

GROWTH HABBITTS OF A DISCIPLE
“BEING AND MAKING DISCIPLES”
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“What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!” 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

An immediate transfer happens...
followed by a life long transformation

“And I am sure that God who began the good work within you will continue His work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.” Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

HABITS that will HELP ME become a BETTER PERSON

1. PURSUE CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIPS

“As iron sharpens iron, a friend sharpens a friend.” Proverbs 27:17 (NLT)

“I want us to help each other with the faith we have. Your faith will help me, and my faith will help you.” Romans 1:12 (NLT)

CONSIDER a SMALL GROUP:

Singles – Parents of teens – Newly married – College-age – Blended families

2. READ GOD'S WORD

“Every part of Scripture is God breathed and useful one way or the other showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the word we are put together and shaped up for the task God has for us.”
2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. It gives me direction.”
Psalm 119:11 (NLT)

“Desire God's pure word as newborn babies desire milk. Then you will grow in your salvation.” 1 Peter 2:2 (GW)

Get a **“FRESH”** translation – get a reading **PLAN** – get a **TIME**

“Those who love Your teachings find true peace and nothing will defeat them.”
Psalm 119:165 (NLT)

3. THE HABIT OF PRAYER

WHY is this difficult?

We've had **LIMITED EXPOSURE** to authentic prayer
We believe **GOD IS TOO DISTANT** to hear our prayers
We believe we're **NOT IMPORTANT** enough
We believe **PRAYER DOESN'T WORK**

Prayer can be **LEARNED**
God is **PERSONAL**, not distant
You were **IMPORTANT ENOUGH** for Jesus to die
God **DOES ANSWER** prayers

“Praise God, who did not ignore my prayer and did not withdraw His unfailing love from me.” Psalm 66:20 (NLT)

“Don't worry about anything instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done.” Philippians 4:6 (NLT)

call on **GOD FIRST** – get **ALONE**

“And when you come before God... find a quiet, secluded place... just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense His grace.” Matthew 6:6 (TM)

4. ENJOY EXPRESSING LOVE AND GRATITUDE TO GOD

“Be glad, good people! Turn to God! Good-hearted people, make praise your habit!”
Psalm 6:10 (TM)

“And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do...” Hebrews 10:25 (NLT)

“Jesus told him, ‘For the Scriptures day, “You must worship the Lord your God; serve only Him.”’”

- Arrive with an eager expectation!
- Leave with an evaluation of yourself. How did you do when you came to worship? God is the audience. Forget about what happened on stage.

WHAT HAPPENS when I mess up?
I CAN BE ASSURED...

God will **CONSTANTLY LOVE ME!**

“He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.”
1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)

“The Lord said ‘I have loved you with an everlasting love. I have drawn you with a loving kindness.’” Jeremiah 31:3 (NLT)

“You are living a brand new kind of life that is continually learning more and more of what is right, and trying constantly to be more and more like Christ who created this new life within you.” Colossians 3:10 (TLB)