



Best Practices Ministry

Saturday Feb 18, 2023 / 10:30AM - 12:00PM



*"Leading a Sustainable
& Reproducible Movement
at Every Level"*

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Discipling Director
Gloria Dei - Houston



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About Me



My Current Calling at Gloria Dei

To create a multiplying movement of disciple-making in a large prevailing model church where people are living fully alive in God's grace by growing in their character and calling to make a kingdom impact where they live, work, and play.



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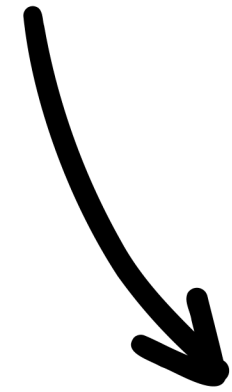


Leading a Sustainable and Reproducible Movement at Every Level

WHAT ON EARTH DOES THIS MEAN?



Leading a **Sustainable** and Reproducible Movement at Every Level



- lightweight,
- low maintenance,
- minimal prep,
- ongoing without burnout



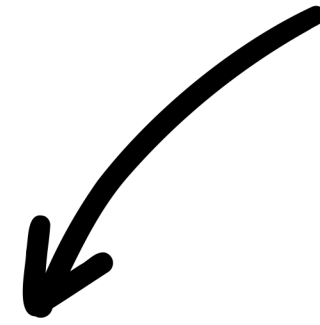
Leading a Sustainable and **Reproducible** Movement at Every Level



- a method that is simple,
- a method that is copied but content is always fresh (scripture)
- not flashy,
- geared for multiplication



Leading a Sustainable and Reproducible **Movement** at Every Level

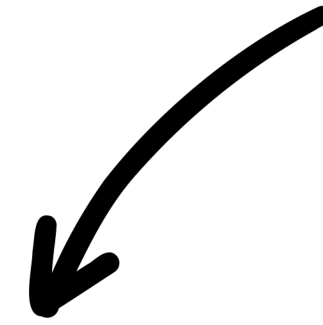


of Disciple Making...

- fast-growing
- indigenous (of the local culture)
- multiplication of groups
- obedient Jesus followers (disciples)



Leading a Sustainable and Reproducible Movement at **Every Level**



- staff
- board
- member
- new member
- non member
- ?

