

Liberty University

**Elaboration Phase for Selected  
Micro-project Assignment**

A Paper Submitted to  
Submitted to Dr. James Zabloski,  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the completion of

Micro-Project I: Biblical Precedence  
DSMN 851 – D01

by  
**Curtis Boozer**  
November 15, 2020

### **Description of Elaboration Phase Activities**

The doctoral candidate has written twenty-seven (27) questions that seek to address how the ministry staff and high-level volunteers of The Crossing Church view discipleship in their lives.

The interviews will be conducted primarily using videoconferencing software, along with a few in-person interviews; all interviews will be recorded. The interviewer does not “probe” on the questions, but simply asks each person to answer as best as they can. The interviewees are also encouraged to answer without filtering out answers they think are not “church answers.” Anonymity is assured to the interviewees.

Each interviewee is provided an “invitation” letter (Exhibit 1), which describes the format of the project. At the beginning of the interview, the interviewee will be provided a “consent” form (Exhibit 2) to read and verbally confirm that they are willing to participate. Another group of interviewees will be provided with modified invitations asking if they are willing to participate if one of the originally-selected interviewees is unable to participate (Exhibit 3).

The interviewer has also prepared a page with printed Bible passages (Exhibit 4) for the interviewee’s reference while describing what they believe those verses say to believers.

At the end of the interview, the audio recording is processed using a transcription software process provided by Amazon Web Services. This transcription is then reviewed by the candidate and corrected in instances where the software engine was unable to translate accurately. These transcripts will be relied upon as the interviews are analyzed by the candidate.

These questions seek to understand if the staff has an awareness of key Scripture passages that describe how an individual should interact with God and how they should interact

with each other as disciples. The questions have been designed to look into three significant beliefs and see how the pool of ministers and high-level leaders describe their understanding of those items. The first belief to investigate is to see how they define a disciple and what attributes they believe a disciple will exhibit. The second group of questions attempts to get the interviewee to describe their understanding of what it means to be a member of the “family of God.” The third set of questions will attempt to gain their perception of how well The Crossing Church is doing at helping people become disciples and impacting the community as an active group of disciples. A fourth set of questions deals with whether they are being discipled themselves.

### **Schedule of Interviews**

Lydia	10:00 am	11/23/20	Virtual
Charles	11:00 am	11/23/20	Virtual
Catherine	12:00 pm	11/23/20	Virtual
Caroline	1:00 pm	11/23/20	Virtual
Charlotte	10:00 am	11/24/20	Virtual
George	11:00 am	11/24/20	In person
William	12:00 pm	11/24/20	In person
Atticus	1:00 pm	11/24/20	Virtual
Elizabeth	10:00 am	11/25/20	Virtual
Mr. Bennet	11:00 am	11/25/20	Virtual

### **Interview Questions**

1. What is your age?
2. At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?
3. Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?
4. What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?
5. How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?
6. How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?
7. What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?
8. Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?
9. What does the “family of God” mean to you?
10. What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?
11. What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?
12. How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?
13. As you consider Matt 28: 18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?
14. In view of Matt 28: 18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?
15. Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28: 18-20?
16. What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?
17. Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?
18. Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?
19. When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?
20. How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?
21. Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?

22. How do you think the believers at The Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages in Deut 6:1-9, Matt 22:36-38, Matt 22:39-40, and Matt 28:18-20?
23. What effect do you think the believers at The Crossing Church would have if they believed and lived by the passages in Deut 6:1-9, Matt 22:36-38, Matt 22:39-40, and Matt 28:18-20?
24. Have you ever disciplined anyone? If so, describe the method you used.
25. If you had a “do-over,” what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?
26. How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?
27. Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?

### **Invitation to Participate**

My name is Curtis Boozer. As part of my completion of the Liberty University Doctor of Ministry program, I am completing a micro-project and conducting research that will be used to assess people's perceptions regarding discipleship. I am writing to invite you to participate in my study.

