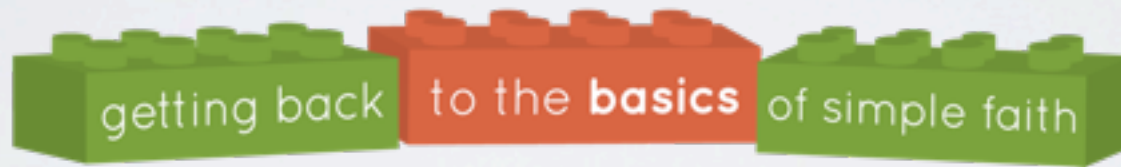



# simplify



P A R T 1

## Ready, Set, Grow!





**The GOAL  
of the  
Christian  
life is not  
merely to  
make it to  
heaven...**

**...it is to  
become  
more like  
JESUS  
along the  
way.**

## **Ephesians 4:12** NLT

“The responsibility of church leadership is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ, until we come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature and full grown in the Lord, measuring up to the full stature of Christ.

## **Ephesians 4:12** NLT

Then we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth. Instead, we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.”

**MATURE**

**FULL-GROWN**

**MEASURING UP**

...becoming more & more  
like Christ in every way.

# the First MISCONCEPTION

**Spiritual growth is **automatic**  
once you become a Christian.**

**The truth is,** to grow spiritually, a person must desire to grow, decide to grow, then give disciplined effort to grow.

# equation

Salvation

+

Holy Spirit's Work

+

Intentionality

+

Time

=

**GROWTH**

## Philippians 2:12-13

“Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.”

# the Second MISCONCEPTION

**Spiritual growth is **exclusive**,  
attainable only by a select few.**

**The truth is,** spiritual maturity is available to every believer—for anyone who will get deliberate about it.

# I Timothy 4:7

“Train yourself to be godly.”

# the Third MISCONCEPTION

**Spiritual growth can occur quickly  
by finding just the right key.**

**The truth is,** Christlikeness is a journey  
that takes a lifetime of committed effort!

## Philippians 3:12-14

“Not that I have already obtained all this...But one thing I do: Forgetting what’s behind and straining toward what’s ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

# the Fourth MISCONCEPTION

**Spiritual growth is measured  
by **what you know.****

**The truth is,** spiritual maturity is demonstrated by loving obedience, not Biblical knowledge.

Jesus said,  
*“if you love me you will  
do what I say.”*

JOHN 14:15

## **I Corinthians 13:1-3**

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

# **I Corinthians 13:1-3**

“If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.”

# the Fifth MISCONCEPTION

**Spiritual growth will occur when I practice the **one** discipline that is just right for me.**

**The truth is,** it takes a variety of practices to produce a well-balanced spirituality.

## Acts 2:41-47


“They devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer...selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need...Everyday they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts...”



“For the eyes of the  
LORD range  
throughout the  
earth to strengthen  
those whose hearts  
are fully committed  
to him.”

II CHRONICLES 16:9

# Christian CHARACTER

A man with his arms raised in a field. The man is seen from behind, wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt and light blue jeans. He is standing in a lush green field with his arms outstretched to the sides. The background is a dense field of green plants, possibly a vineyard or a large garden, under a bright sky.

**What part of  
you needs to  
look more like  
Christ?**

# Christian CONDUCT

**What behavior  
do you need to  
start or stop?**



# Christian DISCIPLINE

**What practice do you  
need to establish?**

A close-up photograph of an open notebook with a pen resting on it, illuminated by a warm light source. The notebook is open to a blank page, and the pen is positioned diagonally across the bottom left corner. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a desk or a similar surface.

# Christian Discipline

## Project 52

A Scripture memory system for reflecting on and implementing God's truth in your daily life



Christian Discipline

# **The Essential 100**

A Bible Reading Plan for the  
50 key chapters in the Old  
Testament & 50 key chapters  
in the New Testament

