

The Discipleship Ministry at Christ Church operates on the following Scriptural foundations and guiding principles:

Our Charge –

Matthew 28:19-20a – “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you;”

Our Lord Jesus speaks this one great commission and purpose into every church in every place and time: “make disciples.” It is a ministry of forming in others, graciously and over time, all that which we ourselves have learned about God through Christ Jesus. The ultimate purpose of every Discipleship class, program, or activity is to meet and to come to know and love the Person of Christ in our lives.

The Context of our Charge –

Acts 2:42 – “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

The first Christians met and came to know Jesus in their lives, and then sustained and grew that knowledge of the Lord, in certain ways; and it is from these ways that we take our cue at Christ Church:

- they were devoted: we hope to share a passion for the Christian life;
- they received apostolic teaching: all Discipleship offerings are Biblically based;
- they shared apostolic fellowship: through classes, groups, and events, we are calling people into a supportive, up-building communion of saints, the life of the Church;
- they broke bread together: Communion on Sunday, great meals on Wednesday and in small groups form a foundation for shared lives in Christ;
- they said their prayers: it is both vital and rewarding to develop an ongoing and personal relationship with God through prayer.

What we offer –

Luke 10:38-42 – (Martha, busily anxious and troubled about many things; and Mary, listening at Jesus’ feet), vs. 42b: “Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her.”

While we know that serving is Christ-like, and that an active life of doing can express the faith we have, nevertheless, here Jesus reminds us: little if anything is better for us in our overly busy and, therefore, anxious lives than to periodically stop, and come sit at the feet of godly teachers, being quiet and letting the Word of God fill and form us. Our Discipleship offerings mean to address this need.

The shape of what we offer –

Acts 8:26-40 (the story of Jesus’ follower Philip, making a disciple).

In this story, a seeker asks Philip three questions (vs. 31, 34, 36): he asks for a guide; he asks what Philip’s sacred story means; and he asks what his next step should be...

Perhaps you are a seeker of God. Our Discipleship ministry is designed to be like Philip to you: yes, we will guide and help you; we will share with you that our sacred story finds all its meaning in Jesus as Lord and Savior; and we will work with you to find the next steps in your journey of faith.