

DNA

BUILDING YOU
BUILDING GROUPS
BUILDING BEYOND



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Introduction

The vision of our church is to build disciples who represents Jesus to everyone, everywhere with everything. This booklet is a discipleship resource that will unpack how our vision and G.R.A.C.E. disciple-making values is a vision of:

1. *Building You* - the disciple
2. *Building Groups* - to become a disciple-making environment
3. *Building Beyond* - casting the vision beyond Clayton as the Holy Spirit leads

While every group and gathering in our church looks different (e.g. small groups, workplace groups, migrant english, playgroup, embrace women's ministry), it has two things in common: 1) our disciple-making values 2) our purpose of 'building disciples who represents Jesus to everyone, everywhere with everything'. This resource will help every individual, group and gathering explore how they can take their next step to be used by God to be part of achieving the vision of our church.

groups / gatherings / services

our church



our leaders

disciple-making disciples

our discipleship culture

G.R.A.C.E. disciple-making values:

Groups and gatherings
Reproducibility
Actively hearing and obeying
Connecting
Everyday moments

our vision

to build disciples who represent Jesus to everyone,
everywhere with everything

DNA – G.R.A.C.E.

The DNA of a disciple is someone who has these 5 disciple-making values in their heart. These values drive how we are discipled, and how we go about making whole of life disciples. Below are our five disciple-making values and why we value it.

Groups and Gatherings

Jesus is experienced and represented more when we are together than alone.

Reproducibility

Healthy disciples reproduce disciples.

Actively Hearing and Obeying

Through hearing and obeying the living Word, we work with God to see change in us and others.

Connecting

Jesus connected with God and those near and far from God.

Everyday Moments

The Holy Spirit uses everyday moments to shape us to become more like Jesus.

Format

To access the videos and digital soft-copy of this booklet you will need to register for a free account through our [website](#). You can download the RightNow Media app and login. You can access the videos and soft copy of the handbook by clicking on 'Browse' then on '[Clayton Church of Christ](#)'. Then look for the 'DNA Series'. Click on the relevant sessions for each week.

Sessions follow a standard two hour template, which can be adjusted by the leader as necessary:

- Introduction - 5 mins
- Teaching video - 15 mins
- Group Exercise - 45 mins
- Group discussion - 45 mins
- Prayer - 10 mins

TEACHING VIDEO

Each session begins introducing the central topic of the session, along with a Scripture to read. Some sessions will also include a story of a real life example of what is being discussed. It would be good to enter into a short time of prayer before beginning the video.

GROUP EXERCISE

Each session will have a practical exercise that the whole group is required to do. There will be an instructional video that will take you step by step through the particular exercise.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions are provided for the group to discuss the practical application of the themes in the vide. The goal of this time is to deepen understanding and to encourage every member to participate and reflect. Don't feel pressured to cover everything. Also remember to sub-divide into smaller discussion groups where necessary.



SESSION 1

BUILDING YOU

“So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: take your everyday, ordinary life - your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking around life - and place it before God as an offering.”

PAUL TO THE ROMAN CHURCH

Romans 12:1, The Message



INTRODUCTION

Building YOU.

5 mins

When Jesus said He will build His church, He didn’t have a church building or a Sunday service in mind. The picture He had in mind was the building of you, the disciple. You are the New Testament temple. You are the most important and strategic piece of God’s mission in your everyday world. In this session, we will explore God’s vision of building you and how you can take your practical next step to grow spiritually and to be used for His mission in your everyday life.



TEACHING VIDEO

15 mins

Watch Session 1 - Building You.

TEACHING SUMMARY :



GROUP EXERCISE

Personal Discipleship Survey

45 mins

Disciple-making first begins with being a disciple. Discipleship is a life long journey where we never arrive, but we continue on this journey of change and transformation to become more like Jesus. It is a journey where we continue to surrender our lives to Jesus so that He can live His life through us to fulfil His mission. To help you identify where you are in your journey of discipleship and your next step of growth, **watch the ‘Group Exercise video’**. After watching the video, every member in your group can complete their ‘personal discipleship survey’ below.

PERSONAL DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

Groups and Gatherings

Jesus is experienced and revealed more when we are together than alone.

1. Are you consistently part of a group of believers?

0	1	2	3	4	5
Never					Consistently

2. Are you experiencing and encountering Jesus in you group through one another?

0	1	2	3	4	5
Never					Consistently

Reproducibility

Healthy disciples reproduce disciples.

