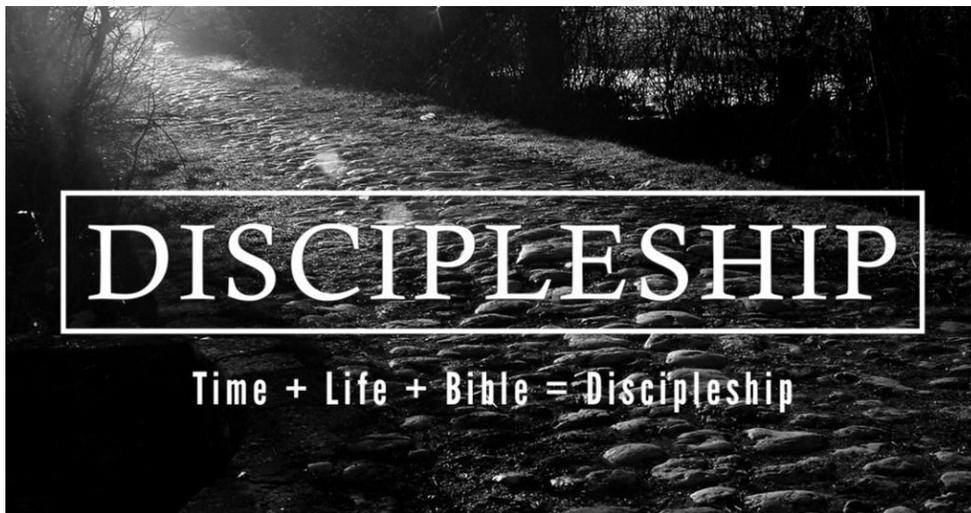


Reach 3-2-1

Part 3

Discipling New and Un-Disciplined Followers of Jesus



A Reach Jesus Journey Resource

By

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**Reach 3-2-1 Part 3 is a
Reach “Jesus Journey” Discipleship Resource**

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I. Introduction

In Part 1 and 2 of the Reach 3-2-1 resources, you learned the first step in fulfilling God's "Great Commission" in making disciples, which is the "tell" part. In Part 3 we will provide you with the system for fulfilling the second part of God's "Great Commission" which is the "teach" part. In this resource, we will show you how to systematically disciple new followers of Jesus and those who have never been disciplined before, utilizing the Reach "Jesus Journey" Discipleship System.

II. Disciple-Making

Making disciples (followers of Jesus) is the two-step process of "telling" and "teaching" that takes place in a relational context, which is why I emphasize reaching your circle of influence. Regarding the teaching aspect of making disciples, let me emphasize that this takes place best in a life-on-life context.

By life-on-life I simply mean, you do what Jesus did. He invited those who followed Him to follow Him. Jesus' disciples went where He went and learned by being with Him, interacting with Him, and watching Him. Likewise, new believer's (NB) will learn to follow Jesus His way, by being with you, interacting with you, and watching you as you actively follow Jesus His way.

Invite NB's to join you when you do group life, when you do outreach, and when you are just hanging out with other believers. The reality is that the Jesus life is more caught than taught. Also, remember that Jesus taught the disciples as he did life with them; which we will deal with more, as you progress through this resource.

A vital aspect of disciple-making is emphasizing that new disciples are not only learning how to follow Jesus, they are also learning how to make disciples that make disciples. This disciple-making continuum is how we fulfill God's "Great Commission" (Matt. 28:18-20). Therefore, as you make disciples, make sure you're emphasizing this vital aspect throughout the disciple-making process.

III. Reach Discipleship System

The Reach Discipleship System (RDS) is called a system because it provides the process for how to disciple NB's, as well as providing the resources for discipling NB's using the Reach "Jesus Journey" Discipleship Resources (RJJD or JJR for short).

The RDS will help you take a new follower of Jesus from accepting Jesus as Savior and Lord, to helping them learn how to grow in their new relationship with Him.

The resources in the RDS are referred to as the “Reach Jesus Journey”. The RJJ resources are free resources we provide on the Reach Website (Reach.LMIQ.Org) under the **E-Training** and **D-Training** tabs. We do this so that anyone, anywhere, at anytime, can have the resources necessary to help new followers of Jesus successfully grow in their new relationship with Him.

