

RETURNING TO GOD'S PROCESS FOR MAKING DISCIPLES

# **S**iMPLE CHURCH

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## RETURNING TO GOD'S PROCESS FOR MAKING DISCIPLES

Rainer and Geiger discovered that the healthiest churches in America tended to have a *simple process* for making disciples.



# **DEFINITION**

**A SIMPLE CHURCH** is a congregation designed around a straightforward and strategic **process** that **moves people** through the stages of **spiritual growth** (discipleship).

# **4 SIMPLE CHURCH Concepts:**

- **clarity**
  - **movement**
    - **alignment**
      - **focus**

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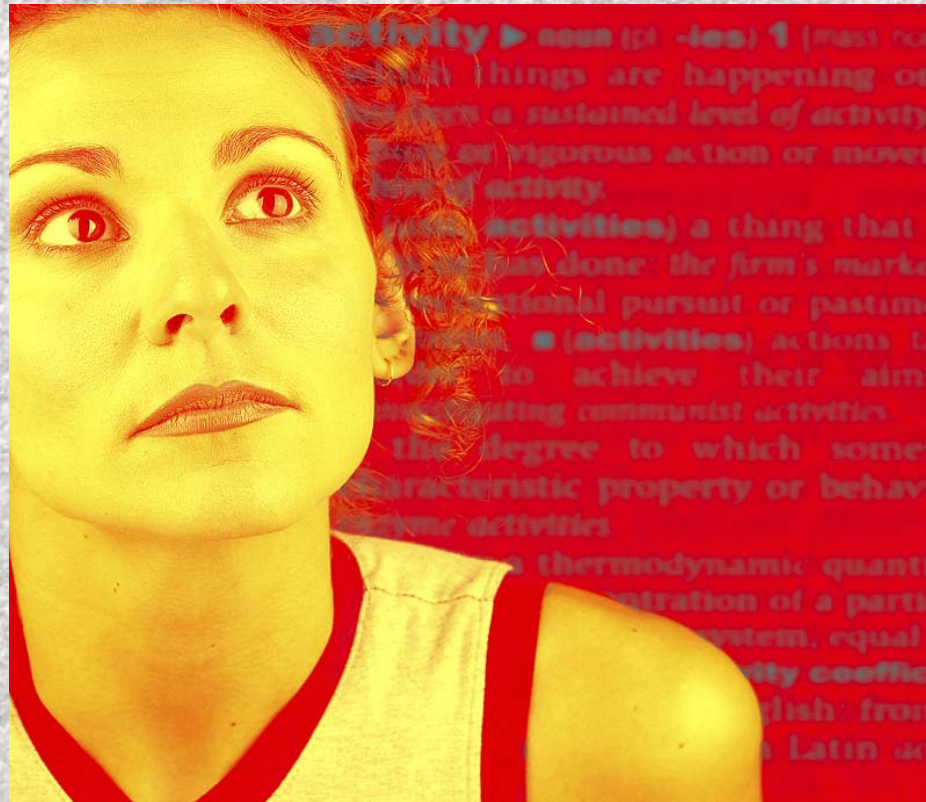
**clarity:**

the ability of the  
process to be  
**communicated**  
and **understood**  
by the people.



# Five Essentials for Clarity:

## 1. Define your process.



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⇒ Determine **what kind** of disciple you wish to make.

**Narrow** the list

**as much as possible!**

⇒ Decide how each **weekly program** is a part of your process.

## **Five Essentials for Clarity:**

1. Define your process.
2. **Illustrate** your process.

**the research says:**

the vibrant churches were more than **twice as likely** as the comparison churches to **visually illustrate** a process.

## **Five Essentials for Clarity:**

1. Define your process.
2. Illustrate your process.
3. **Measure** your process.

**What gets**

**measured** ,

**gets**

**DONE** !

## **Five Essentials for Clarity:**

1. Define your process.
2. Illustrate your process.
3. Measure your process.
4. **Discuss** your process.

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⇒ View everything through the **lens** of your simple process.

⇒ **Test** your leaders on the process.



