

THE WHEEL ILLUSTRATION

This simple but effective illustration has been used by Navigators for more than fifty years. It helps Christians understand what they are called to do as disciples of Christ. Each part of this illustration represents a crucially important component of a vital Christian life.

Use this illustration to gain understanding about important spiritual disciplines in your own life. What areas encourage you? What areas challenge you?

Why not sketch out "The Wheel Illustration" on a napkin or scrap of paper with someone you are discipling. Help challenge them to think clearly about how to be an obedient follower of Christ.



The Volitional Dimension:

How You Relate to Yourself

The Hub: Christ the Center

See: *2 Corinthians 5:17*; *Galatians 2:20*

Making Christ central in your life is an act of your will.

Surrendering totally to Christ's authority and lordship may be at conversion or after some months or even years. God creates

within you the desire to do what He wants you to do in order to express His lordship in your life.

The Rim: Obedience to Christ

See: *Romans 12:1*; *John 14:21*

Some acts of obedience to God are internal. But even these internal acts of obedience, such as attitudes, habits, motives, sense of values, and day-to-day thoughts, eventually surface in relationships with other people. The proof of your love for God is your demonstrated obedience to Him.

The Christian Life



The Vertical Dimension:

How You Relate to God

The Word Spoke

See: *2 Timothy 3:16; Joshua 1:8*

As God speaks to you through the Scriptures, you can see His principles for life and ministry, learn how to obey, and become acquainted with the Christ who is worthy of your unqualified allegiance. A vital personal intake of God's Word is essential for health and growth.



The Prayer Spoke

See: *John 15:7; Philippians 4:6-7*

Prayer is a natural response to God as you hear Him speak to you through His Word. It is sharing your heart with the One who longs for your companionship and who cares about your concerns. Prayer unleashes the power of God in your personal battles and in the lives of those for whom you pray.



The Horizontal Dimension:

How You Relate to Others

The Fellowship Spoke

See: *Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 10:24-25*

Learning from and encouraging others creates a chemistry pleasing to God. God has directed Christians to build each other up through inter-dependence and loving relationships with each other.

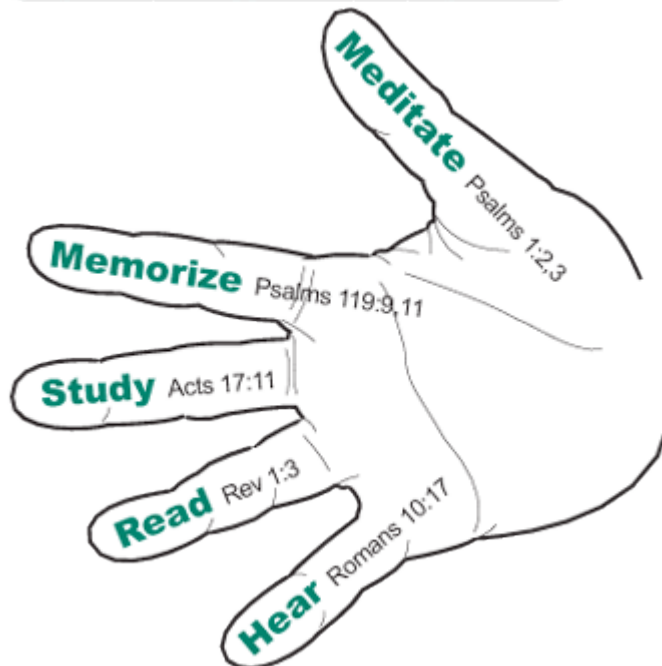
The Witnessing Spoke

See: *Matthew 4:19; Romans 1:16*

The natural overflow of a rich vibrant life in Christ should be sharing with others how they too can have this life. God has given believers the privilege and responsibility of reaching the world with the Good News about Christ.

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THE WORD HAND



The "Word Hand" shows five very important methods of learning from the Bible.

HEARING -- *Romans 10:17*

Hearing the Word from godly pastors and teachers provides insight into others' study of the Scriptures as well as stimulating your own appetite for the Word.

READING -- *Revelation 1:3*

Reading the Bible gives an overall picture of God's Word. Many people find it helpful to use a daily reading program which takes them systematically through the Bible.

STUDYING -- *Acts 17:11*

Studying the Scriptures leads to personal discoveries of God's truths. Writing down these discoveries helps you organize and remember them.

MEMORIZING -- *Psalms 119:9, 11*

Memorizing God's Word enables use of the Sword of the Spirit to overcome Satan and temptations...to have it readily available for witnessing or helping others with a "word in season."

MEDITATING -- *Psalms 1:2, 3*

Meditation is the thumb of the Word Hand, for it is used in conjunction with each of the other methods. Only as you meditate on God's Word--thinking of its meaning and application in your life--will you discover its transforming power at work within you.

