



KINGDOM LIVING

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

Level I

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# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

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# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Basic Training

### **Pre-View: What is the Kingdom Living Training?**

*Can you hear the call?*

You have just begun a process that will change your life, forever! The Kingdom of God is an eternal realm that can begin in you right now and extend into eternity. That's why we call this, ***The Kingdom Living Discipleship Training***. It does not matter if you are not currently a Christian or whether you have been a Christian for years, this training you are about to embark upon is an awesome, life-changing encounter. However, there is one thing that can stop you from having such a radical encounter: It is YOU!!! Only you and an attitude can keep you from such an awesome encounter!

### **How This Encounter Happens**

We will be focusing on 4 Values (Central Themes): Identity, Integration, Intimacy, and Involvement.

- **Identity:** People are in a search to “discover or find” themselves. The truth to this discovery lies in knowing the Creator who made all things. This value guides us in the discovery process of who God intended us to be.
- **Integration:** In the western world, many people make the claim of knowing God or being Christian while their actions deny Him. This value helps to take our beliefs and apply them into our everyday lives; to become true disciples of the Lord Jesus.
- **Intimacy:** Christians need to walk in the fullness of God's power. This cannot be obtained through ritual or empty service, but rather by a dynamic and passionate walk with God. This value guides us in loving the Lord and cultivating such a relationship of closeness.
- **Involvement:** Finally, God has not called any believer to sit idly by and watch history unfold. He has called all who follow Him to be involved in the work of being ambassadors of God's message to the world.

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson I

### **Identity Value: Who Are You?**

*“Finally they said, ‘Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?’”*

**John 1:22**

*“One day the evil spirit answered them, ‘Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?’”*

**Acts 19:15**

**Take a moment and respond to the following questions.**

Who are you?

What does that mean?

You are a child of your parents. You reflect some of their characteristics and you carry their name. You belong to their family. No matter how much you try, you will always identify with your heritage.

**IDENTIFY**, v.t. To make to be the same; to unite or combine in such a manner as to make one interest, purpose or intention; to treat as having the same use; to consider as the same in effect.

**Let's Consider:**

You are the son/daughter of a slave in the Middle Ages. What does it mean to be a son or daughter of such a slave?

What would your daily life be like if you were a slave?

What would your sense of personal worth be?

Now, let's consider that you are a son/daughter of the King of the entire world. What does it mean to be a son or daughter of a king?

What would your daily life be like if you were a son or daughter of a king?

What would your sense of personal worth be?

## **Who are You identified with?**

In the same way as with your parents, you are identified in the spirit realm; either as a child of God or a child of the devil. As a child of God, you are a member of the Kingdom of Light. As a child of the devil, you are a member of the Kingdom of Darkness. You reflect this character and carry a name. You belong to one or the other. Your identity is now either in yourself (and thus satan) or in Jesus Christ. You are sharing in a life, character, and destiny. Who do you belong to?

### **John 8:41-45**

*"You are doing the things your own father does." "We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me!"*

### **John 1:11-13**

*"He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God."*

## **It's Time to Make a Decision!**

Revelation 3:15, Jesus said, "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!" We are living in what the Bible calls the Last Days. You cannot be neutral. So, whose side are you on?

My Decision: Today, I choose to \_\_\_\_\_

---

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Kingdom Transfer**

The moment you trusted Jesus, you experienced a change in your “kingdom identification.” It is a change in your identity. You were rescued from the kingdom of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of light (**Colossians 1:13**). You were identified with Jesus in His death and resurrection. (**Galatians 2:20**). You became a new creature in Christ (**2 Corinthians 5:17**). The old things have passed away and you were raised up with Jesus Christ (**Ephesians 2:6**). You are now dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus (**Romans 6:11**). Your new identity is grounded in what Jesus did for you on the cross and what He is presently doing in you through His Spirit.

Your old identity as a non-believer has been replaced by a new identity in Jesus Christ.

How is your life (or how WILL your life) as a Christian different from your life as a non-believer? (Attempt to share 5 differences)

## **Four Steps to Experiencing the Reality of your New Identity**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the truth of your identification with Jesus.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ on these facts to be true.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ yourself to the Lord.
4. Choose to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit.

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 2

### **Identity Value: Building a Relationship with God**

### **Building Blocks of a Growing Relationship**

#### **1. SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES**

Read **1 Timothy 4:8**. According to this verse, how would you define “godliness”?

The Message Bible translates this passage as;

*“Workouts in the gymnasium are useful, but a **disciplined life in God** is far more so, making you fit both today and forever.”*

In other words, to have a disciplined life in God, you need to exercise Spiritual Disciplines. Spiritual Disciplines are physical things we can do to help us in our spiritual growth. These are called “disciplines” because they are not exercises that come “naturally” or “easy” for human beings. Instead, a person must develop such habits through disciplining themselves. Further study of various disciplines will be covered later in the discipleship process. For now, know that Bible reading, prayer, and worship are just a sample of Spiritual Disciplines that need to be developed in your daily life.

## 2. FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship is spending time and doing things with others who love Jesus. Hebrews 10:25 emphasizes the importance of meeting with other Christians. Read **Hebrews 10:25** and **1 Thessalonians 5:11**. Why is fellowship so important? Why do we need each other?

If you spend most of your time with non-Christians and very little of your time with Christians, it is obvious which group will have the greater influence on your life. What are some ways you can be more deeply involved in the lives of other Christians?

## 3. WITNESSING

What is a “witness” in a court of law?

How does “witnessing” describe the act of sharing Jesus Christ with someone else?

