

Eight Stages of Spiritual Growth

Stages of Spiritual Growth			
Discipleship Stage	Stage Description	Manifestation of Fruit Maturation	Discipleship Tools Applied
1	Repentance	Change in the disciple's life when s/he gets saved.	Discipleship one
2	Enlightenment	Learning about the one who made the change in your life.	
3	Participation in Ministry	Natural desire to participate in God's work. (Participation)	
4	Development of Leadership	Manifestation of leadership qualities.	Discipleship 2
5	Consecration, Re-evaluation, Separation	Testing to prove the disciple's true Commitment. (Strenuous ministry exercise)	
6	Responsibility	God entrusts the disciple with Leadership (Leadership in ministry)	
7	World Vision	Fully equipped to begin a new work if God as God calls and sends	Eating, Feeding and Exercising
8	Reproduction	Discipleship complete, the believer now fulfills the mission of Matthew 28:19-20 and begins in earnest to fulfill 2 Timothy 2:2 wherever God calls them.	HBF agree with work of Holy Ghost Acts 13:1-3

8th Stage of Discipleship: Reproduction of Local Church(s)

The eighth stage of discipleship is the manifestation of the fruit of discipleship. The mission of God is clear in Matthew 28:19-20. Not only did Paul train up faithful men in accordance with 2 Timothy 2:2, but he established, equipped and edified local New Testament churches to continue on in accordance with the Lord's command. Paul and the other apostles structured the local church around the ordinances (2 Corinthians 11:25-27), the officers (1 Timothy 3, Titus 1), as well as the orders of the Lord Jesus Christ in all matters of how he would see his church conduct herself (Ephesians 2:18-22). The Holy Ghost indwells her believers and the Spirit of God causes all the body parts to function in supernatural harmony to accomplish the mission of God for the glory of God.

The apostle Paul did not only concern himself with the faithful men he was training but the faithful churches he was tending (2 Corinthians 11:28). Work to establish, equip and edify the local church is the work that Paul engaged himself and trained faithful men to labor along his side for the glory of God. This is clearly manifest in subject matter and writings of the entire New Testament from Acts to Revelation. Acts serves as the history book of God's movement from the church in Jerusalem to the very fruitful and mission minded church of Antioch. In addition to Paul's incredible witness to the principalities and power of his day, he engaged himself fully in establishing New Testament churches for God's glory. This truth is evident in the writings of the New Testament. The books of our New Testament are written to churches good and bad, obedient and disobedient. The epistles written to the pastors, Timothy, Titus were for the mutual benefit of both the faithful man and the following church. The book of Philemon was written to a man who had a church in his house (Philemon 2).

The growth and maturation of the disciples was manifest in the establishment and growth of the churches of the New Testament. Therefore the eighth stage of discipleship is a manifestation in God's ordained institution, his supernatural organism, the local church. To "build" ministry without building the local church is misguided and misleading.

The measure of the eighth stage of discipleship will be the disciples involvement and impact in reproducing Bible Believing local New Testament Churches that reproduce healthy Bible Believing local New Testament churches in accordance with the great commission of Matthew 28:19-20 under the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ and his God ordained ministry to the Local New Testament Church Acts 13:1-3.

A man¹ who is fully matured will understand his role in the body and maximize his gifts and calling to see God's church continues to be built upon the teaching of the apostles and prophets and the foundation which is Christ Jesus. By Grace through faith he will engage in seeing God's will or "world vision" (seventh stage) become a reality through prayerfully proclaiming the Truth of God to the church of God to the glory of God. **While it is clear not every man is called to plant or pastor a church, every mature believer should be involved in edifying the body in such a way that it enhances the churches reproductive capabilities by the grace of God and power of the Spirit of God.** This reproductive capability not only produces faithful men, but is manifest in the supernatural birth, establishment and propagation of New Testament Local churches.

¹ A woman who is engaged in the eighth stage of spiritual growth will find herself supporting the work of God in a similar fashion under the authority of her husband and or Pastor of the local New Testament church(s) she has been called to serve in.