

The purpose of the MEFC is to glorify God by surrendering to His commandments and His commission. Simply-put, we are a church full of those joyfully following and loving to His glory!

We believe this purpose is carried out by fulfilling our mission of developing people of conviction, character, and competence in the following four key areas.

Honoring God.

This involves:

- ✓ Glorifying God
- ✓ Delighting in and trusting God.
- ✓ Trusting in God.
- ✓ Being people of prayer.
- ✓ Being people of the gospel.

Obeying God.

This involves:

- ✓ Pursuing holiness.
- ✓ Bible intake and practice.
- ✓ Practice of Spiritual gifts.

Preparing and nurturing one another.

This involves:

- ✓ Discipling and encouraging others to be HOPE Christians.
- ✓ Developing unity and community among each other.

Expressing the love and glory of Christ to the world.

This involves:

- ✓ Carrying out the Great Commandment (Mk. 12:30-31)
- ✓ Carrying out the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20)

We also believe the mission of MEFC is fulfilled primarily by bringing people into one-on-one or small group (no more than 4-5) relationships whereby they can grow in conviction, character, and competence in these four areas. These discipling relationships will

serve not only to help individuals come to know Jesus Christ as Savior, but to grow in the grace and knowledge of Him so that they can carry out His command and commission in family, among friends and the Church, throughout the community, and to the ends of the earth. The following is an overview of the curriculum used to reach that end.

Level One (for the unsaved [but interested] and/or the new believer)¹

1. Have the person read the *30-Day New Testament Reading Plan*, p. xiii, in *The Holy Bible ESV New Testament*.²
2. Meet with them once a week during that month and do the following:³
 - ✓ Visit with them about life in general and seek to build relationship. Get to know them.
 - ✓ Pray with them after asking if they have any requests.
 - ✓ Talk about their Bible reading by working through the Level One Discipleship guide.⁴ Additionally:
 - It is important throughout this month you invite the person to church. This will accelerate their exposure to the gospel and/or help accelerate growth. The only exception would be an unbeliever who has a very bad taste in their mouth toward church which only conversion will change.

¹This is where a parent should begin with children as well, once you enter more into an involvement discipleship mode with them (i.e. when they are reading and doing things along with you in addition to family devotions and/or AWANA). Most children can begin this process in 3rd or 4th grade.

²Also Available under *Bible* on the *Articles And Index* page of our web site.

³ The only tool the disciple will need for this month is *The Holy Bible ESV New Testament* (available on the resource table in the foyer). It is recommended you the discipler also have a copy of it and in addition a [Reformation Study Bible](#) and/or [ESV Study Bible](#).

In preparation for this meeting: (a) Pray and ask God to give you wisdom and to work in the life of the person either to bring them to Him or to help them grow in Him. (b) Review the key points to cover in the meeting, including the *Level One Discipleship* guide (under *Discipleship* on *Articles And Index* page on the web site). (c) Read and review the seven New Testament chapters they are assigned. It would be helpful to pay attention to the footnotes in your [Reformation Study Bible](#) and/or [ESV Study Bible](#) as you do this.

⁴ This is available under *Discipleship* on the *Articles And Index* page of our web site and should be handed out to the disciple before they start their reading.

- ✓ Ask them if they have any other questions or struggles they would like to discuss and make sure both of you know when your next meeting is and the reading for that week. During the fourth meeting introduce to them what you would like to do for the next six months, the *Six-Month New Testament Reading Plan*, p. 215, in *The Holy Bible ESV New Testament*. (Also available under *Bible* on the *Articles And Index* page on the web site)

Level Two

1. Have the person read the the *Six-Month New Testament Reading Plan*, p. 215, in *The Holy Bible ESV New Testament*. (Also available under *Bible* on the *Articles And Index* page on the web site) This plan will take them through the entire New Testament with very doable amounts of reading each day (for most people).
2. Meet with them once a week during that six month period and do the following:⁵
 - ✓ Visit with them about life in general. Continue to build relationship. Get to know them better.
 - ✓ Pray with them after asking if they have any requests. During this six month period, however, they should keep a prayer journal and share requests out of it. This will help them get into the habit of daily prayer, writing down requests, and keeping track of how God answers.⁶ Early on in the six month period you should teach them how to start and keep their own prayer journal.
 - ✓ Talk about their Bible reading: Did they do it? What did they learn? What questions do they have? During this six

⁵ The two tools the disciple will need for this month is *The Holy Bible ESV New Testament* (available on the resource table in the foyer) and also a notebook or journal in which they will learn to keep a prayer journal. It is recommended you the discipler also have a copy of *The Holy Bible ESV New Testament*, a prayer journal, and also a Reformation Study Bible and/or ESV Study Bible.

