

The Strategic Discipleship Workbook

Session Three: Purpose

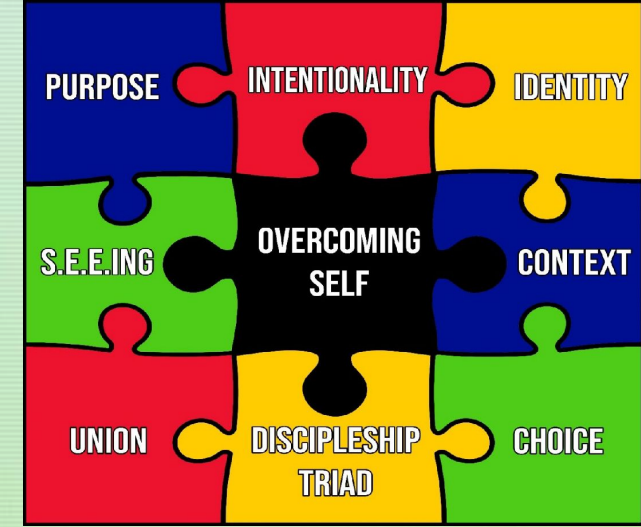
Pre-Course “Test”

■ Please record your answer the following:

1. What is Discipleship? _____

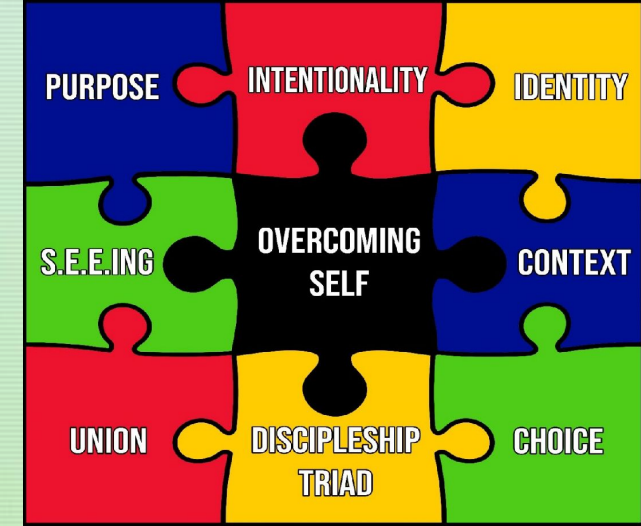
2. What constitutes “Strategic” Discipleship? _____

3. What are the components of Strategic Discipleship? _____



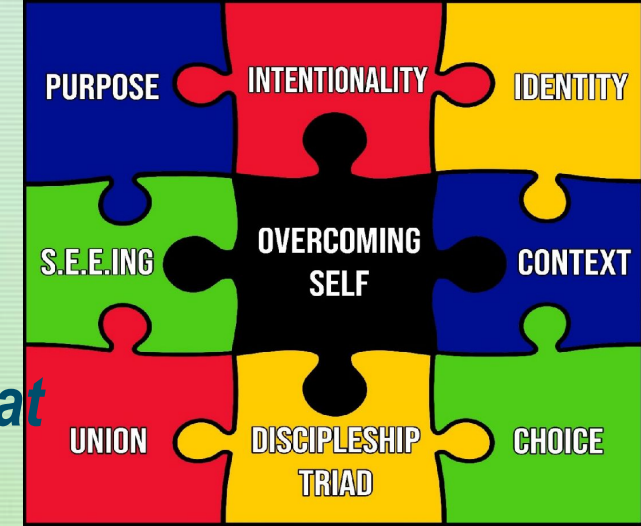
What Makes a Disciple Strategic?