Read **1 Peter 3:15** and **Acts 1:8**. It is obvious from these passages that God desires us to be witnesses. Anyone who has a vital relationship with Jesus can be a witness for Him. As our lives are filled with the presence of God, we cannot help but share about Him. A vital Christian life is to be contagious.

Read **Romans 1:14-16**. How does Paul describe his motivation to tell people about Jesus?

How do you think witnessing helps you to grow in your relationship with Christ?

## **Application: Establishing Your Quiet Time with God**

Spiritual Disciplines, Fellowship, and Witnessing are important elements in developing your relationship with God, but *time* is also a factor. *There are no short cuts.*

*A student asked a teacher at his school whether he could take a shorter course of studies than the one prescribed. "Oh, yes" replied the teacher, "but then it depends on what you want to be. When God wants to make an oak, He takes 100 years, but when He wants to make a squash, He takes 6 months."*

You can get to know God better through spending time alone with Him. This is often referred to as a "Quiet Time" or "Communion with the Lord". The primary purpose for a quiet time is to have fellowship with Jesus:

- To concentrate on who God is as revealed in His Word
- To allow God to conform us to the image of Jesus Christ so that we bring glory to Him.

In your quiet time, concentrate on who God is rather than on what we're not. It pleases Him to see His children seek Him. As you focus your attention on God, you will be drawn closer to Him, see His character more clearly, and develop a spiritual ear to hear His voice guiding you. It is crucial to develop an accurate view of God, and that comes through His Word.

### **Practical Suggestions for Getting Started**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - Set aside a regular time each day to be with the Lord.
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Find a place where you can focus and be free from distractions. Good lighting, music, simple drinks like water, space for walking, pacing, dancing, and nearby bathrooms should be considered.

3. Use a \_\_\_\_\_ or drawing implements to record verses, prayers, insights or revelation received.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - Spend time in your Bible. It's not so important where. Just pick any place in your Bible that you could gain more understanding from.
5. Do the \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ - Read the verse (or passage) several times through. Look for key words, focus on what it means, and think of other ways to say the same thing.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ - Write down the exact verse that grabs your attention. Close your Bible and focus on the one verse. Writing it out several times is okay.
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ - Say the verse out loud (loud enough to hear with your ears). Words that jump out to you should be repeated over and over. Remember, faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God!
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ - Singing unlocks the heart, both ours and the Lords. Worship the Lord using the words that He has given you for the moment.
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ - Speak out the verse to the Lord. Ask Him about it. Ask Him to help you apply it. Make it a topic of communication with Him and believe by faith that God is doing something with it.

This is a simple process to begin. Try doing this longer than you think possible. Discomfort that you will feel when beginning this process is actually helpful. It creates the need to press in or quit. This is much the same as athletes who begin a physical workout. If you continue to press in, the effects become real as you become spiritually transformed!

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 3

### **Integration Value: Experiencing God's Love**

About a year ago, Steve trusted Christ as his personal Savior. Things were going well for the first few months. He developed friendships with other Christians and had led several of his friends to Christ. He was enjoying his relationship with Christ. Then he began to notice that he was falling back into some of his old habits that he knew were not pleasing to the Lord. He tried to overcome temptations, but with little success. He became aware that he no longer sensed the same warmth in his relationship with Jesus that he had known earlier. The more he sinned, the worse he felt about it. Sometimes he wondered if his prayers were just bouncing off the ceiling. Eventually, Steve concluded that only “special” people could live an exciting, joyful Christian life. For most people, he thought, the Christian life was just a drag.

**Why do you think Steve’s relationship with Christ was going cold?**

**In what ways can you identify with Steve’s situation? His struggles? His feelings?**

**What do you usually do when you feel that way?**

*“There is a vast difference between Christianity in the first century and the Christianity of today. Perhaps, if we believed what they believed, we could achieve what they achieved.”*

- J.B. Phillips

## Why Did Jesus Come?

Read **John 3:16**. He came to give us \_\_\_\_\_.

Read **John 10:10**. He came to give us \_\_\_\_\_.

Read **1 John 3:8**. He came to destroy the \_\_\_\_\_.

The Bible teaches that the Christian life is one of victory and joy, yet the average Christian of today is not fruitful. As the world is filled with anxiety, fear, and frustration, many Christians only seem to be part of the problem.

God has provided everything necessary for us to enjoy a dynamic, fulfilling relationship with Him. Unfortunately, the vast majority of Christians today do not experience this. We need to discover how to consistently experience God's love.

### The Deal: SIN

According to the Bible, there are three kinds of People. Read **1 Corinthians 2:14-3:3**

#### Natural (1 Corinthians 2:14)

- Has not trusted Jesus' death to pay for sin.
- Is not a Christian.



#### Spiritual (1 Corinthians 2:15)

- Has trusted Jesus' death to pay for sin.
- Is a Christian.
- Allows Jesus to direct and empower their life.
- Living a Spirit-filled life.



## Carnal (1 Corinthians 3:1-2)

- Has trusted Jesus' death to pay for sin.
- Is a Christian.
- Does not allow Jesus to direct and empower their life and relies on their own efforts to live a Christian life.
- Not being Spirit-filled.



**What do you think determines whether a believer lives spiritually or carnally?**

## **What's the Deal: What is SIN?**

*SIN* is the barrier which hinders a carnal believer from experiencing God's love and forgiveness.

### **A Good Definition:**

Sin is any lack of conformity to the will of God—either an attitude or action. Any area of our lives in which we are not trusting God is sin. Most people think sin as cheating, lying, immorality, etc. Sinful acts can arise out of inward rebellion against Christ or simple indifference towards Him. Sin can also infect us from the actions of others. This infecting sin can cause us to commit additional sins.

