

Liberty University

**Implementation 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 29, 2020

### **Description of Implementation Phase Activities**

The doctoral candidate conducted nine interviews with individuals who serve as ministerial staff and key lay leaders in the church. 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 were conducted primarily using in-person interviews, as well as using videoconferencing software; all interviews were recorded. The interviewer did his best to not “probe” on the questions, but simply ask each person to answer as best as they can. The interviewer also attempted to refrain from giving non-verbal cues to the interviewees which might skew the interviewees answers in a direction. The interviewees were encouraged to answer without filtering out answers they think are not “church answers.” Anonymity was assured to the interviewees.

The interviews went well and were decently face-paced. The longest interview took forty minutes (40) and the shortest was fourteen minutes (14). Each interviewee had been provided an “invitation” letter (Exhibit 1), which described the format of the project. At the beginning of the interview, the interviewee were provided a “consent” form (Exhibit 2) to read and verbally confirmed that they are willing to participate.

The interviewer had also prepared a page with printed Bible passages (Exhibit 3) for the interviewee’s reference while describing what they believe those verses say to believers.

At the end of the interview, the audio recording was processed using a transcription software process provided by Amazon Web Services. This transcription was 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.

### **Positive Aspects of the Interviews**

Each of the interviewees expressed some trepidation as they had considered being interviewed. At the conclusion of the interviews, all of the interviewees expressed that they enjoyed the interview process and expressing their views.

From comments of the interviewees post-interview, it appears that asking these questions has stirred something in a few of them. They have been observed asking others their opinions about what it means to be a disciple. One of the campus pastors presented the questions “What do you think makes a disciple?” in a campus staff meeting.

The questions did seem to provide a good flow for the interview. As the project expands in the future, the questions should be refined in some cases. The time required appeared to be well within people’s tolerance for the experience. The video conferencing experience was excellent and would allow these interviews to be more easily conducted from the comfort of person’s home, without requiring travel by the interviewer.

The transcription software that was utilized did a remarkable job in converting the audio file to text. Many hours of transcription were reduced by using this software. The software use could be improved by using a key word to start each question, which would allow for easier parsing of the text.

## Negative Aspects of the Interviews

As predicted, the interviewees were somewhat anxious about having to give answers that are based upon Scripture to the interviewer who serves as an executive pastor. A good solution to this would be to have a different individual conduct the interviews. Another solution would be to target volunteer leaders and to have a “less well known” volunteer conduct the interviews. This would remove any “job anxiety” from the interview.

The interviewer did not utilize a “checklist” to verify that he had asked all of the questions in the interview. Several of the interviews had “data gaps” caused by the interviewer overlooking to ask a question. A solution will be to utilize a printed checklist for the interviews that require a checkbox to be noted as each question is completed.

At the conclusion of the interview, the interviewer noted discontent in some of the interviewees. They were frustrated that no solutions were presented to the problems that were identified in the questions. While it is true that they were the ones that identified problems, they seemed to be in need of proposed solutions. As this study progresses, the interviewer could present a sheet that illustrates actions the interviewees could take to enhance their discipleship experience.

The time available for the micro-project led to reducing the number of interviews to nine (9). A larger pool of surveys was desired, but this number is adequate for this micro-project.

The software utilized did a very good job transcribing from the audio file. The software was about ninety-five (95) percent accurate. A challenge arose while attempting to clean up the dialogue while leaving a sense of what the interviewee was trying to communicate. This clean up was process very labor intensive.

### **Schedule of Interviews**

Atticus	Virtual
Caroline	Virtual
Elizabeth	Virtual
Kitty	In person
Mr. Bennet	In person
William	In person
Tom	In person
Charles	In person
George	In person

## **Atticus\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** All right. So what is your age?

**Atticus** 61

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ is Lord

**Atticus** 28 years ago. So, whatever that number is.

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been disciple? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Atticus** Yeah, well, I was discipled a number of times, but certainly initially I was brought in under David Chadwell pulled me in the finance committee, and then he and I taught, he had me co-teach with him Crown Ministry for about 23 years, and he was probably one of the original guys. And, of course, I got thrown into the Finance Committee with Tim Wilson as pastor, and so I sort of got thrown into this thing where I was way over my head with people. I really was just this new believer. But anyway, that's kind of how that happened and then got into a small group with, uh, with some seasoned Christians and they kind of helped Vicky and I along, and that's yeah, so that that. That was really 28 years ago.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage and do Deuteronomy 6:1-9 means for believers?

**Atticus** Yes. So, basically, the four through nine is one of my scripture verses that I've memorized, so that one is saying for sure, Love the Lord your God, and basically, at all times, diligently, teaching your children. When you walk along the road, when you when you rise up all these all these commandments I've given you, you're too you to pass them along.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** Okay? How does that passage relate to the passage in Matthew 22: 36-38?

**Atticus** Well, you have the two things were commanded to do love the Lord and love people. And I think that the relationship there would be this. This is the way that you can love me and love people, keep my commandments and pass them along.

### **Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Okay, So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Atticus** I would say that a disciple would be one that cares for people and wants to help those people grow in the Lord.

### **Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?

**Atticus** Well, I think there would have to be refresh. Give that to me again.

**Interviewer** Okay, Sorry. What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?

**Atticus** I would say actions would have to be a clear. The actions would have to be a clear implementation or step to purposely come along someone and help to guide them.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

Omitted

**Q9 What does the “family of God’ mean to you?**

**Interviewer** What does the family of God mean to you?

**Atticus** Okay. The family of God, to me means the family of believers that I'm a part of.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

Omitted

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** Okay, So what do you think encompasses the idea of biblical unity?

**Atticus** Biblical unity?

**Interviewer** Yes, sir. What encompasses the idea of biblical unity?

**Atticus** I think that that would be a scenario where you have people that are of like kind beliefs that are taking instructions from, you know, biblical view, but they may contain different gifts, but those gifts unify the body.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe the demonstration of biblical community by believers at The Crossing Church?

**Atticus** How would you describe that? The Crossing Church. Well, that would be. Run that one by me again.

**Interviewer** Yeah. So how would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity?

**Atticus** The believers of The Crossing Church? So how?

**Interviewer** Maybe a way to think of it is how do you see that happen, or do you not see that?

**Atticus** Well, I see. I see that it is certainly, it comes from the pulpit first. And I think that at The Crossing Church the discipleship occurs most greatly in the small group system. Is that what you're asking?

**Interviewer** That's a sufficient answer.

**Atticus** Yeah. Give me that question just one more time. Let me make sure I'm okay.

**Interviewer** That's how would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?

**Atticus** Yeah, I would say that that would be demonstrated by following those concepts and ideas and this direction that's laid out by the senior pastor and then having that usually play out through and unified in the small group.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28: 18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** Looking at Matthew 28: 18-20. Would you believe that passage applies to all believers?

**Atticus** Do I believe that applies to all believers? Is that the question?

**Interviewer** That is the question.

**Atticus** Yes.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28: 18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So in view of that same passage, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Atticus** In view of that passage, they should go out into the world and be a light in the sense that they would be able to make the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit known through their actions as well as their tongue and teaching those the commandments to those people that you've been able to make disciples.

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28: 18-20?**

**Interviewer** And do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matthew 28: 18-20?

**Atticus** I think there are those that do. I don't believe all of them do, but I think there are those that do. What percentage? I don't know.

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** So, looking at another passage, what do you think Matthew 22: 39-40 asked of believers?

**Atticus** Okay. 39 to 40. That you're basically to be a servant.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**



**Interviewer** Does that directive in that verse or those verses, have a limited scope?

**Atticus** In your opinion, 39 through 40 or all of those 39, 40 specifically? Does it have a limited scope?

Well, I would say no, I mean it is not that there is no sort of kind of. It's love your neighbor as yourself.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** And do you think the believers that The Crossing Church understand how that works for those verses?

**Atticus** I think they probably understand it. I don't know that all of them are able to fully act on it. But that's part of the process of sanctification, I think it is the getting closer to that.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** So when you consider the number of disciples at The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the church?

**Atticus** I think that it's still, and it has been a struggle for not only The Crossing Church, but I think that the worldwide church in itself, I think that it's much easier to get someone saved than to have someone come alongside them and disciple him. So, I would say, that's just been a tough spot for the church. And, I don't think that from conversations I've had with another church is not to quantify, but I don't think that's necessarily, that we're in an unusual situation. I think that's a difficult task for the church.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** Well, how do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Atticus** Well, it's I don't know of a real dedicated plan that I know off. Other than again, I go back to the small group. The small group is where life, where you have that opportunity now. Does that happen? Is that really laid out in the small groups in this way? I don't know this specifically is, but I think that's the intent. That's the way that, in my opinion, is designed. Can you ask that question again? Because maybe I'm getting off track.

**Interviewer** I think you're answering it. Okay. It says, how do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Atticus** So, if I had to look at it and in the numbers that I know and the number of people that go through the door, I would say it's probably not really good.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

**Interviewer** I mean, yeah, um, do you believe the church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?

**Atticus** Yeah, I dio I mean, I do Onley in a sense that I just, you know, way got involved in early in the small group, and I think that's that's really where it happened for me. You know, we, uh, way came to the crossing. We got saved. I had no time because I was busy with my practice. But they said, you know, you need to get in a small group because that's where life happens and that's where you grow. So we said, Okay, if that's what they say, we want to grow. That's what we need to dio. So when we did that, um, I think that's where the growth for us occurred. It's great.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** So how do you think the believers at the crossing church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages you've read today?

**Atticus** I think that you would have, uh you would have an acceleration off of positive works and positive growth come out of the congregation.

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** What effect do you think the believers at the crossing church would have if they believed and lived by these passages?

**Atticus** What effect they would have outside the church outside the church? Yeah, well, I think that that you would see greater harvest of souls. A greater work in the community and you would probably see more people getting involved in in the in the church environment.

**Q24 Have you ever discipled anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** So, have you ever discipled anyone and if so, describe the method that you used?

**Atticus** Well, you know, I would just say it's a method. But, you know what we what we doing? I am meeting with someone tomorrow. But, I only know coming alongside and trying to get them involved in a group where they can. First of all, if they're not in the church, at least come to the church and get involved in coming to the church. But then also have you been exposed to the Bible? Do you have your understanding of that on Ben? You know, the, uh, the journalists. Still one of the ways that I try to get people reading the Bible in some sort of format. And then hopefully getting plugged into a group.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** So if you had a do over, what do you wish had happened or have been offered to you as a new believer?

**Atticus** probably for me, it did work out very well. But we had to be very sort of driven to make that happen. I mean, it was, they joke about it, but, the way in our first scenario of going to groups on this was 28 years ago, so this wouldn't be today. But in our first scenario going to groups, we could remember going to a group where we showed up at the door, and they said that

the group was closed and so we would have to find another. So, we're new believers. We're nervous, We knock on the door, and they basically turned us away. So, I don't think that would happen today, But, I think we really have to be focused on when these people come out of that starting point or whatever that class is. We got to make sure that we are not in any way, we've got to be somewhat aggressive to try to get them plugged in somewhere, because if they don't get plugged in, I think there's a high probability that most people, if they had the scenario we had, would not show up to another group.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** How important do you think the trust in the mentor is in the discipleship process?

**Atticus** But that's everything.

**Q27 Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?**

**Interviewer** And do you have a trusted person that you think could be or is a mentor to?

**Atticus** I don't know that I have that now, though, I You know, I do. I mean, I do really value the elder group. I mean, I think that group of men that I value their leadership and their you know, and so that would probably be it for me. I really don't have someone that I think is actively mentoring me at this point. But I do think that that happens in that group just because of all the things we go through and all the way we handle things, I think it's just a byproduct of that.

