

Growing Disciples!

*A simple and sustainable process
for accomplishing our mission*

COVENANT  SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH
...Life in Agreement with God

Growing Disciples Framework*

This framework is organized thematically according to the cyclical processes of discipleship –

CONNECTING

Growing in relationship with God, others, and oneself;

UNDERSTANDING

Growing in the knowledge of Jesus and His teachings;

EQUIPPING

Growing in the skills of one's giftedness and application of God's Word to life; and

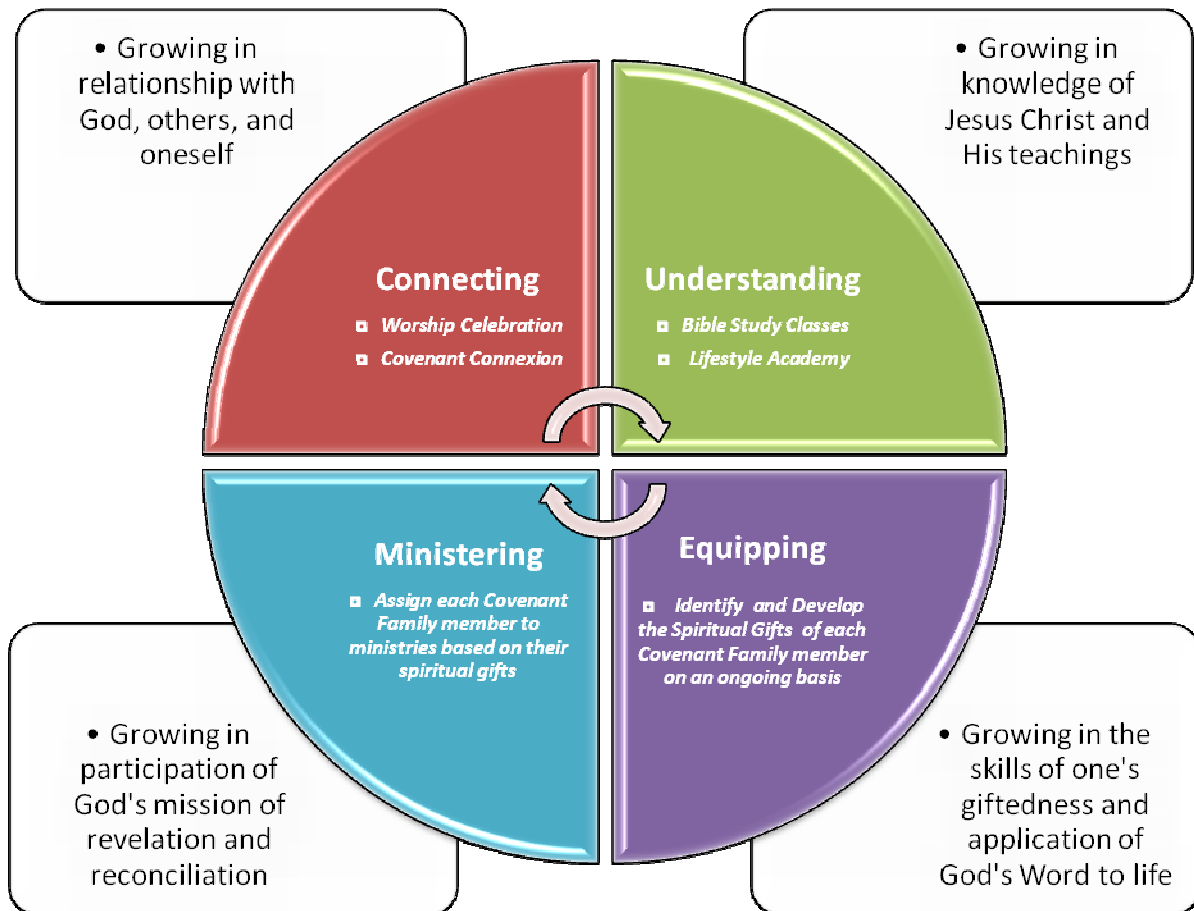
MINISTERING

Growing in participation in God's mission of revelation and reconciliation

* *A collaborative initiative by the Ministries Committee of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Andrews University School of Education and Theological Seminary*

Growing Disciples!