If you are 18 years of age or older, a part of the church clergy or church laity, and willing to participate, you will be asked to complete a brief interview. The interview questions are designed to survey what people think about discipleship and how they have experienced it in their lives. A total of 27 questions will be asked, including 25 open-ended questions and 2 closed questions in reference to discipleship. Participation will be completely anonymous, and no personal, identifiable information will be collected.

A consent document is provided as an attachment to this recruitment. The consent document contains additional information about my research, but you do not need to sign and return it.

Questions or concerns regarding the research and/or questionnaire can be emailed to [curtisboozer@gmail.com](mailto:curtisboozer@gmail.com).

## Consent

**Title of the Project:** INTERVIEWS AND ANALYSIS

**Principal Investigator:** Curtis Boozer, Liberty University School of Divinity

### Invitation to be Part of a Research Study

You are invited to participate in a research study. In order to participate, you must be 18 years of age or older, and a church clergy or church laity. Taking part in this research project is voluntary.

Please take time to read this entire form and ask questions before deciding whether to participate in this research project.

### What is the study about and why is it being done?

The purpose of the study is to assess people's perceptions regarding discipleship. It is intended to compare those perceptions with a biblical perspective. It will also provide strategies to help individuals grow in spiritual maturity and to help churches grow.

### What will happen if you take part in this study?

If you agree to be in this study, I would ask you to do the following things:

1. Prior to the interview meeting, spend time thinking about your discipleship experiences. It should take approximately 1 hour to complete the interview.

### How could you or others benefit from this study?

Participants should not expect to receive a direct benefit from taking part in this study.

Benefits to society include a methodology to help individuals grow in spiritual maturity and to aid church growth.

### What risks might you experience from being in this study?

The risks involved in this study are minimal, which means they are equal to the risks you would encounter in everyday life.

### How will personal information be protected?

The records of this study will be kept private. Research records will be stored securely, and only the researcher will have access to the records. All participant responses will be anonymous, and pseudonyms will be assigned. Data will be stored on a password-locked computer and may be used in future presentations. After transcription of the audio files, those electronic records will be deleted.

### Is study participation voluntary?

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision about whether to participate will not affect your current or future relations with The Crossing Church. If you decide to participate, you are free to not answer any question or withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships.

### What should you do if you decide to withdraw from the study?

#### "How to Withdraw from the Study"

If you choose to withdraw from the study, simply decline to be interviewed.

### Whom do you contact if you have questions or concerns about the study?

The researcher conducting this study is Curtis Boozer. You may ask any questions you have now. If you have questions later, you are encouraged to contact him at [curtisboozer@gmail.com](mailto:curtisboozer@gmail.com).

### Your Consent

Before agreeing to be part of the research, please be sure that you understand what the study is about. You can print a copy of the document for your records. If you have any questions about the study later, you can contact the researcher using the information provided above.

*I have read and understood the above information. I have asked questions and have received answers. I consent to participate in the study.*

### Exhibit 3

#### **Alternate Interviewees**

Jean	Unscheduled	Virtual
Jem	Unscheduled	Virtual
Jane	Unscheduled	Virtual
Mary	Unscheduled	Virtual
Dill	Unscheduled	In person
Robert	Unscheduled	Virtual
Tom	Unscheduled	In person
Kitty	Unscheduled	In person
Georgiana	Unscheduled	Virtual
Alexandra	Unscheduled	Virtual

These interviews have been invited and notified that they are part of a pool of alternates if one of the initially invited interviewees cannot attend.

## Exhibit 4

### Deuteronomy 6:1-9<sup>1</sup>

#### English Standard Version

6 “Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the rules[a]—that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, 2 that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son’s son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

4 “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.[b] 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

### Matthew 22:36-40

#### English Standard Version

36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” 37 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

### Matthew 28:18-20

#### English Standard Version

18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[b] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all biblical passages referenced are in the English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008).