The reality is, that most followers of Jesus will greatly benefit from the RJJ resources because many have never been systematically disciplined, and have not had the level of teaching that the RJJ resources provide.

The RJJ systematically takes a NB from infancy (the need to be fed the Word of God) to the point where they will be able to feed themselves as well as others. The systematic aspect of the RJJ refers to chronological order that the resources should be used in.

A. The Jesus Journey consists of 4 stages of growth that all believers go through in their new life in Christ for establishing a strong foundation for a lifelong relationship with Him as Savior and Lord.

1. “*Come and see*” Jn 1:39 (Investigation)
2. “*Come to Me*” Mt. 11:28, Jn 6:44,65; 7:37 (Salvation)
3. “*Learn from Me*” Mt 11:29 (Discipleship)
“*Follow Me*” Mt. 4:19, Jn 1:43 (Sanctification)
4. “*Go for Me*” Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:15 (Evangelism)
“*Represent Me*” 2 Cor. 5:20 (Ambassadors)

Since you are reading this, you are most likely discipling someone who is at stage 3 – *Learn from, and follow Jesus*.

The JJ is based on the 3 years that the disciples spent with Jesus. In the Gospels, we see the disciples “*came to see*” who Jesus was. They came to check Him out to see if He was the promised Messiah. In John 1:34-42 we see John the Baptist giving his testimony of seeing the Holy Spirit descending like a dove and remain on Jesus, and how God the Father told him that this would identify the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. In short, this is how John knew that Jesus was the “Lamb of God”, the promised Messiah.

Picking up in verse 35 - *"The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus."*

One of the interesting things about this historical account is that Andrew, and John (disciple and author of the Gospel of John) were looking for the Messiah which is why they were John the Baptist's disciples. The reality is many were looking for the Messiah as evidenced by: Andrew finding his brother Peter and Philip finding Nathaniel to inform them that they had found the Messiah (John 1:40-44). The Samaritan Women's testimony in John 4:25 also confirms that there was a messianic expectation: *The woman said, "I know that Messiah "(called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."*

The main point of this is, that the first step in following Jesus is the "come see" stage. For this stage, I've written: "His-Story is Our-Story – The history of God and you". This would be a great resource to give to people who are looking to check Jesus out. In this resource, I give the basics about God, Jesus, and the Bible, which lays the groundwork for people to take the next step of receiving Jesus as Savior and Lord.

Reach Jesus Journey Resources:

1. Reach Q&A – Discovering what they know
2. His-Story is Our-Story – The History of God and You
3. Foundation For Life – Understanding the Word of God
4. Harmony of the Gospels – The Life of Jesus
5. Reach 3-2-1 Part 1 – Getting into a Gospel Conversation
6. Reach 3-2-1 Part 2 – Giving a Reason for Your Faith
7. Following Jesus – The Book of Acts
8. Reach 3-2-1 Part 3 – Discipling New Followers of Jesus
9. Building on the Foundation (75 Bible overview lessons broken into 14 Times Periods of the Bible)
10. Reach 3-2-1 Part 4 – The Reach Initiative

Once someone places their faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord, they enter the “*Learn from and Follow Me*” (Mt. 11:29) stage.

In this stage, the NB needs to be mentored, which I explain in the next section of this resource.

The “*Learn from and Follow Me*” stage is the beginning of discipleship, which is a lifelong pursuit of learning about God – who He is, what He’s done, what He’s doing, and what He’s going to do. The primary resource for learning is God’s written revelation – the Bible. As a mentor you have the privilege of helping the NB discover what the Bible is and the importance it plays in cultivating a relationship with God.

During the “*Learn from and Follow Me*” part of the journey we go through the same process that we went through when we were physically born. First, we need to be fed by others, and then we gradually learn to feed ourselves and others. As a mentor, you help the NB learn about Jesus and how to follow Him His way.

B. Mentoring

Mentoring is a one-on-one type of discipleship we refer to as D2, which means 2 disciples (Followers of Jesus) doing life together. Mentoring a NB is the most important and most neglected part of the discipleship process. The reason it’s the most important part of the discipleship process is that it’s where the foundation for following Jesus His way is laid. It’s like feeding a newborn baby. Like newborn babies, they need immediate attention; they need to be cleaned and fed.

