

#### LIVE IN THE WORD

CBCWLA, MAY 8, 2011

### No class next Sunday 5/15

- May 15 is church picnic day, no class.
- You have two weeks to complete the assignments.
- Read your Bible and have a quiet time daily.
- Pray to God to give you endurance and make you a better disciple of Christ. If you decide to drop out of Masterlife please let me or I-Shen know this week. Otherwise, stay on.
- May the Lord give you grace and strength to go through the discipleship training.

#### About <u>MasterLife</u>

- This is a training program
  - This is a six-month intensive training program, not a lecture series.
  - You'll follow Jesus and live a Christ-centered life.
  - You'll do weekly assignments.
  - You'll read the Bible daily.
  - You'll be faithful to your church in attendance and stewardship.

- You'll be held accountable by your group members.
- You'll dedicate yourself to Christ, CBCWLA and your Masterlife small group (your Lord, church and people).
- You'll become a discipler of others.
- Are you in the right program?

#### About your accountability group

- Stay in the same group for 6 months.
- Be faithful to your group members. Always show up on time and never leave early.
- Support and pray for each other.
- You have to pair up with one group member and check each other's homework.
- You have to recite memory verses to each other.

## I. SIX SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

- 1. Spend time with the Master
- 2. Live in the Word
  - A close relationship: to know God through fellowship with him.
  - Guidance for daily decisions: to receive direction and guidance for daily decisions.
  - Petitioning for needs: to bring needs before God.
  - Abide and obey: to bear spiritual fruit.
  - A daily discipline
- 3. Pray in faith
- 4. Fellowship with believers
- Witness to the world
- 6. Minister to others

# II. LIVE IN THE WORD

- 1. What are the four reasons for a quite time?
- 2. **SHARING:** Which of the four reasons is the most important to you?
- 3. Write in the margins of your book these items: eating, fellowship with family, personal cleanliness, work, personal time with God. Rank them 1 (highest priority) through 5 (lowest priority). What did you learn about yourself?
- 4. SHARING: Live in the Word.
- 5. In two weeks you'll be asked to share with a friend your testimony of having a quiet time.

# III. MEMORY VERSES

### Memory Verses

- John 8:31-32 (NIV)
  - If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
  - 你們若常常遵守我的道,就真是我的門徒。你們必曉得真理,真理必叫你們得以自由。

#### ■ John 15:5

- I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
- 我是葡萄樹,你們是枝子。常在我裏面的,我也常在他裏面,這人就多結果子;因為離了我,你們就不能做甚麼。

#### ■ Luke 9:23

- Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.
- 若有人要跟從我,就當捨己,天天背起他的十字架來跟從我。

# IV. DAILY QUIET TIME

- Read your Bible. 1-2 chapters a day. Five days a week.
- Pray. (You'll learn pray with ACTS next week.)
- Sing a hymn (optional).
- 15-30 minutes a day.
- Make it simple. Make it last.
- Take advantage of your accountability group.
- Don't give up. Persist.
- God will guide you, protect you and bless you as you draw near to him every day.

# V. THE DISCIPLE'S CROSS

## The Disciple's Cross



■ The empty circle represents your life. It pictures denying all of self for Christ. You cannot be a disciple of Christ if you are not willing to deny self. If this circle represents your life, Christ should fill the entire circle as you focus on Him.



