

WHAT  
IS YOUR  
**NEXT**  
STEP?

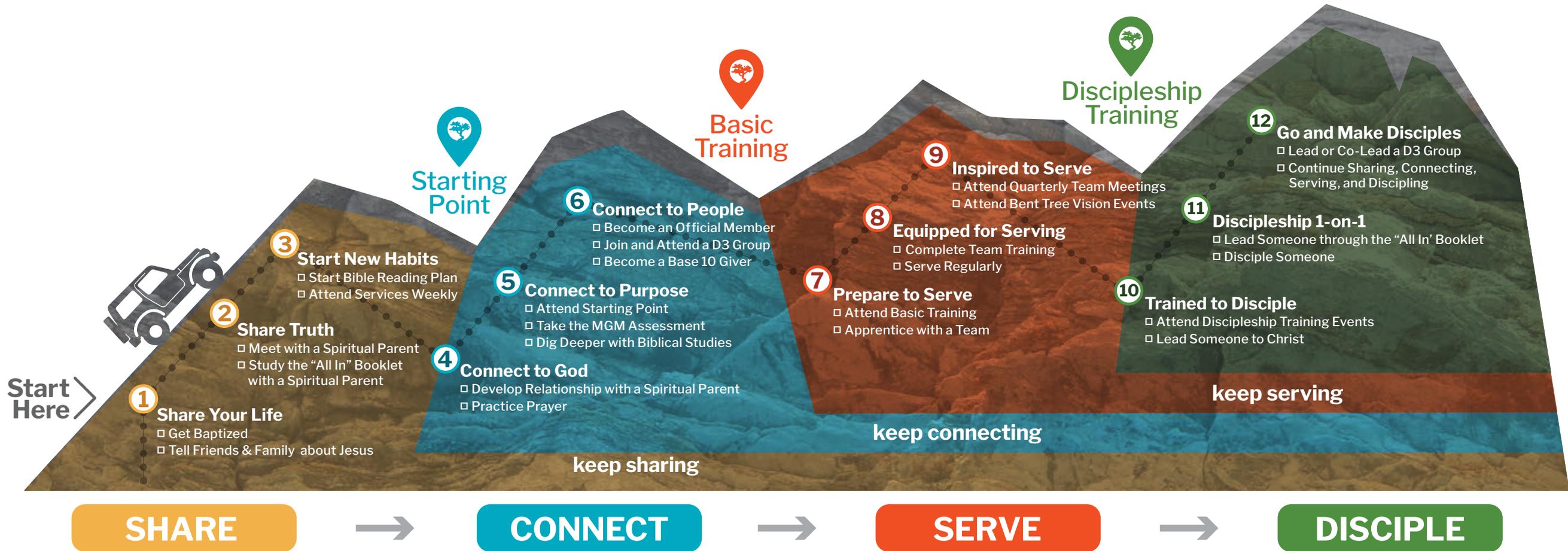


Bent Tree  
Discipleship Pathway



# Bent Tree Discipleship Pathway

Find Resources & Sign-Ups at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)



# SHARE

## 1) Share Your Life

This is where your Discipleship Pathway starts. Whether you're a new or a more mature disciple, don't neglect these crucial steps in growing as a Christ-follower.

### Get Baptized

Getting baptized is the first step for those who have yet to "take the plunge".

For information on Baptism at Bent Tree, visit [benttreechurch.com/baptism](http://benttreechurch.com/baptism). Not sure if you're ready for baptism (or a re-baptism)? Schedule a meeting with any Bent Tree Shepherding Elder or Bent Tree Pastor for guidance.

### Tell Friends & Family about Jesus

It's important to share your story with others about how Jesus has saved you. For help with how to share about Jesus, ask your D3 Group or your Shepherding Elder. They will be happy to help you get started. Make sharing about Jesus an important practice throughout your life. Find a how-to guide at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

## 2) Share Truth

The Bible is the truth without any mixture of error. As we share the truth with others, our faith grows deep in the truth. When we discuss what we believe to be true with others in the church, they can help correct misperceptions and misinterpretations.

