



FRAMEWORK

The Together Growing Fruitful Disciples Curriculum Framework was developed by a team of educators at Andrews University in collaboration with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists: Dr. Larry Burton, Dr. Glynis Bradfield, and Monica Desir, School of Education; Dr. Kathleen Beagles and Dr. Jane Thayer, Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. To receive notification when the framework has been revised, please go to www.growingfruitfuldisciples.com/notify, and follow the directions to add your name to the distribution list.

Connecting

Growing in relationship with God, self, and others.

As a growing disciple, I am:

1. Developing a dynamic relationship with God.
2. Developing an identity that is complete in Christ.
3. Developing Christ-centered family relationships.
4. Developing Christ-centered relationships in the local and global church as a member of the body of Christ.
5. Developing positive relationships with those outside the church to fulfill the Gospel commission.

Understanding

Growing in knowledge of Jesus and His teachings.

As a growing disciple, I am:

1. Realizing that Christ calls me to be His disciple.
2. Realizing that God is the source of life.
3. Realizing about the human fall from God's original plan, and its consequences.
4. Realizing that God has provided everything that is needed for the redemption of human beings.
5. Realizing that God has provided everything needed for the restoration of human beings into the image of God.

Ministering

Growing in participation in God's mission of revelation, reconciliation, and restoration.

As a growing disciple, I am:

1. Seeking opportunities in all daily activities to minister to others.
2. Investing myself in the discipleship of others.
3. Recognizing and responding to the needs of God's suffering children in the local community and around the world.
4. Supporting the ministries of the local and global church with my personal resources.
5. Embracing the evangelistic mission of the church to tell the world the story of Jesus.

Equipping

Growing the Body of Christ by walking alongside other disciples in order to support, nurture, and strengthen in love.

As a growing discipler, I am:

1. Helping other disciples engage in a transformational devotional life.
2. Helping other disciples build Christ-like relationships.
3. Helping other disciples study and obey God's word.
4. Helping other disciples live a contagious, holistic Christian life.
5. Helping other disciples discern where God is working in His world and in their lives.
6. Helping other disciples use their spiritual gifts in fulfilling a personal call to mission and ministry.

Connecting: *Growing in relationship with God, self, and others*

C1. To develop a dynamic, deepening, love relationship with God, I am:

- C1.1 communing with God regularly through His word, prayer, and other Christian disciplines.
- C1.2 participating with other believers in worshipping God on Sabbath and at other times.
- C1.3 worshipping God daily as a living sacrifice by choosing His will over my own will.
- C1.4 paying attention to what God is doing and praising Him for His love and faithfulness.
- C1.5 participating with God in His mission of reconciliation and restoration.

C2. To develop an individual identity that is complete in Christ, I am:

- C2.1 surrendering my heart and my will to God.
- C2.2 learning that God places infinite value on me.
- C2.3 recognizing my continual need of God's forgiving and empowering grace.
- C2.4 inviting the Holy Spirit to guide in my ongoing self-reflection and actions.
- C2.5 embracing cultural expectations that are aligned with the Bible and replacing those that are not.

C3. To develop Christ-centered family relationships, I am:

- C3.1 recognizing that my commitment to Christ takes priority over every human relationship.
- C3.2 contributing, supporting, and extending unconditional love to those within my family circle.
- C3.3 holding as sacred my family commitments and responsibilities to parents, spouse, and children.
- C3.4 passing on the Christian faith to my children through both teaching and living an authentic Christian life.
- C3.5 practicing hospitality, welcoming into my family or home those who God brings to my attention.
- C3.6 committing to live by biblical standards of sexual morality.

C4. To develop Christ-centered relationships in the local and global church as a member of the body of Christ, I am:

- C4.1 being supported and nurtured by the community of believers.
- C4.2 praying with and for fellow believers, rejoicing with those who rejoice, and caring for those who are in need.
- C4.3 loving and serving the church's children, and continuing to disciple them as they mature into adults.
- C4.4 treating others redemptively when they are disciplined or shunned by church or society.
- C4.5 keeping informed and responding to news and stories of the world church.

C5. To develop positive relationships with those outside the church, I am:

- C5.1 respecting and praying for non-believers because all are of infinite value to their Creator.
- C5.2 being a good neighbor, participating in community life, and helping those in need.
- C5.3 being ethical in all my business dealings and in my professional and personal life.
- C5.4 reflecting the character of Christ in all my interactions with others.

Understanding: *Growing in knowledge of Jesus and His teachings*

U1. To understand that Christ calls me to be His disciple, I am realizing that:

- U1.1 by beholding Jesus and abiding in Him, I will continue to grow more Christ-like.
- U1.2 the love of Christ constrains me to a life of obedience and self-denial.
- U1.3 all biblical teachings illustrate the character and mission of Christ.
- U1.4 being a disciple involves all of my life – my worldview, my relationships, and my purpose and mission.
- U1.5 I will participate in the body of Christ and its work in the world.
- U1.6 I accept life – both now and eternally – as a gift from God to be shared with others.

U2. To understand that God is the source of life, I am realizing that:

- U2.1 God is the creator and sustainer of the universe, including all people created in His image.
- U2.2 God is a triune God consisting of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- U2.3 God reveals Himself to us in many ways, but most clearly through His Son, the Incarnate Word.
- U2.4 God is love and He desires from me a response of love for Himself and for others.
- U2.5 the God-given purpose of humanity is to glorify God through daily life, work, and relationships with others.

U3. To understand the consequences of the human fall from God's original plan, I am realizing that:

- U3.1 the Great Controversy between God and Satan originated in heaven.
- U3.2 because of the disobedience of the first human beings, I have a will to sin and a sinful nature.
- U3.3 the ten-commandment law of God expresses the character of God and gives the standard for human conduct.
- U3.4 the natural world no longer reflects the perfection in which God created it.
- U3.5 the Bible is needed to interpret the natural world as an expression of the character of God.