A Strategic Disciple is one that has invested the required time to develop their discipleship quest to the degree that they have more than a vague or general idea about His intentions for your maturity into a Mature Son. It means that he/she has spent time in His Presence inquiring and receiving revelation about the eternal Identity He has assigned to him/her, and that he/she is actively, intentionally engaged in the transformation process to live their identity "...on earth as it is in Heaven." It means he/she has spent time in His Presence making an aligned Discipleship Plan to guide you in the pilgrimage from Spiritual Child to Mature Son of the Kingdom. It means that he/she has discerned His Purpose for their life and His Program of Operation active in the earth since its foundation, and His Purpose and Program are their "Why" for living. It means that their over-arching goal in life is fulfillment of the prophecy of Revelation 19:7, "Rejoice and be glad, **for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His Wife has made herself ready.**"



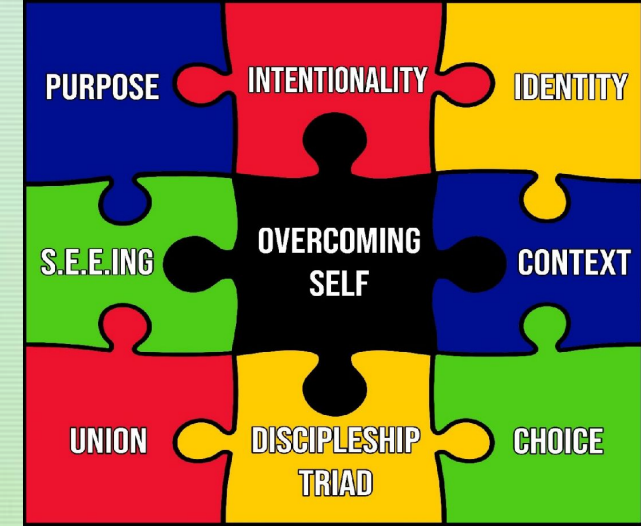
Purpose of Life in this Reality

- His constant concern: The Kingdom
- Read Matthew 4:23, Matthew 9:35, and Acts 1:3
- John 10:38: [T]hough you do not believe Me, ***believe the works, that you may know & believe*** that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.
- “It is illogical to think that He would live His life on earth with a particular intent and focus, and then continue that life in us with a different intent and focus.”
- Read “What If?” questions on pg. 25.
- Discuss this: “In **John 15:14-15**, Jesus made friendship with Him contingent upon two factors: 1) obedience to His commands, and, 2) knowing what our Master is doing. Connecting the two, it is reasonable to conclude that without knowing what He is doing, we have little hope of following His commands, and no claim on the title of ‘friend’ of the Master. Servants, yes. Friendship? Not without a clear vision of His purposes, and therefore the grand purpose for life. What if, apart from understanding His overall Program, our discipleship growth is capped at the ‘servant’ level?”



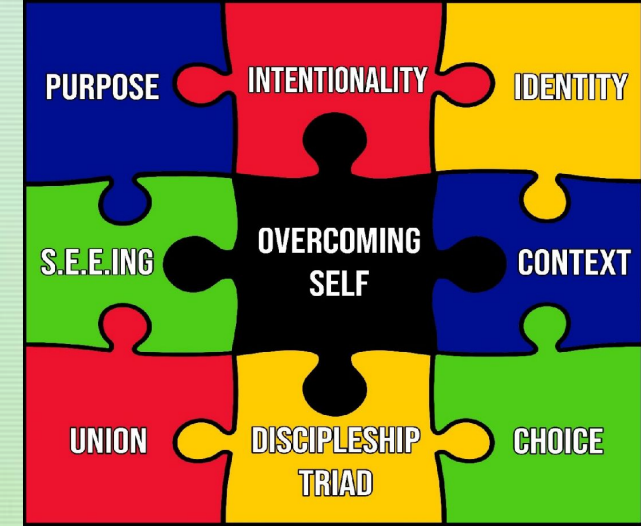
Day One: Everything Begins with “Why”

- Not a question, “Why?”, but a statement, “This is why.”
- “Why” provides meaning and a goal, contextualizes our suffering sacrifice, and motivates us to endure and embrace.
- “Why” helps us understand in Context what is vague and fuzzy around the edges.
- “Why” helps us decide “Yes, this!” and “No, not that!”
- “Why” connects cost to reward (cost/benefit), and inspires us to pay the cost—or not.
- “That which costs us nothing usually has a corresponding value.”
- Ecclesiastes 3:11, “He has put eternity in their hearts.”
- How are our Choices influence/determined by our understanding of “Why”?
- If we understand “Why,” and the cost/benefit is overwhelmingly favorable, what prevents us from paying the price?