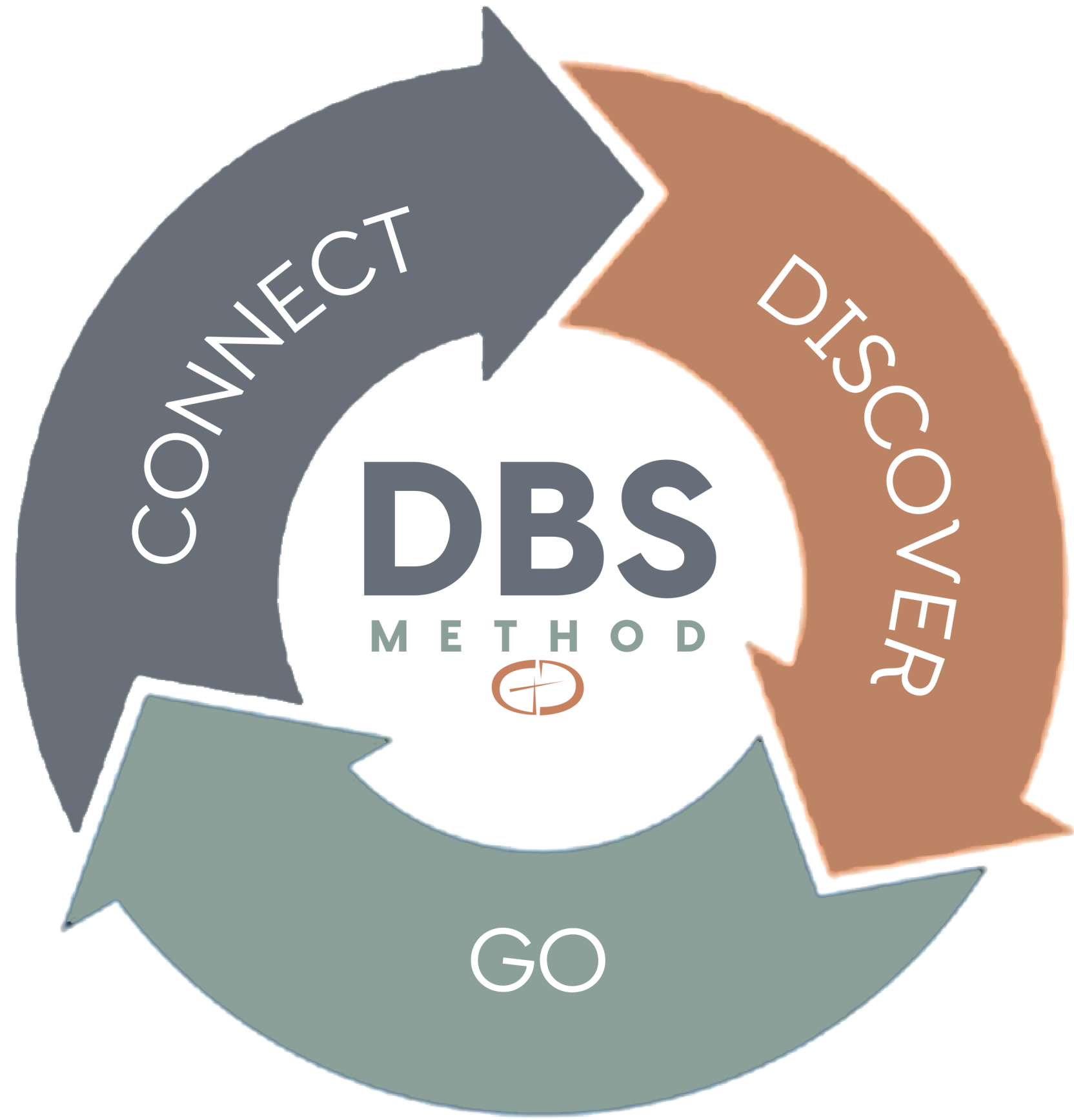


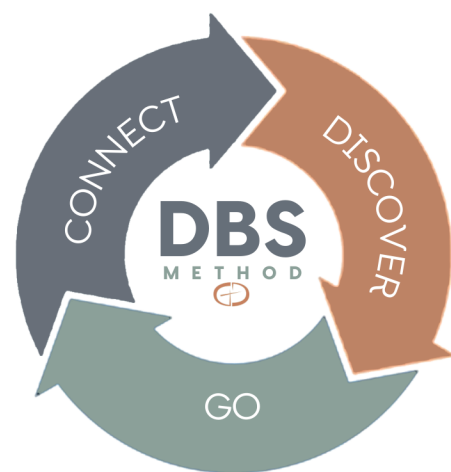
So what is this reproducible and sustainable **method** of creating a **movement** of disciple-making that anyone and everyone can lead and multiply? And what are the key ingredients to making sure the **environment** will intentionally help us make disciples?



First, the **method** ----->







THE WHAT & THE WHY of

DISCOVERY

B I B L E S T U D Y

The Discovery Bible Study is the primary method of disciple-making movements around the world. This method of studying the Bible is simple and reproducible and allows groups of spiritually interested people to read scripture, discover what God is saying, and then are challenged to immediately live out what they are learning and share it with someone else.



THE WHAT

CONNECT QUESTIONS

- **What are you thankful for?**
- **What challenge are you facing this week?**
- **How did you do with your last "I WILL" Statement?**

THE WHY

- The questions are non-threatening and simple, allowing anyone to share
- These questions are not overtly "spiritual" at first, but they become the foundation for key aspects of following Jesus in community: *Thankfulness* leads to worship & praise, *discussing our challenges* leads to confession and vulnerability, *re-connecting on "I WILL" Statements* leads to accountability.





THE WHAT

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

- **READ** the passage out loud a couple times.
- **Someone RE-TELL** it in their own words.
- **What catches your attention?**
- **What does it say about God? About Jesus?**

THE WHY

- Discovering truth on your own (or in a group) is more powerful than simply being told the truth
- Simple questions like these allow everyone to "be on the same page"
- The DBS method allows the Holy Spirit to be the teacher rather than a person, helping to avoid false teaching or over-dependence on a gifted individual
- These questions help create spiritually hungry disciples who are "self-feeding." They teach people *HOW to hear from God*, not just what the text says
- These questions are theologically "safe," as well as spiritually deep
- These questions are **REPRODUCIBLE** in every setting. This empowers anyone and everyone to make disciples wherever they are at





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HELPFUL TIP!