## **Five Essentials for Clarity:**

1. Define your process.
2. Illustrate your process.
3. Measure your process.
4. Discuss your process.
5. Increase **understanding.**

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⇒ **Articulate corporately.**

⇒ **Share interpersonally.**

⇒ **Live personally.**

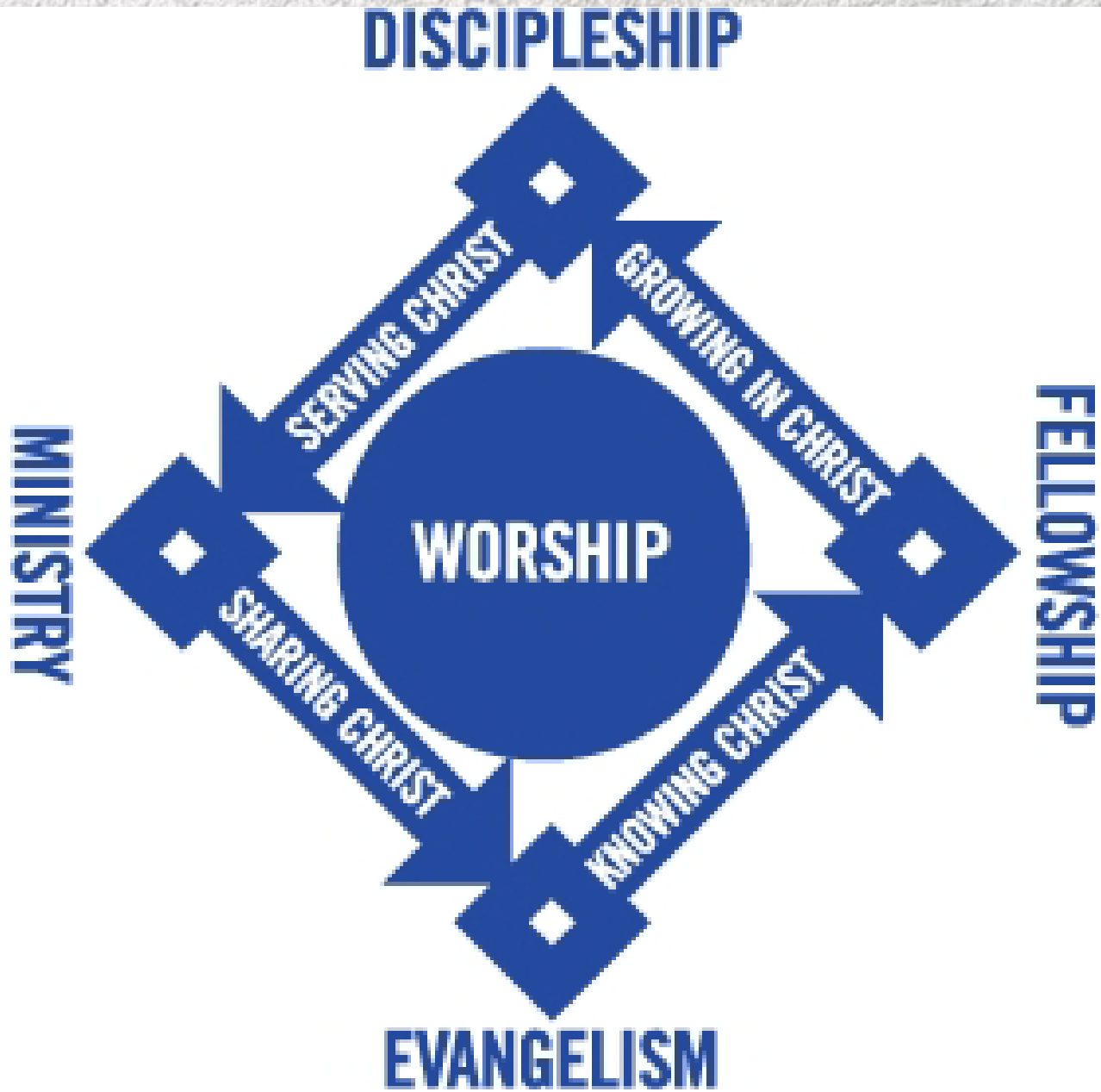
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**movement:**

the sequential  
steps in the  
process that  
**causes** people to  
**move** to greater  
areas of  
commitment.



Perform:



**alignment:**

**the arrangement of all  
ministries and staff around  
the same **simple process.****

**focus:**

**the commitment to  
abandon everything  
that falls outside of  
the simple ministry  
process.**



## RETURNING TO GOD'S PROCESS FOR MAKING DISCIPLES

“.... the healthiest churches in America tended to have a *simple process* for making *disciples*.