Our mission to connect our community with Christ is accomplished by applying the simple and sustainable process of Growing Disciples! This process of growing disciples has four phases – *Connecting, Understanding, Equipping, and Ministering*. When the process is completed and continued, it results in each COVENANT family member being inspired to have a personal relationship with God; being involved in ministry to the church and community based on their spiritual gifts; and being interested to invite their family, friends and neighbors to engage in the process of becoming a disciple.



The Application

At the **corporate** level, COVENANT places an emphasis on the following programs/activities to provide a foundation for the process of *Connecting, Understanding, Equipping, and Ministering* to be completed and continued:

- *Connecting*
 - Establish COVENANT Connexion groups (small groups) where each participant can grow in their relationship with God, grow in their relationship with each other and grow in service as their spiritual gifts are identified and developed.
 - Groups to be established based on geographic location or identified needs
 - Create a Sabbath worship celebration that allows each COVENANT family member and invitees to “Experience the Connexion” with God and each other.

- *Understanding*
 - Develop a curriculum that provides learning content for each COVENANT family member to grow spiritually, socially, and in service.
 - The learning content is distributed through the following channels:
 - Thematic Calendar for preaching and programs
 - Bible Study Classes
 - COVENANT Lifestyle Academy
 - A curriculum based program that provides learning opportunities for the church and community

- *Equipping*
 - Inventory the spiritual gifts of each COVENANT family member and provide training to develop the gifts that have been identified.

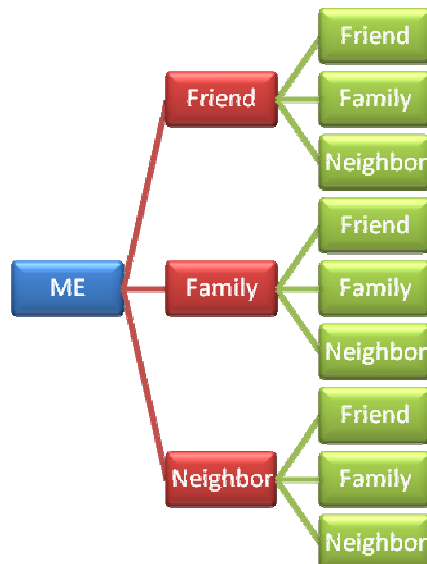
- *Ministering*
 - Assign each COVENANT family member to a ministry based on their gifts which have been identified and developed.

The Application

At the **personal** level, COVENANT encourages each family member to complete and continue the process of growing as a disciple by *Connecting, Understanding, Equipping, and Ministering*.

- *Connecting*
 - Join a COVENANT Connexion group (small groups).
 - Attend the Sabbath Worship celebration to “Experience the Connexion” with God and each other
- *Understanding*
 - Develop a personal bible study and devotional regimen
 - Participate in a Bible Study Class
 - Attend scheduled COVENANT Lifestyle Academy sessions
- *Equipping*
 - Identify and develop spiritual gifts
- *Ministering*
 - Engage in a ministry based on passion, spiritual gifts, and personal style

To demonstrate discipleship, everyone is encouraged to invite their family members, friends and neighbors to participate in the Growing Disciples process.



The Application

At the **ministry team** level, COVENANT expects each ministry team leader to focus their activities around the process of *Connecting, Understanding, Equipping, and Ministering* in the following ways:

- Determine the primary role the ministry team is to perform as part of the process of Growing Disciples.
- Design creative programs and activities in response to the primary role which will engage persons in ministry based on their spiritual gifts.
- Be intentional in the design of program and activities to include a component which provides opportunities to connect with persons who are not yet COVENANT family members.
- When such connections are made, the ministry team should encourage the participation in a COVENANT Connexion group (small group) and/or attendance to our Sabbath Worship Celebration.
- Collaborate with ministry teams in the other phases of growing disciples to complement the designed programs and activities.