## **Caroline\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**Caroline** 21

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?

**Caroline** I grew up in the church. I remember a salvation experience when I was in pre school, I believe, But I did not really become a born again believer until after high school at about 18. Okay, I'm getting answer.

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been discipled? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Caroline** Yes. Um, I have been discipled. The first time I was discipled was in my first life group and the life group leader kind of became my first mentor. And she was always so available when I was struggling with something. Or when I needed godly advice. And from there on, she kind of encouraged me to join the internship. And I received lots of discipleship through the internship program at the Crossing.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** Looking at the scriptures I gave you, what do you think? The passage of Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**Caroline** Okay, I'm I mean, I think it's just showing the Lord's heart for his people to stay under his blessing. And to not stray away.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** And looking at that passage, how does it relate to Matthew 22:36-38.

**Caroline** I've always loved this one because I feel like in that, you know, Jesus kind of brought a lot of pressure to the table That must have seemed so radical to the Jews of that time. So bringing back that greatest commandment about the Lord your God with all your heart soul mind, I think it's really just affirming that God is consistent, that God doesn't change. And how God is love.

### **Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Caroline** They love one another. That's probably the first and foremost.

### **Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**Caroline** Um, first of the spirit Love, joy, peace, Patience, kindness, Goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self control. And actively, intentionally loving going the extra mile.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**Caroline** I know Jesus says by this they will know you are my disciple by how you love one another. And then I think there's also something to say about Matthew 28 like, great commission, Um, go or make disciples. And he's talking to the disciples. So kind of shows that a big part of the purpose of being a disciple is going and making other disciples.

**Q9 What does the “family of God” mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the family of God mean to you?

**Caroline** That phrase family of God, um, unity and love are two of the first and foremost things. Um, just also, um, you know how the Trinity is in perfect unity and how, when we are adopted into the family of God, um, we are to bring on that same sort of unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ. And it's just like having a true father too, being adopted into a family with just such a perfect dad. It's wonderful.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**Caroline** The attributes? Like I said unity. It makes me think of a family business. Um, I read this book called Terrain, where he talked about the family of God in ministry as entering into the family business. There's just kind of that culture where you can tell that there is a mission. But the way it played out isn't so corporate. If that makes sense, it is a dry. It's full of life and honor.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** What do you think encompasses the idea of biblical unity?

**Caroline** A biblical unity. Well, unity is not uniformity. I think one of the biggest things is honor, honor in your leadership, honoring those under you, honoring your peers. And I'm sorry, will you repeat that question?

**Interviewer** Sure. What do you think encompasses the idea of biblical unity?

**Caroline** Okay, biblical unity. Oh, yeah. Honor. And I kind of think of congregating, you know, by coming together as the church, um, being with one another, worshiping the same God, like singing one song, agreeing in prayer, that makes you think of the congregation as well. Just kind of acting that out.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** So how do you describe the believers of the crossing church as they demonstrate biblical unity?

**Caroline** I think that we are progressing in that area. But I think that there are so many people who which, of course, is such a challenge with a large congregation like we have. But there's just so many people who just come and go that seem more like visitors than part of the unified body.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28:18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28:18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**Caroline** Yes, 100%.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28:18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Caroline** Make disciples, um, baptizing them. Teaching them to observe all that Jesus has taught. And Oh, I learned this in the Bible College! You think of that word observe as just to kind of, like, acknowledge it. But it really needs to, like, follow, teach them to follow all that you commanded.

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28:18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Caroline** I don't. I think a lot of people view evangelizing as a job for pastors or evangelist or just leadership to do. I don't think a lot of people truly understand that it is a mandate on every believer, and I think even when they do, there's just so much fear that they will tend to ignore it.

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22:39-40 asks of believers?

**Caroline** You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Do you think that directive in that passage has a limited scope in your opinion?

**Caroline** No, I don't think it does. Because God showed us His agape love. And we should do our best to show that others. I think action wise, that looks a little different. Um, but the love, the love is pretty consistent and doesn't change. But you might love people in different ways. And there might be some actions where love can't take you. And I know that sounds weird, but I guess what I mean by that is some people will put expectations on a relationship that will try and draw others into sin or into places where the Lord isn't calling them. So action wise, I think there's a limitation but the love itself. No.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Caroline** Understand? For the most part, I'd say yes. Carry it out, probably a different story.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** What do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church when you consider number of disciples that are evident? Are we healthy and progressing, or unhealthy and need to focus on getting healthy?

**Caroline**, Oh, I think we're healthy, and I think we're progressing. And because of that, I'm so excited to see where we are, like, the next five years, the next 10 years, because I think it's gonna be a really, really beautiful picture.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Caroline** From an evangelistic perspective, I would say not as well as it could be, just because I don't think we have a lot of teaching on that. We had, like, the Revive Florida. We did reach the reach Wednesdays, couple of times, But other than that, I'm not personally aware of where there's a consistent outlet for people to learn how to evangelize in a safe environment. Like, you know, there might be a couple of life groups that do it, but that's not really the focus of life groups. So I don't really think that it's, well, not that it's not taught. Not that it's not encouraged, but it's not fostered, I guess.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Well, do you believe the church has done a good job in helping you to be kind of disciple?

**Caroline** Yes. 100% through the internship and just, the amount of access that I've had to the pastors and everyone who's taken the time to mentor me. So yeah.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages?

**Caroline** Man, I think the city of Tampa would look very different if all of our disciples really embodied these passages and I mean, that includes myself too. I know there's definitely more I can do, ways I could be way more intentional. I could step up and really start teaching my life group how to evangelize. So I'm including myself in that, but I think our city and our region would look very different.

**Interviewer** Okay, well, this kind of tags right onto that same question, it says, What effect do you think we'd have if we believed and lived by those passages?

**Caroline** Yeah, I think we need to step out of what our normal is because I mean, there's so often where I'll tell myself like, Oh, you know, I've had a long week like I you know, like I work today like I'm doing ministry in the church. I don't need to go out in the streets and do anymore, like I checked that box. But I think just living radically like understanding that my life is not my own. Like everything I am and everything I have belong to Jesus. So let me actually make him Lord of my schedule. And know in what other ways he wants me to be out there. Loving people are doing ministry.

**Q24 Have you ever discipled anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever discipled anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**Caroline** I'm currently discipling a few younger girls in the church, and so far, my method, because they're so new in their walk, a lot of my focus has been teaching them how to pray, how to use their authority, teaching them their identity, and trying to push them to where they can find freedom, like going through freedom classes together. And just really kind of basic stuff, I suppose. Like, I haven't really pushed them into multiplication and evangelism yet, which I think I ought to. One of the [Bible College] classes actually shook me up a little bit. It was the leadership one I'm in. A lot of people will take on a linear perspective of discipleship. And so, like, you have to get all of these like, baselines checked off like you have to learn this, this, this, and this before you even think about multiplication and like raising up in that way, versus you know, like more of a cyclical discipleship method where just kind of dive in. Like I think of the woman at the well, like she made a mighty fine evangelist, and she literally just met Jesus.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish would have happened or been offered to you as a new believer?

**Caroline** I would say I had accountability. I had a level of accountability, but I think more accountability, um, in regards to disciplines, like spiritually disciplines, I think that's very important. And I think that's something I've still .... You know, a couple of people will check up on me every once in a while, but I don't have anyone in my life, and I really never have, regularly. Like, I have been asked questions like these, but not regularly check up on me, like what is my regime for spending time with the Lord. Like, what am I doing in my personal walk with God? I just think that's really important in the early stages because you need spiritually discipline or else you're not going to bet very far.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?



**Caroline** Extremely, Very much so. If you don't trust them, then why would you apply anything they say to your life?

**Q27** Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?

Omitted

## **Elizabeth\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** Okay. What is your age?

**Elizabeth** 60

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ?

**Elizabeth** 30 to maybe 32. Yeah, about 32 to 33.

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been discipled? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Elizabeth** Um, not one on one discipled, but, you know, through Bible studies and that type of thing, which has been amazing, but not one on one.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** In the passages I sent you, there's Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**Elizabeth** Okay, so I got to read it though, right? Hold on. Okay to me, it just means that we're to be about all things God, that whatever we do, that needs to be the priority. Wherever we are, whatever we're doing.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Elizabeth** Omitted

### **Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Elizabeth** The attributes. I guess the fruit of the spirit. Peace, love, joy. Are you meaning from this passage here, or you mean just in general? I would say the fruits of the spirit.

### **Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**Elizabeth** Loving others primarily first and foremost.

### **Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**Elizabeth** Yeah. I mean, he talks about the disciples all over the place.

**Q9 What does the “family of God’ mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the term family of God mean to you.

**Elizabeth** I would say that means your church family.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**Elizabeth** I think they would be one for another. Celebrating with the people and mourning with the people, just being more other centered than yourself centered.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** In some sense, what do you think encompasses the idea?

**Elizabeth** I mean, that means no divisions, but what does that mean? Um, I think again, it's putting others before yourself, so that there can be unity.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**Elizabeth** How would I describe biblical unity at the Crossing Church and the people? I guess it's just being more centered on the other people than on yourself. Putting them before yourself.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28:18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28:18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**Elizabeth** Yeah

**Q14 In view of Matt 28:18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Elizabeth** I guess be talking to others about Jesus, trying to train people up.

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28:18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Elizabeth** I don't think that we do a very good job with it, but, I mean, I think I don't do a very good job with it either. So, I think we're good about getting them in the door. I don't know that we're as good about keeping them and trying to train him up.

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22: 39-40 asks of believers?

**Elizabeth** It asks us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to love him first.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And do you think that directive there has a limited scope in your opinion?

**Elizabeth** No, No, I think neighbor is everybody. Person at the grocery store. And you know, Anybody, where you work your neighbors.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Elizabeth** Not, not greatly. But I'm speaking to myself. Not really so much reflection on everybody else.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?

**Elizabeth** Not very great.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Elizabeth** I think we try. I mean, I think through the, you know, the Bible studies and iron men and those kind of things, I think those are all a help and discipling people. I don't know if that's really what the Lord had in mind. It's certainly better than not discipling people one on one period, but I don't I don't know how well we do it, you know, just one on one.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?

**Elizabeth** I mean, yeah, the church has done everything for us. I guess I haven't taken it and used it as well. But yeah, I mean, everything I know and believe. And, you know, I think it's due to the church. They challenged me. And, I guess I have discipled within the family and that kind of thing, but just not so much outside of that.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages I've shared with you?

**Elizabeth** I think we wouldn't be so we wouldn't get our feelings hurt quite so easily. It so that's a tall order. But I think we would be more concerned about the unity of the whole church than really what I want, or you know who offended me. I think we would do a better job that way.

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** What effect do you think the believers at The Crossing Church would have if they believed and lived by these passages?

**Elizabeth** I believe we'd be a force to be reckoned with. You know, I feel like we bring a lot more people to the Lord. If they really saw much of Jesus in all of us, I think, you know, we'd be on fire. It's just a tall order.

**Q24 Have you ever discipled anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever discipled anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**Elizabeth** Not really outside of family, you know, even extended family. But, um, we've done, Steve and I have done Bible studies with the kids, you know, we've done that kind of thing. Um, I don't know. I mean, I have a little ministry at work going with my Jesus Calling books. In the course of the time that I've been there, I've given out many Jesus Calling books to non Christian people. I don't know that I've gotten a lot of fruit. It may not be a really great um, technique, but I have done that, but really, it hasn't ever evolved into going further with it. Everybody seems like they appreciate it, and it's generally people in crisis at work. And I'll say, you know, this is what's helped me and why don't you look at this? You know, I'll take the book, But, um, it's never really gotten traction where you know, anybody's wanted to really pursue it any further, but yeah, I guess I've never really formally done much.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over,” what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a “do-over,” what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a new believer?