### **Sin at Work: the Energy of Sin**

Two Greek words used in the New Testament are *energia* and *energew*. They mean “efficiency, energy, operation, activity, strong, effectual works (working).” In many places in the New Testament, sin is referred to as (*energia* and *energew*) having works or workings in us. This word could be more literally translated as energy. (see **Romans 7:5**, **II Thessalonians 2:9,11**, **Ephesians 2:2**, or **II Corinthians 4:12**) This sinful energy has a power to disrupt our relationship from God and place us in bondage; into slavery to sin and evil. Many of you may have actually felt this sin energy at work!

**In other words, sin has an energy that can work in us to produce carnal Christians.**

*(NOTE: Many other believers may feel that referring to sin energy is a New Age concept. We acknowledge that many New Agers have used and perverted the use of such a word. However, the Bible actually uses the word “energy” in its description of how sin works and we need to be properly instructed as such.)*



There are several ways sin can infect a person and hold them in bondage.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - These are the ordinary and typical cause of sin in a person's life. We do, say, think of something that is contrary to God.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - This is sin that is past down from previous generations.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - Sin can be transferred through ungodly soul ties. Soul ties are covenant relationships (relationships of contract).
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - This is a sin that is produced through a negative belief system that was established in your heart; most often through word curses.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ - These are promises or statements that you have made that hold you to sin.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ - This can produce ongoing sin in your life through negative pictures and emotions. If a picture is worth a thousand words, what will a sinful trauma leave in us?
7. \_\_\_\_\_ - Habitual failure to deal with sin committed in personal actions and attitudes lead to a spiritual enslavement.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ - Spiritual entities that seek to influence, oppress, direct, enter or control people so that they may manifest the kingdom of darkness.

### **The Answer: Jesus Christ**

Read **Colossians 2:8-15**. Notice how far Jesus has brought freedom of forgiveness to you! How many of your sins were forgiven by Christ's death (v. 13-14)?

## **Dealing with It: Spiritual Breathing**

You can experience God's love and forgiveness through a method called Spiritual Breathing. Just as you exhale and inhale with your lungs physically, you can exhale and inhale spiritually with your heart.

**Exhale:** Getting the sin out through Confession

Read **1 John 1:8-9**. What does it say about the person who says he doesn't sin? What are we to do to experience God's forgiveness and cleansing?

**CONFESSION:** involves three things.

1. Agree with God that the attitude or action is sin and wrong.
  - **CALL IT SIN**
2. Thank God that you are forgiven because of Jesus' death.
  - **CALL IT FORGIVEN**
3. Repent—change your attitude about the sin and through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, change your conduct.
  - **CALL ON GOD TO CHANGE YOU**

**Inhale:** Receiving God's love, forgiveness, and freedom.

As you go through your daily activities, do you ever wonder if you'll suffocate by inhaling air? When we inhale spiritually, we must by faith, know that the Holy Spirit is going to pour in God's love and forgiveness into our lives.

### **Application:**

Allow Jesus to free you from being a Carnal Christian through the process of Spiritual Breathing. Apply this to the list on your "**Spiritual Inventory Survey**" found in the back of this book.

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 4

### **Integration Value: Kingdom Relationships**

*Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood.*

*Act 15:19-20*

In Lesson 1, we talked about your identity of being a son/daughter of God. You are royalty in the Kingdom of God. So, how should such a person, as a prince or princess, conduct their relationships?

A Father will tell his son not to touch a hot stove top. He does so not because he wants to squelch his son's curiosity or take away his fun. Rather, the father gives the prohibition because he knows that the stove top will burn his child. His motivation is to protect his son from harm, as well as, to provide safety. Just as this is true with earthly fathers, so it is true in our relationship with our Heavenly Father. God's guidelines for relationships are an expression of His love. He doesn't want us to get "burned."

As the son/daughter of the KING, do you want to be "burned"? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Immorality or Purity: Why the big deal?**

Read **1 Thessalonians 4:1-8**. Paul was complementing the Thessalonians on their walk with God. He was encouraging them "to excel still more." His emphasis was in the area of purity in relationships and, specifically, the sexual area.

By whose authority is this command given? \_\_\_\_\_ What is God's will?

What is at stake or what are the consequences in the matter of sexual immorality?

\_\_\_\_\_ and that means:

## Key Points:

**1 Thessalonians 4:3.** God desires our complete sanctification. In other words, it is His will that we develop His character in every area of our lives. Purity and holiness are part of God's character.

**1 Thessalonians 4:6.** God desires Christians not to defraud (rip off) each other in relationships. We defraud someone when we cause them to step outside the boundaries God has established.

## What About Our Relationships?

As the child of the KING of Kings (God), what kind of relationships should we have? Read the following scripture. Listen to the voice of your concerned Father, the King of All Creation.

**2 Corinthians 6:13-18** *“As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—open wide your hearts also. Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever? What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.” “Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.” “I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”*

**1 Corinthians 15:33-34** *“Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God—I say this to your shame.”*

An old Texas saying,  
“If you lay down with dogs, you’ll pick up fleas.”

## God's Commands: To Protect and to Provide

On the surface, the Bible seems to be full of negative commandments that seem imposing and dreary. However, we need to remember that God has only one motivation—love. Behind every negative command are two positive promises. One is to protect us; the other is to provide for us. In other words, when God says, “Thou shalt not commit adultery,” He is not being a killjoy. To get the big picture of this idea, let’s fill in the following box.

Protect	Provide

Why do you think God wants to protect and provide for you?

Read **Romans 8:38-39**, **Psalms 103:17-18**, **Deuteronomy 10:12**. Now reconsider the question, why do you think God wants to protect and provide for you?

