:1-7:25
29. Samson Defeats the Philistines – Judges 13:1-16:31
30. The Story of Ruth – Ruth 1:1-4:22
31. Samuel Listens to God – 1 Samuel 1:1-3:21
32. King Saul – 1 Samuel 8:1-10:27
33. David and Goliath – 1 Samuel 16:1-18:16
34. David and Saul – 1 Samuel 23:7-24:22
35. King David – 2 Samuel 5:1-7:29
36. David and Bathsheba – 2 Samuel 11:1-12:25
37. King Solomon – 1 Kings 2:1-3:28
38. Solomon’s Temple – 1 Kings 8:1-9:9
39. Elijah and the Prophets of Baal – 1 Kings 16:29-19:18
40. The Fall of Jerusalem – 2 Kings 25:1-30
41. The Lord is My Shepherd – Psalm 23:1-6
42. Have Mercy on Me – Psalm 51:1-19
43. Praise the Lord – Psalm 103:1-22
44. Godly Wisdom – Proverbs 1:1-4:27
45. The Proverbs of Solomon – Proverbs 16:1-18:24
46. The Suffering Servant – Isaiah 51:1-53:12
47. Jeremiah’s Call and Message – Jeremiah 1:1-3:5
48. Daniel in the Lion’s Den – Daniel 6:1-28
49. The Story of Jonah – Jonah 1:1-4:11
50. The Day of Judgment – Malachi 1:1-4:6
51. The Word Became Flesh – John 1:1-18
52. Gabriel’s Message – Luke 1:1-80
53. The Birth of Jesus – Luke 2:1-40
54. John the Baptist – Luke 3:1-20
55. Baptism and Temptation – Matthew 3:13-4:17
56. Sermon on the Mount, Part 1 – Matthew 5:1-64
57. Sermon on the Mount, Part 2 – Matthew 6:5-7:29

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

58. The Kingdom of Heaven – Matthew 13:1-58
59. The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37
60. Lost and Found – Luke 15:1-32
61. Feeding the Five Thousand – Luke 9:1-36
62. Walking on Water – Matthew 14:22-36
63. Healing a Blind Man – John 9:1-41
64. Healing a Demon-Possessed Man – Mark 5:1-20
65. Raising Lazarus from the Dead – John 11:1-57
66. The Last Supper – Luke 22:1-46
67. Arrest and Trial – John 18:1-40
68. The Crucifixion – John 19:1-42
69. The Resurrection – John 20:1-21:25
70. The Ascension – Acts 1:1-11
71. The Day of Pentecost – Acts 2:1-47
72. Growth and Persecution – Acts 3:1-4:37
73. The First Martyr – Acts 6:8-8:8
74. Sharing the Word – Acts 8:26-40
75. Good News for All – Acts 10:1-11:18
76. The Road to Damascus – Acts 9:1-31
77. The First Missionary Journey – Acts 13:1-14:28
78. The Council at Jerusalem – Acts 15:1-41
79. More Missionary Journeys – Acts 16:1-20:38
80. The Trip to Rome – Acts 25:1-28:31
81. More than Conquerors – Romans 8:1-39
82. The Fruit of the Spirit – Galatians 5:16-6:10
83. The Armor of God – Ephesians 6:10-20
84. Rejoice in the Lord – Philippians 4:2-9
85. The Supremacy of Christ – Colossians 1:1-23
86. Elders and Deacons – 1 Timothy 3:1-16
87. The Love of Money – 1 Timothy 6:3-21

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

- 88. Good Soldiers of Christ – 2 Timothy 2:1-26
- 89. All Scripture is God-breathed – 2 Timothy 3:10-4:8
- 90. The Coming of the Lord – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11
- 91. The Most Excellent Way – 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- 92. A New Creation in Christ – 2 Corinthians 4:1-6:2
- 93. A Living Hope – 1 Peter 1:1-2:12
- 94. Faith and Works – James 1:1-2:26
- 95. Love One Another – 1 John 3:11-4:21
- 96. A Voice and a Vision – Revelation 1:1-20
- 97. Messages to the Churches – Revelation 2:1-3:22
- 98. The Throne of Heaven – Revelation 4:1-7:17
- 99. Hallelujah! – Revelation 19:1-20:15
- 100. The New Jerusalem – Revelation 21:1-22:21

