



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Journey of a Disciple – Part 1

SPEAKER DSP Edric Sng

THEME Knowing God – 2 Peter 1:2-4

DATE 7 & 8 Nov 2020

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This week's sermon lays out the pathway of a disciple in BBTC. In line with our mission to be a disciple-making church, the programmes are unique to our church and designed to help us identify where we are and our next steps in our discipleship journey. DSP Edric maps this out in four stages – Start Here, Settle Here, Serve Here and Shepherd Here.

STAGE 1 – START HERE

Start at the foot of The Cross

Sin is the gap between us and a holy and just God. With Christ's death on the cross, God provided the perfect sacrifice and solution for reconciliation. With Christ's resurrection, our eternal salvation is secured, as long as we repent and accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. The cross represents the bridge between us and our Creator (John 3:16).

Fundamentals of Faith

The New Disciples Track (NDT) introduces the five assurances that every believer must know and believe as the foundation of our faith. The course familiarises new believers with basic principles that form a strong base, upon which the rest of our journey as disciples is built.

Baptism

Following the call to be baptised in Matthew 28 and Acts 22:16, this step represents a public declaration of our faith and an act of obedience. It is also an opportunity to evangelise when we invite our friends, family and oikos to witness our baptism and hear our testimonies.

STAGE 2 – SETTLE HERE

This stage applies to two groups of people: Believers who have already learned the fundamentals of faith and new BBTCians, who transferred over from another church.

Growing Disciples Track (GDT)

In this course, we move from "drinking milk" to "eating meat" – which refers to digging deeper into the word of God and having a richer understanding of our faith. GDT in Stage 2 and Maturing

Disciples Track (MDT) in Stage 3 are framed around seven key pillars that BBTC calls “Anointed”. These are pillars that we believe build a strong house of God, both corporately and in a believer’s personal life. Under GDT, four of the seven are covered – Anointed Body-Life, Anointed Worship, Anointed Word and Anointed Altar.

Cell Group

Believers are strongly encouraged to find a cell group to belong to. This is a key part of being plugged into the body-life of our church. Our cell group provides the community we need for spiritual relationships, accountability, prayer covering, church programmes and events etc. With a cell group, we have a support network anchored in the family of God with whom we can journey together as disciples.

Restoring the Foundations (RTF)

This is a healing ministry that helps facilitate spiritual breakthroughs. Through RTF, believers can identify and deal with spiritual open doors at the root of their issues. Usually these are issues that are recurring and persistent, even after multiple attempts to address them.

STAGE 3 – SERVE HERE

Key verses: Galatians 5:13, 1 Peter 4:10, 1 John 3:18

These verses show why we serve in church. We serve out of gratitude for God’s love and a vibrant spiritual walk with God.

At this stage during MDT we still learn about the three Anointed – Anointed Works of Faith, Anointed Ministry and Anointed Leadership – but the focus is less on our “being” and more on our “doing”. MDT teaches us how to identify our calling and use our gifts to honour God by serving in our cell groups and in ministries where we can make the best use of what God has blessed us with.

STAGE 4 – SHEPHERD HERE

This stage is for potential leaders – people who can shepherd their flock and be spiritual guides for their charges and community.

Leadership Traits

Are you **FAST**? Faithful, Available, Submissive and Teachable? The relevant skillsets are also a factor for consideration and potential leaders are identified, then trained and equipped according to the areas where they will serve.

Leaders in BBTC are servant-leaders, who are committed to serving others in humility. Joy is derived not from watching one’s own star rise, but from raising your members and helping them grow.

CONCLUSION

“Jesus sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, ‘If anyone would be the first, he must be last of all and servant of all.’” Mark 9:35. The four stages are not a linear progression but a circular one. At the heart of this journey is the Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20) and our BBTC mission to share Christ as we mature in Him.

QUESTIONS

1. Where are you now in your discipleship journey and what's the next step for you? Is there anything your cell members can provide support with?

2. As a cell group, discuss what areas your cell would like to do more in or ministries where you can serve in together. What are some next steps you can take collectively to make it a reality?

3. Each of the four stages have different programmes. Are there any programmes that you would like to participate in or feel that God is calling you towards? What can you do to answer this prompting?