Use the sermon text from the weekend service to further engagement! It unifies the congregation, personalizes the sermon, makes it easy for group leaders to not have to worry about planning content!





THE WHAT

GO QUESTIONS

- **What can you apply from this text to "live fully alive in God's grace?" (John 10:10)**
- **How can you specifically live this text out?**
- **Everyone creates an "I WILL" Statement.**
- **Who are you going to tell about what you discovered?**

THE WHY

- These are the most important questions!
- DBS groups focus on response (obedience) over gaining knowledge. "I WILL" Statements are incredibly important. Make them as specific as possible (the more vague, the harder to accomplish)
- By focusing on obedience, people experience Jesus throughout the week, and begin their discipleship by *following* rather than merely *agreeing* with God
- When people who are just discovering God tell others what they're learning, new groups and viral growth is possible! People notice changed lives!





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FULLY ALIVE!
At Gloria Dei, our whole focus in discipleship is to help people live fully alive in God's grace; an abundant life, a rich and satisfying life that results from intimacy with God and influencing the world through our personal calling.

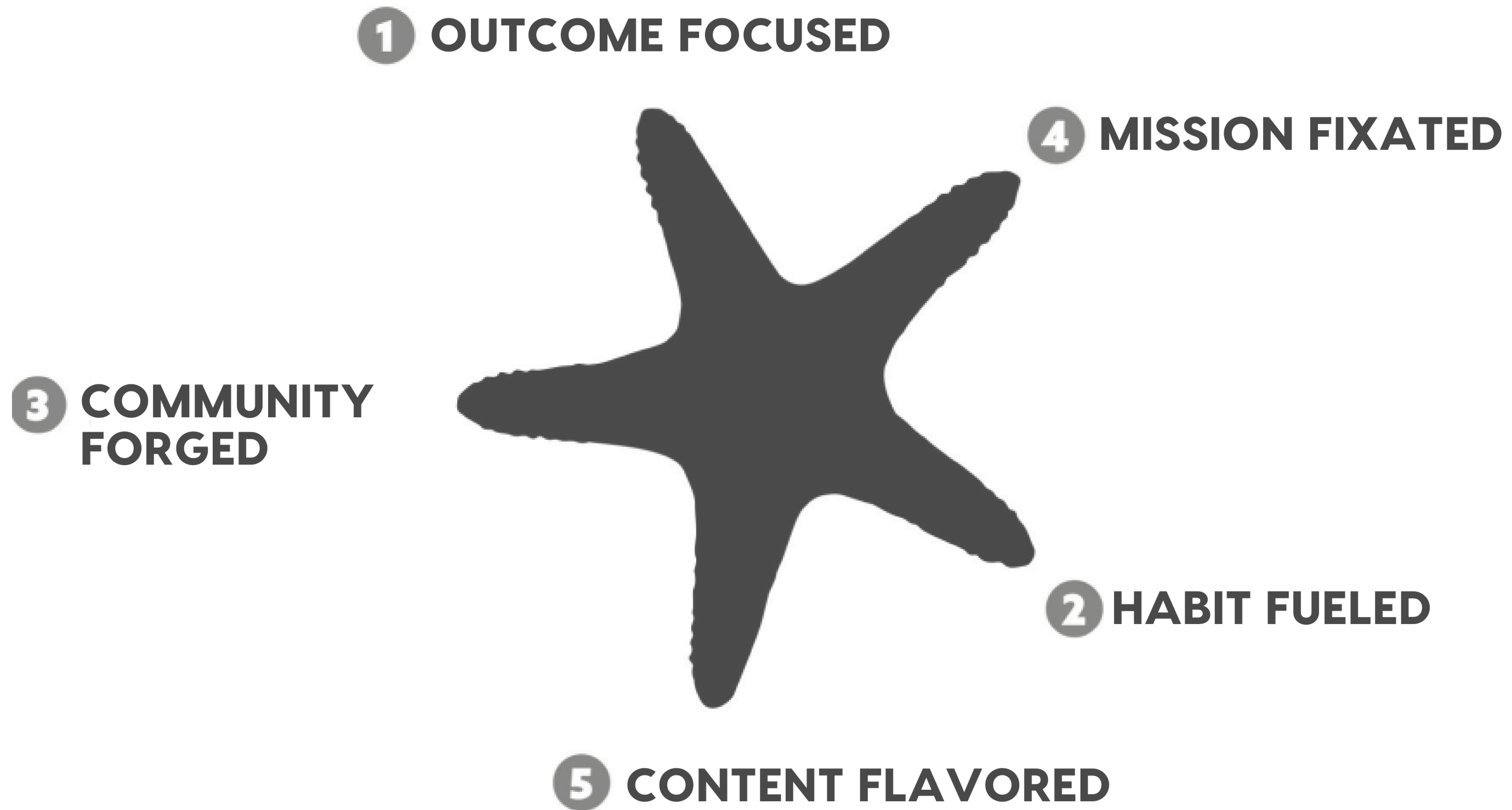


Second, the **environment** ----->



Here are 5 essential ingredients to make sure our DBS is actually an Intentional Disciple-making Environment.





1 OUTCOME FOCUSED



- Character X Calling = Impact
- Setting character goals marked by Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5)
- Setting calling goals by intentionally using your spiritual gifts, engaging your passions, and knowing your story.



1 OUTCOME FOCUSED



KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- How clearly can we articulate the outcomes of internal transformation?
- Is our main goal for everyone to become more like Jesus? What are the distractions?
- To what degree are my people discovering and living into their unique design and personal calling?





- Spiritual habits that help us partner with the Spirit
 - Daily scripture reading
 - Listening Prayer/Missional Prayer
 - Journaling (I Believe/I Will Statements)
 - Fasting
 - BLESS Rhythms

2 HABIT FUELED





KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- Do we effectively help people develop personal spiritual habits?
- Do our environments make the development of spiritual habits normal?
- How well do we correlate the practice of these habits to the Spirit's outcomes of transformation in character and calling?