<http://e100challenge.com>

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Prayer Log

Date Asked	Prayer Request	Date Answered



# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Sample Scripture Memory Card

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

**2 Timothy 2:1-2**

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Accountability Questions

1. Have you spent time in the Word and in prayer this week?
2. Have you shared the gospel or your testimony with an unbeliever this week?
3. Have you spent quality time with your family this week?
4. Have you viewed anything immoral this week?
5. Have you had any lustful thoughts or tempting attitudes this week?
6. Have you told any lies or half-truths to put yourself in a positive light before others?
7. Have you participated in anything unethical this week?
8. Have you lied about any of your answers today?

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Avenues for Building Relationships

#### 1. Pray

We need to approach each day with focused prayer. When I pray, “Lord, put someone in my path with whom I can share the gospel,” the opportunity usually arises. D. James Kennedy said, “Evangelism without prayer is presumption.” Needless to say, prayer is necessary.

#### 2. Frequent a Place

By going regularly to the same places for coffee or lunch, you will develop relationships with employees and other regular customers. Introduce yourself, remember others’ names, and start greeting folks by using their names. This will absolutely make you stand out from other customers. Using a person’s name displays a genuine interest in him as an individual. Regular contact, smiling, and using people’s names are easy ways to open the door to sharing the gospel.

#### 3. Take an Unbeliever to Lunch

People are more likely to talk about their lives over lunch than in any other setting. The casual atmosphere and defined time frame enable people to relax and “open up” about their lives. You will be amazed at how many people desire to talk to a friend.

#### 4. Invite the Neighbors for Dinner

Reach out to each couple or family in your neighborhood (one at a time) by inviting them into your home for an informal meal. Intentionally provide a comfortable, relaxing atmosphere. Do not immediately plunge into the subject of church and salvation, but build a relationship by showing them that you genuinely care. Talk about your kids, your yards, the community—things you already have in common. Keep the conversation friendly. This is not the time and place for discussions about social, economic, or political viewpoints. Remember, you’re on a mission to show them Christ in your life in order that you can tell them about Him.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### **5. Join Your Neighborhood Association**

We all enjoy talking about our homes and neighborhoods. Joining your association is a great way to meet people with whom you already have something in common.

### **6. Join a Club or Group**

If you are a student, join a club at school. If you own a business, join a trade group. Or find an interest-based group, such as a biking club, running club, bowling league, or health spa. At Brainerd Baptist Church we have a community facility that houses a coffee shop, meeting rooms, exercise equipment, and health classes. We are very excited that approximately 2,700 of the 3,000 members do not go to our church. What an opportunity for relational evangelism!

### **7. Go Where People Are**

Visit community playgrounds, parks, pools, or other open areas often. Go out in public in a casual way. The more you are outside, the more informal conversations you will have with people. Take a walk. Make eye contact with people. Smile and say hello. Be ready with a gentle word to begin conversations on casual, everyday subjects, even the weather. Be interested in what others say. When asked a question, avoid one-word answers. Most people will talk when others are friendly to them. Follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit as to when and how to transition into the subject of the gospel. Prepare transition statements in advance, such as, “What is God doing in your life?” “I learned something cool in Scripture today, can I tell you about it?” “Hey, let me tell you about a verse of Scripture that has really been speaking to me this week.” “I was struggling a couple of years ago, let me tell you what changed that.” Or finally, you might say, “Do you have a home church that you attend? If not, let me invite you to my church – maybe we could go out to lunch after the service this Sunday.”

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Commonly Asked Discipleship Questions

#### **How do I choose disciples?**

The first step in establishing a formal disciple-making relationship is choosing disciples. Jesus, our example in selecting disciples, spent time in prayer before selecting men (Luke 6:12-16). The word disciple means learner. Begin by asking God to send you a group of men or women who have a desire to learn and grow.

