

A Tool For Personal Discipleship

Disciple Assessment

- As you begin the spiritual mentoring process with the disciple, use the following two Assessment lessons (*5 Concepts and Where Am I as a Christian?*) to help diagnose the spiritual maturity level of the believer.
- Then start with Phase 1 using the recommendations found in Lesson 2-5 – “Guidelines for Discipling Others”.

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Five Biblical Concepts Every New Believer Needs to Understand

(TO HELP MAXIMIZE SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND HELP MINIMIZE FRUSTRATION!)

(Important - Underlined words/phrases may need further explanation.)

1. As my Savior – Jesus wants me to know that all my sins have been forgiven, and I now have eternal life.

John 5:24 “I assure you: Anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.”

Rom. 4:7-8 How joyful are those whose lawless acts are forgiven and whose sins are covered!

How joyful is the man the Lord will never charge with sin!

Rom. 8:1 Therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ Jesus.

Rom. 8:16 The Spirit Himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God’s children.

Rom. 8:31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

Rom. 10:13 For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

1 John 3:24 ... the way we know that He remains in us is from the Spirit He has given us.

1 John 5:11-13 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. The one who has the Son has life. The one who doesn’t have the Son of God does not have life. I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

2. As my Lord – Jesus wants me to know that I have been bought with a price and am no longer my own.

John 13:13 You call Me Teacher and Lord. This is well said, for I am.

Romans 11:33-12:1 ... For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things... Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship.

Rom. 14:7-8 For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

1 Cor. 6:19-20 Don’t you know that your body is a sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.

1 Cor. 7:22-23 ... he who is called as a free man is Christ’s slave. You were bought at a price;

2 Corinthians 5:15 And He died for all so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but for the One who died for them and was raised.

Consider: This could be threatening, if it were not for the absolute truth that God loves me and will always do what is in my best interest.

If God loves me, can only do what is in my best interest, and never makes mistakes, what would be a logical reason for not embracing Him as my Master?

3. I am very special and God has a marvelous, unique design for my entire life, and He wants to manage His plan for me.

Psalm 139:16 Your eyes saw me when I was formless; all my days were written in Your book and planned before a single one of them began.

Prov. 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. (NKJV)

Jer. 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you”—this is the Lord’s declaration—“plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”

Matthew 11:28-30 (*Jesus said*) “Come to Me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. All of you, take up My yoke and learn from Me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Romans 8:31-32 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He did not even spare His own Son but offered Him up for us all; how will He not also with Him grant us everything?

4. God wants me to know that the Holy Spirit alone is capable of guiding and revealing God’s plan to me.

Isa. 55:8-9 “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not My ways.” This is the Lord’s declaration. “For as heaven is higher than earth, so My ways are higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.”

Jer. 10:23 ... a man’s way of life is not his own; no one who walks determines his own steps.

John 14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit—the Father will send Him in My name—will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.

John 16:13-15 ... the Spirit of truth ... will guide you into all the truth.... He will glorify Me, because He will take from what is Mine and declare it to you....

1 Cor. 2:9-14 ... What eye did not see and ear did not hear, and what never entered the human mind—God prepared this for those who love Him. ... no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given to us by God.

5. God wants me to know that the Holy Spirit will train me to recognize, follow and obey His guidance.

Psa. 32:8 I will instruct you and show you the way to go; with My eye on you, I will give counsel.

Luke 9:23-24 Then He said to them all, “If anyone wants to come with Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me....”