**Elizabeth** I don't know. I mean, I feel like the church really has done so much for me. But maybe if I had been in a one on one, maybe I would be more apt to replicate that. I've never really experienced that myself. And so maybe had I, I would have really understood it more clearly, you know, in order to do it with other people. Um, so maybe that would have been, you know, I would have been better prepared or understood it better. You know what it takes to be really a disciple on walking through things with people? I mean, we've always done it in groups and brought over food. And, you know, all that kind of stuff in terms of supporting other believers, But not really discipling outside of the family. Okay,

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**Elizabeth** It's probably everything because you just watch what they do more than they say. And so, you know, if you can trust that they're authentic and sincere, I would think that would make big difference.

**Q27 Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?**

**Interviewer** Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?

**Elizabeth** I don't really think so.

## **Kitty\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**Kitty** 22

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ?

**Kitty** 12. Salvation 14.

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been discipled? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Kitty** Yes. Just It's been in many ways, through my youth pastor growing up and then also through my parents, just kind of them teaching me through devotions and everything like that at home.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think Deuteronomy 6:1-9 means for believers?

**Kitty** I kind of take it as an obedience to the command his commandments that we just need to obey, Pretty much obey.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** And then you would look at Matthew 22:36-38. How does that passage relate to Deuteronomy 6:1-9?

**Kitty** Similar to obeying the commandments. But in one of them being loving the Lord God to that through, you're showing your love to the Lord through that obedience to his commandments.

### **Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Kitty** Somebody who does things to love and who shows you how to walk with Jesus. And in doing so with the obedience of the commandments and in just loving in a loving way.

### **Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**Kitty** I guess. Just someone who shows love and that where you see that light kind of come through that they're just loving towards people. They're obedient, they do the works of the Lord.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**Kitty** I would think so. But I don't have a definite...

**Q9 What does the “family of God” mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the term family of God mean to you?

**Kitty** I guess. Just like what? Can you explain the question?

**Interviewer** Have you heard the term family God before? Okay. A lot of times in Jesus, he talked about how he wanted people to essentially to turn from their father and mother and turned to Him, and that we might be against our brother and sister. And so he was encouraging us that we were being adopted into the family of God. So? So that's the concept of it. You have a physical family, and there's a point that we become part the family guy. And what was the question?

**Interviewer** So the question is, what does that mean to be part of the family?

**Kitty** I mean, it means it means a lot to know that like we are able to turn from, like you said, those brothers and sisters that aren't necessarily living the way they were living have chosen to turn towards you this. And to be part of that, I don't know if that makes sense.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**Kitty** Um, pretty much the same as I was saying, it's just that the obedience and choosing, making that decision to turn away from the worldly things and the things that other people are doing and staying true to who you are in Jesus.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity?”

**Kitty** Ummm.. [no answer]

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**Kitty** They demonstrate biblical unity result as excellent demonstrators that you see kind of the way that I guess everybody's not necessarily the same. But you can you know that there's something different about them. And you know that there's that there, I don't know how to put it in the words, um, I just...it's demonstrated well.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28:18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28:18-20, do you believe that that applies to all believers?



**Kitty** Okay, I think it is intended to apply to all believers. But whether those what those believers decide to do with it is ultimately on them.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28:18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Kitty** To go make other disciples and to go and but with amongst everybody pretty much

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28:18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Kitty** I do. I think it's for for the ones that... I can't speak for everybody, but I think it is taught that that is that is true. So if it is received that I would assume that they believe. Does that make sense then?

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22:39-40 asks of believers?

**Kitty** Just to love not only the Lord, but also everybody.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Does the directive in that passage have a limited scope?

**Kitty** No.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Kitty** I believe so. I believe that be able to witness people showing love, from the from the experiences I have had them. Yes.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** When you consider number of disciples that are evident at the Crossing Church, what do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church?

**Kitty**, I see a lot of disciples? Yes, I see, I think there's there's more. There's more than not. I mean, there are those for you, aren't I? May be quite there yet, but I do think I I think...

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Kitty** I think they do an excellent job.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

Yes, I would not be where I am right now. If it was not for the Crossing church and when I started here 11 years ago.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by these passages?

**Kitty** I mean, if we all if we all believed and lived it out every single day, I think we would, it would be pretty great. We'd be well off.

**Interviewer** What effect do you think that would have?

**Kitty**

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** Now, following question is, what effect do you think the believers would have the people around us, they lived by these passages?

**Kitty** I think it would have a huge effect on the community to not only grow as a church, but just also share the Gospel and share the love of Jesus.

**Q24 Have you ever discipled anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever discipled anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**Kitty** I have, I lead a life group, and it's a coed group, but I really pour into the girls a little more than the guys. And just constantly, uh, speaking of them, and sharing with them and talking to them. I've been able to watch them grow and see them go on and teach and disciple to other kids. And then those kids be able to come. So just things like that that's where my passion is to disciple young girls. Because if I was not discipled at that age, I would not be here.

**Interviewer** So what are you teaching them?

**Kitty** Uh, there's different things. I mean, we've gone through the gospel, um, and we've been just I've been pouring into them with identity, self love and loving other people in all different aspects in ways, especially with everything that's been going on.

**Q25 If you had a "do-over", what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a "do-over", what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a new believer?

**Kitty** I grew up in church and have been going to church my whole life, but I would want that do-over when I was in high school, just because that's when I conformed to what the world did and what society was not who I was in Christ. So I would take a do over at that point.

**Interviewer** So that more of what you did as opposed to what someone did for you.

**Kitty** yes.

**Q26** How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**Kitty** I think it's extremely important just because if you don't, if you don't trust that person, you're not gonna get anything from them. That that is intended for you to receive from them.

**Q27** Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?

Omitted

**Mr\_Bennet \_Transcription**

**Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**Mr. Bennet** 30

**Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ

**Mr. Bennet** 26

**Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been disciple? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Mr. Bennet** Yes. So, personally, someone I met at the church took me under their wing. Met me randomly and marked me out, so to speak. And just started a process where we met once a week. Basically, I had just been saved. I would say within a couple of months of that we started meeting once a week with a group of other new believers. What it looked like was just teaching straight from Scripture and changing my thought process on what I thought was the road to life, so to speak, and completely flipping the perspective on a different way to walk in a different way. To live. It was just a weekly meeting is how that started. And how I got discipled.

**Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** I've got a set of verses here, so express yourself. So looking at the verses of Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**Mr. Bennet** Yeah. So this is a construct construct of like how to live life as a believer of Christ. It's giving you practical elements of what to do and steps to take in order to be a disciple of Jesus.

Okay, Any key elements sticking out too?

Yeah. So, fearing the Lord And keeping his commandments so that's the big thing that always sticks out to me when I read this. What really sticks out is all the days of your life. I think discipleship is really an ongoing process, and some people can get caught up in a plateau that they want to. But, I think that really speaks to the ongoing process that it is on. That always sticks out to me. You should always be a learner, no matter what, disciple of Christ or whatever you choose to follow, it should always be a learner. So that's what really sticks out to me. Then the other practical part is verse seven is teaching them diligently to your children. Sign your hand writing it on the door posts of your house and your gate. So this is Old Testament, but writing it on your heart like who you are, you know. So, That's what sticks out to me.

**Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** And then you would look at Matthew 22: 36-38. How does that passage relate to Deuteronomy 6:1-9?

**Mr. Bennet** Yeah, I think it relates to it. I don't think you can properly love unless you fear God. At least my relationship with him, what I learned, I think that anything you obviously do without love comes to nothing. But I don't personally never have been able to fear God or been able to love God without fearing him, so to speak. So, I believe it relates in that aspect. For me is just really verse two and Deuteronomy leading into the love.

**Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Mr. Bennet** Right. Okay. Disciple of Christ. Fear of the Lord. Andi, I would say integrity and love. Those are the three. I would say Pick three for me. That's what I teach. Like it turns out him over his fearing God first and foremost that you're able to love him and then people who integrity, like even Christians and disciples, so to speak don't really have integrity a lot of the time. So one thing I say, Well, two things I say be punctual. That's like more practical thing like, But that's an integrity. I think at the end of the day, and it leads to doing what you say you're going do. So, those are two big things that I'd like to teach them. And I think that relates to integrity.

**Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**Mr. Bennet** Decide upon being punctual in actions and behaviors. I would say living out who God says we are. So, when He establishes that we have identity in Him that everything is securing Him that we are a royal priesthood, a holy nation were loved, were adopted into a family, says what is a person like that and how they act like they I think. They exude who they are. So, if I'm loved, I'm going to love. If I fear God, I'm going to exude a healthy fear of the Lord. So ,I think the actions are directly correlated to who God says we are. If you believe those things, you're going to act that way

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**Mr. Bennet** Yes. I don't think it gives you 100%. Maybe what to do you and day to day situations. But I think if you take the framework of fearing God and I think whatever scriptures, I mean you can think of as far as what you said actions or things that people do. I think if you take those. Yeah, it does tell you a basic framework. What were the verses? I don't know.

**Q9 What does the “family of God’ mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the family of God mean to you.

**Mr. Bennet** The word adoption comes to mind. So, you being completely taken into the family that is saved, a family that has a real father and not just like an earthly father or any of these ways that you thought. It's more of like submission. So you're like, humbly submitting yourself into a different family. I think you're inserting yourself into what life really is and not just what your perception of life is.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**Mr. Bennet** Love, acceptance, peace, Joy. Real comfortability, I think. Not to say like a complacency where you're not going to grow but a comfortability to go to someone with the good and the bad, no matter what, knowing that the rod of discipline, so to speak, if it is on the bad side, is more of a staff, a guiding type of thing, not a smack on the wrist disciplinary action, so to speak.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** Yeah. How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**Mr. Bennet** I would say compromise is like a single word that comes to mind a lot of the times. Unity has to do with, In my opinion, I think the world has this win-lose mentality, like in every situation, someone's going to win and someone's got to lose. But I think there's a way to create win-win situations a lot of the times to where everyone is not getting exactly what they want. If you did, then your life, you wouldn't grow. But I think there's a way for every situation or whatever. You come across the have a win-win situation and that kind of is unity. It's not agreeing with somebody but still falling under something because you agree with the premise of it. And just because it's not 100% and that doesn't align with everything doesn't mean you can't respect and honor that. So, I think it's both sides almost finding like a win-win, so to speak. I think in rare circumstances where it is a win-lose if you are in that situation that the losses are a complete compromise on your part, to say What's the bigger vision here? Is this certain circumstance or situation, or this even 15 year plan? Or am I looking at the overarching theme of this organization or this family I put myself in. Is the health of that in the success of that which driving me? If so, then I think those little decisions of unity are easier to kind of work around.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers at The Crossing Church coming?

