

ANGLER.CHURCH

HOPE OF NEW JERSEY

CREW LIFE STUDIES

REAL TRUTH FOR A REAL WORLD

LESSON 1

THE BIBLE

A SOLID FOUNDATION
FOR LIFE

SCRIPTURE

PEOPLE

PRACTICAL LIVING

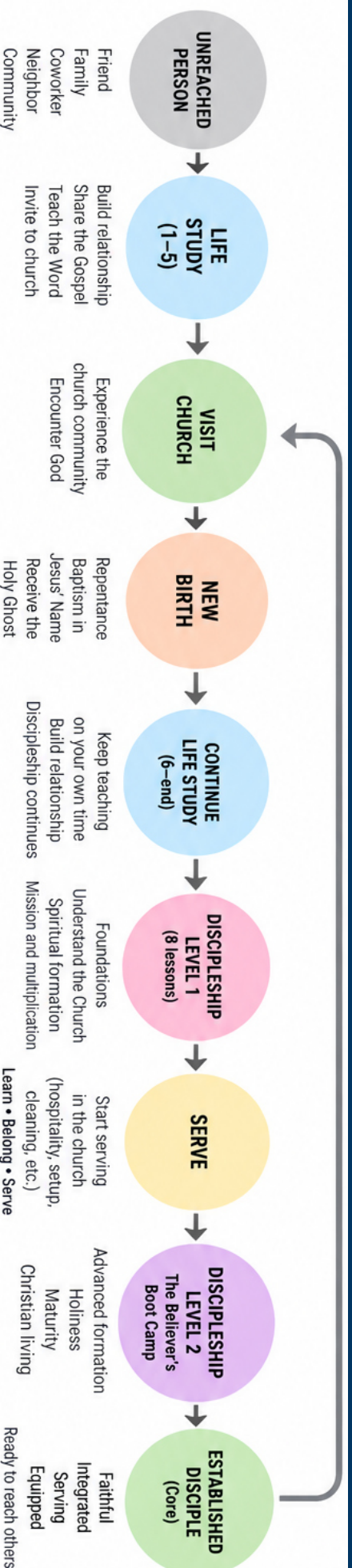
LASTING CHANGE

HOLY
BIBLE



GREW LIFE PATHWAY

THE DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY



GROW. FISH. REPEAT.

MAKE DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES.

