WHAT HAS GOD BEEN FORMING?

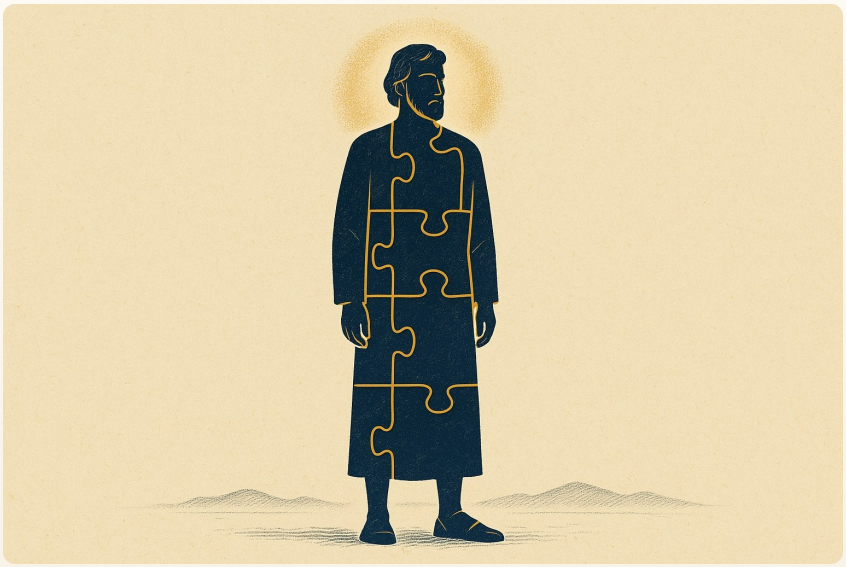
The Fully Formed *Disciple.*

Every movement of this pathway has been shaping the same person. **Believing** gave you new life in Christ. **Belonging** rooted you in His family. **Maturing** formed Christ's character in you. **Ministering** taught you to serve with the gifts He entrusted to you. **Multiplying** prepared you to help others walk the same path.

These are not five separate goals. Together, they form one kind of disciple. The New Testament gives that disciple a picture.

Romans 12.

This is not merely a chapter to study, but a portrait of what we all become.



Surrendered **Transformed** **Humble** **Loving** **Sacrificial**

Five pieces, one disciple. Remove even one, and the portrait is **incomplete**.

WHAT'S INSIDE · HOW THIS DOCUMENT MOVES

01 **The road** — How the pathway forms the picture.

02 **The Portrait** — Five relationships, one disciple.

03 **Living the Portrait** — How it becomes visible in life.

04 **Sent** — Formed, and sent.

01 The road

How the pathway forms the picture.

The five movements of this pathway were never meant to become five separate parts of the Christian life. Together, they describe one lifelong journey of following Jesus: we believe, we belong, we mature, we minister, and we multiply.

Each movement prepares us for the next, yet none of them ever ends. We never outgrow the gospel. We never graduate from God's family. We never stop abiding in Christ, serving with our gifts, or helping others follow Jesus.

As we continue walking this pathway, Christ reshapes every relationship in our lives: our relationship with **God**, our relationship with **the world**, our understanding of **ourselves**, our relationships within **His church**, and our relationships with **those who do not yet know Him**.

02 The Portrait

Five relationships of a whole disciple.

Every road leads somewhere.

The pathway has shown us how Christ forms His people. Romans 12 shows us what He is forming them into.

The pathway shapes the disciple. Romans 12 reveals the disciple Christ is shaping.

Every movement of the pathway leaves its mark on the portrait. As we **believe** the gospel, **belong** to God's family, **mature** in Christ, **minister** with our gifts, and **multiply** into the lives of others, Christ gradually transforms every relationship in our lives. We begin to relate differently to God, to the world around us, to ourselves, to our church family, and to those who do not yet know Christ.

As we read the chapter, five relationships emerge that together form the portrait of a fully formed disciple.

WITH GOD **Surrendered** Romans 12:1

Every part of life belongs to Him.

WITH THE WORLD **Transformed** Romans 12:2

Their mind is continually renewed by God's Word rather than shaped by the culture.

WITH MYSELF **Humble** Romans 12:3–8

They know who they are in Christ and faithfully steward the gifts He has entrusted to them.

WITH BELIEVERS **Loving** Romans 12:9–13

They genuinely love, encourage, serve, and build up the family of God.

WITH UNBELIEVERS **Sacrificial** Romans 12:14–21

They respond to hostility with grace, generosity, and costly love, overcoming evil with good.

This is not another stage beyond the pathway. It is the picture the pathway has been painting all along.

03 Living the Portrait

How it becomes visible in life.

A fully formed disciple is not someone who has completed a pathway or accumulated biblical knowledge. The goal has never been information. It has always been transformation that leads to faithful action.

As Christ continues His work in us, the portrait painted in Romans 12 becomes increasingly visible in everyday life. A surrendered heart becomes obedient hands. A renewed mind leads to different decisions. A humble view of ourselves frees us to faithfully use our gifts. Genuine love moves us to serve the church, and sacrificial love compels us to bless a world that often rejects Christ.

In other words, a fully formed disciple doesn't merely know God's Word. They live it.

THE GOAL OF IT ALL

They become doers of the Word and not hearers only. Their faith is seen in the way they worship, the way they think, the way they serve, the way they love, and the way they respond to those around them. Their life increasingly reflects the character of Christ in both ordinary moments and costly acts of obedience.

This is the portrait Christ is forming in every believer. Not perfection, but a life continually being transformed by the gospel and faithfully lived for the glory of God.

04 Sent

Formed, and sent.

What We Are Formed to Do

Every church has received the same Great Commission. Jesus has called His people to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey everything He has commanded. That mission belongs to the whole Church, in every place and every generation.

Yet throughout Scripture, God accomplishes that one mission through different means by many local churches. Each local church is uniquely placed, uniquely gifted, and uniquely called to serve the people and places He has entrusted to them.

While the Great Commission never changes, the particular vision through which a local church carries it out often does. That is why Christ forms disciples: not merely so they will know more Scripture or reach greater maturity, but so they will become the kind of people through whom He accomplishes both His universal mission and the unique calling He has entrusted to this church family.

Our Mission

> ***To make and multiply fully formed disciples of every generation, from Ashe County to the nations.***

Our Vision

We do not make disciples as an end in itself. We make disciples so that, together, we can accomplish everything Christ has called this church to be and do.