**Mr. Bennet** It's healthy. For the most part, I would say people do a good job, but also at the same time, I think there is a lack of awareness of from some people of that bigger picture vision, which makes it harder to fall under unity with the church as a whole. I think and this is just random people, so I don't know, it's not really staff, but it's people that I personally deal with who don't know that concept of unity. So, selfishness takes away the ability to be united because

of those specific things that maybe their disagreement with, that people can't let go off, you know? But I think healthy overall.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28: 18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28. 18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**Mr. Bennet** Yes. So I do with that.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28: 18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Mr. Bennet** I think disciples make disciples. I've heard that, you know from somebody before, But it's just something that stuck with me. The question was, What's your disciples do? Yeah, in view of those versus what its tone, it's saying something. So what is it telling us? A disciple should do so practically baptism and then teaching everything that we have learned, which is the laws and commandments that God is, you know, Old Testament on the putting on your houses, your gates, but things that he's writing on our hearts, speaking to us through the word of God, teaching them biblical way of life. Andi sharing That's true. Thought them, I would say, Um yeah, but I would say like disciples should be making other disciples. And I think the process is like what you do practically is any devotional or any whatever you can learn. You can pull some sort of truth out of Scripture that's going to conflict with a way someone is living most of the time. I think that's actually pretty easy to do. I think the process of making a disciple is consistency. It is really what's missing with that. So I think a lot of people think it's a start and end date. It's an ongoing process, and so even when you say I'm discipling this person, how are you really doing that? You haven't in date in mind? If you don't, I don't know if you really discipling them, because if God called you to walk with them for the rest of your life or for 10 years. You only plan on doing for a month but we don't know. I think it's to treat it as an ongoing process of learning and you know you as a plus, being disciple by somebody else. I think it's just a trickle down effect. If that makes sense, what do you think?

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28: 18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Mr. Bennet** No, I think we try. I think we do a good job, a lot better job than other places, for sure. But like I said, I don't think we think of the people. I've envisioned being the most loving. I don't think they get it either. I just don't think we do when you consider the number of disciples of crossing church.

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22: 39-40 asks of believers?

**Mr. Bennet** Omitted

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Does that directive in that passage have a limited scope?

**Mr. Bennet** I think we try and find complex solutions for simple problems, and we think the problem itself is really complex. But, it's really not. So, the simple fact of love your neighbor as yourself and love the Lord your God with all your heart. That's too easy to fix what's going on in the world and everyone's opinion, believer or nonbeliever. But, I don't think the execution has ever been there, so I think that's what's missing is a true love, and so I don't think it's constricting at all. I think if we actually properly loved and knew what that was, it would fix fixing to me. But, you know what I'm saying? I think execution on how to love has been poor. It's because even the person who you see loving you the most you know, probably still doesn't fully even understand it. So, I think it goes back to the early church. I personally still would never split my possessions with the Crossing, even staff who I love. I wouldn't, I don't think at the end of the day, like just being transparent, if they said Let's pile all our money together and everyone would be even, like I don't know if I could. That's love, though, So that's a falling in me that I understand. But, like think about everybody else, too, whatever area they may have trouble with, like I just think love is poorly executed and if we actually did it, it would work.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Mr. Bennet** Yeah, yeah, it's goes back to, you can follow every commandment, but if you're not doing anything in love, it doesn't really matter. And specifically, 39. If you don't know the love of the father, you can't love your neighbor as yourself because you're not properly loving yourself.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** What do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church? When you consider number of disciples that are evident?

**Mr. Bennet** Okay, I think it's surface level. I would say I think we go to a certain point until we meet resistance and I think it could go deeper. Like I said, I think there's a threshold. There's a plateau. There's something that we hit to where it's like more work needs to be put in. But it's not and I've been guilty of it as well, you know, with specific people that I meet with. But I think an actual, and I don't know what that means or looks like, but an actual walking alongside somebody for an extended period of time. I think we put Band-Aids on severe wounds and call it something that it may not be because it's the easier solution at the time. Are we really taking the time to uncover what's going on with people or situations or whatever? So, I would say surface level.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Mr. Bennet** Yeah, kind of a good question. How do we prepare someone to be so. They're not a disciple yet. Or how are we preparing people to disciple? It will depend on your definition to a



certain extent. Well, so when I hear the question, how do we prepare people to be disciples? I'm thinking of it as someone's not a disciple at all. How are we prepping them to be one? Some of our discipleship courses. One of the premises of the author who wrote the book said you're not a disciple until you've made a disciple. Is that where I heard it? Oh, okay. I would have to probably give the same answers. Far as surface level with my experience. Yes, that's what Yeah, I would say the same thing.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

I would say decent. Yeah.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages?

**Mr. Bennet** They would, I think there would be the disciples. Yeah, Yeah, they would be disciples. I think they're both disciples. How they are now and completely living this out is both the disciples, just the strength of the disciple. I think there's just a lack of, um, power and effectiveness in the disciples. Maybe that we have now, but living this would make it as so. It was 2000 years ago. I believe we talked with church booming. I think that that was a healthy and powerful disciple because this was probably lived out. I mean, that's something I personally been going through lately is love, you know, And I truly think God is showing me even a stink at it. Um, that's the key, though. It's doing it properly, and that will determine the effectiveness and the health. I think of a disciple is a real role. Passionate. What does it really mean? To Lay your life down love.

**Interviewer** How do you think they would believe and behave?

**Mr. Bennet** Omitted

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** Now, following question is, what effect do you think the believers would have the people around us, they lived by these passages?

**Mr. Bennet** I think the effect would be changed in there would be and excitement for others to come here because there would be something so dramatically different. The effect would be people, I think around believer, not believers asking the question of what's going on. Who are they? Why are they doing this? We preach about it all the time. We have these stories and all these uplifting things. Like, what would the world look like? I'll tell you always in your sermon, What would the world look like if you did this stuff back? Oh, yeah. Should. And do we do it? Yeah, a little bit sometimes. Maybe, I don't know. But obviously we're not, because the world doesn't, I mean, I don't think even this community looks that much different. We're not seeing dramatic changes. I think the effect would be an influx of people asking "What's happening?"

**Q24 Have you ever disciplined anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever disciplined anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**Mr. Bennet** Tried it. I would say a couple of different ones, so being put in charge of the internship just naturally have to you meet with people. That's been really successful, I think is consistency for me. That's the only thing that I mean, some people are still here. Some people are not here. Some people are doing well. I have others that may not be. I think consistency is what really established trust. I think establishing trust in the beginning is what you have to do because people are going to open up to you about really what's going on. You're not going to be able to coach them and take them through. You know, sometimes Scripture by Scripture of this is why these things are clashing is because of this truth. And you're not living this out type of thing. But you never get to. That point of trust is an established, so I mean going back to all. My answer is I believe that love is obviously a huge thing, but trust if that's not established, you can't effectively disciple somebody. So especially as a recent experience, I have tried to do whatever I can in my power to establish trust with the people I lead. And, you know, like I said, that's kind of a natural platform. I have just cause I'm in charge of the internship. But I know I tried to personally disciple a group of young men through a 12 week, you know, beginning and end like we're going to get closer to the Lord type of thing on. What I utilized was different sermons, a book that we went through and us just literally doing life together, meeting every week, hanging out with each other. Not just because we have group that week because we want to and we get to do life together with people who are like minded. The only reason that was semi successful is because of the trust that was established between everybody. Transparency, I think is key.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a believer?

**Mr. Bennet** That's a good question. I would say more time, maybe more. This could be a personal bash on myself that I'll say, but the trust not being really truly established, you know, not just I think it's across the board. So that's why I say it's for me. It's not a specific group of people or person or anything. I think trust across the board was not really established. I don't think the time was put in for it to be established, and so maybe that. Like I said, that's just the basis. Because with some people, I have no problem opening up and doing whatever. So they would never have that issue, no matter who disciplines them. So, it could be on the potential disciple of what you know, they think they would need. But I would say more time or trust more, I would say love.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**Mr. Bennet** Vital. Is that really a question?

**Q27** Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?

Yeah, I do. It just took a longer while things, but yeah, I do Well, that's personal stuff. Like with Pastor Jonas. Like I could fully trust him. Yeah, that's like my guy.

## **William\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**William** 34?

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ

**William** Too young to remember. Rededicated 20?

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been disciple? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**William** I think the closest came with my youth Paster in High School. We met every Wednesday night, just the high school students. And we really wanted that from difficult topics and end up in Bible study. We had long times of prayer, and that felt like a genuine discipleship experience.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** Yeah. I've got a set of verses here, so express yourself. So looking at the verses of Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**William** I believe, obviously, it was for the Israelites of the time. But I also believe the principles apply today were that when we fear the Lord and we do God what commands that God will bless our lives. Might not necessarily be long life and age, but that the years we do have will be blessed. So well, I think it's for Israel. Specifically, principles can apply today.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** Look at Matthew 22: 36-38. How does that passage relate to Deuteronomy 6:1-9?

**William** I believe Jesus was boiling down all 600 something laws into these two. And while we don't by every law in the Old Testament, like making a fire on the Sabbath and doing things like that, that we still love God by obeying His statutes. I think especially the things that are made clear in the New Testament that are mirrored in the Old are clearly laws for today. Whether that has to do with sexual morality or stealing or marriage and everything like that. And so the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God, which needs to obey those things that he says to do and to avoid the things he says not to do. Yep.

### **Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**William** Anyone that rightly and understands? Well, the statutes of God being the things that God says do these things and don't do these that those are clear in their mind that they feel maybe

well, they might not always feel God near you. know feeling sense. They understand and have a security and God's existence. Jesus, the sacrifice. They understand the nature of salvation that it is by grace were saved, but that grace is not opposed to effort, supposed to earning a slow in this life. We still work as in doing what God has asked to do and what pleases God and actually try to do those things and so good.

**Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**William** Although it's obvious probably fruits of the spirits, the love, joy, peace and that their daily lives expresses that. Obviously a lot of moments of anger or worry or anxiety, but that we are trying to pursue the fruits of the spirit, have love, enjoying peace internally in our own life and hearts and towards others. And so those would be outwardly evidence and obviously wanted to share that with others who don't know who Jesus is and don't know the gospel. That there would be a desire and a fruit and sharing the gospel as well.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**William** Yes, I only dance.

**Q9 What does the “family of God” mean to you?**

**Interviewer** What does the family of God mean to you.

**William** Family of God, I think, is kind of the universal church that everyone who proclaims Jesus as savior on a world sense are part of are part of the Children of God or a peculiar people in nation. That God first of all, those but that on a micro level that a local church and a community of Christians should also be like family to each other, more so than you would just on acquaintance a friend. That might mean sacrificing for someone who is not family by blood, but is in the church or in your small group, and that you would go above and beyond in love to those people, especially those who might not have immediate family themselves. That the church and the people in the church would become their family.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** What would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**William** Yeah, actually, like when there is hardship or trouble that the church does come together to help them, whether it's a financial need, food, meals, even like child care need. If it's a single mom that you would see the family come and help the single mom do that. Also outwardly serving to maybe going out in groups or, you know, evangelism.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**William** Biblical community, Biblical unity? Oh, I think the unity is within the church. How is following the authorities structure within the church that got to set up but also agreeing on the spine issues of the Christian faith? And when there is divergence from that or not understanding it, that there is a bringing together of like, let's work this out and rib issues that are less important. You know, maybe you talk about him, but they don't have to be agreed upon, But there will be unity of, uh, spine issues. What a salvation. Who is Christ the exclusivity of Christ. And we don't have a progressive Christian sect and the church and something else. Something like that.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?

**William** I think the staff and for the body, the body for at least for me personally, it's hard to evaluate because I don't know many of the people, but I think in the staff and the core of the church holds to what I just said. Where there is obviously an inheritance to authority structure, but also a new agreement in the spine issues and an understanding of what we believe as a church and what we believe. What we believe Christ, that Paul and the others taught in Scripture and so that an agreement does like this is not right, or this is how salvation work. This is Christianity as a whole. And so I believe that there is agreement. Immunity, Captain,

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28: 18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28. 18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**William** I believe so, Yes. It is a great commission. And I do think also with the background of the other two thirds of the New Testament that Paul has written that it is our imperative to share the gospel. And so I do think that this was a command to all believers, not just the 12 guys watching him go out.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28: 18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** In view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**William** Yeah, evangelize. Spread the gospel and baptizing them, obviously, as it is in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You know, I don't know if that's exactly, ah, water baptism. If that is what the evangelical would say is the second baptism in the Holy Spirit, and speaking in tongues. I'm honestly not sure in this moment what that might exactly be referring to. But I do think evangelism and bringing them into the family of Christ is part of that imperative.

