

A Shepherd's Guide to Sheep Development

by Pastor Marvin R. Barham

The intent of the Shepherd's Guide to Sheep Development is to provide a tool for discipling new Christians. This is a strategic outline and reference guide to utilize in Biblical study and instruction. It is designed to address issues for spiritual growth and development in four major areas of life: **Family, Feelings, Fitness, and Finances**. In each of these categories many life issues will be brought to the surface and the goal is to do three things with each life issue in relation to God's Word: 1.) **Crucifixion and Death of the Flesh Man**; 2.) **Restoration and Reformation of the Soul Man**; and 3.) **Regeneration and Development of the Spirit Man**. The entire process begins with winning them to Christ in their **initial encounter** with the power of the Holy Spirit. Next we **win them to "the church"**. Not just "our church" but the Body of Christ. Here is where continual **follow-up, (ICR) Intensive Care Relationship** development must take place leading to a responsibility for continual life-long **discipleship** and maturity in Christ. The end state is that through the process they experience and can measure **change in their thinking and behavior** to be more like Christ; they develop a **productive passion** for the Kingdom of God and the responsibilities therein; they become mentally, emotionally, spiritually, physically, and financially **stable and grow** in maturity of each area; they **discover their divine purpose**, destiny, gifts, and callings; they are actively and soundly **engaged in the building of the Kingdom of God**.



I. Goals:

1. Change behaviors and mindsets (*Rom. 12:2; I Cor. 2:16; I Tim. 4:12*)
2. Increase passion and productivity for Christ and His Kingdom (*Acts 1:3; Matt. 25; Mark 11*)
3. Bring freedom, stability, and growth to God's people (*2 Cor. 3:17; Eph. 4:14; Jam. 1:8; 4:8*)
4. Posture them in their divine placement and engage them in their divine purpose (*Jer. 1:5; 29:11; Ps. 37:23*)

II. Objectives:

1. **Win them to Christ-**
 - a. Through outreach (*Matt. 18:11; 28:19-20; Luke 19:10*)
 - b. An encounter with Christ, their need for Him, the price of Salvation, and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit (*Acts 9:3-5; Heb. 10:17-19; Rev. 5:12; Isa. 53:5; Ps. 22; Luke 10:19; Acts 1:8*)
 - c. Initiation of the transformation process (**R2D2**)
 - 1.) Produce fruits of **Repentance** (*Matt. 3:8; Luke 3:8*)
 - 2.) Seek an intimate **Relationship** with Christ and covenant relationship with others (*Gen. 6:18; I Chron. 16:16*)
 - 3.) **Deliverance** of spirits, devils, habits, addictions, attitudes, paradigms, unforgiveness (*Matt. 10:1; Mark 1:27*)
 - 4.) Resolve to become totally **Dependent** upon Christ, His Word, and His Church. Death to self-will and self-rule. (*Dan. 1:8*)
 - d. Commit to the discipling process (**IC**).
 - 1.) **Initiative** that is active to the pursuit of righteousness. (*Heb. 4:12*)
 - 2.) **Commitment** to transparency, accountability, and responsibility (*I Tim. 5:22; Ezra 10:4*)

2. Win them to the Church-

- a. Develop connected covenant relationships through fellowship and discipling (*Ps. 55:14; Acts 2:42; I Chor. 1:9*)
- b. Develop stability through accountability, counseling, encouragement, engagement, and impartation (*Isa. 33:6; Rom. 15:4*)
- c. Impart the vision, review the vision, and respond to the vision (*Rom. 1:11; I Thes. 2:8*)

III. Strategic Foundations:

1. Regeneration and Development of the Spirit Man

- a. Must be reborn of the Holy Spirit (*Matt. 3:11; Luke 12:12*)
- b. Must be cleansed by the Holy Spirit and Word of God (*Acts 11:9; Eph. 5:26*)
- c. Must be clothed in righteousness and holiness of Kingdom precepts and principles (*2 Chron. 6:41; Gal. 3:27; Luke 24:49*)
- d. Must be protected by prayer, worship, and rejection of sin, iniquity, transgression. Resist and flee temptation and anything that does not produce life and righteous fruit. (*Ps. 46:1; Ps. 105:4*)
- e. Must be engaged in Kingdom duty and responsibility, purpose and destiny, increase and growth to reproduce spiritual sons and daughters. (*Luke 4:43; Acts 4:28; Acts 20:27*)