U4. To understand that God has provided everything that is needed for my redemption, I am realizing that:

- U4.1 salvation and eternal life are gifts to me through the grace of God.
- U4.2 Christ came to Earth to reveal the character of God and to die in my place as atonement for my sin.
- U4.3 the love of God draws me to feel sorrow for my sin, to confess, and to repent.
- U4.4 God forgives sin and heals brokenness.

U5. To understand that God has provided everything needed for my restoration, I am realizing that:

- U5.1 Jesus died to redeem me from sin and now lives to restore me to physical, mental, and spiritual wholeness.
- U5.2 through the power of the Holy Spirit, Christ will live in me and I will live in Him.
- U5.3 because every person is created in God's image, my relationships will be based on love, forgiveness, and respect.
- U5.4 the Holy Spirit daily prompts me to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with my God.
- U5.5 God expects me to be a steward of all He created.
- U5.6 the Great Controversy ends when God brings an end to sin and restores Earth to its original perfection.

Ministering: *Growing in participation in God's mission of revelation, reconciliation, and restoration*

M1. To seek opportunities in all daily activities to minister to others, I am:

- M1.1 inviting God to change me to bear the fruits of the Spirit.
- M1.2 choosing Jesus as a daily companion and sharing Him joyfully.
- M1.3 investing myself in service wherever the Holy Spirit leads.
- M1.4 carrying out my occupation as a calling to ministry.
- M1.5 building networks for friendship, fellowship, and support.

M2. To invest myself in the discipleship of others, I am:

- M2.1 willing to be mentored by maturing Christians, accountable for my spiritual growth.
- M2.2 willing to be humble and honest when sharing my walk as a disciple.
- M2.3 committing time and effort to mentoring growing Christians.
- M2.4 working intentionally to train fellow believers to disciple others.

M3. To recognize and respond to the needs of God's suffering children locally and globally, I am:

- M3.1 looking for physical, mental, social and spiritual needs in the local community.
- M3.2 responding mercifully to the discovered needs, individually and/or as a church.
- M3.3 speaking out and acting to relieve suffering and injustice in society.
- M3.4 reducing human suffering by being a faithful steward of God's creation.
- M3.5 acting compassionately on behalf of people who are disadvantaged or at risk.

M4. To support the ministries of the local and global church with personal resources, I am:

- M4.1 managing my resources with the understanding that all belong to God.
- M4.2 returning a faithful tithe and giving offerings systematically.
- M4.3 serving in one or more ministries of my local church.
- M4.4 participating personally, as possible, in global service projects or ministries.

M5. To embrace the evangelistic mission of the church, I am:

- M5.1 praying for the Holy Spirit to prepare me to reach others for Christ.
- M5.2 choosing to be aware of the spiritual climate locally and globally.
- M5.3 using my spiritual gifts to help tell the world the story of Jesus.
- M5.4 able to give a reason for my faith when asked.
- M5.5 sharing the story of my personal relationship with Jesus with community members, family, friends, and co-workers.

Equipping: *Growing the Body of Christ by walking alongside one another in love*

E1. To help believers engage in a transformational devotional life, I am showing others how to:

- E1.1 study the Bible to know Christ and to develop a biblical worldview.
- E1.2 communicate with God through prayer and Christian meditation.
- E1.3 participate in other Christian disciplines to be open to the Holy Spirit.
- E1.4 set priorities to allow for regular, quality devotional time.
- E1.5 seek spiritual-growth opportunities with other believers.

E2. To help believers build Christ-like relationships, I am showing others how to:

- E2.1 inventory themselves, acknowledge defects of character, and invite God to remove them.
- E2.2 work with God to care for themselves and live a balanced life.
- E2.3 cherish, respect, and nurture family members as children of God.
- E2.4 be discipled by other believers in the body of Christ.
- E2.5 resolve conflicts within the home, church, workplace, and community.

E3. To help believers study and obey God's word, I am showing others how to:

- E3.1 understand the purpose of Scripture.
- E3.2 use study tools to more effectively interpret biblical meanings.
- E3.3 discover study methods that will help them engage in regular Bible study.
- E3.4 apply biblical principles to their lives thoughtfully and faithfully.
- E3.5 discern spiritual truth in a balanced manner.

E4. To help believers live a contagious, holistic Christian life, I am showing others how to:

- E4.1 understand the biblical teaching to love the Lord with our heart, soul, strength, and mind.
- E4.2 explain how Christ is the center of all biblical teachings.
- E4.3 express Christ's love by creatively using their talents and interests.
- E4.4 apply biblical principles to every aspect of their lives — mind, body, and spirit.
- E4.5 lead someone to accept and follow Christ.

E5. To help believers discern where God is working, I am showing others how to:

- E5.1 pray for a clear understanding of what God wants to accomplish through them.
- E5.2 recognize the work of the Holy Spirit within and around them.
- E5.3 detect where God is calling them to serve.
- E5.4 assess the needs of those God has called them to serve.
- E5.5 evaluate the culture they are called to serve in, in order to find and reach others.

E6. To help believers use their spiritual gifts to fulfill a personal call to mission and ministry, I am showing others how to:

- E6.1 confer with fellow believers to confirm and refine their areas of spiritual giftedness.
- E6.2 be prepared for mission and ministry by participating in training programs.
- E6.3 disciple other believers in the body of Christ.
- E6.4 choose and participate in ministries that use their gifts and talents.
- E6.5 find ways to support Adventist mission and evangelism, ministries, and education.