

G3

A RELATIONAL APPROACH TO DISCIPLESHIP

Real Life Journey

G3 Study Guide

Part III – Walking in Freedom

Overview of Part II

The third part of the disciple-making journey looks at the disciple becoming a person who walks in freedom.



While Satan cannot rob the believer of his eternal salvation, he seeks to rob him of intimacy with God and fruitfulness in life. Jim Logan's book, ***Reclaiming Surrender Ground***, will be used. There are some weeks where you will be encouraged to study one chapter and skim another.

Overview of Part II

Week 27 (Page 3) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 1

Week 28 (Page 7) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 2

Week 29 (Page 11) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 4, (Skim Chapter 5)

Week 30 (Page 15) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 6

Week 31 (Page 19) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 7

Week 32 (Page 23) – Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
(Men) Chapter 9 (Skim Chapter 8)
(Women) Chapter 10 (Skim Chapter 11)

Week 33 (Page 29) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapters 13 (Skim Chapter 12)

Week 34 (Page 33) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 14

Week 35 (Page 35) - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground,
Chapter 15

(The material in this guide was adapted from Bill Street, Pastor of Discipleship at Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, TN with his permission.)

WEEK TWENTY-SEVEN, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 1, “The Battle and the Victory” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

We are in the midst of a year-long (really a life-long) process of capturing and living out the directive of the Great Commission to **make disciples**. One of the ways we can measure our effectiveness in that process is if we are “multiplying disciple-makers.” Jesus’ strategy for reaching the world was focused: make disciples who will make disciples. **He had no plan B.**

In the second phase of our disciple-making journey, we have been focusing on maturity and spiritual disciplines. We now begin a new study, **Reclaiming Surrendered Ground** (referred to as **RSG** from this point forward). RSG is one of the books we are most likely to recommend to individuals who desire to walk in spiritual freedom.

- RSG has fifteen chapters. They are all valuable. However, we have chosen to emphasize **nine** of them.
- There are several weeks when the assignment is to cover two chapters. When that occurs, we encouraged you and your group to study and discuss **one chapter** and then (only if group members have time) to read the other chapter. Understandably, most weeks, your group members will only have time to study the one chapter scheduled for discussion that week.

3. **Discuss Logan's statement**, "Your profession level of belief probably is a theoretical or theological statement of dogma: it agrees with your religion. But your true belief is revealed by what you do under pressure. Most of us, during times of pressure, will not consider that a spiritual battle may be underway in our lives. . . Members of Christian families, and sometimes entire families are being wiped out left and right. It's not because they don't have the power or resources for victory, but because many of God's people don't take the enemy and his work seriously, much less recognize his attacks and try to resist him" (Page 22).

4. Logan writes, “The effect of Satan’s attacks on families can be devastating, particularly if he can get to the father as God’s appointed authority and spiritual protector in the home. When a father yields to sin and opens his life to the enemy’s temptation and control, he also clears the way for Satan to reach into his family and attack (his wife) and children. Or, if he cannot get to dad, the enemy will often attack the wife and mother, which also affects her husband and children” (Page 28). **Describe what it means to protect your family from someone that wants to physically harm them. To what lengths would you go? How important is it to protect them spiritually? To what lengths would you go in that area?**

Our verse to memorize/internalize for next week is **James 4:7-8**.

WEEK TWENTY-EIGHT, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 2, “Giving and Gaining Spiritual Ground” -
Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

This week we’ll focus on chapter 2 of RSG but be sure to skim through chapter 3 “Dabbling in Darkness”.

Make sure that you have prayed for yourself! (The enemy hates being exposed, expect his attacks!) If God is going to use us to be a catalyst for spiritual awakening, we must experience the reality of freedom in Christ.

Discussion Questions:

1. We must be clear on the term **“demon possession.”**
Read Logan’s section “Possession” on page 38. **How does the word “demonize” change your perception on what people most of the time refer to “demon possession?”**
(**Note.** A Christian cannot be possessed, but he can be oppressed, distressed, and can become obsessed.” - Steve Gaines)

2. The following remark is so important that we have chosen to quote it in its entirety here. One sentence is such a hinge statement that we have underlined it.