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28: 18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**William** I think most understand that as far as the commission to spread the gospel. I think there's probably a difference in understanding of priority or how much it applies to them as a lay

person, as opposed to this person as a staff member pastor. And so I think that might be a divergence and responsibility.

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22: 39-40 asks of believers?

**William** That's the love your neighbor as yourself. Like I said before, with family of church, should be of sacrificing for others either in the church or even those were not saved, loving others above and beyond what someone would normally expect and so doing. Hopefully they will see Christ in your actions in your life.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Does that directive in that passage have a limited scope?

**William** In your opinion, is it who the others like loving your neighbors? That the neighbors would be limited? I wouldn't think so. Or what love means is there a limit to, I think, when it conflicts with the first meaning? You know, it is again a person's interpretation of love. If love is accepting something that is against God's will, I don't think you can affirm that. So in that case, loving your neighbor might also mean correcting them and helping them help pointing in the right direction.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**William** I think when it's framed and like, we're gonna do an outreach and give a bunch of meals away to people who need it. I think it's evident and understood that that's what we're doing. We're loving our neighbor. Probably don't, I would say most people probably don't understand. Maybe what it could mean day today, and especially in today's culture, probably get that love mixed up with what culture says love is loving your neighbor and affirming them and whatever they wanna do. So I don't think a full complete understanding of it.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** What do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church? When you consider number of disciples that are evident?

**William**, I can probably say you can say, under 50%. I don't know how much lower that would be, but, you know, I would say there's at least half, if not more, thinking about all people that watch online and maybe we don't see in the building per se. There's probably many that probably don't meet the criteria as disciples of Jesus. You know, if we say, are they gonna make it to heaven? Probably ish, maybe, you know, But I do think there is a second like there is the higher level to call it a disciple of Christ. I think at least half would not meet that requirement, if not more.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**William** Okay, um, I think we put forth great effort in ways to make disciples like emphasis on live groups, trying to get people into life groups so they can learn. You know I don't with the church our size. It's probably hard to investigate exactly what is being taught across hundreds of life groups, and so that seems hard to evaluate just for me personally. But again, given the fact that it's probably less than 50% of our congregation are disciples. Maybe that is also our rating for how well we are doing it as well. 40 to 50%

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

Omitted

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages?

**William** That, given I think stuff I see on social media, would be less as far as people who follow the Crossing Church. And you know, I know other people on staff understand that there are many people that you know live together before marriage. You know, there's infidelity even, you know, those are married or not. Again it fruits of the spirit or one of the barometers for being a disciple. It's probably not all you know, this work to be done there, too. So the original question was?

**Interviewer** How do you think they would behave?

**William** I think like the answer earlier they would live more by the fruits of the spirit and also abide by the clear laws, at least in the New Testament, in regarding to the areas I specified and we'll see less of making things we've seen.

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** What effect do you think the believers would have the people around us, they lived by these passages?

**William** I think we would, at least in our immediate vicinity or sphere of influence. I would think people coming into the church seeking Christ would increase because they seem or like there would be more people around us being Christ like and I know that that is when someone attractive, like the gospel itself, should be attractive. And so there were people really living the gospel message practically, and obviously it should be attractive as well. Those people would be coming here and also staying. I think that's the other big thing is people won't say, maybe I'll stay. And if more of the church body was acting like a disciple, I think more would stay for longer.

**Q24 Have you ever discipled anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**



**Interviewer** Have you ever disciplined anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**William** I would say in a group here I had two guys i disciples and we went through actually the Saved the book from here. And that was interesting. Now one went off the rails. The other one, I genuinely felt like he had questions and I was able to answer it. We engaged with material with the small group that I have now going through apologetic stuff. I do feel like it's somewhat of a discipling scenario. I will say, I don't know if I have ever disciplined someone from newly saved to devoted disciple. Typically, my interactions have been with people who are already saved or have been saved for a while and working at a church on the church staff and my whole family saved. It's difficult to be exposed to unsaved people unless they're complete strangers. So those are my two main experiences.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** Yeah, if you had a “do-over”, what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a believer?

**William** Um, okay, at least my personal upbringing and understanding of grace not just as a salvation attributes, but also in a life. Like what does grace mean day to day? I think that would have been beneficial. Especially in my teenage years and having answers for difficult questions. You know, I think a lot of the resource is in apologetics today were not available back then, but I think it would have been very helpful, especially for youth at that time. For me personally, I think it would have steered many people or kept them in the church as questions arose.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** How important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**William** Trust? I think it's important, but I think the theological soundness of the discipler is even more important. You know, I would rather have a skeptical disciple questioning a discipler than the bought-in Disciple with a, you know, wishy washy discipler. One who doesn't maybe not have the right theological basis. I think it's important because eventually the person has to actually believe what this person is saying. But yeah, I think a little skepticism.

**Q27 Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?**

Omitted

## **Tom\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**Tom** I'm 40 years old. I'll be 41 this Sunday.

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ?

**Tom** Actually following? I truly surrendered my life to Christ, and I would say January of 2013.

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been discipled? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Tom** I have been discipled. And the way I'd describe that experience is someone taking me under their wing and showing me and teaching me, um, whether it be teaching me scripture, teaching me how to live Christ-like, sometimes it wasn't just reading, or it's more about watching someone as they act as a form of discipleship as well. Um, but it comes in many forms for sure.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** I've got a set of verses here, so express yourself. So looking at Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**Tom** Well, the first part of it, definitely one through three, is there's a promise, um, that comes with obeying his commands that when you live by the Lord's statutes that there's a promised land coming there that you will multiply from that. Loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and your might, and it goes on to [say] try to keep your mind focused on the things that the Lord, the commandments, the statutes on that. It's not just for you that is to be taught, and distributed from, uh, from parents to Children and so on. Um, there should be always should be at the forefront of your mind is the Lord's word in Lord's Commandments that would help guide and direct you from on the path.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** And then you would look at Matthew 22:36-38. How does that passage relate to Deuteronomy 6:1-9?

**Tom** Well definitely Jesus is paralleling, um, from Deuteronomy because I know the Pharisees were there asking him, you know what is the greatest commandment? And, uh, I believe, and from what I've been taught as well, that of all the commandments from the Old Testament and we know that Jesus in the New Testament, said he did not come to abolishing, but he came to fulfill the law and the prophets. Hang on these... that what Jesus saying is, um and so instead of the 10 Commandments that you can narrow it down to just the two. And yes, I'm stealing it from a recent teaching, but this is what I believed. They relate in that it's all about abiding in him. And

it's and it's learning from him and following the statutes, but not just, uh, not just obeying his commandments, but also to extend that out into the love for others. Which is why the second part is to... He says the great second is just like it. You should love your neighbor as yourself. Oh, so I probably that's how they relate.

**Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Tom** Oh, so that's so funny that you say that because I actually had to write a definition of a disciple for a recent paper, and I pulled that up because, um, based on a few scriptures, Matthew, 16:24 comes to mind. If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me, take my yoke upon you and learn from me. Matthew, 11:29. the Apostle John, wrote the one who says he abides in him himself to walk in the same manner He walked. And so for me, a disciple is someone that sacrificial follows, humbly learns from and walks in relationship with Jesus.

**Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**Tom** I think it's with a follower, you look at the fruit, especially if it's someone that you that you know that you've seen a life change. Um, I think it's evident in how they carry themselves. It's evident in how they lead others. It's evident in how they relate to their family and co workers. It's, to steal another quote, it's not just what they say it's what they actually do. It's not enough just to spout the word and to quote Scripture. It's another thing to actually walk it out in humility and reverence for God. Did I just dance around that?

**Interviewer** Well, the I think being more specific about these are the actions you're saying the evidence. But what would their actions and behavior be?

**Interviewer** their actions and behavior would be, of a servant. I believe. They would know and how to extend grace that they would display faith in times of trouble and not discount God and his sovereignty. Um, that they would lead by example through humility. Um, have a repentant heart. I would say as well would be a good attribute, action of those who are following Christ. Ones that know themselves and kind of seek self improvement.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**Tom** Well, I think I just listed a few scriptures. So it does. It doesn't say... Well, actually does say you know, by these you they will know that you are my disciples. I just the scripture. Just the address just split my mind. But yes, it does.

**Q9 What does the "family of God" mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the term family of God mean to you?

**Tom** The family of God? That's a That's a good question. The family of God, um, I would say is the body of believers operating unity, but, you know, that doesn't necessarily mean uniformity. It's just that that the family of God are those that confessed faith in Christ ...that with Jews in there, we got Messianic Jews. I'm sorry. I'm going down a different path now... Um, family of God are those that, um, I would say, have been called and responded to the call and accepted sonship or daughtership into the kingdom.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**Tom** One, actually, really would be, walking out in the identity of Christ, of the image of God, knowing that reading in Genesis, knowing that we are truly created in the image of God, knowing that God doesn't make mistakes. So an attribute of the family of God would be that, uh, they know who they are. They know whose they are. They know that they were, you know, divinely created for a purpose. I would say rest in identity.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity?”

**Tom** Biblical unity. Well, I think of Paul and Ephesians 4, when he talks about the maturing of the body of Christ. It's kind of back to what I answered a little bit before that. It's not necessarily uniformity. We all come from, you know, different walks of life. Different, even religious denominations. Um, but I think there's something that we can unify around and that is that you know that Christ is Lord, um, man, that's a tough question. Biblical unity.

**Interviewer** Well, this isn't in my questions but to clarify...Does Scripture tell us what biblical unity should be?

**Tom** I think of different, you know, some of Paul's letters where it really highlights the marks of a true Christian. The scripture is escaping me on the marks of a true Christian. Does that mean if you act like this, then we're all in unity? I don't I still think so.

**Interviewer** it is an acceptable answer to say I don't have an answer.

**Tom** I don't have I don't have a good answer to that. I'm trying to reference what Paul wrote in Ephesians 4 about, you know, uh, maturing in Christ to be to become unified. It's all it's all escaping me right now, but yeah.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**Tom** Mm. Okay. I think we have definitely strong characteristics in the area of love. We love each other well and I think that's I think that is a unifying attribute. You know, if we can love each other well, we can get through other things. Well, um, there is there is a consumer mentality. I would say that and there's also a I would say there is a lack of unity in the thinking

that it's a large church and somebody else will do it. There's a there's a lack of unity in the idea of servanthood. Um, you know, because it's they feel like it's not really serving the Lord, it's volunteering and doing the church's job for them is a is a common theme, I feel maybe more at the bigger campus at Tampa campus. Um, but that's a tough one, because especially in times like this, um, it seems people are easily offended and not willing to be receptive to other's points of view and that could tear it the unity fabric for sure, cause people to, you know, leave the church for what I'll consider unnecessary reasons. Um, because it shows a lack of willingness to sit and listen and love one another. But I think biblically there is, when the culture bleeds into the biblical teaching is where there's problems and sometimes the culture outweighs sound doctrine. And that's where the disunity comes in.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28:18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28.18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**Tom** Absolutely. It wasn't if you want to. It was it was an order and it was some pastor on staff broke it down for me and it's as you go, which was very uh, which was eye opening, which is, you know, it's not just it's not saying you have to go somewhere and do it. It's, uh, you know, and especially in church today, every nation is in our neighborhood. We don't have to go far. If the Lord sends us, absolutely, we go. But it's yeah as we go, we're making disciples. It's kind of like, you know, being evangelists. You know, the word Evangelism is just to share the gospel. And then so yeah, every believer I believe is an evangelist, but there's a there's a stigma on, you know, evangelism is just those people that stand out on the street corner with a microphone and talk to people. It's like, well, that's not what it is, you know, just sharing the gospel and sharing, you know, the goodness and faithfulness of God to others, it's making a disciple, making disciples is for everyone That's for all players.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28:18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Tom** I would say. A disciple, not the disciple. Okay. Like the disciple-er?