2. Seek restoration and reformation of the Soul Man.

- a. Allow the Word of God to reshape and transform their mind, thinking, bring increase to their understanding and Godly wisdom to their perspectives. (*Rom. 12:2*)
- b. Must allow the Word of God and the Holy Spirit to bring complete death to self-will and self-rule and place the will of God as their priority and desire regardless of cost or sacrifice. (*Isa. 25:1; 2 Thes. 1:5*)
- c. Be honest and transparent with self and Father. Allow the Holy Spirit to remove and restore, to heal and to mend. Allow the Holy Spirit to bring restraint and self-control over emotions instead of emotions governing the soul and response. Allow the Holy Spirit to redeem memories and wounds to the glory of God. (*1 Cor. 7:5; Titus 1:8; 2 Peter 2:6*)
- d. Must allow the Holy Spirit to bring deliverance of ungodly spirits and devils and let the fruit of the Holy Spirit spring forth from a new life in Christ. (*Rom. 15:13; Eph. 1:13*)

3. Crucify the Flesh Man.

- a. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal iniquities and be willing to relinquish them to deliverance. Allow the Holy Spirit to break soul ties. (*Lev. 16:21; Micah 7:19; Ezra 36:33*)
- b. Confess transgressions against the precepts and principles of God's law. (*Psalms 32:5; Prov. 28:13*)
- c. Repent (turn from sin and never to return) of sin. Go and sin no more. (*Ezra 14:6; John 8:11; Luke 15:7*)
- d. Completely die to self-will and self-rule. (Self-denial) (*I Cor. 7:5*)
- e. Control, restrain, and guard the five senses, behavior, and thoughts. (*Gal. 5:23; 2 Peter 1:6*)

IV. Targeted Areas of Interest:

1. Family-

- a. Identify relationships needing healing and development (*I Cor. 12:9; I Cor. 12:28; Rev. 22:2*)
 - 1.) Relationship with Heavenly Father (*Isa. 26:7, 42:19; Luke 20:38; Gal. 5:4*)
 - 2.) Relationship with mate/potential mate (*Prov. 5:15*)
 - 3.) Relationship(s) with seed (children and/or grandchildren) (*Matt. 25:40*)
 - 4.) Brethren (church, workplace, neighbor, etc.) (*Acts 20:32*)
- b. Identify shortcomings of precepts and principles righteousness in: (*Ps. 19:8, 119:15; Rom. 14:1*)
 - 1.) Roles and expectations in the relationships
 - 2.) Responsibilities in the relationships
 - 3.) Attitudes and self-government in relationships
 - 4.) Perceptions and perspectives (true and false) (*Deut. 25:13; 1 Jn 2:27*)
- c. Communication
 - 1.) Responsibilities of the message sender (*1 Peter 5:2*)
 - 2.) Responsibilities of the message receiver
 - 3.) Power of the tongue (fruit) (*Prov. 15:4, 18:21*)
 - 4.) Abundance (seed) of the heart (*Deut. 28:47; Luke 6:45*)

- 5.) Principles of good listening, interpretation, and validation (*Prov. 4:5-7*)
- 6.) Closure and resolve (Let not the sun go down) (*Eph. 4:26*)
- 7.) Responding (Be angry and sin not) (*Ps. 4:4; Eccl. 5:6*)

2. Finances-

a. Incoming Funds

- 1.) Identify existing sources of income
- 2.) Identify potential sources of income
- 3.) Identify existing or possible resources
- 4.) How can increase be brought short and long term

b. Outgoing Funds

- 1.) God's money (*Num. 18:24; Deut. 14:28; 2 Chron. 31:12*)
 - 2.) My money (Prudence) (*Prov. 8:12*)
 - a.) Learn the principles of stewardship. Change mindsets and break habits. (1 Cor. 9:17)
 - b.) Develop priorities and planning strategies and stick to them.
 - Tithes and Offerings (*Num. 18:28; Luke 18:12*)
 - Savings and emergency fund (*Prov. 31:16*)
 - Insurance (Whole Life vs. Term)/Brokers
 - Diversified investments (rate of return, compounded interest, equity)
 - 3.) Their money (Creditors) (*Isa. 50:1; Habak. 2:7*)
- c. Reduce debt and cost of living standard (*2 Kings 4:7; Matt. 6:12; Rom. 13:8*)
- 1.) Consolidation
 - 2.) Jubilee (Bankruptcy)
 - 3.) Temporary Assistance (*Lev. 25:35*)
 - 4.) Release (sell before foreclosure or repossession)