“Only eternity will reveal the number of believers who have led unproductive, frustrated lives and of Christian workers who have been forced to forsake their ministries because of attacks of the enemy.

This happens in spite of the fact that the New Testament warnings concerning demonic activity are all addressed to believers. . . How RESIST got changed to IGNORE in so many segments of the Church, I don’t know. When it did, however, Satan and his forces gained a great strategic advantage”
(Page 39).

Discuss the differences, when faced with temptation and strongholds, of ignoring or resisting Satan.

3. Logan does an excellent job explaining the meaning of the word “**place**” from Eph. 4:27, “Neither give place to the devil.” He writes, “The word translated *place* here is the Greek word *topos*. This word might look familiar to you even in its original form. It is at the root of English words like topography and refers to the ground or a specific spot or location. So, giving “place” to Satan in our lives is giving him ground, a “**foothold**” (Page 40). **Using the wartime illustration of an army gaining a foothold on a beach, discuss how the enemy seeks to gain ground then afterward, take more ground.**

4. Logan further explains, “Ground is yielded to the enemy when we cling to our sin rather than confess it and turn from it. If we persist in our sin, Satan has the time and opportunity he needs to build a stronghold on the ground he has taken from us. I’m convinced that a satanic stronghold has been erected and is firmly in place in our lives by the time sin reaches the habit stage, if not before” (Page 45). **Discuss the importance of not only confessing—but repenting from sin.**

5. Logan defines a stronghold as, “A mindset impregnated with hopelessness that causes me to accept as unchangeable something that we know is contrary to the will of God” (Page 42). Sin also becomes a stronghold when you no longer confess it as sin. It has become such a part of your life that you have become comfortable with it. **Discuss the imperative of overcoming strongholds if you are to be a disciple and a disciple-maker.**

Logan lays out steps for freedom on pages 47-53. In particular, please note the section “taking back ground” (Pages 49-50). He discusses the imperative of verbally taking back ground that you have given to Satan. This is an imperative in spiritual warfare that must not only be discussed but appropriated. For further study on this, please look up Adrian Rogers booklet, How to Break Satan’s Stronghold in Your Life, pages 14-15.

Our verse to memorize/internalize for next week is
Ephesians 6:10.

WEEK TWENTY-NINE, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 4, “Looking Backward: Unforgiveness and Bitterness” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

Let me encourage you to keep four things before those in your group:

- **REALIZE you are in a spiritual battle,**
- **REPENT of sin,**
- **RESIST Satan and his demons, and**
- **RENEW your heart.** (3 of these 4 points come from Dr. Rogers’ excellent booklet *How to Break Satan’s Strongholds in Your Life*.)

Application of truth, not merely gaining of truth, is the goal.

Remember, there are weeks that we read and discuss one chapter and merely skim another. This is one of those weeks. We are focusing on chapter 4, “Looking Backward: Unforgiveness and Bitterness.” While chapter 5, “It’s Always Right to Get Right,” is a valuable chapter, it is for your group to skim, not focus on at this time.

Discussion Questions:

1. Logan writes, “If I had to sum up the message of the Scriptures in one word, it would be the word ***forgiveness***. Now if forgiveness is one of the central themes of the Bible—perhaps the central theme—where do you suppose the enemy might attack you and me as God’s children? Through unforgiveness . . . In fact, when unforgiveness and bitterness rule my heart, I’m moving backward in my relationships with people and God, and I’m opening myself up to Satan’s attacks” (Page 74). **Discuss a time in your life when unforgiveness and bitterness gripped your heart (allow members the opportunity to be vague about the specifics of what went on if they need to). Describe how you can see Satan’s working in that situation.**

2. Read through the Steps of Forgiveness that Logan lays out on pages 77-87. **What’s steps or insights stood out to you?**

3. In the last section of Chapter 4, Logan says, “Forgiveness is a choice, not a feeling” (Page 87). **Reflect on the freedom Logan experienced after he forgave his father. If you have a personal example of that, share your story.**

Our verse to memorize/internalize for next week is
Ephesians 6:11.

