

HS

SENIOR YEAR

OVERVIEW

The final year of the Family Discipleship Plan is designed as an independent study. It aims to foster independence in spiritual practices and pursuits, to help students establish or maintain rhythms that will serve them well into adulthood, and to cultivate a zeal and love for the things of the Lord.

The rest of the High School FDP repeats on a three-year cycle. For students who have already been through its content at their church, the Senior Year supplements the repeated series, helping students consider and apply familiar truths through a lens of selflessness. The aim is that students would be others-focused, using their influence to think, “How can I use this truth to help others follow Jesus?”

Ecclesiastes 12:13: *The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.*

Acts 20:24: *But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

RESOURCES

Resource Library: A collection of helpful resources to help students establish, or continue in, helpful rhythms of study and spiritual disciplines.

Workout: A template to lead students to ponder, pray, and practice. The template can be used with any Scripture passage or topic, making it flexible to go alongside ministry programs or be used on its own.

TIPS TO TEACH AND TALK IN THE SENIOR YEAR:

Tips for the home:

- The Senior Workout is designed to help students establish, build, maintain, and restore healthy rhythms of spiritual disciplines. Encourage their independence, but provide direction and accountability.
- Encourage students in the relationships that help them grow as disciples of Jesus and in relationships that help them grow as disciple-makers.

Tips for the church:

- Have a senior year meeting to cast vision to students, leaders, and parents.
- The core of the content that students will receive within church programs, they will have heard before. This time, how can the church train them to apply it through an “others-centered” lens?
- The High School Focus is Influence, but when students hear content for the first time as freshmen, they likely are not thinking about or practicing influence. When they are taught truths a second time as a senior, they can selfishly think, “I have heard this before,” or they can look outside of self, seek to use their influence, and think, “How can I use this truth to help others follow Jesus?”
- Consider how your programming can utilize seniors and give them a lab within which they can practice using their influence in younger students’ lives alongside adult leaders.

OVERVIEW PAGE

The Overview page is meant to be used as a resource to guide parents and teachers in how each part of the FDP fits within the broader scope and sequence.



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171 Promise Land Dr. Gray, TN 37615

INFLUENCE

We are not our own. Our lives belong to the Lord, and we are responsible to use our influence for God's glory over our own, to build His kingdom over ours, and to make much of Jesus instead of ourselves. Ephesians 1 proclaims that the Jesus follower is called according to His purpose. The senior year aims to equip you to study God's Word independently and grow to use your influence for the good of others and the glory of God.

AIMS**Every student should know...**

- God is One.
- In His sovereignty, He is bringing all things through the story of creation, fall, redemption, and new creation.
- By His grace, He has brought us from death in sin to new life in Christ.
- By His power, we can use our influence to make Him known.

**Every student should feel...**

- Feel small: God is God, and you are not.
- Feel awe for the God whose story of redemption is unfolding.
- Feel secure: when you are in Christ, nothing can separate you.
- Feel responsible to use your influence to make much of Jesus.

**Every student should strive to...**

- Be wholly submitted to God, His Word, and His people.
- Be wholly devoted to Jesus alone.
- Be immersed in truth, and flee from the lies of the world.
- Make disciples.
- Regularly observe your own life, confess sin and weakness, and take next steps to grow in maturity: the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Eph 4).

**Every student should want to...**

- Know the fullness of God's will in Jesus. (Eph 1:9)
- Glorify God in all things. (1 Cor 10:31)
- See others glorify God because of their influence. (Gal 1:27)
- Long for the day when Jesus comes again. (Rev 22:20)

STUDY BIBLE

- [ESV Study Bible](#)

COMMENTARIES

- [Christ-Centered Exposition](#) Commentary Series
- [Look at the Book](#) Scripture Labs

BIBLE READING PLANS

- [Canonical](#)
- [Chronological](#)
- [M'Cheyne](#)

BOOKS

- [Spiritual Disciplines](#) (Whitney): Grow in personal abiding
- [Praying the Bible](#) (Whitney): Grow in prayer
- [Love Your Church](#) (Merida): Grow in corporate abiding
- [Just Do Something](#) (DeYoung): Grow in discerning the Lord's will
- [You are a Theologian](#) (Wilkin & English): Grow in understanding, applying, and sharing doctrine
- [Discipling](#) (Dever): Grow in investing in others

PURSUIITS AND RHYTHMS

- Be a faithful member of a church
- Commit to gathering weekly with your local church
- Be in at least one discipling relationship where someone is helping you grow
- Be in at least one discipling relationship where you are helping someone else grow
- Have regular rhythms of spiritual disciplines, both personal and corporate
- If you are going away to college, be diligent to pursue church membership and gospel-centered community in your new city

Select a passage of Scripture from your personal study or one led by your church. Use the following questions as a template for pursuing faithful study of God's Word.



STUDY: *Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. Psalm 111:2*

Find the Big Truth (Scripture proclaims truth.)

- What is the main point of this passage?
- How do we know this is the main point?
- Are there other key truths within this passage?

Find Big Ideas (Truths have implications and applications; they mean something for our lives and require a response.)

- What implications of this truth do you see in this passage?
- What other implications does this truth have for our lives?
- What does this passage teach us about God?
- Is there any sin to avoid, commands to obey, or promises to trust in?

MEDITATE: *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:1-2*



PRAY: *Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. James 5:16*

- Pray Scripture.
- Pray in adoration and praise for who God is and in thanksgiving for what God has done.
- Pray in confession of sin, submitting to the authority of Scripture.
- Pray in supplication, asking God to meet your specific needs and help you grow.
- Pray in intercession, asking God to meet the specific needs of others and to help them grow.



PRACTICE: *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22*

Talk About Truth

In isolation, we are prone to error and deception. Having faithful Jesus followers around us with whom we can study God's Word helps guard us from the dangers of false teaching in our own interpretation.

- Who can you talk with about what you're pondering?

Obey Truth

We exercise our influence by personally applying God's truth to our lives and living in light of it.

- What are some next steps of obedience that we can take this week in light of the truths and implications from this passage? (*Confession, repentance, faith, trust, worship, pursuit, growth, etc.*)
- What is one application that you are going to pursue this week?

Teach Truth

We exercise our influence by engaging others and teaching them to observe all God has commanded.

- If you were taking someone else through this passage of Scripture, how would you talk about its truths and implications?
- How can you take the truths and implications from this passage and help someone else this week? (*Helping them take a next step, sharing the gospel, encouraging, admonishing, etc.*)
- Who is one person that you will talk to this week about what you have learned?