

Reproducible Disciple Making Guide It's all about Experiencing Jesus!

The goal of this guide is to:

- 1. Equip disciple makers to experience joy in their role of discipling others. Following this approach will result in less pressure on you and more life for you and those you disciple.
- 2. Unify the Church together around a common vision of Disciple Making.
- 3. Empower all of us, regardless of personality, gifts, or experience with a common way of Disciple Making that is less leader centric, more life-giving, more reproducible, so we can see God's Kingdom expand.

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Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20



The Essence of Disciple Making

Disciple making is making disciples of Jesus...who in turn make disciples.

OK, that's obvious when we think about it but helping people really connect with Jesus tends to be overshadowed by a list of tasks to be fulfilled - reading scripture, praying *to* Jesus, pursuing fellowship and accountability, sharing our faith, and so on.

Jesus himself modeled discipleship for us. He was discipled by His Father.

- "He awakens me morning by morning. He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple" (Is.50:4,5).
- "I do nothing on my own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught me" (Jn.8:28).

If we are to be discipled by Jesus then our primary goal is to learn how to hear and respond to Him.

Whether we are reading Scripture, walking with other believers or sharing our faith, we need to be open to the instruction of the Holy Spirit who has been given as our Helper to lead us into all truth. Dependence on him is even necessary if we are to pray effectively (Rom.8:26). And, of course, praying itself is severely limited and soon becomes robbed of enjoyment if we are not listening to him and entering into dialogue with him so he can guide and encourage us.

Disciple makers all too often find they are weighed down and drained by trying to give the disciples the answers and help they need. Now of course, patience and endurance are often required in coming alongside someone and helping them grow in Christ. The problem is that disciple makers often cultivate, maybe unwittingly, a dependence on themselves as source – instead of dependence on Jesus. What a relief it is for disciple makers to recognize the radical difference!

From the outset, a disciple should learn they can turn to Jesus, ask Him about anything and receive what He has for them. That they can bring to him burdens and difficulties, problems and pain, and get help and encouragement directly from the One who knows and understands them like no other.

Disciple makers are only effective to the degree that they point others to Jesus and help them engage with him!

Sadly, it is all too common for disciples to become so dependent on the disciple maker that they are at a loss when they find themselves in a situation where they no longer have access to their help and encouragement. They have not experienced the reality of deep friendship with Jesus. They have not cultivated a lifestyle of enjoyable intimacy with him that meets the deepest needs of their hearts.



Modeling and leading disciples to enter into a simple two-way conversation with God builds confidence in turning to him as their Father, Comforter, Shepherd, Teacher, Guide, Healer, Deliverer and closest Friend. Impediments to our growth in Christ will be revealed and overcome as we come to the 'Wonderful Counselor'.

The disciple is not limited to the strengths or weaknesses of the disciple maker but is able to access the unlimited counsel of God!

This is why every disciple maker should learn how to facilitate the disciple's connection with the Father.

How do we engage in disciple making?

While there are many different ways to progress in disciple making this document describes a basic, reproducible model that will help every disciple walk more closely with Jesus while learning to be a disciple maker themselves. This model is for groups of three people and provides a process aimed at helping the disciple experience Jesus more personally.

The approach rests on three core values discussed in the next section.



Three Core Values of Disciple Making



<u>Disciple making will be life-giving and Jesus-centered.</u>
(Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8)

God made us for relationship, so our priority in disciple making is to help the disciple experience Jesus more intimately. He wants us to walk with Him, to learn to hear His voice and to follow Him in obedience.

We can facilitate this by resisting the urge to talk too much and provide all the answers. Put Jesus in the center by letting the disciple discover answers to their questions in the Word and by learning to discern the Holy Spirit's leading. This is where life is!



Disciple making must not revolve around the disciple maker's personality, gifts, or experience. If it is, we will inadvertently make the disciple dependent upon the disciple maker rather than Jesus. To have a life-giving experience centered on Jesus, keep the words of John the Baptist in mind:

"He must become greater, I must become less."



We will disciple others in a way that leaves footprints to follow. (2 Timothy 2:2)

One of the goals in disciple making is for the disciple to become a disciple maker. Therefore, our discipleship must be done in a way that leaves footprints behind so they can learn to disciple others.