WEEK THIRTY, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 6, “What’s So Terrible About Pride” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

This week’s study is one that may be easy for some to gloss over. **Pride is a deceptive sin!** It is one that is easy to miss and even harder to remove from our hearts.

Logan reminds us, “Sometimes we forget; pride was the original sin in God’s universe. Before Adam and Eve were ever created and placed in the Garden of Eden, the angel Lucifer, who stood in the very presence of God, allowed his heart to swell with pride at his exalted position. His pride led him into foolish rebellion as he tried to usurp the throne of God. Is it any wonder then that the one who became Satan would use pride as one of his most effective weapons?” (Page 107)

Discussion Questions:

Logan writes about Satan's pride statements *in his heart* about God. He writes, "The last of Satan's 'I will' claims recorded in Isaiah 14 is the most important for our purposes. 'I will be like the Most High' (vs 14). What Satan was saying here is that he wanted to be like God in control, but not in character. He wanted to rule. He wanted to run his own life" (Page 109). Our week 29 memory verse commanded us to, "Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

1. **Give examples of pride. Discuss how it can be such a hidden sin.** Make sure and include areas such as: religious pride (you know more than others, you live a better life than others), egotistical pride (I don't need God-I can live a good life by myself), and Christian pride (I've been saved too long and am too respected by others to confess my sins and my needs).

2. **Discuss the relationship between pride and Satan gaining ground in your life.** ("Prayerlessness is one of the greatest demonstrations of pride. Prayerlessness is saying, 'God, I don't need You today. I can handle things.'" -Steve Gaines)

3. Logan gives us a significant insight when he writes, “When you attempt to run your own life, when you say, ‘God, You rule heaven, I’ll rule me,’ you are most like Satan” (Page 109). **While we would never say those words out loud, discuss how pride (independence from God) gives ground to Satan and sets us up for more Satanic strongholds.**

4. Take a look at the Higher Ground applications on “Dealing with Pride.” (Page 114) **Are these helpful to you in identifying and dealing with pride in your life? Are you ready to make a conscious decision to die to self and commit to God’s will and purpose for your life?**

Our verse to memorize/internalize for next week is
Ephesians 6:12.

WEEK THIRTY-ONE, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 7, “Breaking the Shackles of Sexual Bondage” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

In his article, *The Pornification of the Church*, John Stonestreet from breakpoint.org gives the following insights regarding sexual bondage and Christians:

Nearly 15 years ago, a survey found that Christians looked at pornography at nearly the same rates as non-believers. Zogby International asked more than a thousand U.S. adults whether they had ever visited a sexually-oriented web site. Only one in five had done so. Among born-again Christians, 18 percent had gone to such sites, just three percentage points less than the general public.

More recently, a group called Proven Men Ministries hired the Barna Group to study current pornography use.

*Barna discovered that “**64 percent** of American men and 20 percent of women view pornography at least monthly. And for **Christian men, that number is 55 percent.**”*

Stonestreet summarizes his finding with this staggering statistic, “fourteen years ago, only one out of every three men had ever gone to a pornography site, but now nearly one-third of men under 30 do so on a *daily* basis.”

Our study this week, *Breaking the Shackles of Sexual Bondage*, is a crucial topic!