Primary Role for Ministry Teams

<p style="text-align: center;">CONNECTING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Music Team ○ Audio Team ○ Media Shout Team ○ Drama Team • COVENANT Connexion • Friendship Team • Hospitality Team • Social Team • Events Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Security Team • Facilities Maintenance • Communication Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Photography Team ○ Website 	<p style="text-align: center;">UNDERSTANDING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Team • Soul Winning Action Team (S.W.A.T.) • Stewardship Team • Bible Class Team • Bible Study Review Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adult Teachers ○ Youth Teachers ○ Children’s Teachers
<p style="text-align: center;">MINISTERING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer Team 	<p style="text-align: center;">EQUIPPING</p>

- Family Life Team
- Women's Ministry Team
- Men's Ministry Team
- Youth Ministry Team
- Children's Ministry Team
- Pathfinder
- Adventurer Club
- Care Team
- Health Team
- Care Caps Team

Spiritual Gifts Team

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Each Administrative Committee Member is assigned certain ministry teams to provide coaching and consultation to the respective team leaders in designing creative programs and activities that enable their ministry to fulfill its primary role in the process of Growing Disciples.

Administrative Committee Member	Ministry Team Assignments
Beverly Mattocks, Chairperson	Curriculum, Facilities Maintenance, Care Caps
Rochelle Douglas	Children’s Ministry, Hospitality,
Sonia Reid	Youth Ministry, Events, Security, Social
Ian Hamilton	Communication,
Melida Akiti	Family Life, Bible Study Review, Care
Judith Daley	Health, Drama, Photography
Steve Bromfield	Stewardship, Pathfinder, Adventurer Club,
Donovan Francis	Spiritual Gifts, Audio, Media Shout,
Ryan Allen	Youth Ministry
Cynthia Rose-McIntyre	Women’s Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Prayer,
Paul H Douglas	Worship Team, Music, Communication
Pastor Stephen Stewart	COVENANT Connexions, S.W.A.T., Friendship

Action Plan Form

Each Ministry Team is to design creative programs and activities in response to their primary role in the process of Growing Disciples. These programs and activities must be clearly outlined in an action plan and implemented only the appropriate approvals have been received by the Administrative and Finance Committees.