### Meet with a Spiritual Parent

Every disciple needs a more spiritually-mature disciple to speak into their life. We all need a guide to help us grow into spiritual maturity. Our Shepherding Elders and D3 Group Leaders can help connect you to a Spiritual Parent at Bent Tree. These Spiritual Parents would love to meet with you and guide you along your faith journey.

### Study the "All In" Booklet with a Spiritual Parent

Sharing the truth means you need to first know the truth. The "All In" Booklet is a 6-Part Study Guide. This guide will help you understand the fundamentals of the Christian faith. By knowing what the Bible says is true, you can stand firm in the testing of your faith. Download the All In Booklet at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

## 3) Start New Habits

Small daily habits lead to long-term growth.

### Start Bible Reading Plan

Scripture is alive and is able to transform our hearts. Daily time reading and meditating on it is crucial to our spiritual growth. We're here to help! Join in with Bent Tree's Bible Reading Plan at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

### Attend Services Weekly

The Church is the Body of Christ. Sunday Services are where the body comes together to hear the Word preached. It's when we worship God together each week. It's also where we support each other with fellowship and encouragement. We miss you when you are not there! Make being at Bent Tree every week a priority, and only miss when you are sick or out-of-town. Got kids? Make sure you bring them too.



# CONNECT

## 4) Connect to God

Along with daily going deep into scripture and joining with the church body on Sundays, there are more ways you can connect to God.

### Develop Relationship with a Spiritual Parent

As you get to know your Spiritual Parent (“discipler”), they can help you stay focused on growing in your faith. They can also help you take the next step. Be intentional about sharing your story and what you’re learning with them.

### Practice Prayer

Prayer is simply communicating with God. We can connect directly with our Heavenly Father through prayer. Download a helpful prayer guide at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

## 5) Connect to Purpose

We were created to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever. Find true purpose as you connect with the Body of Christ, study the Word of God, and by using your God-given gifts for his glory.

### Attend Starting Point

It’s simple to get started at Bent Tree, just attend Starting Point. This session is designed to help you find out more about your church; the mission and beliefs. Sign up at [benttreechurch.com/startingpoint](http://benttreechurch.com/startingpoint)

### Take the MGM Assessment

The Motivational Gift Mix is all about our Spiritual Gifts. This 20-minute assessment is a great way to start the conversation about how your gifts are meant to be used. Take the MGM Assessment at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

### Dig Deeper with Biblical Studies

The Bent Tree Biblical Studies program is for our members to learn about the main themes of scripture. This class focuses in on expanding your knowledge and understanding of biblical truth from Genesis to Revelation. Join a class at [btc.churchcenter.com](http://btc.churchcenter.com) before the start of the upcoming fall or spring semester.

## 6) Connect to People

You can’t do life alone, and the church was meant to be together.

### Become a Member

Membership at Bent Tree truly aids our devotion to one another in brotherly love and helps us serve the Lord with gladness. After Starting Point, you are asked to prayerfully consider becoming an Official Member. Make sure to turn in your signed Membership Covenant and Group/Team Selection Form.

### Join and Attend a D3 Group

The sole purpose of the groups is to empower and equip disciples to be followers of Christ. Every D3 Group has the same goal... to help grow into the Christ-followers God designed us to be. To Join a D3 Group, let us know here. Once you’re in a D3 Group, make the commitment to attend weekly. Sign-up at [btc.churchcenter.com/groups](http://btc.churchcenter.com/groups)

### Become a Base 10 Giver

Base 10 Giving simply giving a base offering of 10% of your income to the work of ministry and living off the rest. The word tithe literally means “tenth.” In the Old Testament, this kind of stewardship was the standard (see Leviticus 27:30, Proverbs 3:9); in the New Testament, we see this standard as a launching point to more generous offerings.



# SERVE

## 7) Prepare to Serve

We were created for connection, commitment, and for ministry in the church. This is how the Kingdom grows: the people of God being the hands and feet of Jesus.