God protects us by giving us boundaries and limitations to our activities. They are an expression of His love and wisdom, to keep us from doing ourselves harm. Not only do His commands keep us safe from harm, but they are also targeted to provide for us in specific ways.

### Making a Fresh Start

One of the greatest mistakes people can make is to assume that since they have failed to keep God's command regarding sex, God wants nothing to do with them. That is simply not true. God is well aware of our sinful tendencies: that is why Jesus came.

If you've missed up, here are some steps to take to restore your Kingdom relationship:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the sin. (**1 John 1:9**)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ yourself. If you are not willing to forgive yourself, you are saying (1) Jesus' death wasn't good enough for you; and (2) You are a better judge of what is forgivable than God is. If God's grace cannot cover your sin, it can't cover any sin. (**Romans 8:1**)
3. Be \_\_\_\_\_ with the Holy Spirit. This will be covered more in the Intimacy value of this book. (**Ephesians 5:18**)
4. Show fruits of \_\_\_\_\_. Repentance means turning around or changing one's attitude. **Matthew 3:8** says, "bear fruits worthy of repentance." This might mean breaking off a relationship or perhaps making a decision not to ever be alone. Whatever it is, your actions should show you have changed.

## Your Kingdom Relationships

Our Kingdom relationships begin with a **decision** to live a life pleasing God.

Read **Daniel 1:8-13**.

*"But Daniel resolved **not to defile himself** with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission **not to defile himself** this way. Now God had caused the official to show favor and sympathy to Daniel, but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you." Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see."*

**Key Word:** Defile = to become impure

What was Daniel's decision? What were the results?

Does the world react like the chief official? How?

The following things will help to maintain purity in relationships.

1. Regular \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ time.
2. Living a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ life.
3. Maintaining \_\_\_\_\_ with others and God.
4. Seeking \_\_\_\_\_ with other godly people.

### Application: Starting Today

Read **Hebrews 13:4**. Starting today, is it your desire not to defile yourself and remain sexually pure?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 5

<p><b>Intimacy Value: Being Filled with the Holy Spirit</b></p>
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### **Who is the Holy Spirit and Why did He Come?**

The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit—One God who always existed in three persons). When you received Christ, the Holy Spirit came to live in you. In order to learn more about the Holy Spirit and what He does, let's fill in the blanks with what the Scripture references state about Him.

**John 14:16-17** - He is a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

**John 16:8** - The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.

**John 16:13** - He \_\_\_\_\_ us in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's Word.

**John 16:14** - He \_\_\_\_\_ Christ

**Acts 1:8** - He gives \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Corinthians 6:19** - He \_\_\_\_\_ all believers.

**Romans 8:16** - He \_\_\_\_\_ us that we are His children.

What do you think it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit?



Though all Christians are indwelt by the Holy Spirit from the moment of spiritual birth (salvation), not all are controlled or empowered by Him.

**1. “To be filled with the Spirit is to be directed and empowered by Him.”**

Read **Acts 2:13** and **Ephesians 5:18**. What is the main difference between being filled with wine and being filled with the Spirit?

Why is a person changed by one of these agents?

**2. “To be filled with the Spirit is to abide in Christ and bear fruit.”**

Read **John 15:1-8**. What comparisons can you draw between the relationship of the vine to a branch and of Christ to a Christian?

What are some specific changes you hope to see as God produces His fruit in you?

Read **Mathew 4:19**, **Galatians 5:22-23**, **Ephesians 5:18-20**. According to these passages, what is the fruit that we are to bear?

As the Holy Spirit controls us, we mature in Christ and the fruit of the Spirit becomes increasingly evident in our lives.

## What are the Characteristics of a Spirit-filled Life?

God works to develop His fruit in the life of a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Discuss:** What does the following diagram on the right mean?



The following chart below lists some of the qualities of a person who is filled with the Holy Spirit. Using a scale from 1 to 10 (1 being the lowest, 10 being the highest), choose a rating for how these qualities are currently developed in you.

_____ Christ Centered	_____ love
_____ Empowered by God	_____ joy
_____ Witnessing	_____ peace
_____ Obeying God	_____ patience
_____ Effective Prayer	_____ kindness
_____ Understanding the Bible	_____ self-control

The degree to which these traits are developed in a believer's life depends on the extent to which the Christian trusts the Lord with every detail of living and upon growth toward Christian maturity.

### 3. Being filled with the Spirit means Spiritual Inhaling

Inhaling is the second part of Spiritual Breathing. It means being filled with the Holy Spirit. Remember that exhaling (the first part of spiritual breathing) is confession and repentance. **(1 John 1:9)** Being able to exhale is crucial if a believer desires to spiritual inhale.

This diagram shows the life of a Christian who is trusting in personal efforts to live the Christian life. The Bible calls this person “Carnal” or “Worldly”.

**Discuss:** What does the following diagram on the right mean?



## Why is the average Christian Carnal and not filled with the Holy Spirit?

Christians are Carnal for two reasons:

Lack of Knowledge —

Lack of Belief —

### How To Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?

Several factors contribute to preparing your heart for the filling of the Holy Spirit.

- You must desire to live a life that will please God (**Matt. 5:6**).
- You must practice Spiritual Breathing. (**1 John 1:9**)
- You must be willing to surrender the control of your life to Jesus according to the command of God (**Romans 12:1-2**).
- You became a Christian by faith (**Ephesians 2:8-9**).
- You must also walk by the Spirit in faith (**Colossians 2:6**).

Again, although preparing our heart is important, you are NOT filled with the Spirit because you desire to be filled, because we confess our sins, or because we are living sacrifices — we are filled by faith and faith alone.

Read **Ephesians 5:18**. What has God commanded here? Is it His will for you to be filled with the Spirit?

