



Marks of Discipleship

When we are seeking to plant churches, making disciples needs to be the focus of all we do. Seeking to evaluate whether we are disciple makers is key to church planting. Here are some key marks of a disciple of Christ:

Biblically engaged	Obeying God, by denying self	Serving God & others
Sharing Christ	Exercising faith	Seeking God
Building relationships	Being unashamed of the gospel	

These tie in with the 7 Baptist distinctives:

Jesus Is Lord	We believe that Jesus Christ, being eternally God, only begotten Son and the visible expression of the invisible God, effectively procured salvation for all creation through his death, burial and resurrection.
The Word of God Is the Authoritative Rule of Faith and Practice	We believe that God communicates his will through the inspired Word of God.
The Priesthood of All Believers	The Bible affirms the value of each person as having been created in the image of God, and also declares each person morally responsible for his/her own nature and behaviour.

<h2>A Believers' Church</h2>	<p>We believe that Jesus Christ chooses to form his church by bringing together believers for the purpose of being a community of believers that worship the living God, while forming disciples of Jesus that are committed to God's mission.</p>
<h2>Autonomy & Association</h2>	<p>We believe governance is our responsibility and follows the principles of the priesthood of all believers, the Lordship of Christ and the authority of Scriptures, through the power of the Holy Spirit, and that we associate and need the wisdom, direction and correction of other believers and congregations.</p>
<h2>Mission & Evangelism</h2>	<p>We have a story to tell that is mandated by our Lord in the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19–20.</p>
<h2>Freedom & Equality</h2>	<p>Emerging from our convictions about the priesthood of all believers, we affirm that in Jesus Christ all people are equal and that each one is free to be in relationship with God and to express a faith that is not coerced. We believe that there must be a separation between the church and civil governments.</p>

You can use these distinctives in your teaching series, as a way of developing disciples who understand their Baptist identity.

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