

A 7 YEAR DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGY FOR





"Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest." (Proverbs 6:6-8).

Even ants have the foresight to plan ahead. And, so should we, especially when it comes to the discipleship strategies we employ to raise up students who have their **IDENTITY** in Christ. This is by no means easy, but through faithful prayer and planning – fully reliant on the Lord and <u>His plan</u>, it is possible to graduate students from high school as fully **MATURE** in Jesus. Instead of being okay with the current trend of over 70% of students graduating and leaving the Church, we have a plan. A plan that will instead see graduates leave student ministry fully aware and embracing of the great and awesome **RESPONSIBILITY** they have in Christ.

As a student ministry, our aim is to come alongside you, the parents, with a very clear 7-year strategy we are calling "Rooted". We are aiming at some very clear things we want to see in each of our students through their 7 years with us: Salvation in Christ alone, True Worship of God, Faithful Obedience to Christ, Spiritual Growth by the Spirit, Clear & Biblical Wisdom, a Call to Action & Missional Living, Godly Stewardship, and entering the world with a Plan.

It is our prayer as a student ministry that our aims, our strategy, will lead to an increasing number of students graduating with a firm foundation rooted in Christ who are ready and eager to make Him known to a world that is desperately in need. Our hope is that you, as parents, will prioritize providing your student(s) with the opportunities to make this a reality in their lives.

With you and for you,

Pastor Derek

IDENTITY | MATURITY | RESPONSIBILITY



SALVATION

God loves you and wants a relationship with you.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

WORSHIP

God desires and deserves your worship.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12:1

OBEDIENCE

God created you to love and obey Him.

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 16:24-25

IDENTITY in CHRIST

YEAR ONE

- The History of Redemption
- The Story of God
- What's Up Discovering the Gospel, Jesus, & Who You Really Are
- Feed the Dog Spiritual Disciplines
- The Second Greatest Story Ever Told

YEAR TWO

- God's Design for the Church
- Guy Talk, Girl Talk
- Hyfi A Series on Identity
- Prayer
- Ephesians

YEAR THREE

- Branded
- Galatians
- Worship: That Thing We Do
- Jonah
- BASIC
- Hyfi A Series on Identity



GROWTH

God calls you to grow in your faith.

Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.

1 Corinthians 14:20

WISDOM

God offers and provides wisdom.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 1:7

ACTION

God equips and calls you to action.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

MHTURITY in CHRIST

YEAR FOUR

- How to Read the Bible
- James
- Can I Trust the Bible?
- Share Jesus without Fear

YEAR FIVE

- Just Do Something
- Thinking
- Understanding World Religions
- Dark Room Faith

RESPONSIBILITY in CHRIST

MISSIONAL

God calls you to GO!

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8

STEWARDSHIP

God calls you to manage His resources wisely.

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

1 Peter 4:10

PLAN

God calls you to plan around His plan.

Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."

James 4:15

RESPONSIBILITY

in CHRIST

YEAR SIX

- Defending Your Faith Introduction to Apologetics
- Do Hard Things
- Chasing Love
- Follow Me

YEAR SEVEN

- Deepen Discipleship
- Doctrines of the Bible

THE GAME PLAN

FOR SENIORS

Accountability

THE PRINCIPLES

- Relationship with God
- Spiritual Growth
- Missional Living
- Wise Choices
- Friendships
- Education
- Stewardship
 - **Dating**
 - **Future**
- As seniors come to the end of our 7-year strategy, it is essential that we help them develop a plan for what comes next. For a student who has spent all 7 years in our student ministry, they have been well equipped with the knowledge and the resources necessary to be ready to walk out the doors and take on the world. That's the point of our strategy.

But we also know that having a clear plan in place for how they will implement that strategy is of equal importance. And the best way to build that plan is with and alongside each senior. This is why, every spring semester, our seniors will come together and, as a group, decide on and build The Game Plan. We will work through 10 principles, identifying and writing down action steps for each one of them. As our seniors collaborate together, they will be pulling from the years of training they have received in order to develop their game plan.

As part of our Building Blocks strategy here at SMRBC, we celebrate our graduates at a Celebration Dinner each spring semester. Part of their gift will actually be a booklet called "The Game Plan", and it will have been written by them! But we all know that a plan is best pursued when there is accountability present. That is why we encourage each of our seniors to not only celebrate along their families at our Celebration Dinner, but to invite three other people to join them as accountability partners: A friend, a senior adult, and a mentor. The goal behind this is that our seniors will present their game plan to the people they've entrusted it to and ask them to help keep them accountable.

We believe this is a great way to cap off their 7 years in student ministry! We pray that as each student graduates and heads out on their own, that due to our 7 Year Strategy & The Game Plan, they will be rooted in truth, ready to reach in love, and have their people who they can lean on and trust to keep them faithful.

In Him,

Pastor Derek