



**depth**  
DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING COURSE

**D**iscipleship  
**E**quipping  
**P**ractice  
**T**raining  
**H**oliness

Jesus calls us to follow Him.

From the moment we repent and believe in Jesus Christ a new life begins. It's called **Discipleship**. A journey of faith, obedience, discovery, challenge and change.

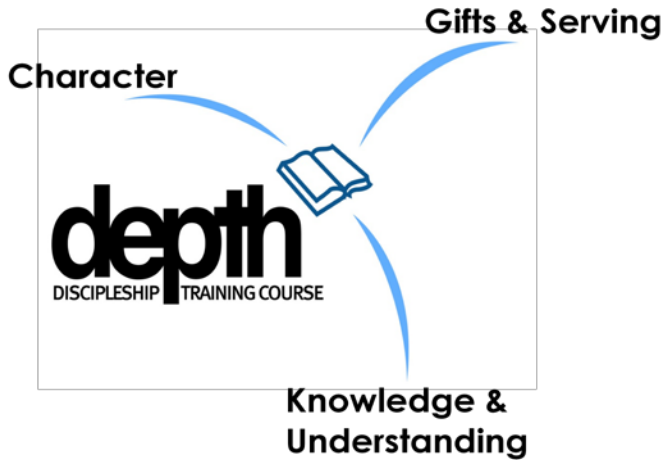
**Christianity is not a noun but a verb. A life; a journey; not a thing which is stationary or unchanging. It involves action and being.**

*Matthew 28:19-20* says "Therefore go and make **disciples** of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you**. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." *NIV (emphasis added)*

The first Christians we actually called people of "**The Way**" before being known as 'little Christs' (the meaning of 'Christian'). Much of the New Testament explains and teaches us about following the resurrected Jesus – about who we are, how to live and what we are to do with our new life. Ephesians is a prime example – in particular read Ephesians 4:1-16.

**DEPTH** is a course run by Chipping Campden Baptist Church, beginning in September 2010 and running until 2011. Part of CCBC's vision is to raise up committed growing disciples; to help you grow and mature as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Our plan is that this course will not be a one-off but run again in the future.

**"Becoming like Christ is the result of the commitments we make. We become whatever we are committed to! Without a commitment to grow, any growth that occurs will be circumstantial, rather than intentional. Spiritual growth is too important to be left to circumstance. It needs to be intentional, not incidental." Rick Warren**



## DEPTH

will focus on **three** key areas

### **What is the course like and what is expected of me?**

- It starts in Sept 2010 finishing in July 2011
- Choose and sign up for either a Saturday morning or a Wednesday evening teaching session once per month.
- During the course you are expected to read the key books, reflect, think and apply to your life.
- Meet regularly with a mentor to help you grow, be encouraged and develop accountability.
- Take part in a specific mission or outreach event.

**"God will always have something more to teach man, and man will always have something more to learn from God."  
(Irenaeus, AD180)**

**"God is far more concerned with our character than he is with our comfort. His plan is to perfect us, not pamper us." Rick Warren**

### **Character** - with particular emphasis on:

- becoming more like Jesus
- developing the 'fruit of the Spirit' (Galatians 5:22-25)
- pursuing holiness, integrity and growing maturity
- knowing our identity in Jesus Christ

A key way this will occur is through mentoring. In other words, meeting up with a more mature Christian at least once per month to pray and talk through how you're growing and changing; and what are the challenges you're facing. For this to work well there must be a willingness and openness to allow someone to speak constructively and honestly into your life (without taking offence!)

**“This people honours me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.” One of the best ways of checking our own discipleship is by being genuine and open with others. It may be painful, but always it will be fruitful. *David Watson***

**Gifts & Serving** – *Jesus calls us to follow and serve; as such **DEPTH** will encourage you to:*

- explore your gifts and calling, and discovering your passion, vision or dreams for God
- emphasise that mission and ministry is everyday not just on Sunday's or in 'church based' activities; and encourage

**“Jesus now has many lovers of his heavenly Kingdom but few bearers of his cross.” *Thomas a Kempis***

humility through serving in 'seen' and 'unseen' ways.

- reinforce the way Jesus served through servant-hearted living
  - explore different ways in which to engage with God and listen to the Holy Spirit
  - to step out and try something new (*faith is sometimes spelt “RISK”*)
- during the year to engage in a mission initiative (e.g. locally, try something new in church life, overseas, Healing on the Streets, Prophetic training day, prayer ministry, or maybe arrange a local “family fun day”, ministry to the poor etc.) This will be developed during the year.

**Knowledge & Understanding** – *understanding more about God, the Bible and faith is foundational to growing as a Christian.*

**DEPTH** will help you:

- Understand how the Bible fits together (overview, key themes and the differences in types of Scripture and how that affects how we read, interpret and apply it to our lives)
- Know more about important sections of the Bible (i.e. Law, Prophets, Wisdom, Gospels, Epistles, Revelation)
- Key aspects of Christian Doctrine and Theology; including major themes such as the Kingdom of God, the Cross, Worship etc.

**Disciples are not monuments, but footprints. A monument only says, 'At least I got this far,' while a footprint says, 'This is where I was when I moved again.'**

**"The Christian Ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult; and left untried." G.K. Chesterton**

During the **DEPTH** course you'll be expected to read these key books which will complement and supplement the teaching sessions. Some of them we'll read over the course of the year, others in preparation for a specific session.

*Prices at eden.co.uk on 29.6.2010\* (unless otherwise indicated\*\*)*

**"Know the Truth: Handbook of Christian Belief"** Bruce Milne. £10.72

**"If You Want To Walk On Water You've Got to Get Out Of The Boat"** John Ortberg. £6.88

**"Storylines: Your Map to Understanding the Bible"** Andy Croft & Mike Pilavachi. £7.88

**"Windows on the Cross"** Tom Smil. £10.69 (www.amazon.co.uk)\*\*

**"Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth"** Richard Foster. £7.14

**"Ephesians: The Message of Ephesians. God's New Society with Study Guide"** John Stott. £8.92

**"Developing a Healing Ministry: A Training Manual for Churches"** John Coles. £3.50 (www.newwinedirect.co.uk)\*\*

**Total - £55.73**

*\*\*n.b. online search may find these cheaper, and bulk purchasing may reduce the costs*

## **Saturday Morning (9:30am-12:30pm) or Wednesday Evening (7:00-10:00pm) Session Outline**

*Before each session to have done the pre-reading/preparation*

- Worship and Prayer
- 30 mins reflection on a chapter from *Celebration of Discipline* – i.e. we'll read the book over the year in order to apply and learning from it each month.
- 1 hr biblical teaching
- 1 hr theological
- Time for further discussion/questions/reflection if necessary

**If you're interested or want more information about the DEPTH course please speak to Philip Deller, Edward Ibberson or Duncan Akehurst.**

**If you want to join the course please sign up on the sheet or contact Edward Ibberson ([edward.ibberson@btinternet.com](mailto:edward.ibberson@btinternet.com))**