**Interviewer** Yeah. That's an answer to the question.

**Tom** Got it. Okay. So a disciple should be able to, I believe. Yeah. What's the word I'm looking for Be a kind of a motivated self learner, but also be able to pour into others and also be able to receive from others meaning It's the Paul Barnabas Timothy model. You know that there's someone you should feel received assuming pouring into you then then you should be, uh, willing and equipped to pour into others. There's also just that self learner component of it as well.

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28:18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Tom** In word, yes. In action, not so much. Meaning, um, there are sects of believers at the Crossing that get it. And that that you know, here's the problem. I don't think people understand that what they are doing is discipling. I don't think a pod leader at Ironman who, you know, engages with the men at his table and ask questions and keeps in touch with them throughout the week, and, you know, sends some scripture in, like... I don't think he sees himself as a discipler. They just think that I'm a pod leader. And so I think it loses its, you know, discipling, it could be in servant leading as well. Wherever we're placed we can be discipling. I think it's again, it's another also word I'm looking for, but it's ...

**Interviewer** You mentioned culture. Could be described is there's a culture at the Crossing church. Each church probably has one. Right?

**Tom** Right, Right. Yeah, I think again, I think they I think they get it. I just don't think they think they're applying it unless there just hit with a with the title of You are a disciple maker. It's almost like if I'm helping someone in a marriage, you know? But I'm not a re-engage facilitator that I'm not really a marriage help. It's just It's kind of like that. I don't know how to categorize that,

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22:39-40 asks of believers?

**Tom** I think that has to do with servanthood. I think it has to do with, whether locally, regionally, I think it has more to do with those in need and not, um, placing the focus around you. I had a really good answer to this, and it just slipped my tongue. Yeah, that's tough, right? You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I think a lot of people don't love themselves well, so they don't know how I love their neighbors well.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Does the directive in that passage have a limited scope?

**Tom** No, I don't, because when it says on these two commandments depend all the law in the prophets. So it's just saying that everything's hangs here. So, maybe the limited scope would be within the boundaries of God's commandments. But even then if you go outside of his commandments, there's grace through repentance and everything.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Tom** I think the heart is there. I think again the action piece is lacking. I'm only speaking from one campus. There's a lot of talk and no action because, love your neighbor as yourself. Okay, well, that means you pastors, you do that. There's that culture of, yeah, that sounds good...you do that. I've got other stuff I gotta do. I remember a few years ago, Pastor Greg teaching about evangelism before we were hosting the Revive thing, and it's like, you know, Pastor, you go out and talk to people, [and he says] you know, *you* go out and talk, you know. So maybe it's [that]

we think we're equipping, but maybe just people aren't receiving it like we think they are. Or maybe it's just the same people over and over again. Participating in everything.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** When you consider number of disciples that are evident at the Crossing Church, what do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church?

**Tom,** Well, I would consider everyone who was involved in the group Life Ministries to be discipled or disciple-making for sure. Um so if you look at that, that's over 1000 people. I think that's healthy, I think that's good. Who knows beyond that how that effects their families, You know, it could be a ripple effect that we just don't see right now. What I don't know is, those that are online, how are they being reached and discipled? Because I know there's people that just jump from pastor to pastor to get a good word, but are they really being discipled? I don't know. And right now, that's a majority of our audience, you know?

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Tom** I would say we provide a lot of opportunities. And a lot of resource is for people to get plugged in and become disciples. Because when I think of disciples I think of a lifelong learner. Meaning you're learning, you're serving, you're sacrificial serving. I believe there's a lot of opportunities here at the Crossing church. I believe we do have a lot of resource, a lot of different ministries and a lot of different leaders.

From the teaching team, we hit it often. From the resources and the ministries that we offer it's good buffet for people to get plugged in and a lot of different ways to...and if people don't want to be, you know, kind of be the gray man. There's gray man ministry, so you can get plugged in, and you just kind of sit back and receive until you're ready to really dive in. So I think we have a bevy of opportunities to get plugged in.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

I would say it very well. You know, it wasn't until I got here, I was going to a nondenominational church in Tennessee, and it was, nothing against that church, but there was not a lot of equipping going on there. There was less opportunities, like like I mentioned before, compared to what we have here. And because of the love and the care that the staff and the leaders had here, it made me want to be a part of that. And I think that once you get drawn into that through something as simple as the love and the care piece, now you're in. And then you begin to surround yourself with people who know more than you. And for me, that was a driving force, like okay, this guy knows more than me. I'm gonna study more, be in the Word more so that next time I'm the life group, I can quote scripture like he does. And so it is the iron sharpening iron model really to a "T."

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages? Would there be a difference?

**Tom** Yeah, it would be a disciple manufacturing machine. Well, I mean yeah, I don't know how to answer that. That's a lot. How would they behave? I think it would be... I think it would draw... I think people are looking for authenticity. I think people who are, especially non believers, are looking for people who are not just speaking the word, but actually walk it out. If we were to grab hold of this and actually walk it out, um, it wouldn't just be numbers exponentially growing, it would be the quality of the people that would not just change your neighborhood, it would literally change and affect change in Tampa in this region. If we behaved like that, God's favor would pour out on this place. And he would say, I see what you're doing there. I see what you're doing there.

**Q23 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?**

Covered in previous answer

**Q24 Have you ever disciplined anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever disciplined anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**Tom** Okay, so I was asked to help lead our discipleship program, the Saved class. It was discipleship focus class on salvation, what that meant what that looked like. And I was asked to grab two or three guys and go through an eight week process. And so I did that, and we did, we met every single week. We went through all of the material. Everything was not just biblical but extra biblical, you know, oriented with videos and other books to help enhance, you know, the discipleship experience. Um, and, you know, the outcome of that was just a deepening relationship with Christ with other fellow believers, which I mean, it was phenomenal because you saw the power of God's word and understanding of his word and what it truly means to receive the gift of salvation. And once you see these men get it, it lit a fire in them to want to go and be disciple makers. Yeah, it was good.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a new believer?

**Tom** Oh, gosh. This is right up my alley. Are you serious? Did you just ask me that question? When I...no, God bless my in-laws because they're first generation believers. They didn't know what to do. But they knew I didn't profess to believe in Christ. I wasn't an atheist. I didn't *not* believe that there was a God. I just didn't do anything with God, right? And so when they led me through the sinner's prayer and they said, yeah, you're saved! And they gave me a devotional that they heard was good. And they're like, good luck! And so, um, being able to truly...hopefully that when somebody says that prayer and there's a true heart change and there's



a motivation that wells up inside you to want to be better because of what you just confessed. But if you don't grab that person right away and plug them in with a mentor or somebody just walk through basic stuff... hey, read the book of John this week and let's talk next week. Actually, having questions for this new believer. Hey, who's been praying for your salvation? Great. Let's call them right now. Like having those things that just solidify that this is a big deal, to keep that motivation, that fire going. Because I read that devotional a couple days and it sat on my shelf for years after that. I didn't know what to do. I didn't have anybody to walk through with me. I didn't know what questions to ask. I'm not blaming anyone; I'm just saying I didn't even know what questions to ask. Um, so having that pipeline to get someone immediately plugged into this is huge.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**Tom** You know, people have a lot of trust issues. Um, that's a tough one. I think that's huge. Trust is big, especially, I think, even more so now, people so skeptical about, you know... Are you in this for you? And especially churches, people think they just want your money, you know? So I mean, I've heard that for years before I was even in the church. They just want your money. They don't care about the law. And so trust is a huge factor is but the disciple-er has to be, you know, patient and loving and extending grace through that. They should be firm. Just not forceful, because that's gonna, I think that just pushes people away and makes them trust you less. Trust is a big issue, for sure. I think trust comes with the title, though, I think people trust especially if they're new, they trust you. Oh, you're a pastor. Okay? I trust you. Rather than oh, you're just a prayer partner? There's a difference there, you know?

**Q27 Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?**

Omitted

## **Charles\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**Charles** 62

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ?

**Charles** 7

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been discipled? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**Charles** I would say I've been disciple did by my parents and that the knowledge that they had to be able to train me up in the ways of the Lord. Gave me guidelines off how to seek the Lord and how to live my life according to the Word and their limited knowledge. Because in their era they basically depended on pastors to tell them everything and to teach them instead of them learning for themselves. So, that made the discipleship probably more limited because you were always waiting on a teacher or a pastor to teach anything rather than going in the word of God, studying it for yourself.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** I've got a set of verses here, so express yourself. So looking at Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**Charles** Justice, you know. I think that I think it's Scripture of discipleship that the Lord is telling us how we're supposed to teach. We're supposed to start a sui learned the world. We're supposed to pass that down, which I think happened as well as my parents knew how on our family. Then we did the same thing with our kids. Then our kids were doing that with their kids. I think the more that you know about the Lord combined with your experiences with them that you're able to pass down more. I would think that the life you live in front of them speaks loud as your words do. So, I think that a lot of the discipleship is or yeah, probably up to this point, our life has been more seen than taught.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** And then you would look at Matthew 22:36-38. How does that passage relate to Deuteronomy 6:1-9?

**Charles** Yeah, I was bad already. I would just say that you know that it's in the Old Testament. He's given commands of laws and rules of the Lord. If you follow him, then there's results that you can expect and, then in Matthew, he's talking about the law that God is talking about the New Testament is that you know it is a different than the Old Testament. It talks about the love that you have for God has to be the primary thing. In the love you have for one another has to be

the two big things that you fulfill this entire old law. In the Old Testament, those laws were broken down in different categories that God demanded that people are to live by. Then he tells you the New Testament. If you keep these Two Commandments, you kept them all.

**Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**Charles** ? Yeah, I would say and I was taught this a long time ago, but I think that sum it up in one word. One sentence would be that when a person is fully trained, he'll be like his teacher. So, a disciple once he's fully trained, regardless, if it's correct or wrong, he'll be like the teacher.

**Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**Charles** So I would say, a disciple that learns properly from the teacher becomes like the teacher.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**Charles** Yes

**Q9 What does the “family of God” mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the term family of God mean to you?

**Charles** I guess it would mean everybody that's accepted the Lord. That's in my realm of conversation, behavior time, any anything, any interaction that I have with anybody in the family of God and those out of it would still be in the family of God. It just might not have direct connection with them, but it be just born-again believers care.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**Charles** I know what they should be. There should be that we love one another and that's because the Bible says, if one is a true disciple, the way that they'll know we belong to him is the love that we show one to another. So I know that that says to me that the line in the sand that God is saying is that if you're a true disciple of Jesus Christ and the way people will know, it is the love that you have one to another, that you showed one to another.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?