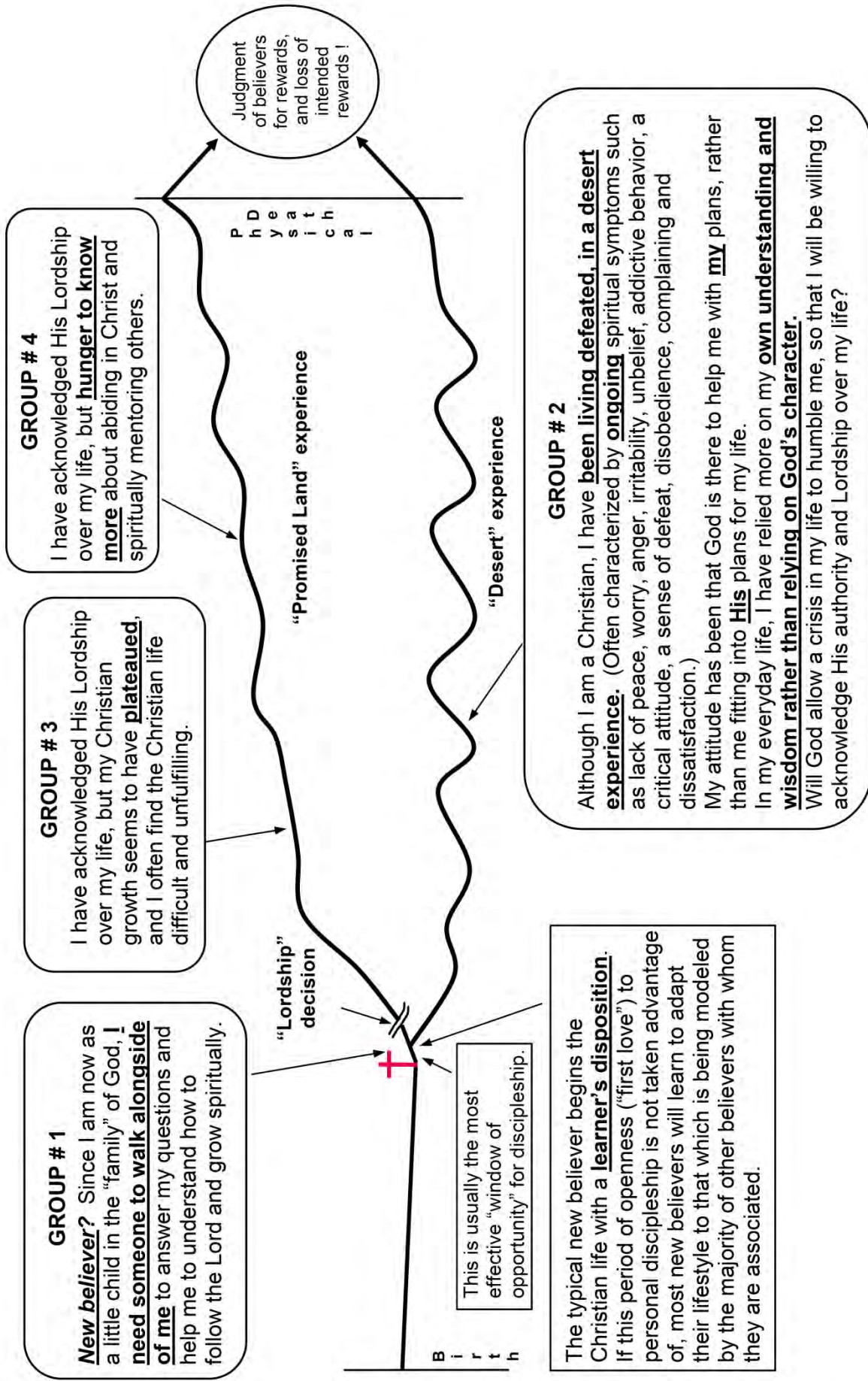
John 10:27 (*Jesus said*) “My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me.”

John 12:24-26 (*Jesus said*) “... If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me. Where I am, there My servant also will be....”

Rom. 11:36-12:2 ... Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

If you would like a free copy of this lesson in a tri-fold brochure for you to use, among other resources, go to our web site located at : www.disciplers.org

Where Am I as a Christian?



A Brief History of - *“A Tool for Personal Discipleship”*

Art Barkley and his wife Toni served as tribal missionaries in Bolivia for about 20 years with New Tribes Mission. That's where much of the groundwork for this discipleship material was set.

Art shares:

“Over the years one of the things that bothered me was watching many believers who had obviously accepted the Lord, were excited about their new Christian life, but who within a few months would be found involved with the things that they were involved with as unbelievers.”

“During times in the U.S., we would observe a similar pattern. Believers who had enthusiasm and excitement at the beginning of their new life with the Lord, way too often, after a few months, when outside of a Christian setting, could hardly be recognized as followers of Christ.”

“I often felt there was something missing in the equation, but for years I couldn't figure out what it was.”

“Another thing that bothered me was the common perception on the part of many believers that the Christian life is too difficult to understand and live out. I have thought many times; if God designed salvation to be so simple that anybody could easily receive it, would He then design the Christian life to be so difficult to understand and live out?”

Then in 1990, God orchestrated circumstances in such a way that Art and Toni could not permanently return to Bolivia. He provided for Art to serve as an Associate Pastor at Reno Christian Fellowship for 7½ years. It was during this period that God led Art to start developing 'A Tool for Personal Discipleship', a work still in progress.

The purpose of this discipleship material is to provide believers who have a passion for the Lord, with a *Tool* to use under the direction of the Holy Spirit, to help other believers to grow and experience the joy of *the Normal Christian Life*. We have heard many believers lament, “I would like to be used by the Lord to help other believers to grow spiritually, but I don't know what to teach.” This *Tool* is designed to help address that need.

In subsequent years, Art has been involved to varying degrees in the personal discipleship of hundreds of men. He and Toni have seen God change lives and count it a privilege to have a small part in God's plan to grow and use believers through Personal Discipleship.

Art Barkley is President of *Discipler Training International*, and his wife Toni is involved in spiritual counseling and discipling women.