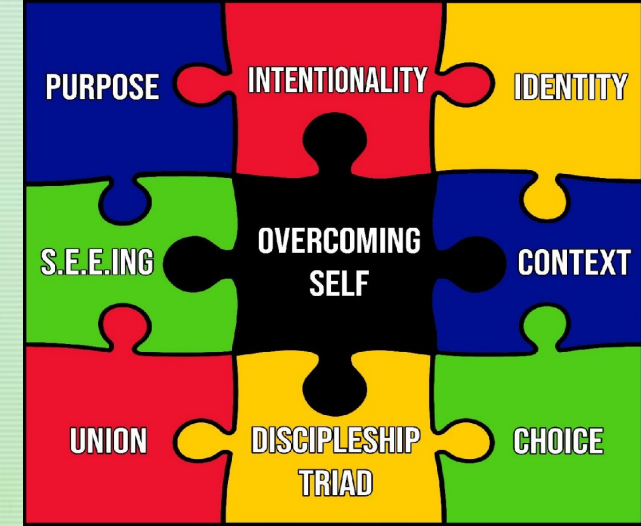
Purpose Starts Everything

- “Why” = Purpose
- “Intentionality” = On Purpose, with Purpose
- “Identity” = Revealed, Specific Purpose
- “Context” Framework/Structure of Purpose
- “Choice” = Exercising Purpose
- “Discipleship Triad” = Assembling Purpose Components
- “Union” = Ultimate Purpose
- “S.E.E.ing” = The Path to Purpose
- “Overcoming Self” = Chief Obstacle to Purpose



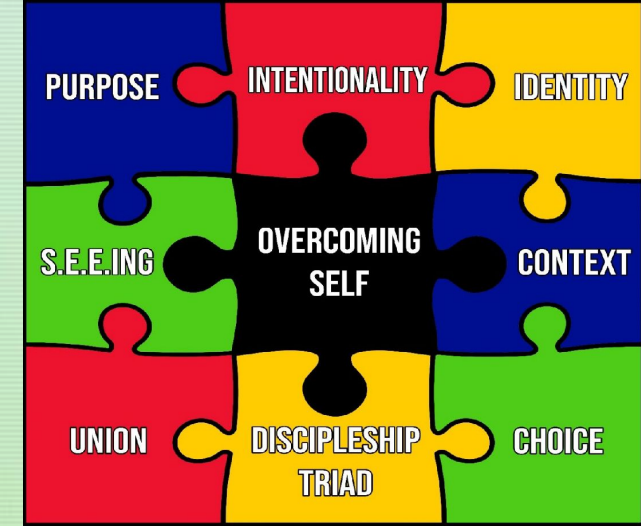
Day 2: EIM—Grasping God’s Program

- Papa’s actions are not only intentional, they are specific and targeted. His Program was established “before the FOTW.”
- **Romans 8:28**, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His purpose*.” That is a pre-test *assumption*, not post-test *sigh*!
- Your EIM becomes your assumption and therefore guides your actions and understandings.
- EIM means you have spent time/energy defining what success will look like when you become the *real* you; and, possess at least an outline of the steps of the journey.
- How does it change our life *Context* to know that this life is not about you, but rather about restoring a Kingdom to His Son?
- How does the principle of EIM relate/interact with the principle of “All things work together for good...*His purpose*”? If we could firmly grasp **Romans 8:28**, how would it change our discipleship experience?
- Explain, “Find the good then work the good.”