**Charles** Probably a really true godly submission, I think. I think so many people have different opinions and different viewpoints on things, but I don't think that has to break up unity. I think

you could be unified and not have the same opinion. I think you can have unity without being combined, being exactly like somebody else. I would say, because even in a marriage, you have two people that's married and they become one and they don't, like me and Donna, will be married 43 years since Thursday and we don't agree on everything and we don't have the same opinions about things, but we're one, and I think that's the same thing that can happen in the body of Christ. I think it's healthy to have different opinions and have come from different angles and then come to conclusion. I think what makes you unified is that you can come to a common conclusion, even though you might not agree totally on the direction it's going are from where it originates from. But you can come to a conclusion that you can have know where you can function in the conclusion that you come to and that therefore bringing unity to what you do.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**Charles** I think I would have to probably only talk about it from the staff side because I have more interaction with staff than I do the other part of the body here. So I would stay staff wise that unity is typically looked at of having to agree. I don't think that there is a biblical mandate for it.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28:18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28.18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**Charles** Yes, I do. I definitely believe it does.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28:18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**Charles** Omitted

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28:18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Charles** Omitted

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22:39-40 asks of believers?

**Charles** Well, I mean, to me, it's a commandment. You know that God is saying that for Him. Then you have to love your neighbor as yourself and, uh, and that, you know, the Bible talks about no greater love, hath a man. They lay down his life for his friend. I know in this particular statement right here, because I know what followed these verses, who is my neighbor and so I think that God is really teaching us something. Really clearly there about the nature of God and that's what he wants our lives to reflect is the nature that He functions in.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Does the directive in that passage have a limited scope?

**Charles** No, I don't.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**Charles** I think that there's a knowledge of it. There's an understanding of the knowledge of it. I think the difference is really being able to walk that out. I think not just anybody else here myself that you can have an understanding of something and you can know. But then when you walk out the same thing that you understand to me is the more difficult part than just having an understanding.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** When you consider number of disciples that are evident at the Crossing Church, what do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church?

**Charles,** I think most of my interactions are with staff and a good amount of the body here. But I would say that if we're going to talk about Jesus himself being the teacher that I would say that we all struggled pretty much with being true disciples. I think that discipleship is much more crucial and much more defined than what it's used in the church. I think the church uses it. It just could be sometimes become a very common word. Things just used in a teaching session are sometimes flippantly used as a word that just describes anybody that's a born again Christian. But I think it's way more than that. I think true discipleship is when we look like Him.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**Charles Charles** I would say I have tried to function in that as a disciple maker. I've tried to do that with other people with, especially the guys that worked with me, they work in my department. I probably don't do it great, but I really do try to present to them the true gospel of Jesus and what He expects out of us and how we're supposed to reflect Him and be like Him and give them tools in the Bible to be able to do that. But I think discipleship is probably just way more crucial to becoming an effective follower of Christ than what may be the church in general believes it is.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

I would say probably that I haven't been engaged with anybody.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages?

**Charles** I think we don't get to see. We probably don't see that not only not in the church, we don't see it in our homes, you know, lived out like this. If we were to live like that, I think we look just like Jesus. I think if we did, I think the world would see us through a different set of lens on what they see is now. I think that the reason for part of the failure in the world around us is the fact that they haven't seen a church that reflects Jesus Christ. They haven't seen a bride. That's as the Bible describe that has been set aside this pure That's white. That's been that's a reflection of who Jesus is. I think that's what the world is desperately in need of. I think what they've done is they've seen a church that has presented itself.. Wow, if the church had a different idea of what the church should look like to the world, and it pursued that. I think that it's not interesting to the world.

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** Now, following question is, what effect do you think the believers would have the people around us, they lived by these passages?

**Charles** Omitted

**Q24 Have you ever discipled anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever discipled anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**Charles** Yeah, Like I said, I would definitely did with my Children and with my co workers, the workers that work in my department and all the jobs I've had. The method I would use, I just tried to point them to the life that Jesus lived and the things that He commanded. He said about what The body of Christ should look like, what it should reflect, and there's so many things in the world like even the Bible says that you know My Word about hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against you those type of things, that that's all through the scriptures that if we apply them to our lives and we walk in those things. I think it just starts to change what we look like into what Jesus looks like. I think that's the method that I've tried to use. I don't think I'm great at it because I think it takes a normal, enormous discipline to stay in the Scripture and be fresh on it and then be able to not only explain that to somebody else, but also live it out in front of them so they don't only hear you, but they see it.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a believer?

**Charles** . I wish I'd have been talked more about the fruit of the spirit. I was more taught the gifts of the spirit and and just trying to live right as acceptable before God. I lived scared. I didn't understand grace properly. I definitely was never disciple about the fruit of the spirit and in the

realms that I was brought up in, that was it was acceptable not to have the fruit. But, it wasn't acceptable not to walk in the gifts.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**Charles** I think it's huge because what makes it effective is a person not only teaches you and but they walk it through with you and you can see it in their lives. Like I said before, I think when the disciples fully trained, he'll look just like his teacher. You don't want to look like somebody that's not following the Lord. They're only talking about it.

**Q27 Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?**

Omitted

## **George\_Transcription**

### **Q1 What is your age?**

**Interviewer** What is your age?

**George** I am 42.

### **Q2 At what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ as Lord?**

**Interviewer** And at what age did you become a believer in Jesus Christ?

**George** Right around 21 years old.

### **Q3 Have you ever been discipled? If so, can you describe that experience?**

**Interviewer** Have you ever been discipled? And if so, can you describe that experience?

**George** Um, I would say my own answer, right. It would be, Yes, I have been disciple and I walked very close to what we were caught.

### **Q4 What do you think the passage in Deut. 6:1-9 means for believers?**

**Interviewer** I've got a set of verses here, so express yourself. So looking at Deuteronomy 6:1-9. What do you think that means for believers?

**George** It's really great. I think you know. Yes. We got to keep his commandments. I mean, simply put it, that's very simple. I mean, I'm supposed to support of the statutes. I mean, used to put it keeps coming and put it on the tab. It'll be hard, you know, operate out of this. Out of the statute from them. And I don't know. They know the bible services rules, but I mean there is more from your relation with something that you live up. Come on, waking up every morning, brushing your teeth, You should do this. Every single flow out of these out of this place of being, you know, a son. You know. So, I guess brushing your teeth is not the perfect example. But typically, everybody does that without even thinking. You know, you get up, you wash your face, but your teeth kind of deal. So, this is how we should flow. In the sense, it should be a part of our daily routine, our daily lives. I don't even like to call it a task because it should be relationship. And I think it is, I'm sure, because if you talk about I love you God, you know how we should love him with all our heart? A lot. So, it is a definitely our conviction, but it's you have to listen if you make it a relational condition.

### **Q5 How does that passage relate to Matt 22:36-38?**

**Interviewer** And then you would look at Matthew 22:36-38. How does that passage relate to Deuteronomy 6:1-9?

**George** . I mean, it is 100% the same. It's the older than New York, the new and the old. 100% of same thing, you know, in short, but to keep the commandments the same thing that he's spoken. The word of God was spoken out in the beginning. It's still follows through. We've been through in the very first book of the New Testament. There's nothing safe.



**Q6 How would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?**

**Interviewer** So how would you describe the attributes of a person that is a disciple?

**George** I would say they submit. So, it's a way. Gosh, I mean, I would say, Yeah, I would say that they would submit to authority. I mean, I don't know. I guess I've been answering the question. I'm almost trying to think of a specific disciple or something to that way. I mean by that, this is how may be I'll disciple somebody. So let me just maybe get that they would honor. They will submit to the authority they would honor God, in His word, and they would, I think at the end game is they would replicate themselves and make more disciples. This is Matthew 28 . He didn't experts so that they would go and make disciples. So I mean, I can answer that question, but I can't I don't think I could do that one in short. I mean, it's a process it takes It just takes so much. I want to say it takes so much time, but it kind of does. Because I'm still on the site. Like I haven't arrived. I don't think I ever will. I don't want to so I stay learning, I guess, or you should. But it's when I think about, like for us, when I when I grabbed a disciple, I grabbed someone that more than likely has been overlooked themselves. And then I would try to draw out what's inside of them based on who God said they are as a son, right? We were just reading through and a line that identity back in him or her more than likely him. But then, like within our congregation or our church, because we have a vision for the church, I mention a purpose. I tried to align this disciple to get them to. So, I would then try to show him or try to develop him on biblical principle, but also kind of vision of the house so that we can continue to carry what God has put forth for us in the at the cross it. That's not the only thing, it's not a Crossing agenda or like the Crossing Bible College. It's not bad. I mean, it's all people principle, but I don't know, I hope I'm answering your question.

**Q7 What actions and behaviors would you say would be evident in a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Describe the actions and behaviors that you would say would be evident in a disciple.

**George** Fruits like I have to see fruit for the love of God, have to see fruit. If I disciple him or her well, get him like him. I have to see fruit, man. I just got to have something else, man. Have to be at all. I was in bananas. I haven't had a delicious green apple. Perfectly, I think. Yes, I would think I have to see food. I have to see food off all sorts.

**Q8 Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?**

**Interviewer** Does the Bible state what it takes to be a disciple?

**George** 100%

**Q9 What does the “family of God” mean to you?**

**Interviewer** And what does the term family of God mean to you?

**George** Yeah, I don't know that. Not that I haven't heard it that way, but, I mean, I guess I'll answer thinking that this what you mean. I think the family for me, the family of God is, his

brothers and sisters. Enquiries unified, um, for the cost, you know, for the cost. Meaning further, king God, like we're family. So, I say that I don't say the family of God. I say, you know, I'll always say to someone that that's not my blood brother per se. I said, we've been purchased by the blood. No, let's not get all crazy. So I'm saying I always call family my personal family. So I'll always say, family, you know. So that's, that's how I would say the family of God.

**Q10 What would be the attributes of the “family of God” in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** And what would the attributes of the family of God be in your opinion?

**George** Well, that's a great question. I think of that like a tree. Almost. There's just so many branches to it, right. Yeah, multiplication replication, unification of this. There's just so much we wish to see even greater fruit in more ways. Outreach. You know, kingdom focus. You should see. I mean, I think about the full ministry. I think about the different gifts. We should see all this thing we should see truly the battle manifest right in front of this. I mean, with that, with a unified body, we should be seeing exactly what the Bible tells you. See, miracles, signs, wonders which you see unwavering faith interpretations, processing, healing some in your name, That's what That's it.

**Q11 What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?**

**Interviewer** What do you think encompasses the idea of “biblical unity”?

**George** You looking like scripture have the idea, as you understand what the Bible has said about unity. What? What do you think that idea is? What? What is it trying to tell us? Yeah, the dream. I mean, I think about this one more? I mean, I always think about united in Christ. I think that way, get we've been grafted. So, I think that we're even unified to something winning people to, but no. So what you simply put we're unified in Christ way are one. Because of what He did on the cross.

**Q12 How would you describe the demonstration of biblical unity by believers of The Crossing Church?**

**Interviewer** How would you describe The Crossing Church when you think of biblical unity?

**George** Well, I mean, I think it's the same way. The question you just asked me. At the Crossing Church, I think by together by helps each other helping each other. Staff, I would say, Crossing two different ministries and helping each other. Kind of like the event we have today, Turkey's, and we have different people with Pastor McAniff. It was just people helping people. I think we do that well. I think when we do events and outreach, we come together on impacting community, large groups. I mean, there's just so many different vehicles. Life groups there. The group helps us to connect in such a greater such a great way. I think even within our staff we're always trying to connect with each other to see how if someone does something better. like I would tell Wade if I need something, you know that he knows how I feel. He could do better, or Michael. So, way connect. I think utilizing humility. In situations like our greatest, we can almost something. I think we do it well, I think we could always get better, though I don't think it should stop things.