The Bible says,

“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.”

1 Peter 2:2-3

The cleaning aspect is helping the NB get rid of false unbiblical beliefs about God, which is done by feeding them what the Bible says about God. The clean and feed process is done by simply asking the NB questions about what they believe about specific things pertaining to God – see the “Reach O & A” resource for the list of specific things to ask new believers.

The clean and feed process of mentoring is important because most everyone has likely picked up unbiblical beliefs throughout their lives that need to be

specifically addressed. Once you clean up the unbiblical beliefs, they're ready to be fed without the hindrances of their unbiblical beliefs.

Why You Should Mentor

The reason you should mentor the NB is because you have a relationship with them and had the privilege of leading them to Jesus, therefore, it's natural that you be the one to help them begin their new relationship with Jesus. Another reason you should mentor the NB is that it's one of the great joys God gives us as followers of Jesus – “...*teaching them to obey everything I've commanded you...* (Mt. 28:20).

This may sound daunting, but it's not. You may be saying that you don't have the gift of teaching. Mentoring and teaching are similar, but not the same. Teaching is a gift that involves a lot of things that mentoring does not include. Mentoring is simply passing on what you already know or should know which is how to cultivate a relationship with Jesus.

If followers of Jesus were about the Kings business of making disciples we would need a church full of mentors to mentor new believers. Our boats would be overflowing.

As a mentor, it's important to understand the art of providing short answers during the Q&A process. This is because most of the unbiblical beliefs will be more specifically addressed as they progress through the mentoring process and the Reach Discipleship System. We talk more about this in the [Reach Q&A](#) resource.

Once you complete the Q&A process (which can usually be done in one or two meetings), you'll be ready to take the next step in the mentoring process, which is getting them into the Word of God and guiding them through the first 3 RJJ resources. Getting them into the Word of God is the first and primary thing you will do as a mentor.

Using the RJJ Resources

As a mentor, you will both read through one of the RJJ resources and meet once a week to talk about the content you both read. All 3 resources are straight forward with points of emphasis that can be covered by asking “what they learned or thought about _____?” (The blank space would be the point of emphasis that you're talking about).

For example, if you've been reading chapter one in the "His-Story is Our-Story..." resource and you're talking about the "Evidence for God" section, you would ask: 'what did you learn' or 'what did you think about the "Intelligent Design Argument"?' Then you simply have a conversation about their response, highlighting the major points of emphasis.

The art of a conversation is learning to ask questions. As I mentioned in part 1 of the Reach 3-2-1 training (p.9 – Conversations), no one likes a lecture, therefore ask questions to draw out a conversation to learn what the mentee thought about or learned on specific issues that you both read about.

Work your way through the above-mentioned resources at an agreed-upon pace (one that is not overwhelming for the mentee) so that you can have pleasant meaningful 45-60 minute meetings. These meetings should be pleasurable and not a burden. Don't be in a hurry to get through the resources, but set a pace that allows for meaningful conversations about the points of emphasis in the resources.

The Ultimate Jesus Journey Resource – The Bible

As I mentioned, in addition to working through the RJJ resources, it's vital that you include reading from God's Word (Bible). It's vital because it's important that the NB learns that daily time in God's Word is the most important aspect in cultivating their relationship with God (D1), the RJJ resources are a supplement to the main meal (The Word of God). I recommend that you start with the Gospel of John or The Life of Jesus – Harmony of the Gospels resource (see p.13 for details).

When NB's start reading the Bible they usually fall into one of two categories: They want to read everything, especially the Book of Revelation; or they are easily overwhelmed and can only read a little at a time. Whatever category they fit in, help them set a pace that works for them.

"His-Story is Our-Story - ..." vs. "Foundation For Life - ..."

The "Foundation For Life – Understanding the Layout of the Bible" (FFL) RJJ resource is a shorter version of the "His-Story is Our-Story..." (HSOS) RJJ resource. FFL is designed for followers of Jesus (FOJ) who haven't been systematically disciplined, but have a good understanding about God's existence and the evidence for why the Bible is God's written revelation. HSOS is an excellent resource for someone who has little or no knowledge about God or the Bible.