This is what Paul was emphasizing when he said, "The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

This is why we apply a flow to our meeting time. It's life-giving and gives the disciple maker a pattern they can use with others.





It's vital that as a disciple maker we personally "walk the walk." Time in the Word, personal holiness, obedience to Christ, a pursuit of freedom, self control, the fruit and gifts of the Spirit need to be evident in our own walk as we lead others. How can we introduce someone to a friend who we, ourselves don't know?



We will center our disciple making on a kingdom vision. (Matthew 6:33, 24:14)

Discipleship is Jesus' way of expanding his kingdom. Therefore, it must be centered on what Jesus is doing in the world: reconciling people to God and bringing them into the church. Discipleship that focuses on God's expanding kingdom develops people who impact their oikos and stirs passion in the hearts of Christ followers for all nations.

The goal in discipleship is transformation, pure and simple. We want to become more like Jesus so we can help others become more like Jesus and experience him more fully. When we align ourselves with what Jesus is doing in the world, we can be sure that we will be amazed by the ways he shows up.



A common misunderstanding of discipleship is that the goal is just more knowledge. Often people view completing a book as the finish line. Nothing could be further from reality. It's all about experiencing Jesus and becoming a disciple maker.

What's Expected of the One Being Discipled?

Letting the disciple know what to expect in discipleship helps to avoid misunderstanding and to ensure success. (We want the disciple to succeed!) Some of the basic expectations of the disciple are:

- We will spend daily time in the Word and commit to obey what the Lord says.
- We will make a weekly discipleship meeting a priority in their schedule
- We will learn certain skills such as how to share their faith and the gospel
- We will keep a consistent journal
- · We will learn how to become a disciple maker

There are certainly other things that we could add to the list, but the point is for the disciple to see discipleship as an intentional relationship.



"Disciple someone who's ready for discipleship. Minister to someone who needs ministry."

Some people are ready for the intentionality of discipleship while others may be in a season where they need more freedom or ministry. For example, for a person going through a divorce or one who has recently lost a loved one, intentional discipleship may feel like pressure. What this person may need in this particular season is prayer ministry, counseling, or simply a friend who listens. While discipleship will always include a pursuit of freedom, it's important to differentiate between someone who is ready for discipleship and someone who may need ministry or freedom as their current priority.



Disciple Making Stages

As an Equipper and Discipler, your role is to:

- 1. Encourage the disciple to get over the key hurdles that may hinder their progress.
- 2. Coach in weak areas and celebrate growth in key indicators.
- **3.** <u>Guide</u> them in navigating their transition between stages of their spiritual growth from a child, to a young man, and finally to a spiritual father or mother. (I John 2:12-14)

3 Stages of Disciple Making are:

- 1. Establishing: Learning to follow Jesus closely
- 2. Engaging: Growing deeply rooted in Jesus' love and truth
- 3. Multiplying: Bearing fruit and reproducing Jesus' life to another

These 3 stages of disciple making are based on Colossians 2:6-7:

"Now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."



Hurdle: Resistance to spiritual growth (busy lives, self reliance)

Stage 1: Establishing (2-3 months)

Leader's Role Indicators of Progress

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Relational builder	Sharing your stories, personality, gifts, perceptions/ understanding of God in the three persons of the Trinity		
Healthy communicator	Following of discipling expectations		
Visionary	Envisioning of the priority of Discipleship. Consistent meeting flow weekly. Praying for who to disciple.		
Progress advocate	Growing in hearing God and obeying Him more and more regularly. Not perfection, but steps of progress.		





Hurdle: Resistance to going deeper (flesh, pride, soul strongholds)

Stage 2: Engaging (8-10 months)

Leader's Role

Indicators of Progress

Freedom Fighter	Identifying soul strongholds, struggles, and hindrances to intimacy with Jesus. Freedom Prayer
Value multiplier	Consistent sharing of marital, parental, and Life group spiritual growth and impact.
Leadership encourager	More between meeting contact. Read the Disciple Maker Manual. Rotate leading the weekly meeting using the flow and values.
Coach	Scripture Memory, Learning to share Your Story and God's Story, Prayer / Care / Share stories shared regularly.
Visionary	On-going embracing the role of DiscipleMaker and Equipper. Praying for who to disciple.