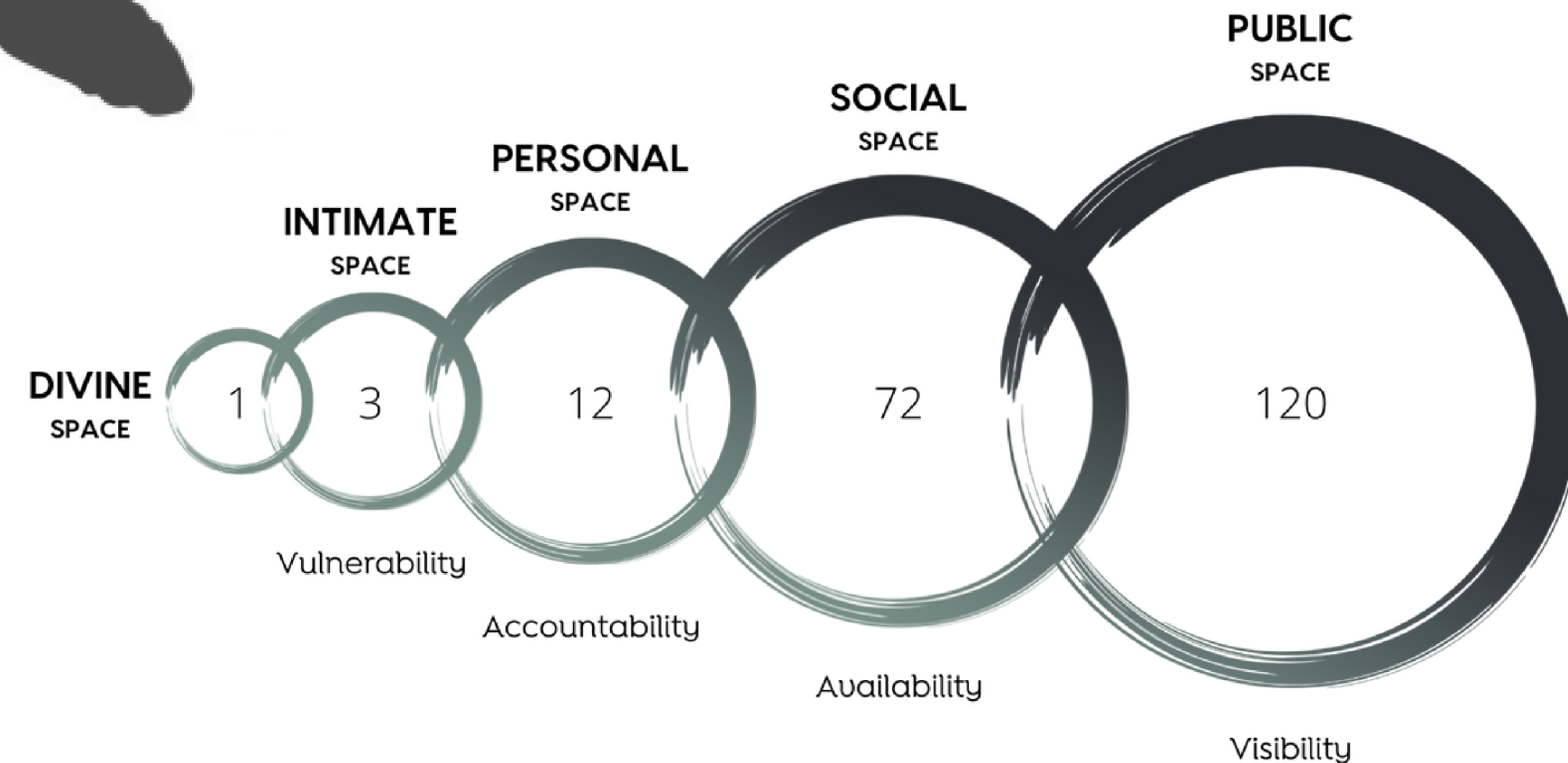
2 HABIT FUELED



3 COMMUNITY FORGED



- Engaging people in all interpersonal spaces of relationship required for human flourishing:
 - Divine Space (You and God)
 - Intimate Space (1-2 people)
 - Personal Space (Up to 12 people)
 - Social Space (Up to 72 people)
 - Public Space (72 +)



3 COMMUNITY FORGED



KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- Do we understand and engage all spheres of community required for human flourishing?
- How well do we help people create overlapping social spaces that deepen engagement?
- Do we move people out of the privatized individualism trend and into deep, meaningful faith community engagement?





4 MISSION FIXATED

- Active service where you live, work, learn, and play, or within a certain people group.
- Living out the BLESS Rhythms
 - Begin with Prayer
 - Listen to God & Others
 - Eat with people
 - Serve others in spheres of influence
 - Share your story and God's story





4 MISSION FIXATED

KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- How well do we help each other discover that mission involves the every-day spaces of life?
- How do we help one another own the mission of God in their context?
- What resources, processes, and tools do we provide to empower each other to own, apply, and innovate on mission?