Sometimes we do. We can stop and say, Oh, you know, like we're good. But, you know, if we've gotten good, we can get better, I guess.

**Q13 As you consider Matt 28:18-20, would you believe that this applies to all believers?**

**Interviewer** As you consider Matthew 28.18-20, Would you believe that that applies to all believers?

**George** Yes. Says all authority in heaven, things going to make the site.

**Q14 In view of Matt 28:18-20, what should a disciple be expected to do?**

**Interviewer** So, in view of that, what should a disciple be expected to do?

**George** Yes. I think we should making disciples, all of us.

**Q15 Do you believe the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 28:18-20?**

**Interviewer** Do you believe the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**George** Omitted

**Q16 What do you think the passage in Matt 22:39-40 asks of believers?**

**Interviewer** What do you think the passage, Matthew 22:39-40 asks of believers?

**George** What is it? Asking believers to love unconditionally so hard on defense.

**Q17 Does the directive in Matt 22:39-40 have a limited scope in your opinion?**

**Interviewer** Does the directive in that passage have a limited scope?

**George** You're no, Uh I guess this is my, own version. No. But your own version? No, I would know. It's unconditional love, Period.

**Q18 Do you think the believers at The Crossing Church understand Matt 22:39-40?**

**Interviewer** Do you think the believers at the Crossing Church understand that passage?

**George** I don't know. I mean, I would say, that's a hard question. Only because I know a lot of people that I know do. But then just honest. Then at times when I see tough times and I can't speak for everyone, of course, but I see, like the election. I see Kobe. I see the BLM, sick choices, all the stuff, you know, so exploited, exploiting all these situations. We don't talk about Him. Now it's over, blast each other and get out of character. So I think, I would say no. I think it is conditional love, Even though the Bible is clear on being on time. Yeah, So, guys, I don't know. Sometimes you think you knew people and you didn't after some post.

**Q19 When you consider the number of disciples of The Crossing Church, what do you think is the discipleship condition of the Church?**

**Interviewer** When you consider number of disciples that are evident at the Crossing Church, what do you think is the condition of the Crossing Church?

**George**, Overall condition. So, you consider, as you look around and say, Okay, I see ex member of design. What does that tell you about Crossing Church? And it's going to be your definition with samples. So see, I can speak at South Shore mostly because here in Tampa or even Plant City, I would I think I would have outside of what I know. Life groups outside of like, Iron Man and all those things and the things that I do know for sure or run through relationship. I can see those things are moving and they are the discipleship vehicles to a certain degree. I mean, I even think that serving is a form of discipleship. If you get the right person meeting, so I can say I can speak for South Shore because I'm there. I would say not 24 7, but close. I would say that's the culture that we try to cultivate is the discipleship culture in every aspect. You have to try to grab your leaders and continue to be born into them, a vision that's coming from the house here. So, if I would have simply answer that from me seeing a staff, I would say that we're doing well. Gosh, I think I might forget your question, I said again, Maybe set it up. This is very healthy. I would say very healthy. I think that my only one thing that I wish we could do better somehow is how to grab the people that say yes, I want Jesus and start a process where we can just capture them, lock him up, bring them, take him home with you, you know, kind of deal. So, I think we're missing something, that there's a door open still or there's a little loop.

**Q20 How do you think The Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the Crossing Church does in preparing people to be disciples?

**George** I think outside of our life groups and you know, the different classes that we have, I think they're all forms of discipleship. I use all those vehicles. I don't know how intentional. We have something to say. Hey, this is a discipleship process, you know? So, I don't think we have that. You know where someone could say, Hey, so when someone asked me. Well, how do you disciple? I'll tell them things is how we provide all discipleship avenues or vehicles for your vehicles. But then there's a disciple of the process that I used with guys that I walked with for nine months. But I'm looking for them for higher capacity. Not everybody gets to the higher level capacity where they can leave more. So there's got to be something in the middle to kind of connect them, Yeah, I just got saved to man, I need more, but I'm definitely going to go up here. I think we could use something. A big fat pot right there. Cooking.

**Q21 Do you believe the Church has done a good job in helping you become a disciple?**

Yes. I mean, with the Bible College, for one. You know, being free. I'm at the end of that. That's a blessing. I mean, even though it's not like a million dollars, you know, still a blessing. The bottom line, that's for me. I mean, even being not my style, the process is from connect to leadership training. Becoming a life group leader, co leader, life group leader, Iron Man partly to fear outing platform teachings. Helping me to be set free. All those things I think have blessed me. But now, even being on staff, being allowed to be in the Bible College and read different books and materials that I provided through the purchase of the church, walking with leaders, all those things. But then I'm weird. I watched people not learn from them. So, I can't. I just if I'm around good leadership, I'm always looking. Added to your basket. Yes.

**Q22 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?**

**Interviewer** How do you think the believers of the Crossing Church would behave if they believed and lived by the passages?

**George** Oh, which we didn't live black messages way. We probably wouldn't have so many issues right now in the past stories that we're in right now because they would have been voting biblically instead of emotionally, more so morally right? Correct. But anyways, yes, I think that if we can get a hold of what to sonship means. I had a hard time with this because I did a lot of ministry for a long time. It works and pleasing man, and that's easy to do. Sometimes the deal always got a box to report to or you have a deadline to meet. But, if we were intentional, I think about teaching people what sonship really is. I think the rest because I now know and I've been revealed this truth. Wow, I'm actually now I've embraced it. I don't just read it. I know it. It's in my heart like a heart condition that I think all these other things kind of just come alive so I could read your Bible again for the first time. But like, for the first time, and then all this stuff connects, Um it's like no one really said, Hey, Hector, let's grab Deuteronomy six and Matthew, 22 Matthew 28. But when you read it, it changes your whole view. Because when I read it before, I wasn't. I wasn't I didn't consider myself a son. So that changed everything. Like now I understand meanings. This is my daddy explaining to me more about me because he loves me.

**Q23 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?**

**Interviewer** Now, following question is, what effect do you think the believers would have the people around us, they lived by these passages?

**George** Oh, yes. Out of apples and bananas in their lives, they would have What, man? It was just changed. They would. I think we walk around. I would say, Ah, lot of questions, not just at the Crossing, but in churches in America. They're like zombies. They're walking around, they're dead. They're like they're walking there. I don't want that show, but I've seen clips. They're like zombies. I've seen zombies in the past. I'm just confessing. But that we do. I think we're walking around there. I'm like, Dude, did you did you not just read today's devotional and not to say that? You know? You know I'm better because I'm not. But I'm in my eyes. I'm equal because I know I'm a son in your eyes. You might think I'm better because you haven't the truth. So, , do I think that they can, Man, I think life will change for them. Uh, and they would tap into I would say, resource is, you know, in a sense, that they never thought they had.

**Q24 Have you ever disciplined anyone? If so, describe the method you used.**

**Interviewer** Have you ever disciplined anyone? And if so, what method did you use?

**George** So I think I kind of use what, Like my old pastor. You should do. He took the time to walk with me, but I can't do that with everybody. So, I could only do that with a select group, because I know my time is limited. So, I realized that truth. And, so I think there's 25 hours in a day. I realized that I'm not going to burn the candle at both ends. Right. So, yeah, walking. I think intimately with people matters. I think relationship matter and we don't think we try to bypass it. Maybe for some but we don't spend the time to put forth efforts. Build, you know,

toward that end? So I would say the main thing is to try to build relationship for as long as it takes for me to do it outside of relationship. It's just I think that's the foundation. I try to go after the next phase of leaders that I know can lead in higher capacity the way that I'm trying to lead them now. They might not do it exactly like me, but I'm hoping that some of them would even do it better than me. So, that I walked with guys 12 of them for nine months, roughly. But I started off with, like, 17. And then out of those 17, I grabbed five amazing leaders, and that just kind of happened. Now every year we're in the fourth year getting ready to start praying 5 years. We walked with these guys and they helped me disciple them, and there's all sorts of things that we do to kind of separate. I hate to use this, but kind of not, to say they're not good enough but to separate the wheat from the tares. So, we all have to agree. They have to meet a certain criteria because that will separate the guys that don't really after it than the others. And then we walked with them from nine months. And then what we do is we teach them culture. We teach them vision from biblical principles with developed, teach to lead in different capacities, from classes to life groups to leading in specific areas of ministry of satellite campuses, where you can use all the help you can get because it's not a staff. So, we're always looking for these opportunities to develop these guys into a greater capacity ministry so they can lead and the cycle others. The gold is at the very end that their discipling others in some form. Whether they are community leader or they're teaching of some sort, or some other platforms. They're leading a big ministry that we're trying to launch, that we're engaged. We got a couple of leaders from them because others shifted, so we had to raise some other staff. We have the perfect leaders for that. So on and so forth. But there's that will take me a long time to explain how to do that. But I'm always looking for the higher capacity leader. That doesn't mean that they have to already be an amazing leader. Like I picked some serious dogs that don't even think they belong to the group. I like those guys who those turned out to be the best sometimes.

**Q25 If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish had happened/been offered to you as a new believer?**

**Interviewer** If you had a “do-over”, what do you wish who had happened or been offered to you as a believer?

**George** Monster question. I don't know. You know, for me personally, this is a personal I wish that someone would have taught me. Now Pastor didn't teach me how to be as a man how to be the head of my house. Dad and that group. I mean, it ruined me in different ways. I would say that if I would have started with sonship, maybe that would have. Could have probably helped me. But I felt more like a son to him at times because we had such a great mom, which is great. And I always had a relation with Father, but not until years later. But I think for me, I was how to leave my home better as a young man just being married. I didn't know. And I think better to answer the question better. I think we're still alone as leaders that people know certain stuff because we know the more because you think that you know about it. We could ask better questions in a way where they don't feel threatened and have to feel like they have to lie for some reason. Oh, yeah, I prayed every day. Two hours? Yeah, I read my bible, you know? You know, I mean, because, golly, I think I've been there, you know? I know of them so, I think I think that is a big deal not assuming that we know because that's one thing, man, I wish someone would

have taught me because I grew up in a broken home. And I think the relationship helps us connect to those things that you're like, You know what? This guy can probably benefit from this.

**Q26 How important do you think the “trust in the mentor” is in the discipleship process?**

**Interviewer** And how important do you think having trust in the disciple is in the discipleship process?

**George** The person assuming there's a disciple has to believe and how important is it that cycle trust disciple? I think that's huge. I think that's the has to happen. I mean, we're waiting, you know, like a leadership now Maxwell Blanchard he was once a blanket. Yeah, yes. It is so important to build the relationship. And again, I think we just we don't want to bypass it, but we almost do. I mean, who doesn't? Who doesn't want to get to the feeling slide. You know who doesn't want to be a millionaire today? You know, but like, we don't take the time. At times I would say we don't take the time to slow down. And those are the most important parts. Like I think about the relationships that I have people And now the trust that I have it happened with spending the times at a birthday party with marrying their daughters off. You know, sitting with them, you know. They really don't have time. You got to do this. But I know how to do this, showing up at their house, saying about them going to the hospital, Those moments I think are missed by leaders because we want an end result, and I think we'll get it. Maybe not as fast as we wanted. But when we get it, man, that guy's going to end up doing the same thing you did for him. He's going to model the same thing because more than likely, that guy disciple probably hasn't had relationship trust like that. Most guys I run into that security stuff, they really just don't have relations. Like I once did that with another man. It's weird to help him with the guy.

**Q27 Do you have a trusted person that you think could be/is a mentor to you?**

Omitted

### **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

### 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).