The FFL resource can also be used in group settings as well. We will talk about discipleship groups later in this resource.

FFL starts with a review of the Gospel with the goal of confirming the NB's understanding of their profession of faith in Jesus. It is also included in the resource for professing believers that you may not have led to faith in Jesus, but are mentoring. It's very important to confirm someone's understanding of saving faith before launching into a discipleship relationship because as the Word of God says:

“The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.” 1 Corinthians 2:14

This verse simply says that only people who have placed their faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord possess the Spirit of God who helps us “*understand*” the “*things that come from the Spirit of God*”. This is known as “illumination”. This is where the Spirit of God illuminates the mind of the follower of God to understand the Word of God. If the mentee doesn't understand the Gospel, this would be a great time to talk to them about the Gospel and what it means to follow Jesus.

In the “**Important Things to Know**” section of FFL, we cover the information about following Jesus, God's Spirit, the Bible, and Prayer. After this, there's an overview of the Bible that talks about how it's divided into the Old and New Testaments and how these testaments are divided.

The main point of emphasis of FFL is, understanding how the Bible is broken up into “14 Chronological Time Periods”.

This chronological method is the key to accurately understanding how the Bible is put together.

It's like understanding how the 50 states make up the United States of America. Once you know how the country's divided up you can begin understanding additional information about our country.

Once a NB understands how the Bible is laid out into 14 Chronological Time Periods, they will be better able to start understanding additional information from the Bible. This will be extremely important for two reasons: First, when they hear someone talking about something in the Bible they will be able to put it in its proper context and then connect it to what the person is trying to communicate.

Second, we constantly refer to these 14 Time Periods when teaching through God's Word so that people know where we are and what's going on.

Unfortunately, preachers and teachers of God's Word forget that not everyone they're talking to understand the people, places, and events in the Bible and therefore, they (NB) fail to comprehend what is being communicated. It would be like someone explaining the Everglades in Florida to someone who has no idea what Everglades or Florida are.

The Length of the Mentor Relationship

The length of the mentor relationship is flexible. Typically we recommend that this relationship takes place at least through the Q&A session, the "His-Story..." and or the FFL resources.

The ultimate goal is to get a mentee in a discipleship group with other followers of Jesus. When that time occurs depends more on the mentee and their willingness to be with other followers of Jesus, which typically has to do with their personality type, and how they feel about being around people they don't know.

Introducing mentees to other followers of Jesus should begin immediately if the mentee is attending church with you. This is a great way to help them feel more comfortable around people they don't know and prepared to get connected to a discipleship group.

Continuing the mentee relationship past the "FFL" resource is not a problem. It very well may develop into a "Journey Group" which I describe in the following Discipleship Groups section. The length of the mentor/mentee relationship depends on the desire of the mentor and mentee. The goal of this relationship as mentioned before is to get the NB grounded in getting into God's Word and to learn enough where they're able to begin cultivating their relationship with Jesus by developing the discipline of allowing God to speak to them daily from His Word.

C. Discipleship Groups

Another part of the Reach Discipleship System is discipleship groups. The Reach Discipleship Process is divided into 4 discipleship components – 1, 2, 3-4, or More.

Word of Caution

Before we get into the types of groups, let me caution you about discipling NB or any believer of the opposite gender along. The only time discipling members of the opposite gender is acceptable is in a Life Group which is made up of larger groups of people. Journey Groups can be mixed gender, but the same gender works best because of the depth and intimacy of these groups.

It is wise and prudent to only closely disciple members of your own gender because of the intimate nature of discipleship and the natural sexual dynamic between the opposite sexes.

D1 refers to personal discipleship. This is the most important component of being a disciple because it's the foundation for cultivating a relationship with God. D-1 is reading, studying, and thinking on God's written revelation, also known as the Bible.

The Bible is one of the main ways He specifically speaks to us. The Bible is known as "specific" and or "special" revelation because He has specifically revealed who He is, what He's done, what He's doing, and what He's going to do. Another way that He speaks to us is through His Spirit (Holy Spirit). The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to speak to the children of God. Therefore, it is vital that we learn how to read and understand God's written revelation to us so that we can know Him and follow Him His way.