When people approached Jesus about becoming His disciples, our Lord held a high standard. One man said, "I'll follow You, but let me go bury my father." Jesus said something like, "You can't do that. The kingdom is too important." Understand that the man's father had not yet died; he wanted to wait until after his father died.

Like Jesus' relationship with His disciples, ours is a serious relationship, a relationship built upon a mutual commitment to Christ and each other. Tragically, some will not follow through with that commitment, forcing you to confront them about their unfaithfulness. Occasionally, it may become necessary for you to ask someone to leave the group. In my years of leading D-Groups, on two occasions I've had to go to an unfaithful group member and say, "Listen, I love you, brother. I want to work with you, but at this stage in your life, your actions are telling me this is not a good time. Maybe we can meet in the future, when you are at a different place in your spiritual walk." As painful as this is, it rarely happens. But when it does, always be careful to handle it in a manner that edifies the uncommitted believer.

Your D-Group should consist of F.A.T. believers: Faithful, Available, and Teachable. A faithful person is dedicated, trustworthy, and committed. Consider a potential disciple's faithfulness by observing other areas of his/her spiritual life, such as church attendance, small group involvement, or service in the church. Faithfulness is determined by a commitment to spiritual things.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

Discern an individual's availability by his willingness to meet with and invest in others. Does this person carve out time to listen, study, and learn from others? Is he accessible when called upon? Does she have a regular quiet time with God of reading the Word and praying? Availability is measured by a willingness to serve God.

Not everybody who attends a Bible study, Sunday school class, or D-Group is teachable. A teachable person has a desire to learn and apply what is taught. One who is teachable is open to correction. Recognize teachability by observing one's response to God's Word. For example, after hearing a sermon on prayer, does he begin to pray more regularly? Or after a lesson about the dangers of the tongue, does this person implement changes in her speech? A teachable person not only listens to what is taught, but also applies it to his or her life.

After discerning that an individual is faithful, available, and teachable, prayerfully approach him or her and ask, "Would you be interested in studying the Bible together? Would you be interested in memorizing Scripture and praying together?" I have personally found that many people are open to that. All you have to do is ask. Never say, "Would you like for me to disciple you?" as this question may come across in a derogatory manner. Keep in mind, men should disciple men, and women should disciple women.

### **How many people should be in the group?**

Because accountability works well in a smaller setting, the ideal size of a disciple-making group is three to five—you and two to four other people. Never have more than five, and remember that a one-on-one relationship is not ideal (see Chapter 3).

### **Where should we meet?**

Find a meeting place away from the church. Restaurants, coffee shops, bookstores, diners, and homes are all good options. Meeting outside the church in the community forces your group to publicize your faith, teaching them it is okay to read the Bible at a restaurant or pray in public. Be sure to select a place that is convenient to all group members. I know stay-at-home moms who meet in each other's houses.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### **How often should we meet?**

Ideally, you should meet once a week. You can meet more frequently, but it is important that you meet at least once a week. This schedule does not prohibit those you are discipling from calling you throughout the week or coming by for counsel when needed. Discipleship is an all-the-time, 24/7 commitment.

### **Is there an attendance requirement?**

Yes, and it is not negotiable. The first time I meet with a potential group, I explain the disciple-making covenant with them. Since we're going to spend our lives together for the next twelve to eighteen months, I want to know if they are committed. Some people have said after the initial meeting, "Uh, this isn't really for me. I'm not interested." That's okay. I allow potential disciples to opt out of the group on the front end after understanding the expectations spelled out in the disciple-making covenant. Remember, you are looking for people who want to be disciplined, people who have a desire to grow and learn. An unwillingness to commit reveals that they are not ready to be a disciple. It's the example Jesus set for us.

### **What do our meetings look like?**

Begin with prayer. Ask each participant to present one prayer request at the start of each meeting. Assign a person to pray over the requests, and ask the Lord to sharpen each of you through your relationship.

Your weekly meetings should focus on four elements:

1. Study the Word together. Earlier in this book I outlined the H.E.A.R. method of studying the Bible: Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond. Following this method will drive the group discussion.
2. Hold each person accountable for Scripture memory by reciting the previous week's passage before the group.
3. Ask accountability questions of each other. Hold each person accountable for achieving their goals. For example, "How is your relationship with Linda? You mentioned last week that you were working on the way you spoke to your wife."