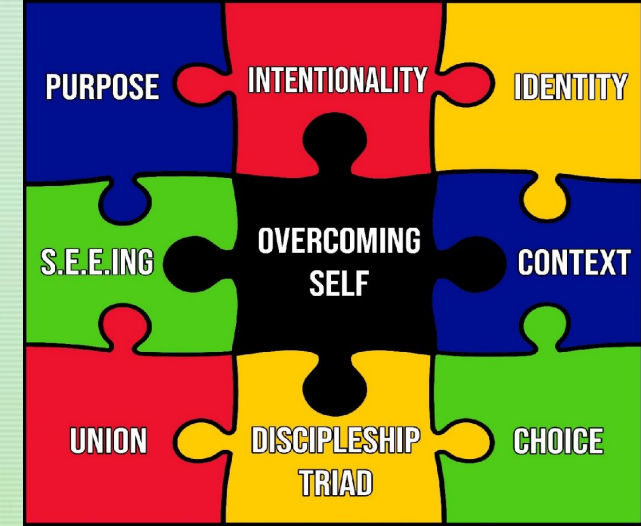
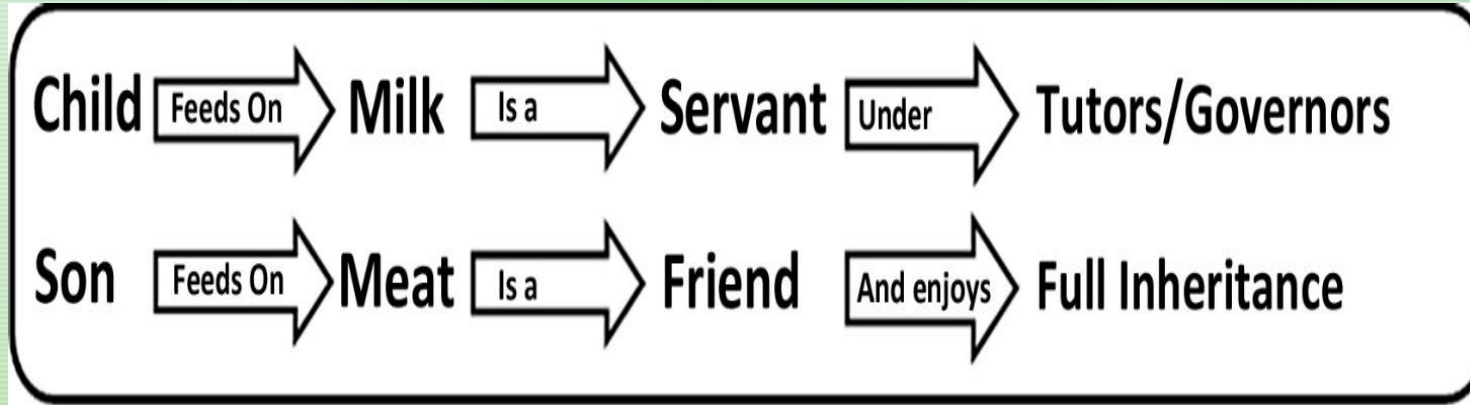


Day 3: From Child to Mature Son

- Intended growth movement is from Child to Mature Son (Gal. 4:3-7)
- What are differences between child & mature son responsibilities?
- Two differences between a how a child and mature son receive direction:
 1. Psalm 37:4 Principle: “**Delight yourself** also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”
 2. Psalm 103:7 Principle: “He made known His **ways** to **Moses**, His acts to the children of Israel.
- To expect to move from new hire to CEO is total self.
- Holding a ministry position in this life does not guarantee anything but your opportunity to learn.
- Full rights as heir to the family business belong to those who grow up & dedicate themselves to learning and transformation, and those whose loyalty to the King and His Kingdom supersedes even self-interest. That is why Overcoming Self is at the center of our purpose.
- **Galatians 4:7** connects heirship to sonship, rights to relationship, governing to growth. You may remain a child and remain in a servant status; you *may not* remain a child and expect to enjoy the full rights as an heir in the family business. You may work in the warehouse, but you may not sit in the Boardroom.



