

# Essential Disciplemaking Church Documents

## I. Introduction

In order to get started properly and stay on track as a disciplemaking church, you must document the disciplemaking purpose, process, beliefs, and methods of your church. Your church staff, leaders, and members must agree with these documents. Then you can effectively implement the principles in these documents to create a disciplemaking church. This workshop will help you learn how to manage the change process and how to create and implement a plan for your church to become a disciplemaking church. The documents that you need and who they are designed for are:

	New Members	Members	Ministry Workers	Ministry Leaders	Apprentice Disciple-makers	Disciple-makers	Staff
Doctrinal Statement	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Spiritual Growth Plan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Foundations Discipleship Material		X	X	X	X	X	X
Foundations Leader Training Guide					X	X	X
Disciplemaking Church Plan				X	X	X	X
Workshop Material							X

You already have all of these documents in this training except the Doctrinal Statement and the Disciplemaking Church Plan.

## II. Disciplemaking Church Plan for Your Church

The Disciplemaking Church Plan describes **how** your church will accomplish your mission of finishing the Great Commission by making multiplying disciplmakers.

1. Our mission is Jesus' mission: **Finish the Great Commission**
  - a. This is the mission that Jesus gave every believer and every church
2. Our method is Jesus' method: Make **multiplying** disciplmakers
  - a. We reach our community by making multiplying disciplmakers in our church
  - b. We reach our surrounding communities by multiplying churches by church planting
  - c. We reach our cities, country, and the world by training pastors to train other pastors to make multiplying disciplmakers
3. A disciple of Jesus is a person who is becoming like Jesus
4. We have a **Disciplmaker Pathway** to make multiplying disciplmakers
  - a. We use **Jesus process** to make multiplying disciplmakers: Win, Build, Equip, Multiply
  - b. We make multiplying disciplmakers through:
    - i. **Foundations** Discipleship Groups
    - ii. Initial training using the **Foundations Leader Training Guide**
    - iii. **Apprenticeship**

- iv. Ongoing training and growth as a disciple in the **Disciplemaker Team**
- c. We use **Foundations** Discipleship Material
  - i. We follow Jesus' discipleship training method of sequential learning
    - 1. Come, 2. Grow, 3. Serve, 4. Go
  - ii. We include **all of the ingredients** of a disciple
    - ("obey everything I have commanded you")
    - Worship, Fellowship, God's Word, Prayer, Service, Outreach
- d. God is the teacher in our Foundations Groups
  - i. We **facilitate** group discussion by asking questions, we **don't lecture**, we help people **self-discover** and **apply** God's Word to their lives
  - ii. We encourage people to do their study at home and then share what God has taught them during the group meeting
- 5. All staff and leaders, present and future,
  - a. Shall be trained in the Disciplemaker Pathway
  - b. Shall continue growing as a disciple
- 6. All staff and leaders, present and future, shall agree wholeheartedly with our Disciplemaking Church Documents.
  - a. Doctrinal Statement
  - b. Spiritual Growth Plan
  - c. Foundations Discipleship Material
  - d. Foundations Leader Training Guide
  - e. Disciplemaking Church Plan
  - f. Pastor Training Material
- 7. All staff including church planters, present and future, shall be trained with the workshops
- 8. The Pastor and staff are to equip and coach the church members to do the work of the ministry
- 9. A requirement to be a member of our church is to go through a Foundations Group and serve as a Foundations Leader or Apprentice or serve as a Ministry Leader or Worker.
- 10. The staff and leaders will evaluate every ministry and activity before allowing it to start in order to make sure that it helps accomplish the mission of our church to finish the Great Commission by making multiplying disciplermakers.
- 11. The staff and leaders will evaluate every existing ministry and activity yearly in order to make sure that they help accomplish the mission of our church to finish the Great Commission by making multiplying disciplermakers.
- 12. We have a list all of our ministries and what their disciplermaking function is
- 13. We have a job description including required experience and training for every ministry worker, leader, and staff member

Make any changes to the Disciplemaking Church Plan you think are needed and get input from your church leaders who you think will support this plan. Then you can use this draft to present to other church leaders and get their input and approval.

### III. How the Disciplemaking Church Plan Will Help your Church

God has given us great wisdom in Amos 3:3:  
“Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so?”

Your church will never become an effective disciplemaking church unless your staff and leaders agree to the goal of becoming a disciplemaking church and also agree **how** you will become a disciplemaking church. Then your staff and leaders can help you guide your church members through the changes that are needed.

A Disciplemaking Church Plan will:

- Provide unity of method so you can work together to become a disciplemaking church
- Document your specific ministry priorities and not just have a vague philosophy that causes confusion
- Give your staff, leaders, and members the opportunity to embrace the disciplemaking goal and methods and to screen out those leaders who won't embrace the goal and methods during the launch of your disciplemaking church plan
- Protect your church from splits in the future by making it clear to potential new members what they can expect in your church
- Provide concrete direction to your staff, leaders, and members
- Give specific criteria for hiring new staff by determining if they agree with your goal and methods before you hire them