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

4. Pray together before departing.

### **How do I dig deeper into the Bible?**

In order to study the Bible in depth, you will use some study tools, beginning with a Bible dictionary. Early in our disciple-making relationship, David Platt gave me a Bible dictionary for my birthday. He said, “Robby, here’s a gift that you’ll use.” And he was right. In addition to a Bible dictionary, it is important to have a good study Bible (the ESV Study Bible, the MacArthur Study Bible, and the NIV Study Bible include helpful commentary on each verse). If you can’t afford to buy one of your own, you can access one on the Internet. Go to websites like BibleGateway.com, Bible.org, or BibleStudyTools.org. These are great resources. Additionally, Bible study software with a collection of helpful tools is very affordable.

### **How do I challenge my D-Group to memorize Scripture?**

Proverbs 25:11 says, “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.” How many times has a Scripture come to mind when you needed just the right words in a situation? Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would bring to remembrance all that He said (John 14:26). Those passages of Scripture we have memorized will be brought to our memory at the right moment—but we must learn them. Group members will memorize Scripture if you hold them accountable through reciting verses to one another at every meeting. See Chapter 8 for a thorough explanation and a practical system for Scripture memorization.

### **Should I disciple unbelievers?**

I have led D-Groups with both believers and unbelievers present. My preferred method is a gathering of born-again believers seeking to grow in their faith. How do you determine if someone is saved or not? I begin every group by asking each person to share their testimony with the others. Next, ask them to explain the gospel. A great resource for anyone struggling with belief in Christ is Greg Gilbert’s book, *What is the Gospel?* A few years ago, a guy in my group surrendered his life to Christ after six weeks of meeting because he “never understood the gospel prior to our meeting.”



# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### **When should I ask someone to leave the D-Group?**

I have asked only two people to leave our D-Group in nine years. Someone should be asked to leave the group for reasons such as these: they don't possess a teachable spirit, or they are not faithful in attending or completing the assigned work.

Teachability is an indispensable quality for growth. In one situation, I asked an individual to leave the group because he monopolized the discussion week after week. It was obvious he wanted to demonstrate his knowledge of the Word, rather than learn from interacting with others.

Additionally, laziness will breed complacency in the group. Missing meetings, refusing to memorize Scripture, failing to log H.E.A.R. entries, or sitting idly by during discussion times lowers the morale of the others in the group. This type of behavior must be addressed immediately. Meet with this individual privately to inquire about his/her attitude and actions. Remind him or her of the commitment made at the outset of the discipleship relationship.

Other reasons may require dismissing a group member. For example, a group member who is not trustworthy to maintain confidentiality or is judgmental toward others in the group may have to be removed.

### **What if I don't know the answer to a question?**

I am often asked questions to which I don't know the answers. There is no shame in not knowing all the answers to every question. Simply confess that you may not have all the answers, but you will find them. Then do so before the next meeting. Ask your pastor or another spiritual leader to help you with the answer. Never give the impression that you have all the answers.

At the height of Henry Ford's popularity, people claimed that he was the smartest man in the world. During this time, a Chicago newspaper published a statement calling him an "ignorant pacifist." Ford fought the claim by suing the paper, which resulted in a trial landing him on the

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

stand. Attorneys asked Ford questions on every subject imaginable, none of which he could answer. Exhausted from the questions, Ford ended the examination by stating, “If I should really want to answer the foolish question you have just asked, or any of the other questions you have been asking me, let me remind you that I have a row of electric push-buttons on my desk, and by pushing the right button, I can summon to my aid men who can answer any question I desire to ask concerning the business to which I am devoting most of my efforts. Now, will you kindly tell me, why I should clutter up my mind with general knowledge, for the purpose of being able to answer questions, when I have men around me who can supply any knowledge I require?”

What he said was, “I am not the smartest man in the world because I know all the answers, but because I know where to find the answers.” You may not have total recall when it comes to biblical history, theology, and doctrine, but with time you can locate the answer.