Hurdle: Resistance to stepping out (comfort, insecurity)

Stage 3: Multiplying (2-3 months)

Leader's Role

Indicators of Progress

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Spiritual encourager	Spiritual fruit from Gal. 5 showing the character of Jesus in them.		
Fruit Cheerleader	Regular stories of sharing, giving, serving, and ministering both in their Life group and in their Oikos.		
Visionary	On-going embracing the role of DiscipleMaker and Equipper. Praying for who to disciple.		



Hurdle: Resistance to change (new relationships, fear of starting over)





What do we do in the weekly meeting?

It's all about experiencing Jesus

C.A.L.L.E.D.

C.A.L.L.E.D. is a reproducible strategy for disciple making. It describes both a flow for the actual discipleship meeting and also the ultimate goal of discipleship: to become a disciple maker. The first four letters describe the flow and the last two describe your role and goal.

C = Celebrate

Start with celebrating what the Lord has done in you or through you. Everyone share something good the Lord has done during the past week.

A = Accountability

The goal of accountability is to encourage the disciple as they strive to be faithful to what <u>they've</u> <u>heard</u> the Lord tell them to obey. Each week the disciple will determine how God is calling them to respond to his Word.

Accountability time covers any area in which the disciple has stated they are seeking to improve. (Purity, discipline, forgiving someone, being more disciplined in daily devotional time, etc.) It also covers "wrong thinking" or lies with which the disciple might be wrestling. Be on the look out for inner struggles and make use of Freedom Prayer.

L = Learn It

This is the time we're actually in the Word together using a simple inductive process called a Discovery Bible Study. This approach is good at helping the disciple learn to hear God's voice and obey. Everything hinges on these two because discipleship is all about knowing Jesus more and following Him in obedience. (See section 4 for how to do a Discovery Bible Study.)

This also a good time to review Section 6 "Practices for Experiencing Jesus." Scripture recitation, personal faith story, sharing the gospel, etc. Remember the goal is not perfection, but progress. Not just knowledge, but obedience.

L = Live It

This is where the disciple learns to be still and wait, listening to discern the Spirit's leading. This is the most important part of the process, so don't rush it. The disciple will listen to the Lord and write down God's personal revelations to them, ultimately writing down a specific way in which they are to obey the Lord. (See section 4 about Hearing the Lord.)



E = Equipper

Your role is to be an equipper. We want to equip them with experiences, skills, and tools for their journey with Jesus and their journey of discipling others. You'll be furnishing them with skills like sharing their faith story and sharing the Gospel. You'll equip them with strategies and a perspective for them to disciple others. You'll equip them with tools such as "How to Handle the Word of God Accurately" and "How to Apply the Word to Your Life".

In everything we do, we are pointing them to Jesus and His Word helping them experience Jesus personally. We're not looking to be the "answer man" for all the disciple's questions. You don't need to become their counselor (they actually have a better one living inside of them!) But you are leading them to practical tools, skills and experiences that are fundamental to learning how to follow Jesus closely for a lifetime.

Knowing how your personality interfaces with that of the person you're discipling is important so you can relate to them in the most effective way. Click this link for a 5-minute personality test https://is.gd/CFuewc. It includes a description of four basic personality types.

D = Discipler

Your role as Discipler is to come alongside the other person in a life on life relationship. Regularly encouraging and spurring the disciple to keep growing and seeking to become more like Jesus. Be their greatest cheerleader as you walk with them through the ups and downs of life as they follow Jesus.

Even as we are helping the disciple to experience Jesus more personally, we are equipping them to do the same thing with someone else. We are teaching them how to be a disciple maker. When they start discipling someone else they'll grow at an even faster rate themselves. Remind them regularly of the goal of becoming a disciple maker.

Don't forget that discipleship is a "team" effort. You have resources to tap into in your journey with them as issues and obstacles in their life surface. There are lots of resources available: Freedom Prayer, Conquer series for men, Freedom groups for women, and marriage conferences are just a few examples.