Read **1 John 5:14-15**. God promises that He will always answer when we ask according to His will? Is it His will for you to be filled with the Spirit?

Read **Luke 11:11-13**. What will the Father give us if we ask?

## **What Should You Do Now?**

A person is filled with the Holy Spirit by faith—by trusting God to take control of every area of life. You could ask God to fill you with His Spirit in a prayer like this:

*“Dear Jesus, I need you. I acknowledge that I cannot live a perfect life. Thank you for forgiving me of my sins. Take control of my life. Fill me with your Holy Spirit as You have commanded me to be filled. Thank You for Your promise to do this. In Jesus’ name.”*

## **Things to Remember:**

1. If you are a Christian, the Holy Spirit already indwells in you from the moment of salvation.
2. We can never make ourselves good enough to please God; we must live by faith in Jesus.
3. We must not trust our emotions. Although being filled with the Spirit will often produce emotions, we must not search for or demand an emotional experience.
4. Being filled is not a once-for-all experience. Again, the first time a person is filled may be followed by signs or emotions, but we are called to be constantly filled as a way of life.

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 6

### **Intimacy Value: Walking in the Holy Spirit**

### **Walking in the Spirit...Day by Day**

Read **Galatians 5:25**. What do you think it means to live by the Spirit? How do you think this corresponds to walking in the Spirit?

### **Agree/Disagree**

Indicate your thoughts about walking with Jesus by responding to these agree/disagree statements. (Mark a “Y” if you agree and a “N” if you disagree) Discuss your opinions.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Christian life is so simple, even a child can live it.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Christian life is so difficult that no one can live it.

\_\_\_\_\_ To walk in the Spirit is to be free from difficulties.

\_\_\_\_\_ A spiritually mature person can still sin.

\_\_\_\_\_ A mature Christian is more spiritual than a less mature Christian.

\_\_\_\_\_ A person must be a Christian many years in order to walk daily in the Spirit.

Read **John 10:10** and **John 14:12-14**. Jesus has come to give us a life that He Himself would live. All we have to do is ask for it. If this is so true, then why are so many people not experiencing this type of life?

## Keys to Walking In The Spirit

We are going to examine some key areas that will enable you to continuously walk in the Spirit and experience the Presence of God in your life on a daily basis. These key areas are:

1. **Hearing the** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Practicing** \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Understanding** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_.

## Hearing the Voice of God

Have you ever wondered, “How does a person hear from God?” To have a personal relationship with Jesus, you must spend time talking to Him. That means you must develop an ear that can hear His voice. Read **Habakkuk 2:1-2**. Four things to hearing God’s Voice:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - God’s voice in our heart sound like the flow of spontaneous thoughts; therefore you must tune into spontaneous thoughts, visions, feelings or impressions.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - You must learn to still your own thoughts and emotions, so that you can sense God’s flow speaking inside of you.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - As you pray, fix the eyes of your heart (spirit) upon Jesus; seeing in the spirit the dreams and visions of the Almighty God.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - Journaling, the writing out of your prayers and God’s answers will provide you with a great new freedom in hearing God’s voice.

## Practicing Spiritual Disciplines

In **Numbers 6**, we read about the call of the Nazirite. The Nazirite was a person who dedicated and separated themselves to the Lord for a specific period of time. Samson was suppose to be a Nazirite. John the Baptist was a Nazirite. Lou Engle has called today's emerging generation to a Nazirite lifestyle. Such a lifestyle involves walking in the spirit with the use of spiritual disciplines. These disciplines do not help you become more holy or get you some kind of special favor with God. They do help YOU develop a better relationship with God and a better understanding of the spiritual realm. Some of these disciplines are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - contemplation of the Lord and His word which results in the ability to hear God's voice and obey His word.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - abstaining from food and/or drink to feast on God.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ - Speaking with the Lord.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - engaging yourself with the written Word of God.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ - abstaining from money or items that satisfy our desire for status, glamour, or luxury.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ - getting away from the interaction of others so that we can be alone with God.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ - abstaining from the sexual dimension of our relationships with others.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ - placing yourself under the authority of spiritual leaders and practicing servanthood.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ - Forsaking the security of meeting your own needs with what is in your hand so that God can bear you up.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ - choosing a course of action that accents the good of others and, for the most part, is a hidden work.

11. \_\_\_\_\_ - the act of confession and repentance both before the Lord and others.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ - laying yourself in the Lord's Presence to receive from His very essence
13. \_\_\_\_\_ - Your personal action, responding to the love of God by an act that produces a knowing, feeling, and/or experience of the touch of Christ
14. \_\_\_\_\_ - act of gathering a group of mature believers to decide a course of action as they deem determined by the Holy Spirit.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ - the making of lots of noise in exuberant singing, dancing, laughing and shouting. This releases the mind (soul) to gifts of fantasy and imagination for creative ideas.

## Understanding Spiritual Conflict and Barriers

Walking in the Spirit is living by faith in God through the power of the Holy Spirit. First, you must decide to place your faith in Jesus Christ (salvation). Then you must be filled with His Spirit by faith. Finally, you must obey (the walking part). Obedience involves being filled with the Holy Spirit (**Ephesians 5:18**) in a continuous cycle of daily living. It involves a daily commitment to allow Jesus Christ to live His life through you.