3. Feelings-

- a. Identify causes or roots (sin of self, poor judgment, wrong choices, sin of others) (*Matt. 6:15*)
- b. Identify wrong mindsets, attitudes, and perspectives
- c. Identify and accept effects and consequences resulting from causes (*Prov. 19:19; Matt. 22:16*)
- e. Identify right choices and responses
 - 1.) Receive deliverance
 - 2.) Commit to discipling (*Ps. 37:5; John 3:35; Acts 20:32*)
 - 3.) Receive wise and godly counsel (*Prov. 31:26*)
 - 4.) Seek and receive support of love ones, godly leadership, and covenant church relationships (mentor, pastor, prophet) (*Ps. 55:14; Num. 12:6; Deut. 13:1*)
- f. Deliverance and Discipling Process:
 - 1.) Break the foothold of secrecy (*Eph. 4:27*)
 - 2.) Redeem relationships, emotions, thoughts, and memories (*1 Kings 1:29; 1 Chron. 17:21*)
 - 3.) Cut of the enemies sources of temptations and soul ties (*Matt. 18:7; Luke 17:1*)
 - 4.) Embrace reinforcements (Praying in the Holy Spirit, Devotion to His Word, Fellowship with those you can glean godly character and passion from) (*Ps. 26:4, 55:14*)
 - 5.) Engage Offensive (Commit to faithful attendance and active participation in church services, supportive ministry of helps, bible studies, home groups, etc.) (*Mark 2:13*)
 - 6.) Keep up your guard. Do not grow weary in well doing. Fellowship with those who encourage. (*Ps. 55:14; Acts 2:42*)

4. Fitness-

a. Spiritual: (*Prov. 31:17*)

- 1.) Take an aggressive active initiative to the expectations, demands, and cost of spiritual growth. (*Col. 4:12; Ps. 37:5*)
- 2.) Discipline yourself and allow others to hold you accountable to this process of discipline required for

spiritual growth. (*Rom. 3:19*)

- 3.) Resolve to commit to spiritual growth regardless of cost or sacrifice. Employ the tools God has given for spiritual growth: (*Ps. 37:5; Col. 4:12*)
 - a.) Prayer (*1 Kings 8:22; 2 Chro. 7:15; Ps. 141:1*)
 - b.) Bible devotion (*1 Cor. 7:35; 2 Cor. 11:3*)
 - c.) Reading supporting materials (*Acts 8:30; 1 Tim. 4:13*)
 - d.) Home groups and group bible studies (*Prov. 9:9*)
 - e.) Church services, Sunday School, Classes
 - f.) Fellowship with other Christians (*2 Tim. 2:22*)
 - g.) Worship (Corporately and Privately) (*Gen. 24:26; Ps. 5:4*)
- b. Physical: (*Prov. 31:17*)
 - 1.) God's Word (*Ps. 119:10-11*)
 - 2.) Prayer (*1 Kings 8:30; Matt. 17:21; Matt. 21:22*)
 - 3.) Diet
 - 4.) Rest pattern (*Gen. 2:2, 18:4; Ps. 16:9; Isa. 32:18*)
 - 5.) Exercise (*Acts 24:16; Col. 1:11*)
 - 6.) Medication

V. Counseling Strategy:

1. Initial Counseling

- a. Pray
- b. Establish expectations
 - 1.) **Establish boundaries before counseling**
 - a.) Must be a Christian (*Prov. 1:5*)
 - b.) Must go through and receive deliverance (*Ps. 68:20, 116:13; Luke 3:6*)
 - c.) Must develop a basic understanding of spirit man, soul man, and flesh man
 - d.) Must understand and distinguish self will from God's will in their lives
 - e.) Must desire the Holy Spirit and spiritual growth (*Gal. 5:16; Rev. 22:17*)
 - f.) Conduct individual counseling of each and then jointly if working with a couple.
 - g.) They must make a commitment and produce fruit of expectations without excuses and justifications. (*Matt. 21:43; Jn. 15:8; 2 Tim. 2:6*)
- c. Develop relationship
- d. Gather information through prophetic intervention of the Holy Spirit

2. Follow up Counseling

- a. Identify transgressions and iniquities of God's Kingdom precepts and principles
- b. Present fruits of repentance and confession, ask and receive forgiveness, receive deliverance, make restitution, and resolve to pursue Christlikeness.

3. Continued Counseling and Discipleship

- a. Accept accountability, receive and employ correction (*2 Tim. 3:16*)
- b. Measure and record progression, change, and growth.
- c. Employ application and develop strengths in:
 - 1.) Word
 - 2.) Work
 - 3.) Witness or testimony
 - 4.) Worship
 - 5.) Watching (Watch others and glean, watch yourself)