What do we do during the week?

It's all about experiencing Jesus

1. Experiencing Jesus in the Word. Encourage the disciple to:

- Have a personal devotional time each day using the principles of Learn It and Live It. The goal is to learn to hear God's voice and to obey it.
- Keep a listening journal where they can record God's personal words and revelations.
- Practice Scripture memorization.

Here are some links to scriptures that you might use in your devotional times during the week.

- I Am verses (click the link)
- In Christ verses (Verses speaking to what we have in Christ)
- God's Power in My Life verses
- <u>BullsEye verses</u> (covers what God is doing in the world and how we can be included)

2. Experiencing Jesus in the World. Encourage the disciple to:

- Prayer, Care, Share (see section 4)
- Pray the Include Me prayer. Wherever, whenever, with whomever, ask the Lord, "Would you include me in what you're doing?"
- **3. Experiencing Jesus in the Family.** (Physical Family and Spiritual Family (Life Group)) Encourage the disciple to:
 - Hear the Lord for the sake of blessing others. (New Testament prophecy)
 - Use their spiritual gifts to bless others.
 - Grow in the way of love. (Paul describes this in 1 Cor. 12-14)





Practices for Experiencing Jesus

Discovery Bible Study

Many missionaries are using a simple approach to Bible study through which anyone can be successful. It works well with new believers and more experienced ones.

- Pray first and ask the Holy Spirit to speak as you read the selected Scripture passage silently together several times through and to guide you as you study the Word together. Feel free to use different translations.
- 2. Discovery Questions: Discuss these together
 - · What happens in this passage?
 - What does this passage tell us about God?
 - · What does this passage tell us about people?
 - · How is this good news?

Don't go down rabbit trails of controversial scripture in your discussion. The goal is to plow up the soil of their soul with the Word so the Holy Spirit can teach them. Slow down--each word of Scripture is significant.



Be attentive to help the disciple stay on this passage only and focus word by word. Don't get side tracked with "this reminds me of..." or other things that take up time instead of allowing the Word to speak and what the Spirit is teaching here.

Hearing God Speak and Journaling

After spending time in the Word, have the disciple be still before the Lord asking, "What does faithfulness look like for me in response to this passage, Lord?"

The Lord will always impress upon them something about himself, about them, or about someone else.

Here are three broad areas in which the Holy Spirit might speak:

- 1. He may give a truth to embrace or a lie to reject.
- 2. He may identify something to do or to stop doing.
- 3. He may bring to mind someone to love or to forgive.





The active ingredient in a devotional time is faithful obedience. A good way to start is to have the disciple write an "I will" statement in their journal that expresses to the Lord how they will respond to his leading. This will form the basis for your accountability next time you meet. Progress is difficult without this.

A journal is critical! We use a journal to write down scriptural observations, prayers, and reflections. It's a great place to record times that God has shown up in our lives. We also write down insights that come to us during the day or in our discipleship meeting. We can use it to write discipleship assignments. A journal can be as simple as a spiral bound notebook or as nice as a leather bound version. Journaling isn't writing down my thoughts, like "Dear, Diary..." It is more of listening journal for recording God's personal words and revelations to you.

Prayer, Care, Share: A powerful practice for giving God room in your life.

<u>Prayer</u>: When we pray, we open up a door for the Holy Spirit to work in our oikos (our personal sphere of influence.) Ask the Lord to bring to mind five people in your oikos and begin praying for the Lord to bless them. Beyond praying for your oikos, wherever you go, ask the Lord, "Will you include me in what you're doing?" The *Include Me* prayer is powerful and one Jesus <u>loves</u> to answer.

<u>Care</u>: Look for ways to care for the needs of people, especially the specific people for whom you're praying. For example, if your neighbor had a baby, bake them a casserole. If your coworker is working late, get them a cup of coffee. Genuinely caring is rare and reveals that the other person is important to you.

<u>Share</u>: When we pray and care for people, they almost always open up about their lives, often revealing a concern or problem they have. When they do, we have the opportunity to share with them. Maybe we pray for them briefly right then. Perhaps we share our personal experience and how Jesus met us. Or maybe we get to encourage them with something from God's Word. God will make these opportunities obvious to us if we've been praying and caring.