Discussion Questions:

1. Logan writes, “Of the people who come to see me for counseling, about 90 percent are men. And of these men, the great majority are in some form of sexual bondage. . . (However) our permissive society has now made it seem acceptable for women to pursue every possible sexual perversion too.” (Pages 119-120) To add to Logan’s finding, “According to a New York Times survey in Dec. 2015, 31 percent of the women said they watched porn every week, another 30 percent said they did so a few times a month and 10 percent of respondents gets a daily fix.” While these views are hopefully not reflective of the Christian population, they do reflect where much of our culture is. **Discuss the impact of sexual bondage in our society (and the church) today.**

2. In relating Satan’s pull toward sexual sins and strongholds, Logan describes how a teenager he had counseled was led to pornographic literature in his dad’s dresser.

“Logan asks, ‘Where did you find them?’ ‘Well,’ he said, ‘I just sort of pulled out the bottom drawer of my dad’s dresser, and there they were on the floor inside the dresser.’ Now most teenagers don’t go around checking under dresser drawers in their parents’ bedroom. So I asked this young man, ‘What in the world made you do that?’ ‘I don’t know, I just got this thought to look there.’ It doesn’t take a brain surgeon to figure out who might have planted that thought in this teenager’s mind” (Page 126).

Discuss the “schemes of Satan” when it comes to pornography. These could include: the damage to a person’s soul, the damage to marriage, and the spiritual impotency of Christian men in light of Solomon’s words, “Give not your strength to women (Prov. 30:3).” (This last word is not a warning against marital intimacy, but a warning against being like Samson and wasting your strength, your power, and life.)

3. Take a look at the Higher Ground applications on “Leaving Sexual Bondage.” (Page 125) **Reflect on your life. When was the first time you violated God’s moral law and began to give Satan a foothold in your life?** (God’s Spirit has a way of immediately bringing to mind areas where we are giving Satan a foothold. Listen and confess.)

4. Logan’s section on Soul Ties is a brief examination of what happens when someone joins themselves to another person in a sexual relationship. (Page 128). **Connecting this concept to spiritual bondage, is there sin in your life that is tying your soul down from living for Christ?**

One of the four measures of Make Disciples is “I am personally accountable.” Sexual bondage is a battle you can’t fight by yourself. While it is an intensely private area, ask God to give you someone of the same sex who will pray for you, and will hopefully grow into someone who will ask you the tough questions—particularly in an area that is rampant in society and the church.

Our verses to memorize/internalize for next week are **Ephesians 6:13-14**.

WEEK THIRTY-TWO, DISCIPLE MAKING

Men: Skim Chapter 8 "Families Under Attack" and read Chapter 9 "A Father and Husband's Protection"

Women: Read Chapter 10 "A Wife and Mother's Lasting Beauty" and skim Chapter 11 "Children Can Resist, Too" - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

We are covering a lot of ground this week. Men, you are skimming chapter 8 and discussing chapter 9. Ladies, you are discussing chapter 10 and skimming chapter 11. While "skim" can sometimes be a polite way of saying, "skip," that's not true in this case. I strongly urge you to read both chapters in your assignments this week.

Discussion Questions:

Chapter 9 (Men):

1. Logan writes, "If Exodus 20:5 and other verses like it teach anything, they teach that whatever iniquity plagues a father can affect his family for generations. The very area where a dad is in bondage will be the thing that Satan uses to trip up his kids . . . Any sin a father practices in moderation, his children will practice to excess" (Pages 150-151). **Discuss where you have seen this principle played out either in your life or your family.**

2. **Discuss Logan’s statement, “Iniquity (*which is mentioned in Exodus 20:5 as the element which is visited to the third and fourth generation*) is self-will in a particular area . . . That is, any area of your life you don’t want the Holy Spirit to control, Satan will seek to control” (Page 150). To help us apply this truth, what are some examples of iniquity? Also, what does this principle look like as it is lived out in the third and fourth generation?**

Chapter 10 (Women):

1. Logan reminds us that spiritual warfare is not only for men. “When we look at the pictures of battle and warfare, we usually see men with dirt on their faces and torn battle jackets. When we watch scenes of warfare, we usually hear lots of male grunting. But the picture is incomplete when we’re discussing spiritual warfare, for women are not exempt. Women are soldiers in the battle as well” (Page 163). **Is spiritual warfare a reality that women embrace, or does it seem “too masculine?” How might women perceive spiritual warfare differently than men?**