FISH
REACH AND CONNECT

GROW
DISCIPLE AND DEVELOP

REPEAT
MAKE DISCIPLES

KEY PRINCIPLES

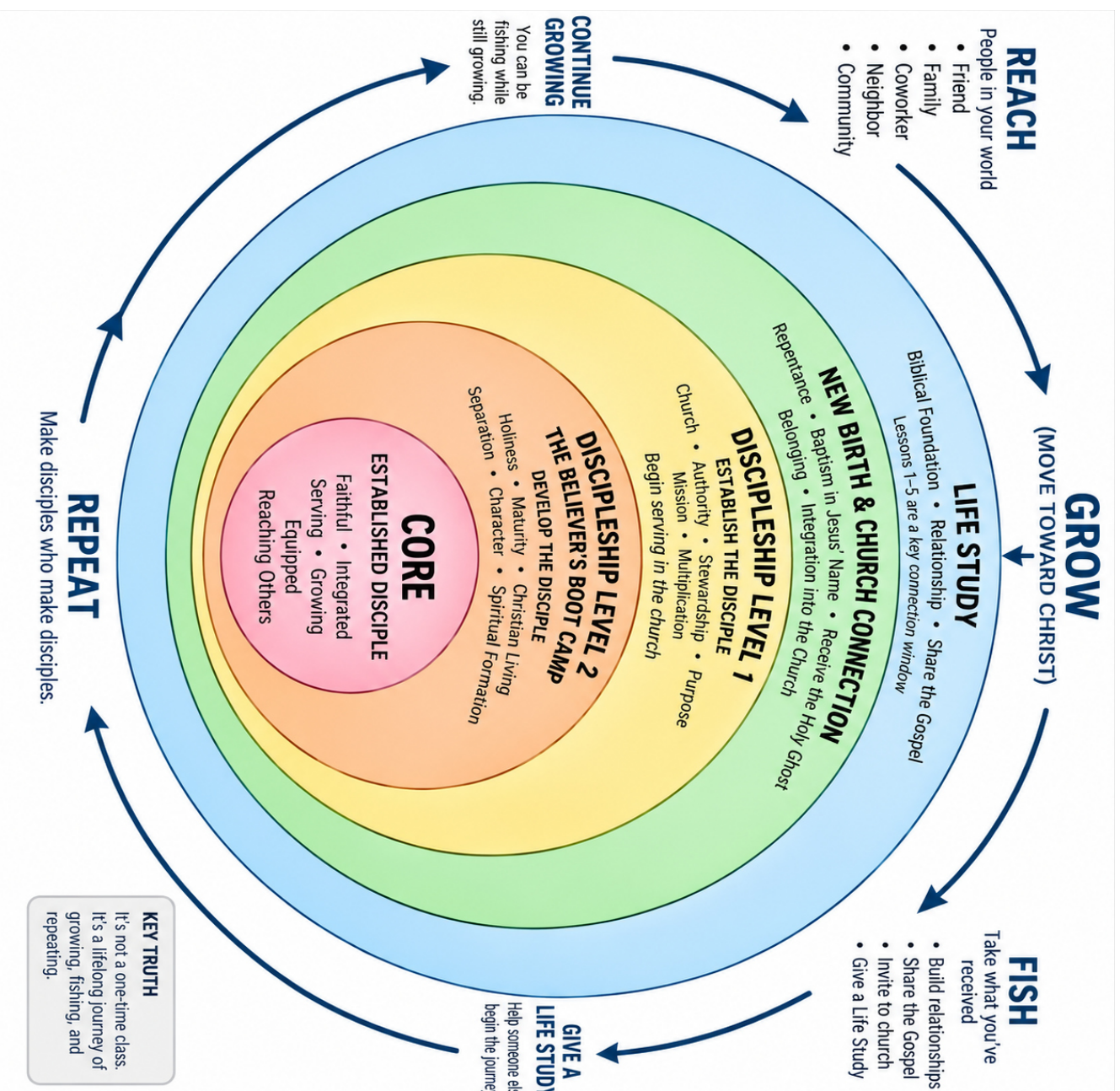
- Life Studies and Discipleship Level 1 may overlap.
- Continue Life Studies even after someone begins attending church.
- People can start serving while in Discipleship Level 1.
- You do not have to finish every course before serving.
- Disciples should keep growing while fishing.
- The goal is multiplication, not just education.

THE JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

1. Reach someone with a Life Study (Lessons 1–5).
2. Invite them to church.
3. They experience New Birth.
4. Continue the Life Study (Lessons 6–end).
5. They begin Discipleship Level 1 (8 lessons).
6. They start serving.
7. They continue to grow through Discipleship Level 2.
8. They become an established disciple (Core).
9. They give a Life Study to someone else.
10. Repeat the process.

GREW LIFE PATHWAY

THE DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE



CREW LIFE STUDIES

TEACHER NOTES

LESSON 1

THE BIBLE

REAL TRUTH FOR A REAL WORLD

Angler
CHURCH

1. THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE

THE BIBLE IS HOLY



2 Timothy 3:15

Paul refers to the Scriptures as the “Holy Scriptures.”

The word *holy* carries the idea of being set apart or consecrated unto God. When Scripture is called holy, it distinguishes these writings from ordinary writings. They are set apart because they belong to God and communicate His Word.

1 Peter 1:16 • Isaiah 45:5

God is the source and standard of holiness.

First Peter 1:16 declares, “*Be ye holy; for I am holy.*”

Isaiah 45:5 establishes the uniqueness of God:

“I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me.”

Because God is holy, that which belongs to Him is also set apart unto Him. This is the foundation for understanding why the Bible is called *Holy Scripture*.

SPIRITUAL DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY MEAN HOLY



GANDHI



POPE BENEDICT XVI



JOSEPH SMITH

Throughout history there have been many influential religious and spiritual leaders. These men represent very different religious traditions and beliefs, but the purpose of the illustration is not to study those religions. The distinction is between spiritual influence and Scriptural authority.

A person may be considered religious or spiritual, write books, influence millions of people, or establish a religious movement. None of those things make that person's writings the inspired Word of God.

INFLUENCE DOES NOT EQUAL INSPIRATION. SPIRITUAL DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY EQUAL SCRIPTURAL.

The authority of the Bible does not rest upon its popularity or upon the influence of the men who wrote it. Its authority rests upon its relationship to God.