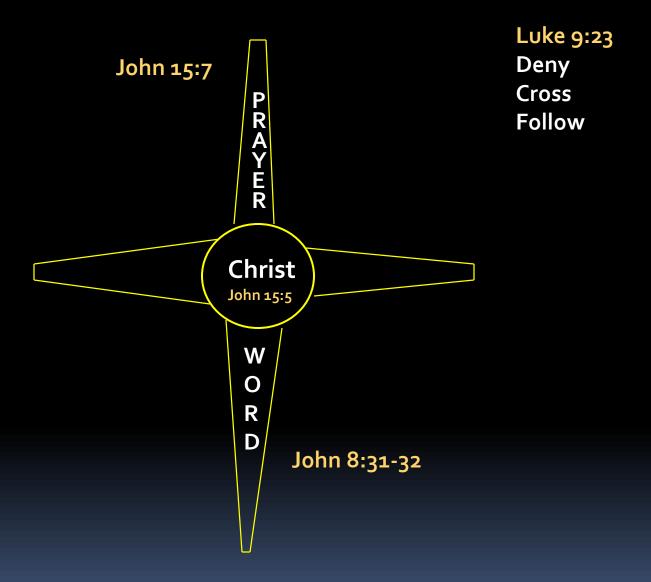
#### Luke 9:23

Deny Cross Follow

■ John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

## Spend time with the Master

- What can we do without remaining in Christ? Nothing! Christ said the he is the vine and we are the branches. The branches are part of the vine. You are part of Christ.
- He wants to live his live through you. Is this the kind of life you would like to have?
- In addition to denying yourself, you need to take up your cross. The disciple's cross pictures the resources Christ gives us to help us live in him.

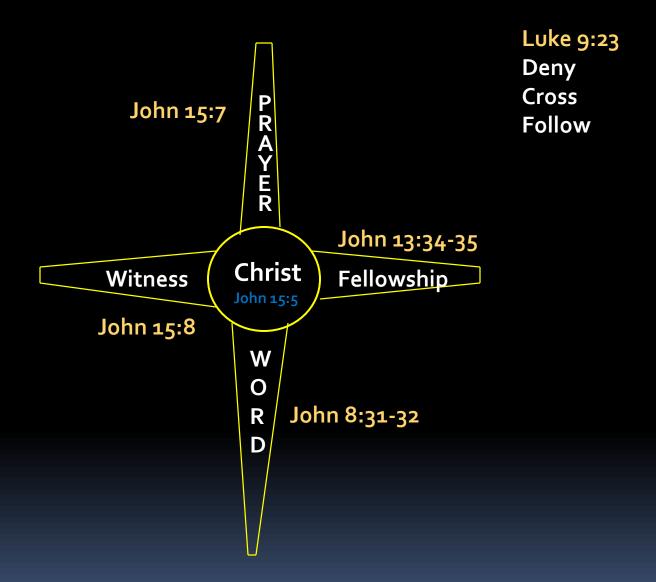


#### Live in the Word

- John 8:31-32
  - Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
- The way to have life in Christ is to have his Word in you.
- You receive the Word in many ways: by listening to someone preach it, by reading it, by studying it, by memorizing it, by applying it.
- Making Christ Lord means that you want to read, study, and apply the Word regularly.

## Pray in faith

- John 15:7
  - If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- Praying in faith is an important part of life in Christ.
- If you abide in Christ and his Word abides in you, you can ask what you want, and God will do it.
- The vertical bar of the cross, representing the Word and prayer, highlights your relationship with God, the basic ways you communicate with God, and the basic ways he communicates with you.