### **Walking in the Spirit is not:**

- A life of sinless perfection
- A one-time "zap" of supernatural power
- A life of constant "up feelings"
- A mechanical formula



### **Walking in the Spirit is:**

- A process of Spiritual Communion with God
- Being filled with the Spirit
- Relying on Jesus' power
- Being obedient to follow Him



## Be Prepared for Spiritual Conflict

The Christian life is so challenging to live because we have spiritual conflicts. Three forces that wage war against us are:

1. (1 John 2:15-17) The \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Galatians 5:17) The \_\_\_\_\_
3. (1 Peter 5:8) The \_\_\_\_\_

We must remember that Jesus is our source of strength (Ephesians 1:3) and that He has provided us weapons to wage a spiritual war (Ephesians 6:10-18)

## Barriers To Walking in the Spirit

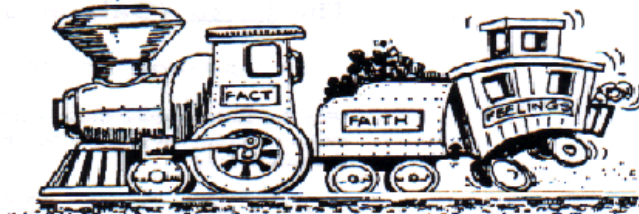
Barriers arise in every Christian's life to prevent us from experiencing the fulfillment of God's promises:

The Barrier of \_\_\_\_\_

The Barrier of \_\_\_\_\_

The Barrier of \_\_\_\_\_

We must remember **what** walking in the Spirit **is** in times of spiritual conflict or when facing personal barriers. These conflicts will produce a wide emotional response by us. Walking in the Spirit depends on our relationship with the Lord. This is a fact and faith issue. This train diagram illustrates the relationship between **fact** (God and His Word), **faith** (our trust in Him), and our **feelings** (the caboose), towards conflicts and barriers.



# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 7

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Involvement Value:</b> <b>Communicating Your Testimony</b></p>
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### **A Personal Testimony**

Read **1 Peter 3:15**. Preparing a personal testimony is one of the most important and helpful steps you can take to prepare to be an effective witness for Christ. It is very motivating to relate your testimony during a witnessing situation.

### **Why is it important to being a witness for Christ?**

1. Read **Mark 16:15**. Jesus has commanded us to be a witness
2. Read **Acts 1:8**. Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to give us power to witness.
3. Read **Matthew 9:36-38** and **Luke 19:10**. People are lost and need to know Jesus.

We need to prepare to present Jesus to anyone at any time. A well-prepared, clearly organized testimony, given in the power of the Holy Spirit, has a direct impact in nearly every situation. It presents Jesus in a clear and positive manner with the hope that all who hears will want to know Him personally.

### **Biblical Examples: Paul's Personal Testimonies**

Read **Acts 21:37-22:21**. What things do you see as Paul communicates about Jesus?

### **Paul's testimony in three parts:**

Before (**Acts 22:1-5**)

How (**Acts 22:6-11**)

After (**Acts 22:12-21**)

Paul adjusted the emphasis in relation to the audience addressed. (See **Acts 21:37-22:21** and **Acts 26:1-23**)

(For further studies, also check out Philippians 3:2-11 and Galatians 1:13-2:21)

## **How To Prepare Your Personal Testimony**

Ask the Lord to give you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as you write (**James 1:5, 6**)

Follow a three-point outline:

Before \_\_\_\_\_

How \_\_\_\_\_

After \_\_\_\_\_

### **Questions to consider as you write your personal testimony**

#### **1. Before I received Christ**

- What was my life like? What were my attitudes, needs, problems?
- Around what did my life revolve the most? From what did I get my security or happiness?
- How did those areas begin to disappoint me?
- To what source did I look for security, peace of mind, happiness? In what ways were my activities unsatisfying?

*(Remember that examples will establish you as a credible witness in the minds of non-Christians. Avoid a religious focus. Do not spend a great amount of time talking about church activities before your life began to change. Likewise, avoid being explicit and sensational in speaking of drugs, immorality, crime, or drunkenness.)*

## 2. How I received Christ

- When was the first time I heard the Gospel? How? (When was I exposed to true Christianity?)
- What were my initial reactions?
- When did my attitude begin to change? Why?
- What were the final struggles that went through my mind just before I accepted Christ?
- Even though there were struggles, why did I decide to accept Christ?

## 3. After I received Christ

- Specific changes and illustrations about the changes Christ has made in my life, actions, and attitudes.
- How long did it take before I noticed changes?
- Why am I motivated differently?

### What if I received Christ at an early age?

If you received Christ at an early age, you will be able to follow the three-point outline. However, you will probably put greater emphasis on your life after receiving Christ.

## Application

1. Ask God to give you wisdom and guidance as you write.
2. Verbally give your testimony to your sponsoring friend (or partner) and ask them to take notes using the *Initial Testimony Feedback* page.
3. Record your own summary notes on your testimony page.
4. Using the guidelines provided, write your testimony from your notes.
5. Bring your written testimony with you to a Voice Group, Extreme Night or some other gathering. Share it with those there.
  - Discuss it with a spiritual leader
  - Make any needed corrections
  - Memorize your testimony and practice your presentation

## Initial Testimony Feedback

Verbally give your testimony to your sponsoring friend (or partner). Ask them to time your testimony and take notes **on this page**, using it as a guide. After verbally giving your testimony, go back over their notes and record your personal notes **on this same page**. Use both your notes and your partner's notes for the next page.

1. What was his/her life like **before** receiving Christ?
2. **How** did he/she come to receive Jesus?
3. What happened **after** he/she received Jesus?

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Your Personal Testimony**

Using your notes on the following page, write out your personal testimony. Be sure to follow the three-pointed outline of **Before**, **How**, and **After** receiving Jesus.