Learn Your Faith Story

While we can always tell the long version of our spiritual journey, learning a short version is really important. Develop a 90-second faith story using these three themes:

- 1. What was life like before I knew Jesus?
- 2. How did I come to know Jesus?
- 3. What is life like now that I follow Jesus?

Avoid church words or phrases that people might not understand. Be real and vulnerable. Practice sharing your faith story regularly by yourself and in your discipleship group, asking for helpful feedback.



Learn the Salvation Message

Every disciple needs to know how to use the Bible to show someone else the good news about Jesus' love and forgiveness. While it good idea to carry a tract with us, it's also important to know how to share the salvation message. Here's two online versions that you can practice: The Roman Road and One Verse Evangelism

Scripture Memory

Regularly memorizing scripture stocks our minds with Truth, which the Holy Spirit will remind us of at just the right time. Make scripture memory a regular part of the discipleship time.

Asking the Miracle Question and Praying for Others

As the disciple prays the Include me prayer, the Lord will stir their heart to love, engage, and pray for others. A great practical approach is to ask a person,

If God could do one miracle in your life, what would it be and can I pray for you?

This takes boldness and obedience, so be sure to encourage and affirm it as the disciple maker.



What is the content we use?

While there is value in the many books and resources out there, we seek to focus on the transformational power of God's Word, God's Spirit, and God's People. Therefore, we want to stick with the Scriptures as our content and allow other resources to be secondary.

Here are four pathways for utilizing the Bible in your disciple making:

- 1. Stories / Parables
- 2. New Believer
- 3. Foundational Themes
- 4. Books of the Bible

Stories/ Parables

These are good to use to explore Jesus and learn about who He is (See the Discovery Bible Study-Section 6). Use the stories or parables below as well as study through some of the Gospel accounts: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John.

- 1. John 1: Good place to describe Jesus
- 2. Luke 7:36-50: Simon the Pharisee and the Sinful Woman
- 3. Luke 18:9-14: A Tax Collector and a Pharisee
- 4. Matthew 18:21-35: Parable of the Merciful King
- 5. John 4:4-42: Woman at the Well
- 6. Luke 24:13-35: Road to Emmaus
- 7. Luke 19:1-10: Story of Zacchaeus
- 8. John 3:1-12: Story of Nicodemus
- 9. Mark 4:1-20: Parable of the Soils
- 10. Matthew 16:13-27, Romans 10:9-10: Decision Lesson

New Believer

To start with a new believer, it is important to help them understand their new identity, purpose and belonging. We suggest using one of these targeted resources that speak right to this fresh place. It is important for you as the disciple maker to help them grow not only in knowledge of these new truths, but also in the relational closeness of walking with Jesus- hearing and obeying. (Employ the Practices for Experiencing Jesus- Section 6)

1. <u>Beginning the Journey: Entering the Kingdom of God</u> by Ralph Neighbour- 5 weeks (Mentor guide in the back of the book)

Foundational Themes

"As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so **walk in Him**, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving." Col. 2:6-7