### Attend Basic Training

The first step after becoming an official member is Basic Training. This is where we help align you with the what, why, and how when it comes to serving in the church. Sign up for Basic Training at [btc.churchcenter.com](http://btc.churchcenter.com)

### Apprentice with a Team

After Basic Training, your apprenticeship begins. This looks different for each team, and some teams have specific requirements before you can start. An apprenticeship gives you and our Team Leaders a chance to know if the team is the right fit for you.

## 8) Equipped for Serving

Each one of us is called to use our spiritual gifts to serve the church. We organize under teams and leaders for the greatest effectiveness and focus.

### Complete Team Training

At Basic Training, you'll be given information about training specific to your team that will help you learn your role. Team Training includes details on how to perform individual tasks as you complete your apprenticeship. It also may include guided coursework or training videos depending on the role. Once you've learned the ropes, your Team Training is complete.

### Serve Regularly

The best way to grow in your serving role is to simply show up. Commit to the times you've been scheduled and practice Moral Integrity with your team. Remember to check your schedule and provide your team leader with your availability far in advance.

## 9) Inspired to Serve

We don't serve out of obligation, but out of an awareness for the cause of Christ.

### Attend Quarterly Team Meetings

Every quarter your team has a meeting designed just for your area of ministry. This is a special time of training and growing together as a team. Make a commitment to attend each one for development and inspiration.

### Attend Bent Tree Vision Events

We ask every member of Bent Tree to attend our annual Vision Night in the fall. There are also other events throughout the year to take part of the vision that God has given our church. Seek to be a champion for the vision of the church and your individual ministry area. Check out [btc.churchcenter.com](http://btc.churchcenter.com) for coming events.



# DISCIPLE

## 10) Trained to Disciple

God commands us to go and make disciples of all nations. Our church is all about raising up strong Spiritual Parents that make disciples both here and around the world.

### Attend Bent Tree Discipleship Training Events

Bent Tree has various discipleship training events, including our annual D3 Conference. Plan to join in with these opportunities to grow your discipleship muscles. Check out coming events at [btc.churchcenter.com](http://btc.churchcenter.com)

### Lead Someone to Christ

Every disciple-maker should practice leading someone to Christ on a regular basis. Jesus does the saving work of salvation, and he commands us to share the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

## 11) Discipleship 1-on-1

We all need a brother or sister in Christ to help us along the way to Spiritual Maturity.

### Lead Someone through the “All In” Booklet

The “All In” Booklet is a study guide that helps new and/or spiritually immature believers learn the fundamentals of their faith. This 6-session booklet is designed for Spiritual Parents to lead a disciple through. Download the “All In” Booklet at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

### Disciple Someone

Real discipleship is walking with a less spiritually mature disciple to help them grow in their walk with Christ. This includes meeting with them regularly. You can help guide them through the Discipleship Pathway and give encouragement and gentle correction as they grow. For help finding someone to disciple, fill out the form at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

## 12) Go and Make Disciples

As you grow into a Spiritual Parent, the ultimate goal is to be released to go and make more and more disciples, but also to lead disciples as they grow.

### Lead or Co-Lead a D3 Group

A great way to start discipling others is to lead them in a D3 Group. Not everyone is meant for leadership on a serving team, but everyone is called to lead others in discipleship. Pray about being sent-out from your D3 Group to start a new one, or to step up as a Co-Leader. Apply to become a D3 Group Leader or Co-Leader at [benttreechurch.com/pathway](http://benttreechurch.com/pathway)

### Continue Sharing, Connecting, Serving, and Discipling

This is not the end! Being a follower of Christ means that we are not finished with our own Spiritual Growth in this life (or even the next). Keep referring back to your personal pathway to see where you are lacking or need to practice more. Remember, this is not a “spiritual report card”. Spiritual Growth is solely a work of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer.



## ***The Great Commission***

*Matthew 28:16-20 (ESV)*

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”



**[benttreechurch.com/pathway](https://benttreechurch.com/pathway)**