2. Logan notes, “To understand where women are especially vulnerable to the enemy’s attack, we need to see what the Scriptures indicate a woman’s emphasis should be as a wife and mother...By looking at these inner attributes of meekness and quietness we can see the two areas where a woman is most vulnerable to Satan’s influence, because they touch on what is deepest with her” (Pages 163-164). **Do you agree that these two areas are where women are most often attacked or are there more important areas of attack to discuss?**

3. In discussing anger, Logan writes, “Satan would love nothing better than to exploit a woman’s frustration with her husband and push her toward the devastating emotion of bitterness. Then she begins to attack and tear down her husband rather than show him respect, and he will react to her anger. Now the enemy has both spouses bound up, and the children are wide open for harassment” (Page 166). **Discuss the danger of a wife getting angry/bitter with her husband and how Satan works in that situation.**

4. The second area of frequent attack by Satan on women, according to Logan, is fear. He writes, “As a woman, are you allowed to fear? Yes according to Scripture, you can have one fear, a holy fear—the fear or reverence for God . . . When a woman gives in to fear, she tends to take things in her own hands—things she wasn’t supposed to take on” (Pages 166-167). **Discuss how Satan attacks women in the area of fear.**

Our verses to memorize/internalize for next week are
Ephesians 6:15-16.

WEEK THIRTY-THREE, DISCIPLE MAKING

Skim: Chapters 12, “Who’s the Winner, Who’s the Loser Here?” “Breaking the Shackles of Sexual Bondage”

Discuss: Chapter 13 “Learning to Live Like a Winner” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

The Word of God declares, “We are more than Conquerors through Him who loved us.” (Romans 8:37) However, **being a victor and living as a victor is not synonymous**. You must learn to live out who you are in Christ.

Part of that process is learning to resist Satan and his demons. Let me remind you of an awesome truth Logan shared earlier in *Reclaiming Surrendered Ground* regarding spiritual warfare, “How RESIST got changed to IGNORE in so many segments of the Church, I don’t know. When it did, however, Satan and his forces gained a great strategic advantage” (Page 39). In this chapter, we learn more about learning to live as who we are—victors in Jesus, who resist the devil!

Discussion Questions:

1. Logan states, “Interestingly, we are never told in the Bible to resist temptation...No, the Bible always tells us to resist the tempter” (Page 216). **As you think about overcoming sin, discuss how often you do (or don’t) “resist the devil.”**

2. Under “The Right Focus,” Logan lays out how Jesus dealt with temptation. “Notice that Jesus was led by the Spirit

into the wilderness for one purpose, to be tempted. So we learn something very important and encouraging right off. It's no sin to be tempted...What Satan does, though, is tell us, 'You thought about it. You might as well do it'" (Page 218). **Discuss how Satan plants thoughts in our minds and then attacks us with guilt because of our thoughts. Also, share some practical ways you deal with those attacks.**

3. Logan's Higher Ground insights, (Page 217) are insightful and powerful. **What method of resisting Satan stood out to you the most?**

4. Logan points out, "Did you know that temptation can be one of the most empowering experiences of your life

when you stand your ground and resist Satan in the power of the Spirit? You don't need to be afraid of an encounter with the enemy" (Page 220). **Discuss how overcoming temptation can be a transforming experience.**

Group Discussion

Discuss the three points under How to Resist the Devil: **draw near to God, cleanse your heart, and humble yourself** (Pages 221-222). However, don't let these steps substitute for an action Logan has repeated several times—live as a winner and verbally resist the devil!

Our verses to memorize/internalize for next week are **Ephesians 6:17-18.**

WEEK THIRTY-FOUR, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 14, “What to Wear in the Battle” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

We are concluding our study of spiritual warfare. Let me encourage you to finish strong! If there is anything the enemy desires, it is for us to ignore him. Logan does a great job in this succinct chapter. Read the chapter carefully before you meet and be prepared to share their observations.

