

# DISCIPLESHIP ROAD MAP

Beginning Disciple

Growing Disciple

Commissioned Disciple

Disciple Maker

Spiritual Multiplier

**NOTE:** Each section below describes a stage within discipleship with Jesus Christ. Each section builds on one another. The overall goal in the Christian life is sanctification; all growth in the Christian life is done through God's grace.

## **BEGINNING DISCIPLE** • Acts 2:37-38; CCC 1427; CCC 1

- Change of attitude towards Jesus Christ and the Church He established (favorable) (Romans 10:8-10)
- Change of attitude towards sin (unfavorable) (1 John 1:5-9)
- Has made a verbal profession of commitment to Jesus Christ to others (Mark 5:18-20)
- Desires to grow spiritually (Philippians 4:8)
- Has received the sacraments of initiation or has gone to Confession if already a Catholic (Acts 2:37-38)

## **GROWING DISCIPLE** • James 1:19-25; CCC 1694

- Has developed a heart for God that motivates his/her attitudes and actions
- Is willing to make any sacrifices to grow, even change his/her schedule
- Observable changes in attitudes and actions can be seen
- Is committed to chastity, sobriety, and excellence in their state of life.
- Consistent in continually growing in the basic habits of the Christian life, including but not limited to:
  - Seeks interior growth through daily prayer with Scripture and spiritual reading (John 1:1-18; Ephesians 6:18)
  - Grows in sanctification through the reception of the sacraments (Acts 2:42)
  - Builds character through the virtues and the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-16)
  - Accepts suffering and uses it to unite him/her to Christ (Colossians 1:24)
  - Practices the spiritual and corporal works of mercy (Matthew 25:31-46)
  - Is open to the Holy Spirit (John 16:7; 12-13)

## **COMMISSIONED DISCIPLE** • Matthew 28:18-20; CCC 905

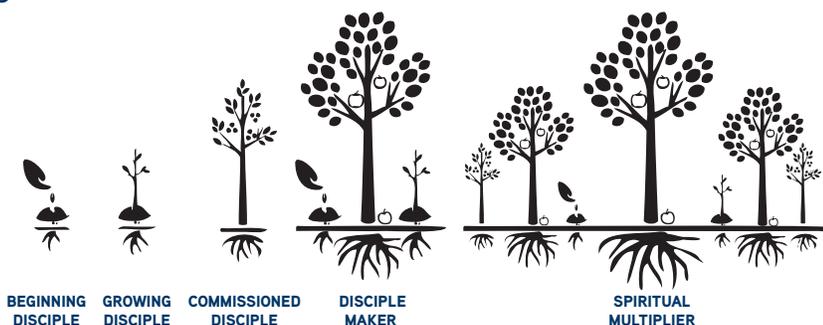
- Has decided to answer the call to take part in the mission of the Church
- Is actively striving to win people over to Jesus and His mission, to build them up in small-group Bible studies and to send them out to spiritually multiply (John 15:8)

## **DISCIPLE MAKER** • 1 Thessalonians 2:8; CCC 1816

- Led someone to commit his/her life to Jesus Christ and His mission and is helping them engage in the work of evangelization, discipling and friendships through a mentoring relationship (2 Timothy 2:2)
- Has developed a heart for God's people and is willing to make any sacrifice to help another grow, even change his/her schedule (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- Makes life decisions (vocation, location, relationships, etc.) based upon how he/she can most effectively fulfill the Great Commission

## **SPIRITUAL MULTIPLIER** • 2 Timothy 2:2; CCC 3

- Has been the major influence in helping others become disciple makers (has produced a strong third generation)
- Has been trained and equipped to go to another location and remain active in lifelong Catholic mission in which this process is repeated
- Regular participation in personal prayer and sacramental life of the Church; Fulfills Vocational commitments; Leading a life of evangelization and discipleship through small groups; Lives an influential life of faith, parish, community, and workplace



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Where do you place yourself right now on the Discipleship Road Map?

Why do you place yourself there?

Where do you feel God is calling you to be on the Road Map?

Why?

What is it going to take to get there?

What things do you need to do or change or sacrifice to make strides towards your goal?

Are you willing to do these things?

Together with an accountability partner, write down an action plan to get to the next step in the Discipleship Road Map.

## **GROWING DISCIPLE**

1. Has a heart for God
2. Makes *any* sacrifice to grow

## **COMMISSIONED DISCIPLE**

1. Has a heart for people
2. Makes *any* sacrifice to help another grow

The Discipleship Road Map is adapted from *The Fuel and the Flame* by Steve Shadrach (Atlanta: Authentic, 2003), p.110-113.

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