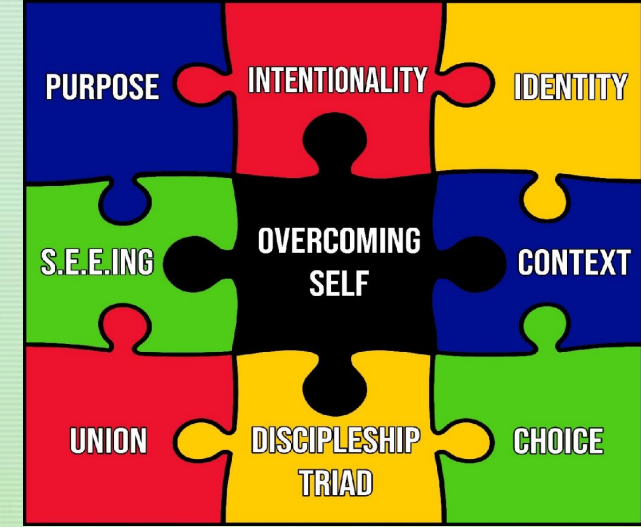
Growth Cycle



- Children know what Jesus did. Sons know what He is doing!
- Say “Amen” or “Oh, me...”! “If the disciples who sat with Jesus watching closely day-after-day had to reach a level of knowledge and experience to attain the level of ‘friend of the Master,’ (John 15:14-15) what arrogance leads us to believe that we can attend church once or twice a week, spend precious little time otherwise learning what the Master is doing, and still sit and sing full-voiced, “What a *Friend* We Have in Jesus”? It takes beyond first-principles knowledge to qualify as His friend. Of course, we remain His servants; but friendship is another, a higher level of relational achievement.” (L15-M, pg. 51)

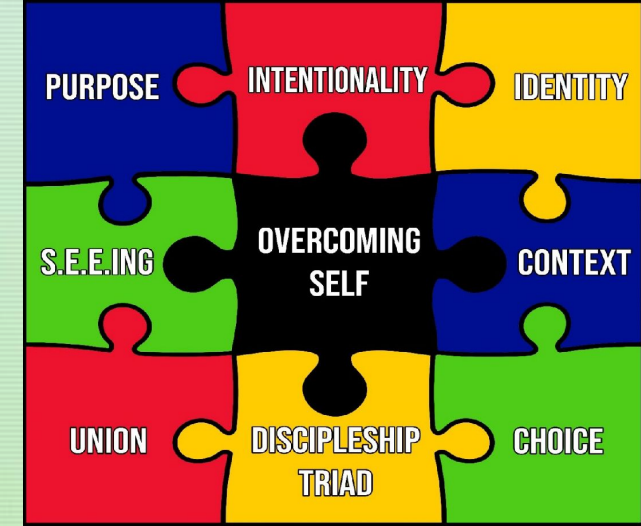
Day 4: Revelation 19:7—Making Ourselves Ready

- All who are in the Kingdom *will not* share equally in the responsibilities and roles (Matt. 25). Self-examination question: “To what do you aspire, and how willing are you to pay the price of ~~attaining?~~”
- What does this mean? “**Luke 19**...indicates that our ‘reward’ is awarded in terms of responsibility, not some frivolous, selfish motivation like the ‘How big is *your* mansion?’ question.”
- God supplies the learning environment; He has supplied the curriculum for instruction; He has even given us a brilliant coach. Like Jesus in **John 13:3**, Papa has put “all things into [our] hands,” and it is up to us to embrace the learning. The premise for both *The Last 15-Minutes* and this workbook assumes the purpose for this life is to prepare the Bride of Christ to rule beside Him in His Eternal Kingdom. That preparation does not happen by osmosis, nor is it passive, and it is accomplished in us by many, many Choices. We *must* have a vision for what we are to transform into *before* we can understand the choices before us. If life is a classroom—and it is—then awareness of the curriculum and syllabus gives us the context for understanding, not only the life we experience but also the whole stream of history. If we know that transformation into His image is the class curriculum; that learning His ways is the classwork; that meditation, prayer, study, and assimilation into His “Oneness” are the homework; and the trials and sufferings are the tests; then we can structure our efforts into a concerted master theory of our own plan and activity. Let’s do it, *and let’s call it*



Day 5: Transacting in the Master's Absence

- Luke 19:12-15, Jesus told us plainly why He was going away: To receive a Kingdom.
- Our experiences and training in Kingdom principles, values, ways, and character are for His benefit since we are to be His companion.
- There are very few things in life that are inherently precious as a commodity, and fewer still that are truly ours to possess. The shortlist is, 1) Identity, 2) Choice, and, 3) Time.
- Purchasing process exchanges one thing of value for another—as in the exchange of time and effort for the gold, silver, and gemstone lessons of being transformed into the image of Christ, renewing our mind, recovering function to our “dead” parts, and gaining a deep understanding of God’s ways. This exchange describes the *core activity of discipleship!*
- **Ephesians 5:15**—*we redeem our time on earth wisely to purchase the treasure of heaven.*
- Jesus “shopping list” for us: Gold (character), White Garments (standing), and Eyesalve (ability to see reality) (Revelation 3:18).



Next Week: Intentionality