Discussion Questions:

1. Logan has some interesting insights explaining the four groupings of demonic spirits in the section “Our Demonic Enemies” (Page 226). We need to know who we are fighting. **How does understanding these different groups place perspective on our enemy?**

2. In the section “The Evil Day” (Page 228), Logan describes a period of tremendous satanic attack. **Have you ever experienced a time like this? Please share what this type of attack was like.**

3. Under the section “The Christian’s Armor” (Page 229), Logan describes each piece of the armor that Paul exhorts us to put on. **How does each piece of armor apply to everyday life in your world?**

Our verses to memorize/internalize for next week are
Ephesians 6:19-20.

WEEK THIRTY-FIVE, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 15, “The Battle is in Your Head” - Reclaiming Surrendered Ground

Every generation has experienced a world-shaping event. For “Millennials,” the last generation who reached adulthood, this was the terrorist attacks of 9/11. For this upcoming generation—“Generation Z”, they will always remember the COVID-19 pandemic and the global catastrophe it caused.

Warfare, carnage, death, loss, and pain are not merely theoretical or theological--they are real!

Spiritual warfare is not just a Sunday morning sermon topic, a Connect Group lesson, or a G3 group discussion. It is a reality that we all experience—regardless of how much we are aware of it—every day of our lives. This last study on spiritual warfare may be one of the most vital that you will have.

Discussion Questions:

1. Logan makes the following statement, “There is nothing passive about spiritual warfare, especially when it comes to guarding and fortifying the mind” (Page 240). **How much energy, focus, and time do you put into “guarding and fortifying” your mind? Describe what that process is like for you personally. If a person is passive about “guarding and fortifying” his/her mind, does that indicate that in some way, he/she is already a prisoner of war?**

4. Under the section “A Daily Discipline for Mind Renewal,” (Page 251), Logan gives 5 steps to take to win the battle for the mind. **Do you practice these disciplines already in your life? Which disciplines are you currently weak in doing? Which disciplines stood out the most to you?**

Our verse to memorize/internalize for next week is
Ezekiel 22:30.

Scripture Memory Verses

Week 2:

John 8:31-32

Week 3:

2 Timothy 2:2

Week 4:

Matthew 28:18-20

Week 5:

Ephesians 4:11-12

Week 6:

I Timothy 4:7-8

Week 7:

Matthew 7:7

Week 8:

2 Timothy 2:15

Week 9:

John 14:15

Week 10:

Psalms 119:11

Week 11:

Jeremiah 15:16

Week 12:

John 3:16;
Romans 3:23

Week 13:

Romans 6:23;
1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Week 14:

2 Corinthians 6:2;
Luke 13:3

Week 15:

Acts 17:30; Acts 16:31

Week 16:

Romans 10:9

Week 17:

John 1:12;
Romans 10:13

Week 18:

Mark 1:35

Week 19:

James 5:16

Week 20:

John 15:7

Week 21:

1 John 5:14-15

Week 22:

1 Cor. 4:1-2

Week 23:

John 4:23-24

Week 24:

Mark 10:45

Week 25:

Amos 3:3

Week 26:

Proverbs 27:17

Week 27:

Ephesians 4:27

Week 28:

James 4:7-8

Week 29:

Ephesians 6:10

Week 30:

Ephesians 6:11

Week 31:

Ephesians 6:12

Week 32:

Ephesians 6:13-14

Week 33:

Ephesians 6:15-16

Week 34:

Ephesians 6:17-18

Week 35:

Ephesians 6:19-20

Week 36:

Ezekiel 22:30

Week 37:

I Corinthians 11:1

Week 38:

I Timothy 4:15

Week 39:

Romans 15:14

Week 40:

Proverbs 5:21-23

Week 41:

Luke 14:26-27

Week 42:

Hebrews 11:6

Week 43:

Romans 4:19-21