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Lesson 8

### **Involvement Value: Witnessing in the Spirit**

### **Why Witness?**

There are four reasons that motivate people to share Jesus with others:

1. LOVE FOR \_\_\_\_\_ (**2 Corinthians 5:14-20**)
2. LOVE FOR \_\_\_\_\_ (**Matthew 9:35-10:1**)
3. PEOPLE ARE \_\_\_\_\_ (**Ephesians 2:1-7**)
4. DESIRE TO DO \_\_\_\_\_ (**Matthew 28:18-20**)

### **Spiritual Addition or Multiplication?**

Would you rather someone give you \$1,000 a day for a month (a full 31 days) or give you a penny and double it every day for a month (31 days)?

**Addition:** The \$1,000 ends up giving you \$31,000 at the end of the month.

**Multiplication:** The penny brings you \$10,737,418.24. Which did you choose?

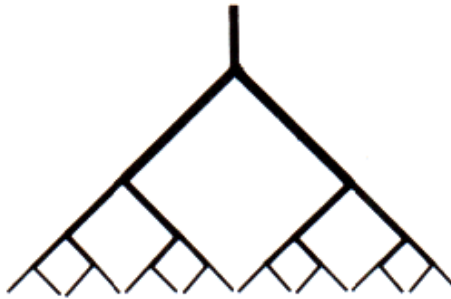
## Explaining it for Us

**Addition:** If you preached to 1,000 people a day, it would take you over 13,000 years to see 4 billion people reached.

**Multiplication:** If you only reached and discipled 3 people a year, it would only take 21 years to reach 10 billion people! (Current world population is about 7 billion)

*Look around the room...how many people are here? What is the possible impact for our group if we reach out to one person per year? One person per school semester?*

## The Potential Impact



## The Means for Witnessing

### Principle #1: Be Sure You Are A Christian

This may sound like a funny way to start, but if you are not sure about your salvation in Jesus, then you will have a much more difficult time convincing others to give their life to Him.

### Principle #2: Have No Unconfessed Sin in Your Life

If you knowingly have sin in your life, then you will be short-circuiting the power of God in your life. Practice spiritual breathing and stay open with God.



### **Principle #3: Be Sure Your Filled with the Spirit**

This is foundational if you are going to witness in the Spirit. It is the key to discovering the power needed for witnessing (**Acts 1:8**).

### **Principle #4: Be Prepared to Share Your Faith**

As studied in the last lesson, you need to be prepared to share your faith. One of the best weapons in your hand is your testimony. Upon your salvation, God has given you an account (a true story) that you can tell people of His saving ability.

### **Principle #5: Pray**

It is not our wise words or smooth technique that causes a person to go from being “dead in sin” to “alive in Christ.” (**Ephesians 2:1-6**) Only the Spirit of God can cause this to happen. By prayer, we have the opportunity to seek the Spirit’s work in the lives of unbelievers.

### **Principle #6: Go**

Once you’ve taken up the first 5 principles, you are prepared to go. The gospel is to be shared with everyone. Jesus commissioned His disciples, including us, to take His message to the whole world. Therefore, you must go to those around you and share the message.

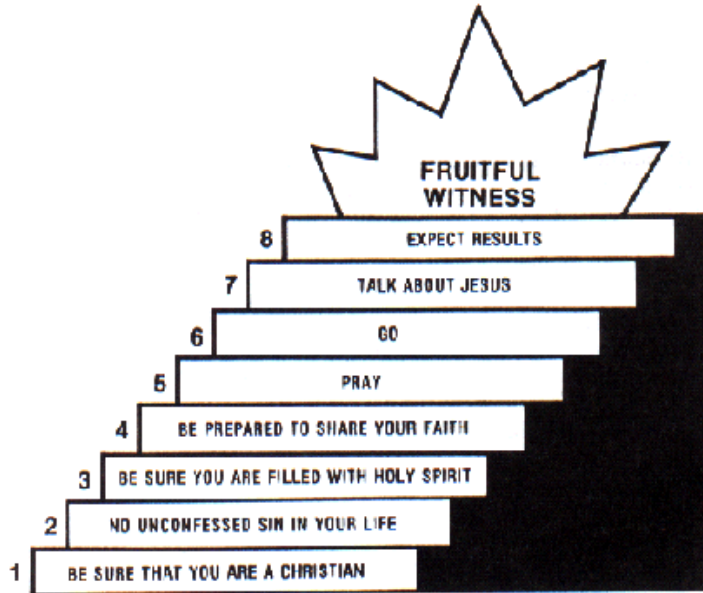
### **Principle #7: Talk About Jesus**

As we go, we must focus on Jesus: Who He is, the consequences of sin and the hope He offers. We will not know the answer to every question a person might ask, but we can know the God that desires to save all and draw all people to Himself. (**2 Peter 3:9**)

## Principle #8: Expect Results

Because of God's Spirit at work in people's lives, we can expect results. Jesus has called us to fruitfulness (John 15:16). As a matter of fact, He said, "the fields are white for the harvest!"

### What is Witnessing in the Spirit?



With these 8 steps being applied, witnessing in the Spirit is summed up in this:

***Success in witnessing is sharing Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.***

## **Final Consideration:**

What would be a barrier to keep a Christian from sharing the gospel?

What can overcome this barrier?

What one or two principles seem to be the most important to remember in sharing your faith with others? Why?

List five people you know that you can begin praying to come to know Jesus:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

# *Kingdom Living Discipleship Training*

## Level I: Basic Training

### **Conclusion: What's Next?**

*I hear the call...can I follow?*

### ***Congratulations!***

You have just finished the ***Basic Training!*** You may have been challenged in many ways over the course of this training, but God has met you in an incredible way. Now, it's up to you to decide to continue this incredible journey with God, or to go back to the way life was. Our prayer is that you will take up the cross, follow the living Christ, and live a life that others can only dream about.