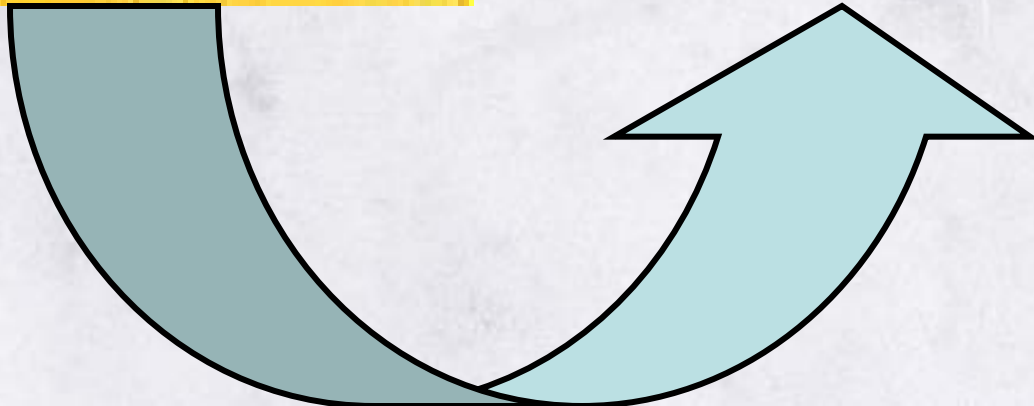
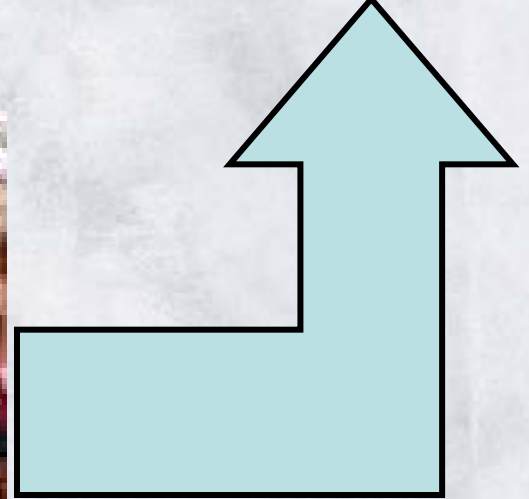
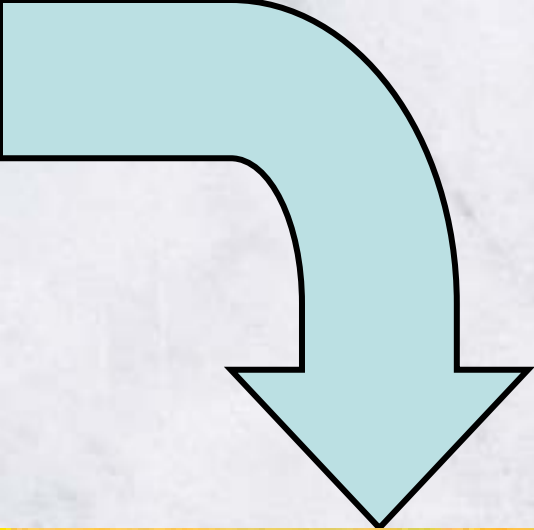
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<sup>19</sup>Therefore go and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**Matt. 28:19-20 (NIV)**

# **The 7 Practices of Effective Ministry, Stanley/Joiner**

- 1. Clarify the Win**
- 2. Think Steps, Not Programs**
- 3. Narrow the Focus**
- 4. Teach Less for More**
- 5. Listen to Outsiders**
- 6. Replace Yourself**
- 7. Work On It**



- **Clarify the win:** Define what is important to every level of the organization.
- **Think steps, not programs:** Before you start anything, make sure it takes you where you need to go.
- **Narrow the focus:** Do fewer things in order to make a greater impact.
- **Teach less for more:** Say only what you need to say to the people who need to hear it.
- **Listen to outsiders:** Focus on who you're trying to reach, not who you're trying to keep.
- **Replace yourself:** Learn to hand off what you do.
- **Work on it:** Take time to evaluate your work and to celebrate your wins.