1. Are you discipling someone?

0	1	2	3	4	5
No					Consistently

2. Are you helping them disciple someone else?

0	1	2	3	4	5
No					Consistently



GROUP DISCUSSION

45 mins

My Next Step of Discipleship

Break into groups of three and discuss the following two questions:

1. Look at the outcome of your 'personal discipleship survey'. What insights can you make regarding your discipleship journey ?

2. Prayerfully ask:

- God, what G.R.A.C.E. value do You want to work on in my life?

- God, what practical next step do You want me to do to live out that value?

e.g. being baptised, joining a life group consistently, investing my time and resources for the kingdom, being more intentional to connect with non Christians, investing into another person so they can disciple someone else etc.

To help you take your next step, touch base with your life group leader to discuss further or email the church office at hello@claytonchurch.org.au for more information.

Throughout this series, try to hold each other accountable for each other's next step of obedience.

3. Gather into a big group and share in a few sentences your insights and next steps.



PRAYER

5 mins

Spend some time in prayer together as a group as led by the Holy Spirit. Pray that every member will allow themselves to be moulded and shaped by God to become more like Jesus and to live like Jesus.



SESSION 2

BUILDING GROUPS (Part 1)

*“Jesus called his twelve disciples together and gave them authority to cast out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and illness. **2** Here are the names of the twelve apostles...**5** Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions:*

Matthew 10:1-2, 5 (NLT)



INTRODUCTION

Building GROUPS (Part 1)

5 mins

This week, we will look at how our disciple-making values empowers groups and gatherings to become a disciple-making environment.

While every group and gathering looks different, it has two things in common: 1) our disciple making values 2) our purpose of ‘building disciples who represents Jesus to everyone, everywhere with everything.’ We will take a deep dive into three of the five values: Groups and Gatherings, Reproducibility and Actively Hearing and Obeying.



TEACHING VIDEO

Watch Session 2 - Building Groups (Part 1)

15 mins

TEACHING SUMMARY :



GROUP EXERCISE - Where Are We?

G.R.A.C.E. Health Survey

45 mins

We aspire for every group/gathering in our church to become a disciple-making ministry. We achieve this by embedding our G.R.A.C.E. disciple-making values within the culture of our groups and gatherings. Our goal is not to build a prayer group, a care group or a bible study group, but a disciple-making ministry. Having all these five values in our culture, will create a disciple-making ministry that reproduce disciple makers.

A good starting point is to assess where your group / gathering is at in regards to the G.R.A.C.E. disciple-making values. To do so we have provided a 'GRACE Health Survey' below. [Watch the group exercise video](#) and follow the step by step instructions.

Note: The video refers to an online survey however this is not currently active. You will need to fill in the form below, collate the results and summarise it for the group manually.



GROUP DISCUSSION

Where Are We?

45 mins

When your group has completed the survey, the leader should quickly collate the results.

The results of this survey is to help us identify WHERE WE ARE at as a group in becoming a disciple-making ministry. As a group discuss the following questions:

1. Go through each disciple-making value one at a time. What insights can you make about this disciple-making value in your group/gathering?

Groups and Gathering

Jesus is experienced and revealed more when we are together than alone.

Reproducibility

Healthy disciples reproduce disciples.

Actively Hearing and Obeying

Through hearing and obeying the Living Word, we work with God to see change in us and others.

Connecting

Jesus connected with God and those near and far from God.

Everyday Moments

The Holy Spirit uses everyday moments to shape us to become more like Jesus.

2. What is the most active disciple-making value in your group? Why is this the case?

3. What is the least active disciple-making value in your group? Why is this the case?

This session is to help us as a group to determine where we are. The next session, we will determine our next steps as a group.



PRAYER

5 mins

Break into groups of three and spend some time praying for one another. Spend time listening to God, asking two questions:

1. God how have you used this person in this group to help us experience Jesus?
2. What word of encouragement do you want me to give them?

Pray those insights over each other and pray for God to use each other to help the group grow to become a disciple-making ministry.

A large crowd of people is gathered in a grand, high-ceilinged hall with arched windows and a large projection screen. The screen displays a cityscape with a body of water and industrial structures. The crowd is diverse and appears to be engaged in a social or professional event. A sign for 'HYPESTEIN' is visible in the background.