In preparation for this meeting: (a) Pray and ask God to give you wisdom and to work in the life of the person either to bring them to Him or to help them grow in Him. (b) Review the key points to cover in the meeting. (c) Review the passages they were supposed to read (p. 215, ESV New Testament). You can choose to go through the reading plan and read the New Testament as they do or you can opt not to, since you are engaged in another reading/study plan. However, you at least need to be familiar with which passages they were supposed to read.

⁶ For a guide on how to keep a Prayer Journal (Something you as the discipler must also do), see *Prayer Journals* under *Prayer* on the *Articles And Index* page of our web site.

months we will stay at a more general level with questions since they are reading more material and since we will also work through some other work sheets at each meeting.

- ✓ Go through your worksheet for that meeting.⁷ The worksheets during this six month period will encourage the person to get involved as an apprentice in a ministry. They will also introduce to them what CPR evangelism is.
- ✓ Ask them if they have any other questions or struggles they would like to discuss—either out of life-in-general and/or in their apprenticeship. Ask them how things are going with their CPR evangelism. Make sure both of you know when your next meeting is and what the assignments are. During the last meeting of Level Two you should introduce Level Three (The One Year Bible).

⁷ For these worksheets see *Level Two Worksheets* under *Discipleship* on the *Articles And Index* page of our web site.

Level Three

1. Level three will be a one year, twice-a-month commitment.⁸
2. The main focus of this year will be to read through the entire Bible, using the One-Year Bible reading plan. The One Year Bible reading plan is available through the *Resources* page of our web site.
3. The objectives of this one year for the disciple will mainly be:
 - ✓ Read through the Bible.
 - ✓ Continue in regular prayer through their prayer journal.
 - ✓ Take the Sunday School class on CPR evangelism and be fully engaged in the CPR evangelism process.
 - ✓ Enter into a relationship with their own disciple(s). This would include their family, if they have family.
 - ✓ Continue with their apprenticeship and/or move into a full ministry position.
 - ✓ Develop a reading/study and ministry plan for beyond this year.
4. When you meet do the following:
 - ✓ Visit with each other on how things are going in life. Continue relationship.
 - ✓ Spend time in prayer.
 - ✓ Go through Accountability questions.⁹

⁸ It could also be adapted into a two year commitment if the discipler believes the disciple needs longer to read through the Bible. The disciple will need: (a) a copy of the One-Year Bible reading plan. (b) A Prayer Journal. (c) A copy of the Reformation Study Bible.

- ✓ Go through Level Three worksheets. There will not be one for each meeting during this year. But there will be some.¹⁰ These worksheets will be designed not only to help them grow in this third level, but also plan far beyond this year for growth and service.
- ✓ Ask if they have any struggles or questions they want to discuss and then make sure both of you know when you are meeting next and what the assignments are.

⁹These are available (See *Accountability Questions*) on the *Articles And Index* page, under *Discipleship*, on our web site.

¹⁰ For these worksheets see *Level Three Worksheets* under *Discipleship*, on the *Articles And Index* page of our web site.

Level Four

1. There is no definite time frame for this level. Whether or not the discipler and disciple continue to meet is optional.
2. The main focus on level four is for the disciple to carry out his/her plan completed during Level Three. That plan should include:
 - ✓ A Bible reading/study plan (One Year Bible and/or Table Talk magazine), as well as continuation of a regular time of prayer.
 - ✓ Continuation in ministry involvement.
 - ✓ Continuation in CPR evangelism and discipleship of others.
 - ✓ A goal to read at least 4 books a year to help in knowledge of the Bible, of God, and/or in ministry.
3. A Recommended Additional Resource: ESV Study Bible.¹¹
4. If the discipler and disciple choose to meet together (once to twice a month is recommended), then the focus should be the carrying out of their plan of growth and ministry. At this level the discipler becomes more of a consultant and encourager.
5. There is also more opportunity at this level for the discipler/disciple to tailor the time together to meet specific needs.

Level Five

1. Level Five provides a one year opportunity for men and women to gain greater conviction, character, and competence for Christian leadership. For men this is in the form of the *Stratego*

¹¹ Though it is more cumbersome to carry and use than the Reformation Study Bible, it has some additional articles and footnotes which make for a great addition to the Bible Study and ministry library.

group. This group can run concurrently with Level Four or can come after it.

Level Six

1. Level six enables aspiring elders to gain the level of conviction, character development, and competency needed to serve as an elder.
2. The training involves:
 - ✓ A one year commitment to weekly meetings which would study Biblical Eldership (Strauch), Systematic Theology (Grudem), and additional elder-related materials produced within MEFC.
 - ✓ Attendance at elder meetings as observers/apprentices.
 - ✓ Completion of an application for eldership at MEFC.
 - ✓ Continued practice of disciplines developed in Levels one through five.

Level Seven

1. This level consists of an apprenticeship for vocational eldership.

Level Eight

1. This level consists of off-sight formal theological education in preparation for vocational eldership.