### **When do I send out disciples to make disciples?**

Always begin with the end in mind. Your group should meet for twelve to eighteen months. Some groups develop a closer bond, which results in accelerated growth; others take longer. The maximum time for meeting is two years. Some group members will desire to leave the group and begin their own groups. Others, however, will want to remain in the comfort zone of the existing group. Some will not want to start another group because of the sweet fellowship and bonds formed within the current group. Remember, the goal is for the men and women of the group to replicate their lives into someone else.

Paul, at the end of his life, commanded Timothy, “And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to faithful men who are able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2). Within that one verse are four generations of disciple-making. Paul to Timothy is the first to second generation. Timothy to his disciples is the second to third generation. Timothy’s disciples to others is the third to fourth generation. The goal of your group is to make disciples who will make disciples.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

Jesus entrusted the greatest message in the world to twelve men, and one of them turned on Him. As a result of the commitment and faithfulness of the remaining eleven men, you are reading this book today. Disciple-making was Plan A. Jesus handed the baton to the disciples when he said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). The apostles handed it to the early church fathers, who handed it down through the centuries. And now, the baton has been handed to you. Run with endurance. Eternity is at stake.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### Suggested Resources for D-Groups

#### Discipleship Resources

Adsit, Christopher B. *Personal Disciple-making: A Step-by-Step Guide for Leading a Christian From New Birth to Maturity*. Orlando, FL: Campus Crusade for Christ, 1996.

Arn, William and Charles Arn. *The Master's Plan for Making Disciples: Every Christian an Effective Witness through an Enabling Church*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1982; 1998.

Arnold, Jeff. *The Big Book of Small Groups*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Barna, George. *Growing True Disciples*. Colorado Springs: WaterBrook Press, 2001.

Chan, Francis. *Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples*. Colorado Springs: David C. Cook, 2012.

Donahue, Bill. *Leading Life-Changing Small Groups*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Donahue, Bill and Greg Bowman. *Coaching Life-Changing Small Group Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

Donahue, Bill and Russ Robinson. *Building a Church of Small Groups*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

Donahue, Bill and Russ Robinson. *The Seven Deadly Sins of Small Group Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Eims, Leroy. *The Lost Art of Discipleship*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

Geiger, Eric, Michael Kelley, and Philip Nation. *Transformational Discipleship: How People Grow*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2012.

Gorman, Julie A. *Community That is Christian*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2002.

Hull, Bill. *The Complete Book of Discipleship: On Being and Making Followers of Christ*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2006.

Hull, Bill. *The Disciple-Making Church: Leading a Body of Believers on a Journey of Faith*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2010.

Hull, Bill. *The Disciple-Making Pastor. Leading Others on a Journey of Faith*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2007.

Hull, Bill. *Jesus Christ: Disciplemaker*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2004.

Icenogle, Gareth. *Biblical Foundations for Small Group Ministry*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1994.

Marshall, Collin and Tony Payne. *The Trellis and the Vine: The Ministry Mind-Shift that Changes Everything*. Kingsford, Australia: Matthias Media, 2009.

McCallum, Dennis and Jessica Lowery. *Organic Disciplemaking*. Houston, TX: Touch Outreach Ministries, 2006.

McBride, Neal. F. *How to Lead Small Groups*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1990.

Ogden, Greg. *Discipleship Essentials*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

Ogden, Greg. *Transforming Discipleship: Making a Few Disciples at a Time*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003.

Petersen, Jim. *Lifestyle Discipleship*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2007.

Platt, David. *Follow Me: A Call to Die. A Call to Live*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 2013.

Putman, Jim, Bobby Harrington, and Robert Coleman, *DiscipleShift: Five Steps That Help Your Church to Make Disciples Who Make Disciples*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.

Putman, Jim. *Real Life Discipleship*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

Rosenberg, Joel C. and Dr. T.E. Koshy. *The Invested Life: Making Disciples of all Nations One Person at a Time*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2012.

Willard, Dallas. *The Great Omission*. San Francisco, CA: HarperCollins Publications, 2006.

