

Relational Discipleship: A Call to Return to the Foundations

What Do We Mean by “Relational Discipleship”?

We are living in one of the most relationally chaotic times in human history. These issues aren't isolated to the world alone—they've deeply infiltrated what many today call “church.”

The Bible, from beginning to end, is built on **relational foundations**. Words like *Father* (God), *Son* (Jesus), *Bride* (the Church), *fathers*, *mothers*, *children*, *sons*, *daughters*, *adoption*, and *inheritance* fill its pages.

Yet many who have sat in church for years, hearing sermon after sermon, still lack a true understanding of these foundational concepts.

Spiritual Orphanhood and the Lack of Revelation

Many have **head knowledge of God as Father**, yet live as **spiritual orphans**. They lack understanding of their relationship with Christ—their **marriage to Him**, their **sonship**, and their **inheritance**.

This condition is not okay with God. Nor should it be with the Body of Christ.

It is perhaps the **#1 issue of our day**. If we don't get this right within the Body, we have **little spiritual authority** to confront what is happening in the world. Discipleship that does not address these truths is incomplete. It is like building on a weak foundation—and then wondering why everything falls apart.

Will You Lead Against the Grain?

In a world filled with brokenness—in families, churches, and society—it's easier to stay silent, keep peace, and avoid discomfort. But this call is **not for the comfortable or the timid**.

God is calling the **brave**, the **hungry**, the **reformers**, the ones who are willing to **rock the boat** and **challenge the norm**.

This message has been shared across denominations, across nations, and with diverse groups—and the **fruit has been undeniable**: healing, restored relationships, spiritual maturity, and Kingdom growth.

Biblical Foundations Remain Central

This course holds fast to the **nine core doctrines of Christianity**:

- The Deity of Christ
- The Virgin Birth
- Original Sin
- Salvation by Grace
- Salvation through Christ Alone
- The Resurrection
- Monotheism
- The Holy Trinity
- The Gospel of the Kingdom of God

Our goal is not to replace these truths, but to bring a **deeper understanding and application** of them in our daily lives.

Truth and Myths About Discipleship

There are **two groups** on Earth:

1. Those born of the **Spirit of God**
2. Those born only of **flesh and blood**

Only those born of the Spirit belong to God's family—but **both** need discipleship. One from rebirth; the other led *to* it.

John 1:12–13: "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become the sons of God... born not of blood, nor of the will of flesh, but of God."

John 3:3–7: "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God... That which is born of flesh is flesh; that which is born of Spirit is spirit."

Who Can Be Discipled?

There's a myth that **only the born-again** can be discipled. But that's not true. **Discipleship begins the moment** we start teaching someone about the things of God. It starts before the altar and may lead them to it.

Jesus commanded us to **make disciples**, not just converts or churchgoers.

Matthew 28:19-20: "Go and make disciples... teaching them to obey everything I've commanded you."

Who Should Disciple Others?

Another myth is that only “**professional ministers**” should disciple. This has led to dependency on weekly sermons and Sunday school classes alone. These are helpful—but **not enough**.

A powerful illustration:

A pastor once complained about the immaturity of his congregation. When asked about his discipleship model, he described only weekly teachings. He was then asked: “*Would you raise your children by giving them two general talks per week?*” The answer was obvious.

Levels of Discipleship

There are **four key levels** of discipleship:

1. **Unaccountable Believers**
 - Claim Christianity but lack connection, correction, or encouragement from other believers.
2. **Institutional Participation**
 - Attend church, listen to sermons, maybe a Bible study—but lack personal, in-depth mentorship.
3. **Mentoring**
 - Personal investment by a more mature believer. This is more fruitful and effective.
4. **Parenting / Fathering**
 - The most committed form. This is **lifelong** and **legacy-focused**—like Paul with Timothy, or Elijah with Elisha.

1 Corinthians 4:15: "Though you have ten thousand instructors... you do not have many fathers."

The Power of Multiplication

If one person disciples just **12 people** in their lifetime, and that reproduces **only four times**, that's **over 20,000 disciples**. Five times? **Nearly 250,000**.

Discipleship is not a suggestion—it is a **command**.

How to Share This Course

This course is designed to be shared by anyone—from seasoned theologians to new believers. While it can be taught to large groups, it is **most effective in small settings**:

- Around a table
- In homes
- With food and fellowship

Many have come to Christ this way—more deeply rooted than some long-time church members.

The Wake-Up Call

This course **challenges tradition**, especially in Western church culture. Some leaders may face resistance. But this is a **heart-searching journey** that has already transformed lives around the world.

This message took over **33 years** to receive—from the Lord and through spiritual mentors. It's freely given with the prayer that it blesses and transforms others as it has for so many.

Are You Willing to Take the Journey?

This will require:

- Prayer
- Time
- Study
- A heart to truly disciple others

Many have said this was a **turning point** in their spiritual walk.

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