Team/Ministry: _____ Leader: _____ Date: _____

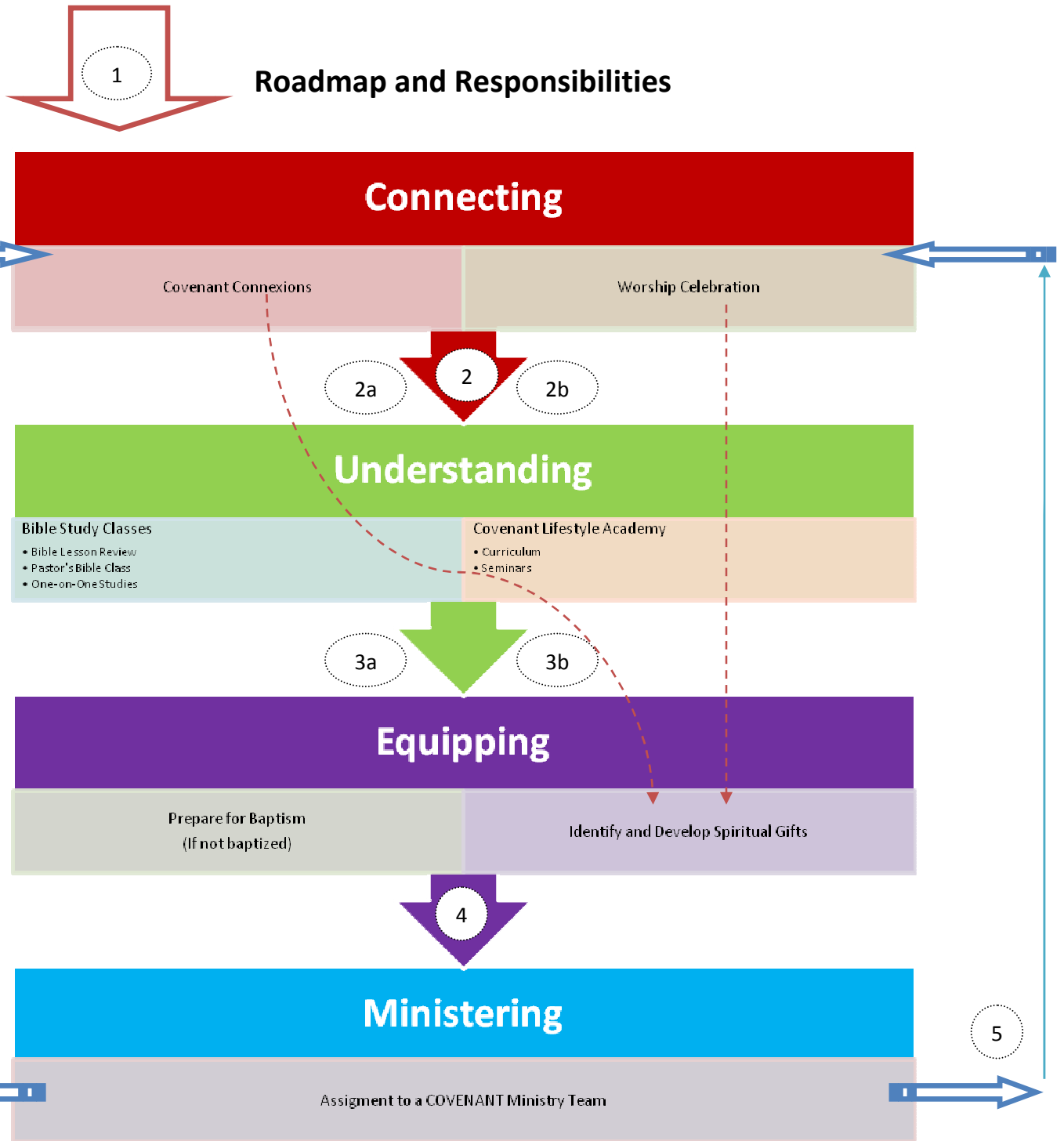
- Indicate what phase of Growing Disciples will be **primarily** addressed by the proposed activity: (Circle one)

- CONNECTING**
- UNDERSTANDING**
- EQUIPPING**
- MINISTERING**

- Identify the target audience for the proposed activity: (Circle one)

COVENANT Family Community Both

- **WHAT** is the proposed activity?
 - Describe in detail
- **WHO** are the persons/teams involved?
- **HOW** will the proposed activity be accomplished?
 - Enumerate the relevant tasks and associated timeline
- Prepare a budget, if necessary, for the proposed activity
 - Requires Finance Committee approval



Roadmap and Responsibilities

1

Inviting family, friends, and neighbors

- Everyone

2

From Connecting to Understanding

- Elders, Pastor

2a

Connexion Leaders

2b

Friendship Team

3a

From Understanding to Equipping (Baptism)

- Pastor, Elders, Connexion Leaders, S.W.A.T.

3a

From Understanding to Equipping (Spiritual Gifts)

- Teams in Understanding Phase, Spiritual Gifts Team

4

From Equipping to Ministering

- Spiritual Gifts Team, Administrative Committee

5

From Ministering to Connecting

- Everyone, COVENANT Ministry Teams, Elders, Pastor

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Our MISSION

To
Connect our Community with Christ!

Our VISION

Everyone growing disciples *Everyday!*

Our VALUES

Studying
His Word for our transformation!

Sharing
our faith to be an inspiration!

Serving
with our spiritual gifts to establish connections!