### **Spiritual Disciplines Resources**

Foster, Richard. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. New York: HarperCollins, 1998.

Pettit, Paul, ed. *Foundations of Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2008.

Whitney, Donald. *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1991.

Wilhoit, James. *Spiritual Formation as if the Church Mattered*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

Wilhoit, James and Kenneth O. Gangel, eds. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1994.

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering our Hidden Life in God*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1997.

Willard, Dallas. *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1988.

### **Theology Resources**

Grudem, Wayne and Jeff Purswell, ed. *Bible Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.

Grudem, Wayne and Eliot Grudem. *Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basic Beliefs Every Christian Should Know*. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2005.

### **Prayer Resources**

Blackaby Henry and Norman Blackaby. *Experiencing Prayer with Jesus*. Eugene, OR: Multnomah Books, 2006.

Bounds, E. M. *The Classic Collection on Prayer*. Gainesville, FL: Bridge-Logos Publishers, 2001.

Foster, Richard J. *Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

Murray, Andrew. *With Christ in the School of Prayer*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2007.

Whitney, Donald. *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1994.

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### **Bible Study Resources**

Arthur, Kay. *How to Study the Bible: The Lasting Rewards of the Inductive Approach*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1992.

Brand, Chad, Charles Draper, and Archie England. *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 1998.

Duvall, J. Scott , and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: A Hands-on Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993.

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible Book by Book: A Guided Tour*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002.

Hendricks, Howard G., and William D. Hendricks. *Living by the Book*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.

Klein, William W., Craig Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Dallas: Word, 1993.

Kuhatschek, Jack. *Taking the Guesswork Out of Applying the Bible*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1990.

Stein, Robert, H. *A Basic Guide to interpreting the Bible: Playing by the Rules*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1994.

Mickelsen, A. Merkeley. *Interpreting the Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 1972.



# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

Mounce, William D. *Mounce's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

Strong, James. *The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1990.

Zodhiates, Spiros. *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: Old Testament*. Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 1993.

Zodhiates, Spiros. *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*. Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers, 1992.

### Websites

[www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org)

[www.bible.org](http://www.bible.org)

[www.navpress/landing/discipleship.aspx](http://www.navpress/landing/discipleship.aspx)

[www.preceptaustin.org](http://www.preceptaustin.org)

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

### How to Pray for Lost Friends

**1. That they seek to know God.** God has good plans for their lives – “plans for welfare and not for calamity, to give them a future and a hope” (Jeremiah 29:11). He promises to reveal Himself and His plans to those who seek Him wholeheartedly.

“That they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us” (Acts 17:27).

“But from there you will seek the LORD your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul” (Deuteronomy 4:29).

**2. That they believe the Scriptures.** A non-Christian does not naturally understand the gospel. You must pray that the Holy Spirit will give them the understanding to believe the truth of His Word.

“For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18).

**3. That God will draw them to Himself.** We must always remember that, although God uses us as the instruments to share the message and help lead people to Him, only God can convict and convert them. One cannot receive Christ until God first draws him. Let us therefore pray that God will draw our friends to Him.

“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day” (John 6:44).

# Growing Up

## CHALLENGE

**4. That the Holy Spirit will work in them to turn from their sin and follow Christ as Lord.** Be willing to let God work in their lives (Luke 15:17-18). Be bold enough to pray that God will cause things to come into their lives that will cause them to seek Him (Proverbs 20:30).

“And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come” (John 16:8,13).

“Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19).

**5. That God will send someone to lead them to Christ.** Perhaps that someone is you. Pray that God will give you boldness to speak to them about Christ. Before you pray this prayer, be sure you mean it and will obey the Lord (Romans 10:14-15).

“Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest’ (Matthew 9:37-38).

**6. That they believe in and confess Christ as Savior and Lord.** It is important that people understand that, in receiving Christ as Savior, they are also making Him the Lord of their lives. Pray that they will understand the seriousness of the commitment to receive Christ. Pray that they will come to grasp the scope of God’s love. As their loving Father, He will never ask them to give up anything without giving them something far better in return.

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12).

“Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved” (Romans: 10:9-10).