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The Christian Life

Prayer

ACTS

Adoration

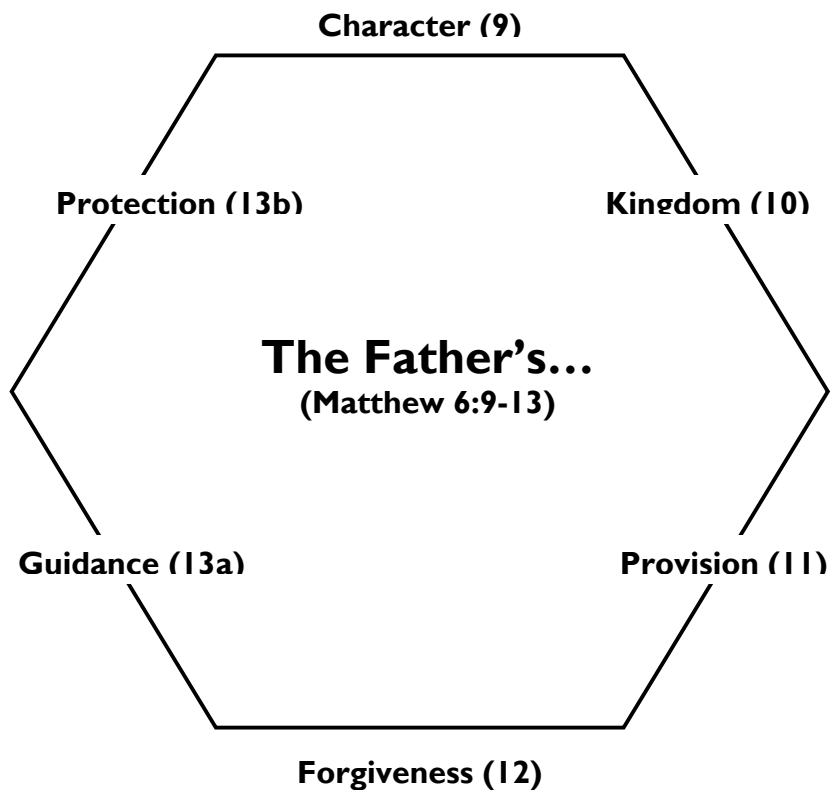
Confession

Thanksiving

Supplication (requests)

The Hexagon

From “Life Shapes” as found in Breen and Kallestad, The Passionate Church NexGen.



The Christian Life

Fellowship – the “one anothers” of the New Testament

Be at peace -- *and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.* {1 Thessalonians 5:13 (NASB-U)}

Love -- "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." {John 13:34-35 (NASB-U)}

Be devoted -- Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; {Romans 12:10 (NASB-U)}

United -- Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. {Romans 12:16 (NASB-U)}

Build up -- So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. {Romans 14:19 (NASB-U)}

Accept -- Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God. {Romans 15:7 (NASB-U)}

Admonish -- Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. {Col. 3:16 (NASB-U)}

Care for -- so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. {1 Cor. 12:25 (NASB-U)}

Serve -- For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. {Galatians 5:13 (NASB-U)}

Tolerate -- with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, {Ephesians 4:2 (NASB-U)}

Forgiving -- Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. {Ephesians 4:32 (NASB-U)}

Speaking to -- speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; {Ephesians. 5:19 (NASB-U)}

Submit to -- and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. {Ephesians 5:21 (NASB-U)}

Encourage -- and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near. {Hebrews 10:24-25 (NASB-U)}

Do not complain -- Be hospitable to one another without complaint. {1 Peter 4:9 (NASB-U)}

Confess sins -- Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. {James 5:16 (NASB-U)}

Be humble -- You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE. {1 Peter 5:5 (NASB-U)}

The Christian Life

Evangelism – The Bridge Illustration

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. ~ Jesus, John 5:24 {ESV}

The Christian Life

Baptism

Jesus commanded his followers to baptize (and be baptized). Baptism is for people who have chosen to follow Jesus and is done because you have already made this choice. Baptism doesn't make you a Christian; you get baptized to show the world you are a Christian.

Baptism by immersion is a symbol demonstrating the believer's identification with Christ. As Christians we are "co-buried" with Christ, and "co-risen" with Him (Col 2:11-15).

Communion

Jesus commanded his followers to remember His death and communion (also known as "the Lord's Supper", "the Breaking of Bread", eucharist) is a vivid picture of what his death accomplished:

Bread – He bore our sins in his body in order to be a substitute for us. (1 Peter 2:24)

Wine/Juice – His blood was required as a sacrifice in order for our sins to be forgiven (Heb 9:22) and though His blood He redeemed, or purchased us (Eph 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18,19)

Communion should be a profound and powerful act of worship and unity amongst disciples of Jesus Christ. It is also to be a time of examining our own hearts to make sure we are living in obedience to our Lord.

Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.