BUILDING GROUPS (Part 2)

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 13:34-35



INTRODUCTION

Building GROUPS (Part 2)

5 mins

Last week, we explored the first three of the five G.R.A.C.E. disciple-making values. As a group, you also identified where you are as a disciple-making ministry through the G.R.A.C.E. Health Survey. This week, we will deep dive into the remaining two G.R.A.C.E. disciple-making values and as a group you will discuss and identify your next steps and plan. The two disciple-making values we will look into this week are: Connecting and Everyday Moments.



TEACHING VIDEO

Watch Session 3 - Building Groups (Part 2)

15 mins

TEACHING SUMMARY :



GROUP EXERCISE - What Is Our Next Step?

Where Are We? What Is Our Next Step?

45 mins

In the last session, your group identified where you are in the journey of becoming a disciple-making ministry. It is now important to seek God together and work out what the next steps can be and develop a plan moving forward.

Watch the Group Exercise video - in this video, we will provide you an example of how a group identified where they were, and how they developed their next steps and a plan moving forward.



GROUP DISCUSSION - What Is Our Next Step?

Where Are We? What Is Our Next Step?

45 mins

Group leaders can download a soft copy WORD document on Right Now Media and fill in your group's responses to this discussion and your 'next step' plan. This can be emailed to your zone leader to help them coach you with your next steps.

1. Review the results from last week. Where is the group at in it's disciple-making ministry?

2. What are some of the things this group is doing well that you can share with other groups?

3. What are some of the obstacles / roadblocks the group is facing?

4. Discuss and prayerfully ask: God, what practical next steps as a group would you like us to implement over the next 6 months?

	Practical Next Steps	Who	When	Review (March / Sept)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

5. What support / resources do you need from zone leaders and or the pastoral team?

The life group leader can contact their zone leader to share their next steps and support that is needed from them and the pastoral team. The pastoral team and zone leaders will review this over the next few months. The insights gained will shape the support, resources and church wide initiatives the church will provide over the coming 6-12 months.



5 mins

PRAYER

Identify the number of next steps in your plan. Break into groups and allocate each group one step that you've committed and spend time praying over that step and the overall plan.

SESSION 4

BUILDING BEYOND

“At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ’s body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.

Ephesians 1:23 (MSG)



INTRODUCTION

Building BEYOND.

5 mins This week, we will look at how our vision can transform and impact lives beyond the four walls of Clayton church. As a group, we will also identify and celebrate the fruit of discipleship and pray for God’s guidance in how He would like to use your group to bring about change and transformation into the lives of people.



TEACHING VIDEO

15 mins

Watch Session 4 - Building Beyond.

TEACHING SUMMARY :



GROUP EXERCISE - What Is Our Fruit?

Where Are We? What Is Our Next Step? What Is Our Fruit?

45 mins

Over this DNA series we as a group / gathering we have:

1. Completed Our Personal Discipleship Survey
2. Identified Where We Are As A Group
3. Identified Our Next Steps and Plan

Our last step as a group is to identify and celebrate the fruit of discipleship in your group. If these values are lived out and there is a disciple-making culture in our groups, there will be many fruits that we will see - people coming to Christ, people getting baptised, groups multiplying, but more importantly, we will see the fruit of changed lives.

Watch the Group Exercise video - in this video, we will hear a story of how God used a group to bring a change and transformation into their lives.



GROUP DISCUSSION - What Is Our Fruit?

Where Are We? What Is Our Next Step? What Is Our Fruit?

45 mins

Discipleship is a partnership between God and ourselves. There are things that we are responsible to do but ultimately it is God who changes and transforms people's hearts and makes them grow. 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 (NLT) describes this partnership:

“5 After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants through whom you believed the Good News. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. 6 I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. 7 It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters work together with the same purpose. And both will be rewarded

for their own hard work. 9 For we are both God’s workers. And you are God’s field. You are God’s building.”

We believe that as we embed these disciple-making into the culture of our groups/gatherings, God will work through us and produce the fruit of transformation and change in our people’s hearts.

In your group:

1. Share a story of how God has used this group to change your life or other people. The impact can be big or even small things in your life.
2. Share your story with the church / zone leader - we would love to share some of these stories to bless others in this church. We want to encourage the group leaders to capture the names and number of stories you have in your group and to feedback those celebrations back to your zone leaders.

Name of individuals with the story							
No. stories of change							

3. If you have a story to share please email us at stories@claytonchurch.org.au. One of our staff will get in contact with you.



5 mins

PRAYER

Spend time praying for God to use your group to bring change and transformation into the lives of people. Ask God who He wants you to share your testimony and story to.