*Then Jesus said to His disciples,  
"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself,  
and take up his cross, and follow Me."*

***Matthew 16:24***

### **Where do I go from here?**

You may be asking yourself, what's next? I want this awesome experience to continue. I don't want that same old life again. How can I do this? Where do I go from here?

That is a good question. Although, we don't have all the answers, we do have an action plan with some suggestions for you. The following is a scripture passage from the book of Acts. We have highlighted some key words that we will show in our action plan.

*“And they **continued steadfastly** in the apostles' **doctrine and fellowship**, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. Now **all who believed were together**, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. **So continuing** daily with one accord **in the temple**, and breaking bread from **house to house**, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. ”*

*Acts 2:42-47*

Our plan calls for you to continue to grow in your faith through teaching and fellowship. This means that we need you to be together with us. First, we encourage you begin the **Level 2: Intermediate Training**. This will continue your discipleship growth. Next, we meet regularly in worship services at **The Embassy Christian Impact Center** (that would be in the temple), and in **Home Groups** (that's the house to house). We also do special gatherings that accelerate your discipleship (growth with God) process. Leadership opportunities are available for those who complete this process.

The discipleship process for Kingdom Living Training is as follows:

- Level 1: Basic Training - The foundation for Christian living, which you have just completed.
- Level 2: Intermediate Training – Focuses on developing your spiritual skills and being.
- Level 3: Intermediate Training – Develops your experience with the Holy Spirit.
- Level 4: Advanced Training – Focuses on biblical character development.
- Level 5: Leadership Training – Equips you with the necessary tools for your personal ministry.



## **Spiritual Breathing Survey for Lesson 3**

### **False Religions/Occult:**

- Christian Science    Unity Church (Unification)    Scientology    The Way Church  
 Mormonism    Jehovah Witness    Unitarianism    Freemasonry (Masons)  
 Buddhism    Hare Krishna    Hinduism    Eastern Star or Shriners    Yoga  
 Islam    Wicca    Bahai    Humanism    Reincarnation

- Others: \_\_\_\_\_
- Witchcraft (White or Black magic)    Ouija Board    Table Lifting / Levitation  
 Telepathy    Hypnotism    Mind Control    Clairvoyance    Clairsentience  
 Fortune Telling    Tarot Cards / Palm Reading    Astrology    Suggestions  
 Blood pacts    Séances    Communication with Dead / Ghosts  
 Incubi / Succubae (sexual spirits)    Transcendental Meditation    Psychics  
 Horoscopes    8-Ball    Out of Body Experience    Horror Movies  
 Dungeons & Dragons (other Role-playing)    Superstitions    Cultic Video Games  
 Others: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Destructive Attitudes, Habits, Actions:**

- Jealousy / Envy    Self-pity    People-pleasing    cheating    Hatred  
 Unforgiveness / grudges    Vengeance    Anger    Argumentativeness  
 Covetousness    Greed    Unbelief    Apathy    Perfectionism  
 Gossip    Hurtful Speech    Dirty Language    Cursing    Stealing  
 Lying    Breaking Promises    Murder    Death Wish (for self or others)  
 Others: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Immoralities:**

- Pornography    Lust    Sex Novels    TV Shows Depicting Ungodly Lifestyles  
 Fantasizing    X-Rated Movies    Indecency    Touching / Heavy Petting  
 Masturbation    Oral Sex    Intercourse (Fornication)    Homosexuality  
 Others: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Others That Have Happened OR Been Involved With:**

- Incest       Molestation       Rape       Abortion  
 Others: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Rebellion and Submission Issues:**

- rebellion to God       rebellion to parents       rebellion to teachers  
 rebellion to government       rebellion to boss       rebellion to other authorities  
 Judging Others       Complaining       Self-righteousness  
 Negative Attitude       Pride / Arrogance       Racism       Vandalism       Violence  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Addicted or Dependency Areas:**

- Gluttony       Nicotine (cigars, cigarettes, etc)       Drugs  
 Alcohol       Gambling       Excessive Computer Use  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Generational Curses:**

- Repeated Illnesses       Poverty       Emotional or Mental Breakdowns  
 Premature or Untimely Death       Female problems       Miscarriages  
 Suicide       Family Breakdown or Divorce       Repeated Accidents or Disaster  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vows:** Have you made any ungodly promises or pacts? (No matter how small)

**Curses:** What negative words have been spoken to you that bring on condemnation, rejection or judgment? What if any have you spoken?

**Any Area of Sin NOT mentioned in the above categories?  
(This is the one you were hoping would not be asked!)**



## NOTES

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Kelly Blanton is the founder of Christian Impact Ministries, a missionary order that seeks to create an impact upon society and the world by seeing a lost generation from all cultures be presented with the opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel message of Jesus Christ, to grow in that new relationship with Christ within the context of a healthy spiritual family, and then be presented the opportunity to minister to others the message of Jesus Christ. Kelly has previously served as a credentialed minister in the Foursquare Gospel Church and the International Pentecostal Holiness Church. Besides having over 20 years of ministry experience, his education includes a Bachelor of Arts from Angelo State University and Master of Ministry from Trinity Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Mount Carmel Institute of Biblical Studies.

The “Kingdom Living Discipleship Training” is part of a two-year, discipleship project, aimed at equipping Christians to be effective, Christ-centered ambassadors to this lost and darkened world.

The Kingdom Living Discipleship Training includes:

- Level 1.0: Basic Training
- Level 2.0: Intermediate Training
- Level 2.5: Intermediate Training
- Level 3.0: Advanced Training
- Level 4.0: Leadership Training



## **Kingdom Living Discipleship Training** *Basic Training – Level 1.0*