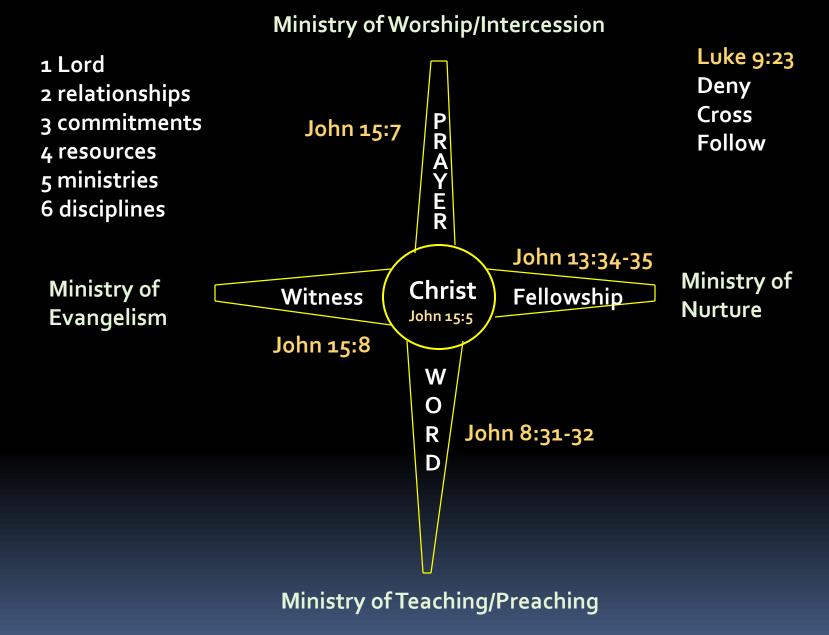


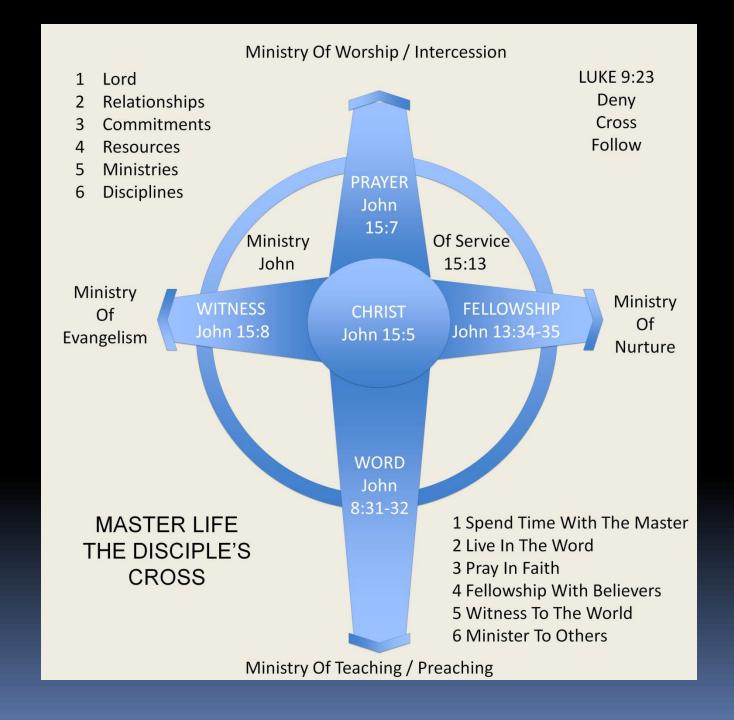
### Fellowship with the believers

- John 13:34-35
  - A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.
- Jesus said the way to show that you are his disciple is to love one another.
- God has provided the ideal place for you to grow—his church.
- A committed Christian stays in fellowship with a local body of believers in order to grow in Christ.

#### Witness to the world

- John 15:8
  - This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.
- Jesus said the way to show that you are his disciple is to bear much fruit. This includes witnessing.
- Witnessing is the natural outgrowth of living in Christ.
- If you are spending time with the Master, living daily in the Word, praying in faith, and fellowshipping with God's people, you naturally share with other the Christ who lives in your heart.





## VI. NEXT WEEK'S ASSIGNMENTS

## Week 3 assignments

- You have two weeks to complete the assignments.
- Rest in God and have a quite time daily.
- Read your Bible according to your plan.
- Pray for your group members and the salvation of five lost persons.
- You'll show God's love to a person who is not a Christian. Decide for yourself how to show God's love. Prepare to share your experience.

# VII. SMALL GROUP TIME

## Small Group Time

- 1. Pair with someone other than your spouse to check each other's "my walk with the Master this week."
- 2. Quote memory verses John 8:31-32, John 15:5 and Luke 9:23 to each other.
- 3. Practice explaining the center and the lower crossbar of the Disciple's Cross to each other.
- 4. Share one good experience/problem related to completing your assignments this week with your group.
- 5. Share one request you put on the prayer-covenant list. Pray a sentence prayer for the request the person on your right mentioned.
- 6. Pray for each other.