2010 - Growing Disciples Thematic Calendar

<p>JANUARY – Connecting with Christ</p> <p>1 [Friday PM] Communion/AGAPE Feast 2 <i>The Problem</i> 9 <i>The Process</i> [YC], [TPA] 16 <i>The Power</i> [AY] 23 <i>The Partnership</i> [YC] 30 <i>The Promise</i> [LA],[AY] [TPY] – January 15</p>	<p>MAY – Connecting with Christ</p> <p>1 REVIVAL Series 8 REVIVAL Series 15 REVIVAL Series 22 REVIVAL Series [LA] 29 REVIVAL Series [TPY] – May 14</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER – Connecting Families</p> <p>4 <i>Families in Crisis</i> 11 <i>Families in Communion</i> [YC], [TPA] 18 <i>Families in Christ</i> [LA] 25 FRIENDSHIP DAY 26 [Sunday PM] Begin Week of Prayer [TPY] – September 3 and 17</p>
<p>FEBRUARY – Understanding our Heritage</p> <p>6 <i>Adventist Heritage</i> [LA],[AY] 13 PATHFINDER DAY 20 <i>Black Heritage</i> [LA] 27 <i>Multicultural Heritage</i> PM – Lunch and Learn [TPY] – February 5 and 19</p>	<p>JUNE – Understanding our Faith</p> <p>5 Communion/Prayer & Fasting 70 Days of Prayer Commencement 12 <i>Touched by an Angel!</i> [YC], [TPA] 19 <i>Heaven on Earth?</i> PM – Graduation Ceremony 26 DOWNLINK: GC Session - Atlanta [TPY] – June 4 and 18</p>	<p>OCTOBER – Understanding Bible Prophecy</p> <p>2 Communion/Prayer & Fasting PM - End Week of Prayer 9 <i>Last Day Events I</i> [YC], [TPA] 16 <i>Last Day Events II</i> 23 <i>Last Day Events III</i> [LA],[YC], [TPA] 30 <i>Last Day Events IV</i> [TPY] – October 1 and 15</p>
<p>MARCH – Equipping for Ministry</p> <p>6 Communion/Prayer & Fasting 13 <i>Transforming our Meditation</i> [YC], [TPA] 20 <i>Transforming our Mind</i> [LA] 27 <i>Transforming our Ministry</i> [TPA] [TPY] – March 5 and 19</p>	<p>JULY – Equipping for Christian Living</p> <p>3 DOWNLINK: GC Session - Atlanta 10 <i>My Christianity in Action – Home</i> [YC], [TPA] 17 <i>My Christianity in Action – Neighborhood</i> [AY] 24 <i>My Christianity in Action – Work/School</i> [YC] PM – VBS Graduation 31 <i>My Christianity in Action – Church</i> [AY] [TPY] – July 2 and 16</p>	<p>NOVEMBER – Equipping for Discipleship</p> <p>6 FAMILY INTREAT! 13 Growing Disciples Summit 20 Growing Disciples Self Assessment [TPA] 27 PraiseFEST 2010 PM – HARVEST Social [TPY] – November 5 and 19</p>
<p>APRIL – Ministering with the Real Story</p> <p>3 <i>Will you be Left Behind I</i> PM – EASTER Musical 10 <i>Will you be Left Behind II</i> [LA] 17 <i>Will you be Left Behind III</i> [TPA] 24 CHURCH in OVERALLS! [TPY] – April 2, 16, and 30</p>	<p>AUGUST – Ministering for Christ</p> <p>7 <i>Adventist Missions</i> 14 70 Days of Prayer Celebration [YC] PM – Jesus in Jeans Family Activity 21 <i>Telling your Story</i> [TPA] 28 CHURCH in OVERALLS! [TPY] – August 20</p>	<p>DECEMBER – Ministering like Christ</p> <p>4 <i>The Ministry of Jesus I</i> [YC], [TPA] 11 CHURCH in OVERALLS 18 <i>The Ministry of Jesus II</i> PM – Christmas CANTATA 25 <i>The Ministry of Jesus III</i> 31 [Friday PM] Communion/AGAPE Feast [TPY] – December 3 and 17</p>

Abbreviation Key:

LA = Lifestyle Academy, TPA = Turning Pointe (Adults), TPY = Turning Pointe (Youth on Fridays), AY = Adventist Youth Program, YC = Youth Church, PM = Afternoon/Evening