

A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES

January 17, 2021 Acts 6:2 by Bob Branch
The Springs VISION 2021

What is our core business? Does our normal accomplish that?

Be and “make disciples.” **Matthew 28:19-20**

**TRUTH: We’ve made Sunday service _____
for making disciples, yet it is consistently under-
performed, no matter who is preaching/leading.**

How did Jesus make disciples?

Disciple—pupil, student, learner—*utterly immersed in him
and his whole way of life.*

“a community of disciples.” **Acts 6:2**

HOUSE-CHURCHES

“an upstairs room of a house.” **Acts 1:3**

“Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came
from heaven and filled the whole house where they were
sitting.” **Acts 2:2**

“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple
courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together
with glad and sincere hearts” **Acts 2:46** (5:42; 12:12; 16:40)

“You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that
would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and
from house to house.” **Acts 20:20**

“Greet Priscilla and Aquila... Greet also the church that meets
at their house.” **Romans 16:3–5** (1 Cor. 16:19)

“Give my greetings... to Nympha and the church in her
house.” **Colossians 4:15**

“the church that meets in your home” **Philemon 2**

Real church—in _____.

**House Church was/is the most efficient, flexible,
connective, reproducible vehicle for growing disciples.**

**VISION: Build a robust network of house-churches—
elevating the importance of the small evenly with the large
—to connect, form and express the fullness of Jesus’ life.**

3 Spheres of Discipleship: Connect, Form, Express. In general:

CONNECT: Family, Belonging, Identity, Sharing, Oneness,
Joy, Prayer, Discovery, Safety, Trust

FORM: *connecting meaningfully to God and others thru*
Instruction & Learning, Mentoring, Imparting, Training,
Equipping, Healing, Maturing, Spiritual disciplines

EXPRESS: Giving, Serving, Evangelism, Missions, Justice,
Restoration, Forgiving, Reconciliation, Prayer, Healing,
Ministry to the Poor/in need.

How does this incarnate in the SMALL? LARGER meeting?

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS:

- **Long-term venture of redefining church.**
- **See smaller gatherings as “church”—not supplemental.**
- **A place where people *experience* church**
- **Takes more commitment. “Follow me” -Jesus**
- **Some discomfort.**
- **Both in-person and online House Churches.**
- **Committed to both small and large gatherings**
- **Embody the 3 priorities: Connect, Form, Express.**
- **Launch of Mid-February.**
- **House-churches are not the point—making disciples is.**

Are you a disciple? A pupil, follower of Jesus.