D1 is like eating. In order to be physically healthy, we need to eat healthy meals every day. Likewise, to be spiritually healthy, we need to eat daily from the Word of God (Bible). Feeding on God's Word daily is the best way to cultivate our relationship with God because it's through the Word of God that the Spirit of God speaks to us and teaches us about God. Like any healthy thriving relationship, there needs to be continual communication.

In order to know God, we need to allow God to speak to us through His Word. When we do this on a daily basis, the Spirit of God takes the Word of God to transform the child of God. The Bible says:

"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

The Bible is "*living and active*" because it was the Spirit of God that influenced the men of God as they wrote the Word of God (2 Peter 1:20-21 & 2 Tim 3:16-17).

The Word of God is an eternal spring that will not run dry. Which is another way of saying, you can spend your entire life on earth learning about God, the depths of His purpose and plan for your life, and the life to come and you would continue to learn new and wonderful things about Him.

Another amazing aspect of God's living and active Word is how the Spirit of God teaches one thing from a specific passage and then adds to what He's taught us from the very same passage at a later time. As this happens, we often think, why did I not see that last time? The answer is that the Holy Spirit reveals what He wants us to see as He wants us to see it. This is evidence that His Word is "*living and active*" (1 Pet. 1:23).

The next type of discipleship is what I refer to as **D2**, which is the mentor/mentee relationship that was covered in the previous section of this resource.

D 3-4 is what I refer to as "Journey Groups". A Journey Group is made up of 3 to 4 FOJ that want to go deeper in God's Word, deeper in relationship with one another, and deeper into following Jesus in fulfilling His Great Commandment (Mt. 22:37-39) and Great Commission (Mt. 28:18-20).

D-More is what I refer to as Discovery Groups, Life Groups, and Learn Groups.

Discovery Groups are usually made up of people seeking to learn about God and is a great place for seekers and new believers. Discovery Groups are a great way to start a Bible study in neighborhoods and communities that may not know Jesus as Savior and Lord. The "Reach Q&A" and "His Story..." are excellent resources for Discovery Groups.

Life Groups focus on relationships and getting to know one another; therefore the depth of study usually is lower (not as deep) and slower than Journey Groups because it takes time to interact and discuss the topics that come up in a Bible study.

Learn Groups typically are used for special training events for things like learning how to share the Gospel (Reach 3-2-1 Part 1 & 2) and doing outreach.

God willing, a Discovery Group can turn into a Journey or Life Group as non-followers of Jesus become followers.

The size of Life Groups and Discovery Groups should be limited to 10-12 people because the larger the group, the longer it takes to connect and get through God's Word. Learn Groups can exceed 10-12 people because of the nature of these groups (teaching and training).

Discipleship Group Summary

As mentioned before, D1 is the most important form of discipleship because the primary goal of following Jesus is to cultivate an intimate personal relationship with God, which is best done between you and God.

D2 is the best discipleship option for new FOJ because they need immediate undivided care, and we don't want to overwhelm the NB.

D 3-4 is the best option after a NB finishes the D2 component because smaller is better in laying the foundation for effective disciple-making for the reasons stated in the D 3-4 section of this resource.

D-More is the best option for people to grow in relationships with more people which is never a bad thing.

D. Reach Jesus Journey Discipleship Resources

1. Reach Q&A 1st mentor/mentee resource
2. His-Story is Our-Story – The History of God and You 2nd and or 3rd mentor/mentee resources
3. Foundation For Life – Understanding the Word of God 2nd and or 3rd mentor/mentee resources
4. Harmony of the Gospels – The Life of Jesus
5. Reach 3-2-1 Part 1 – Getting into a Gospel Conversation Group life discipleship resources
6. Reach 3-2-1 Part 2 – Giving a Reason for Your Faith Group life discipleship resources
7. Following Jesus – The Book of Acts
8. Reach 3-2-1 Part 3 – Discipling New Followers of Jesus
9. Building on the Foundation –75 Bible overview lessons broken into 14 Times Periods of the Bible
10. Reach 3-2-1 Part 4 – The Reach Initiative

Overview of the Jesus Journey

We are all born separated from God because we are all sinners. We grow up separated from God until God draws us to Himself (“*Come to Me*”) and helps us understand His gift of salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ (Mt. 11:28; John 6:44, 65).