THEME SCRIPTURE RESOURCE

	T	T
1. Walk in My	I John 3:1, Eph. 2:1-10, I Thess. 5:23,	
Identity in Christ	John 5:24, Rom. 5:1, 2 Cor. 7:1, John	
(I AM verses, 3	17:3, Gal. 4:4-7, Rom. 8:14-17, Gal.2:20, I	
Circles-Spirit, Soul,	John 5:11-13,	
Body)		
2. Walk in fellowship	Father- Gen. 1-3, Ps. 103-105, Ps. 139,	Delighting in the Trinity—
with the Triune God	Isa. 40:11, I John 4:7-19, Ex. 33:12-23, I	Michael Reeves, He Loves
(Trinity ill, Sharing My	Kings 19:11-12, Matt. 3:16-17	<i>Me</i> —Wayne Jacobsen,
Story. God's Story)	Son- Isa. 53, John 1, Col. 1:14-28, Heb.	_
	1:1-3, Eph. 1:19-22, Eph. 2:18	
	Spirit- John 16:7-16, I Cor. 2:9-16, Rom.	
	8:25-26, Acts 1:8, Titus 3:3-7, Gal. 5:16-25	
3. Walk with Jesus	Luke 24:13-35, Rom. 12:1-2, Ps. 103, 145,	Experiencing God—Henry
(PRAY acronym)	Matt. 6:5-16, John 17:9-19, James 5:13-	Blackaby
	16, Eph. 3:14-21, I John 1:3-10	
4. Walk in Mission	Matt. 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Luke 5:1-11,	The Insider—Jim Petersen
(Include Me,	John 17:17-26, 2 Cor. 5:15-21, 2 Tim. 2:2-	
Prayer/Care/Share)	7, Matt. 9:35-38, Matt. 16:24-28,	
5. Walk in the	Matt 24, Daniel 4:34-37, Matt. 6:33, Matt.	Covenant and Kingdom—
Kingdom of God	5:1-12, Luke 10:1-11, John 15, Matt.	Mike Breen
(Bullseye)	13:31-46, Isa. 55:8-12. Ps. 145:3-21	
6. Walk in Power	Luke 3:21-22, John 14:15-17, 25-27, John	Spirit Rising—Jim Cymbala
(Filling of the Spirit)	15, John 16:7-15, Acts 1:8, Eph. 5:18,	
	Eph. 4:30, Acts 2:1-20, Acts 4:29-33	



7. Walk in Freedom	Gal. 5:1, John 8:31-36, Gal. 4:21-31, 2	The Bondage Breaker or
(Freedom Prayer)	Cor. 3:16-18, Romans 6, Romans 8:1-4,	Walking in Freedom—Neal
	Isa. 61:1, Eph. 3:12, I Peter 2:16-17	Anderson
8. Walk in Truth	1 Pet. 1:21-25, 2 Pet. 1:19-21, 2 Tim.	30 Days to Understanding
(Accuracy of Bible doc,	3:16-17, Heb. 4:12, John 17:13-19, John	the Bible—Max Anders
Discovery Bible Study,	8:31-36, Ps. 19, Prov. 2:1-12, John 14:6,	
Lie/Truth)	John 8:43-47, Mark 4:1-20, 3 John 4	
9. Walk in Trust	Heb. 11, Prov. 3:5-6, Ps. 103:8-14, Eph.	
(Fatherhood doc, Art of	1:4-5, Lam. 3:22-23, Rom. 8:38-39,	
Marriage conf.)	Joshua 1:9, Isa. 43:1-7,	
10. Walk in Victory	l Cor. 10:13, l John 4:4, lsa. 14:12-15, l	Victory Over the Darkness—
(Conquer)	Peter 5:8-9, James 4:6-8, 2 Cor. 10:3-5,	Neal Anderson
	Eph. 4:17-24, Eph. 6:10-20, Rom. 8:30-39,	
	Matt. 4:1-11, Rev. 3:20-22	
11. Walk in	Acts 2:42-47, Heb. 10:22-25, Eph. 2:19-	LG Leader Coaching Guide
Community	22, Eph. 4:10-16, I Cor. 14:3, 26, Col.	
(BOC commands, Life	3:13-16, Rom. 12:1-6, I Cor. 12:12-27, I	
group)	Peter 2:9-10,	
12. Walk in	Matt. 6:19-30, Matt. 19:16-24, Matt. 25:14-	Financial Peace University
Stewardship	30, Mark 8:34-38, Ps. 90:12, Ps. 127:1-5, I	
(Time, Talents,	Tim. 6:6-10, James 4:13-17, Eph. 5:1-10	
Treasure)		

Books of the Bible

- 1. Choose a Book of the Bible and read through it together during the week. Ephesians- one chapter a day. (<u>RightNow Media</u>: Read Scripture Series has 7-8 minute summary videos of each Book of the Bible that are really helpful.)
- 2. Choose a chapter or two for the week and read through to really focus deeply. Colossians 3.
- 3. Choose a story or account. Mark 4:1-20: Parable of the Soils, Matthew 5:1-12: Beatitudes, Luke 4:1-14: Temptation of Jesus, etc.