THE INSPIRATION OF GOD



The word translated “inspiration of God” comes from the Greek word *theopneustos*, meaning “God-breathed.” The emphasis is not merely that God inspired or motivated the biblical writers in the way an artist might be inspired. Scripture has its ultimate source in God.

THE BIBLE WAS WRITTEN BY MEN, BUT ITS MESSAGE ORIGINATED WITH GOD.

Approximately 40 different human writers contributed to the books of the Bible. They came from different backgrounds, occupations, cultures, locations, and periods of history.

The writings of Scripture developed across many centuries, yet together they communicate the unfolding revelation of God. The Old Testament Scriptures were written and collected over centuries. The New Testament writings were completed during the first century AD.

THE BIBLE & THE PRINTING PRESS



c. 1455

GUTENBERG BIBLE

First major book printed in Europe using movable metal type.

BILLIONS BIBLES PRODUCED

The Bible remains the best-selling book of all time, with estimates in the billions.

1.1+ BILLION COMPLETE BIBLES

Distributed by United Bible Societies members between 1946 and 2025.

The Bible's extraordinary distribution does not **create** its authority. Its authority comes from God. But its preservation, translation, printing, and worldwide distribution demonstrate the extraordinary place Scripture has occupied throughout history.

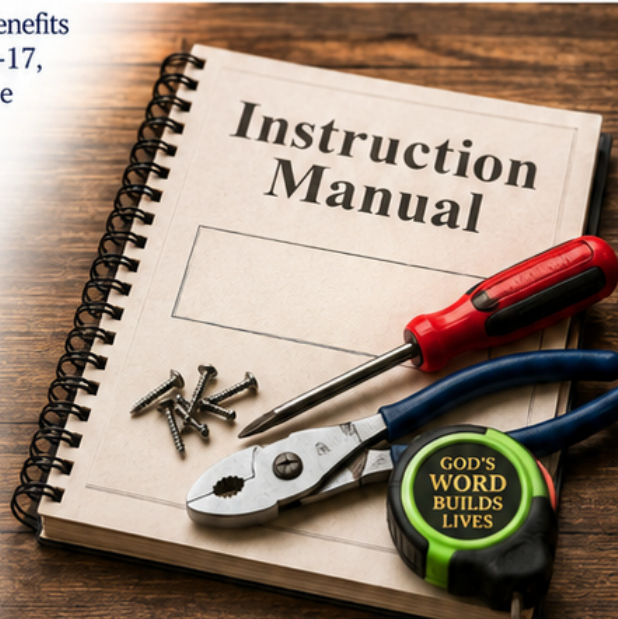
2. BENEFITS OF STUDYING SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:15-17

Studying the Bible provides many benefits for the believer. In 2 Timothy 3:15-17, Paul describes the value and purpose of Scripture in the life of a believer.

The Bible gives us:

- 1 Wisdom
- 2 Salvation
- 3 Doctrine
- 4 Reproof
- 5 Correction
- 6 Instruction
- 7 Righteousness



EQUIPPED FOR A REAL WORLD

Just as an instruction manual provides guidance for using a tool correctly, the Bible equips us for life. It gives us wisdom, shows us the way of salvation, teaches sound doctrine, reproofs us when we are wrong, corrects us, instructs us in righteousness, and prepares us to live for God's glory.

3. THE BIBLE PROVES ITSELF TO BE TRUE

Isaiah 7:14 • Matthew 1:18-23

One of the most powerful evidences that the Bible is the true Word of God is its ability to predict the future and then see those predictions fulfilled. Isaiah 7:14 contains a remarkable prophecy concerning the virgin birth of the Messiah. Hundreds of years later, Matthew 1:18-23 records the fulfillment of this prophecy in the birth of Jesus Christ.

"THE SIGN"

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Isaiah 7:14



MARY

JESUS

A PROPHECY FULFILLED

The prophecy in Isaiah 7:14 was given centuries before the birth of Christ. It specifically stated that a virgin would conceive and bear a son. Matthew 1:18-23 records the historical fulfillment of this prophecy in the life of Mary and the birth of Jesus.

The precise fulfillment of this prophecy is just one example of many that demonstrate the Bible's divine origin. The ability to predict the future and have those predictions come to pass is a powerful evidence that the Bible is the inspired Word of God.

**PROPHECY FULFILLED
CONFIRMS THAT THE BIBLE
IS TRUE.**