

Review:

Invitation #1 → Come to Me

Invitation #2 → Follow Me

Invitation #3 → Abide in Me

Invitation #4 → _____ = An unspeakable privilege to join Jesus in His rescue mission to bring life, light, and love to a broken world.

“...the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

John 20:21

Context

*¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”***

Matthew 28:18-20

3 Timeless principles from Jesus:

Luke 6:39-41

1. You cannot _____ what you do not _____. (v. 39)
2. More is _____ than _____. (v. 40)
3. We must “_____” what we want others to “_____.” (v. 41)

Become a Romans 12 Christian
(A grace-based relational profile of an authentic follower of Jesus)

5 Key relationships – r12 Biblical responses:

1. Relationship with God – _____ to God.

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Romans 12:1

2. Relationship with the world – _____ from the world.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:2

3. Relationship with yourself – _____ self-assessment.

³For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. ⁴For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; ⁷if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

Romans 12:3-8

4. Relationship with believers – _____ in love.

⁹ Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; ¹¹ not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, ¹³ contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

Romans 12:9-13

5. Relationship with nonbelievers – _____ responding to evil with good.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. ¹⁹ Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. ²⁰ "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:14-21

A new paradigm to consider:

- The power of a "to be" list.
- 4 key words: objective, prioritize, schedule, discipline

3 Relationships to pursue:

1. A Paul – to learn from.
2. A Timothy – to invest in.
3. A Barnabas – to do life with.

The Four Great Invitations: A Personal Assessment of Your Journey with Jesus

Where Are You in This Process?

Growth is hard to quantify. Christlikeness is even harder, especially since measuring ourselves against Jesus always reveals that we are significantly short of the goal. But transformation is nevertheless noticeable. We recognize the difference between before-and-after pictures, between a caterpillar and a butterfly, or between a seed and a harvest.

Transformation looks like people who have been lost, broken, or stuck becoming loved, healed, and free—and eager to offer what God has given them to others.

Where are you on the path of transformation? The following diagnostic tool will help you assess where you are—again, not in or-der to get lost in introspection, lament your lack of change, or make you feel like a failure, **but to get a clear idea of where you’re going from here.** It will give you some perspective on your transformation into the image of Christ and, I hope, be an encouragement one day when you look back and see how far you’ve come.

Rank yourself (or better yet, ask a friend to help rank you) on the scale from 0% to 100% in the following areas. Don’t worry if you aren’t completely sure what to mark; this is a tool for personal reflection and discussion with fellow believers.

1.) I am currently involved in activities and training that are equipping me to do the work of the ministry.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Sporadically</u>	<u>Consistently</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

2.) I am regularly participating in intentional, meaningful, biblical worship.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Sporadically</u>	<u>Consistently</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

3.) I am currently in an apprentice or mentoring relationship with an older believer who is stimulating my spiritual growth.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Sporadically</u>	<u>Consistently</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

4.) I am currently ministering and building into the lives of others.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Sporadically</u>	<u>Consistently</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

5.) I am becoming more like Christ, as evidenced by a desire to read God’s Word, a disciplined study and understanding of His Word, and an ability to see through false teaching.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Sporadically</u>	<u>Consistently</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

6.) I am becoming more like Christ, as evidenced by enjoying one or more deep, authentic Christ-centered relationships.

<u>Not Currently</u>	<u>1-2</u>	<u>3 or more</u>
0%	50-60%	90-100%

7.) I am currently in a small group where speaking the truth in love is common. I have three or four gut-level accountability relationships that are helping me through the most sensitive areas of my life.

<u>Not Currently</u>	<u>Hit and miss</u>	<u>3 or more</u>
0%	50-60%	90-100%

8.) I am becoming more like Christ, as evidenced by a desire to become more deeply involved with God’s people, to worship, to learn, to serve, and to meet the needs of others. I have a clear sense that I fit in the body of Christ. I am loved by others, and I find myself caring and helping them in increasing measure.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Significantly</u>	<u>Yes</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

9.) I am becoming more like Christ, as evidenced by compassion for and acts of service on behalf of “the least of these” (Matt. 25:40, 45)—those who need provision of food, clothing, shelter, and other acts of mercy.

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Significantly</u>	<u>Yes</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%

10.) I am following Jesus’ Great Commission by sharing God’s love verbally and as a lifestyle to make disciples and witness to the gospel (Matt 28:19–20).

<u>Never</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Significantly</u>	<u>Yes</u>
0%	10-15%	50-60%	90-100%