- NOT Content co-dependent.
 - The Gospel permeates every aspect of life with the Good News
- The Gospel flavors everything
- The content leads to life transformation, not just knowledge
- The full content of the Gospel is "one earth as it is in heaven." Right here, right now; now, but not yet.

5 CONTENT FLAVORED





5 CONTENT FLAVORED

KEY QUESTIONS TO ASK:

- Are we addicted to "content" in a way that enables immaturity and underachievement in disciple-making?
- Is our discipleship just a data-dump or is it leading to transformation of character? An activation of our calling? Leading us to fruitful obedience?
- Have we reduced the Gospel to "believe in Jesus, go to heaven when you die?" Rather than "belief in Good News of Jesus and its impact in every aspect of life on this side of heaven." Jesus is Lord now!





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A sustainable and reproducible movement of disciple-making that is reproducible at every level resulting in significant kingdom impact through everyday people.



1 OUTCOME FOCUSED

4 MISSION FIXATED

3 COMMUNITY FORGED

2 HABIT FUELED

5 CONTENT FLAVORED

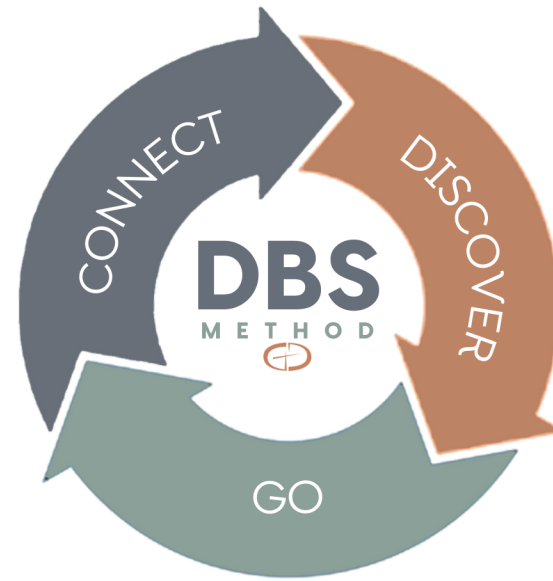




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Q & A

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RESOURCES

