

We will become an **equipping hub** that trains people to
unleash Jesus' love in their everyday lives.

*“They equipped me to confidently take Jesus into the rest
of my life, Monday to Saturday.”*




Romans 12:1-2

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



Romans 12:1-2



Do not be **conformed** to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.



Daily Sacrifice + Cultural Resistance = Spiritual Formation



Romans 12:3-21

Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of



Romans 12:3-21

yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body.



Romans 12:3-21

We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In His grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to



Romans 12:3-21

prophecy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others,



Romans 12:3-21

be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others,



Romans 12:3-21

do it gladly. Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in



Romans 12:3-21

honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God's



Romans 12:3-21

people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them.



Romans 12:3-21



Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people.



Romans 12:3-21

And don't think you know it all! Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with



Romans 12:3-21

everyone. Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, “I will take revenge; I will pay them back,” says the Lord.



Romans 12:3-21

Instead, “If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.”



Romans 12:3-21

Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

External

1. Low discipleship culture in the church
2. Militant quasi-religions on the right and left

Internal

3. Minds dominated by digital inputs
4. Hearts sickened by apathy and/or trauma



Dallas Willard

[Jesus] told us, *as* disciples, to *make* disciples. Not converts to Christianity, nor to some particular 'faith and practice.' He did not tell us to arrange for people to 'get in' or 'make the cut' after they die,



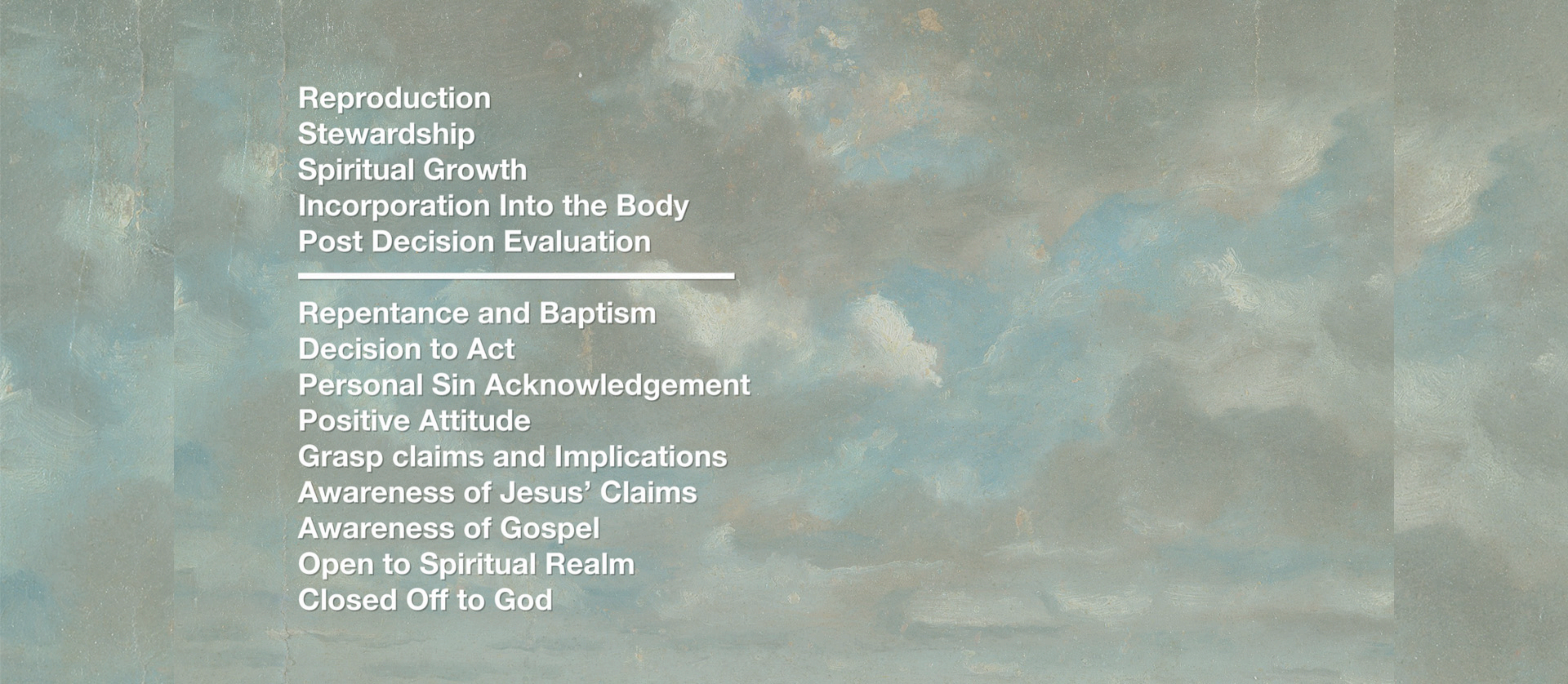
Dallas Willard

nor to eliminate the various brutal forms of injustice, nor to produce and maintain 'successful' churches. These are all good things, and he had something to say about all of them. They will certainly



Dallas Willard

happen if – but *only if* – we are (his constant apprentices) and do (make constant apprentices) what he told us to be and do.



**Reproduction
Stewardship
Spiritual Growth
Incorporation Into the Body
Post Decision Evaluation**

**Repentance and Baptism
Decision to Act
Personal Sin Acknowledgement
Positive Attitude
Grasp claims and Implications
Awareness of Jesus' Claims
Awareness of Gospel
Open to Spiritual Realm
Closed Off to God**

External

1. Low discipleship culture in the church
2. Militant quasi-religions on the right and left

Internal

3. Minds dominated by digital inputs
4. Hearts sickened by apathy and/or trauma



Spiritual Formation



We will build a robust communal **rule of life** so our
people grow in intimacy with God.

*“I have rhythms and restrictions that actually help me resist
popular culture and connect with God.”*



Spiritual Formation

Becoming like Jesus for the sake of others



- Conversion
- Playbook
- Rule of Life

- The Bible
- Jesus

Invitations to Freedom and Flourishing by Jesus

- Bear fruit – “Those who abide in Me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from Me you can do nothing.” (John 15:4)
- Abide in Scripture – “If you continue in My word, you are truly My disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31-32)
- Be born again. – “No one can see the Kingdom of God without being born from above.” (John 3:3)
- Untroubled hearts – “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in Me.” (John 14:1)
- Find rest – “Come to Me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.” (Mt 11:28-30)

Invitations to Freedom and Flourishing by Jesus

- Never thirst -- but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” (John 4:14)
- Never hunger -- “Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me will never go hungry, and he who believes in Me will never be thirsty.’” (John 6:35)
- Live in His presence -- And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Mt 28:20).
- Live in light -- I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)
- Safe pasture -- “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.” (John 10:9)

Invitations to Freedom and Flourishing by Jesus

- Good Shepherd -- “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.” (John 10:11)
- Eternal Life -- “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.” (John 11:25-26)
- Blessed Life -- Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up His hands, He blessed them. While He was blessing them, He withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven (Luke 24:50-51)

Benediction of Formation (Ephesians 3:17-19)

May Christ make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him.

May your roots grow down deep into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's

Benediction of Formation (Ephesians 3:17-19)

people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.

Benediction of Formation (Ephesians 3:17-19)

Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.