Once we receive God's gift of salvation (“*Come to Me*”) we are reconciled and no longer separated from God. Upon receiving God's gift of salvation, God gives us

another gift – the Holy Spirit comes and lives in us to guide and direct us on the Jesus Journey.

After NB's come to Jesus, they then enter the "*learn from and follow Me*" stage of the JJ which is a life-time relationship with Jesus. As they develop their relationship with Jesus they move into the "*Go for and represent Me*" part of the journey.

The best way to introduce a NB to this part of the journey is to take them out on outreach which I explain in the Reach 3-2-1 Part 4. The bottom line is that the NB will get to see what it looks like to talk to people about Jesus and reach them with the love and Gospel of God. The reality of the "*Go for Me*" stage is that it is more caught than taught.

After they see God work through ordinary FOJ and the blessing of pointing people to Jesus, they will be hooked. This is where the Reach 3-2-1 resources come into play. Reach 3-2-1 Part 1-2 can be taught at the same time they are going through the **Life of Jesus – Harmony of the Gospel** (LOJ-HOG) group study or as a standalone study.

Reach 3-2-1 Part 1 teaches the NB how to get into a God/ Gospel conversation with people in their circle of influence using 3 questions that transition into 2 Scriptures that explain the Gospel. **Reach 3-2-1 Part 2** teaches NB's how to deal with questions about God's existence and how we know the Bible is the Word of God.

As you seen, this resource (Reach 3-2-1 Part 3) teaches how to disciple NB's and is to be used once the NB has completed Parts 1 & 2 and is near the completion of **HOG-LOJ**.

Another reality of the RJJ and the RDS is there are no absolutes regarding these discipleship components and plan, mainly because of personality styles, likes and dislikes, and season of life issues (stage of life: single, married, children, etc...). Therefore, use these RJJ resources as a guide, and not a concrete inflexible plan. Do what works best for the NB as they progress through their JJ.

Once the NB completes the **HOG-LOJ** group resource, I recommend that they jump into the **Following Jesus – The Book of Acts** (FJ-BOA) group study. This RJJ resource teaches how the first century FOJ followed Jesus.

After completing the FJ-BOA study, the not so new FOJ, would then go through the, Building on the Foundation – 75 Bible overview lessons broken into 14 Time Periods of the Bible (BOTF) which builds on the 14 Time Periods of the Bible that were covered in the FFL RJJR. Building on the Foundation takes the FOJ through an overview of the entire Bible which of course covers the 14 Time Periods of the Bible.

BOTF can be used in part or the whole; which means that the study can be used from start to finish or it can be taught in whatever order works for the group. The group may want to go through the New Testament (NT) before the Old Testament, or they may want to go through individual New Testament books after the NT portion of BOTF. The point is, to go where the Spirit of God leads the group.

As you can see, the RDS is not just systematic; it's also comprehensive in that it sets the stage for a lifetime of studying God's Word. My hope is that once FOJ finish the BOTF resource they would go even deeper and learn what God has revealed about Himself and us in all 66 books of His Word. This of course takes place over a life-time of following Jesus His way. The reality is, the more we know and follow Jesus, the more we grow in becoming like Jesus, which of course is the goal of the Jesus Journey.

IV. The Reach Initiative - Reach 3-2-1 Part 4

The last part of the Reach 3-2-1 resource deals with understanding the Reach Initiative which is the point of God's Great Commission to make disciples who love God and people, and the mission of Reach Evangelistic Association.

Reach 3-2-1 Part 4 is written for Pastors and Church Leaders to teach them how to implement the Reach Initiative, which puts it all together to reach communities with the Gospel and love of God.

Let me encourage you to go through Reach 3-2-1 Part 4 even if you are not a Pastor or leader in your church. Going through this RJJR will help you understand the full nature of God's desire for you and your Church to reach everyone in your community and the world with His love and solution to our sin and separation problem.

Thank you for diligently working through the RJJR's and may God richly bless you as you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and as you make disciples!