



STRATEGIC RENEWAL

The 6:3 Discipleship

2022 THIRD QUARTER MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT

Letter from Our President



What is a 6:3 Disciple?

In the church today, when we ask, “What is a disciple?” a plethora of diverse answers emerge. Some think of a disciple simply as a person who claims to be a “Christian.” Others think of a church member who has completed a certain sequence of prescribed content. A variety of other labels and behaviors are found in books, brochures, and on church websites. But what is a disciple and what does one look like?

THE COMMAND TO MAKE DISCIPLES

We are commanded to “make disciples” as we are “going” forward in His mission. This was Jesus’ final and “great” commission. In Luke 6:40, Jesus described the essence of a disciple. “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.” The word disciple means a “learner.” Jesus affirms that this learner submits to training and sets his sights on becoming like his teacher. So a true disciple is learning of Christ and becoming more and more like the Savior in character and conduct.

THE CLARITY OF ACTS 6:3

Acts chapter 6 is the first mention of the word “disciple” in the account of the early church. “Disciple” appears three times in seven verses. A clearer understanding of the command to “make disciples” begins to unfold here. Could this be a key description of what model disciples are to look like? Can we learn something about their character and contribution in God’s plan?

THE CONTEXT OF A 6:3 DISCIPLE

Faced with a major disruption in the distribution of food for the widows, the apostles select a course of action to resolve the dilemma while still keeping their personal leadership focus on “prayer and the ministry of the word” (v. 4). They announce, “Pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.” These reliable men would take responsibility for fixing the problem, but would be specifically selected based on the Christian character that was profoundly evident in their lives.

It is important to remember that the early church was a praying church, led by praying leaders. Jesus modeled prayer, taught prayer, and established the church in the context of extraordinary prayer. This was the environment - the spiritual greenhouse - in which the early disciples were grown and trained. This is why our team at Strategic Renewal passionately seeks to equip leaders and church members in the transforming power of prayer. This is still the essential environment for true discipleship.

THE CHARACTER OF A 6:3 DISCIPLE

The three-fold description of the notable character of these seven men is essential. They had to be “of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom.”

1. A good reputation, just like Jesus - We know that Christ-followers are called to be blameless - respected by all, shining as lights in this dark world (Phil. 2:15). Jesus increased in “favor with God and man” and lived a blameless life, without sin. He is our model. His indwelling power shapes our character in order to demonstrate a consistent and reliable life of integrity.
2. Full of the Spirit, just like Jesus - Jesus was “full of the Spirit” (Luke 4:1) and demonstrated the power and character of the Holy Spirit in all things. We are called to be fully surrendered to the indwelling Spirit (Eph 5:18) in such a way that the fruit of His life is evident in our character and conduct (Gal.5:22-23).
3. Full of wisdom, just like Jesus - Jesus was filled with wisdom and grew in wisdom (Luke 2:40, 52). We are called to walk wisely in this world (Eph. 5:15; Col 4:5). The indwelling Christ is the One “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col 2:3).

THE CONTRIBUTION OF A 6:3 DISCIPLE

Discipleship is lived out in the context of the local church. These seven disciples rose to the occasion to serve, to solve a problem, and to support the primary leaders so that they could focus on the ultimate priority of prayer-and-word-powered ministry (Acts 6:4).

We invite you to live and serve as an Acts 6:3 disciple. This edition of our Impact Report will show you how we can serve you in practical ways toward that end.

In Christ,

Daniel Henderson, *President, Strategic Renewal*

Thank You

6:7 DAY - INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION CAMPAIGN



God's provision continues, as it always does. We set out, in June, to fund an initiative to translate our resource *Praying the Psalms into Spanish, French, Russian, and Mandarin*. As the month of June ended, the LORD provided \$107,871.87 toward this endeavor. Thanks to the generosity of God's people we have begun

the process of translating this valuable resource into these four key languages, which cover around half of the heart languages of the world's population. Please pray that the translation process would be accomplished efficiently and accurately for the glory of Jesus Christ. Thank you so very much for your love for the Church around the world, and for your generous partnership!

DO YOU KNOW JIM MAXIM?

Jim is the President and Founder of Maxim Automotive, which specializes in forming and managing re-insurance companies for automotive dealers. Jim and his wife, Cathy, have been involved in inner city ministry for over 40 years as regular hosts of city-wide prayer gatherings. They founded Acts 4:13, a ministry dedicated to mobilizing the church to pray for pastors. They also serve on the boards of People for People and World Impact. Jim serves as the Chairman of The Hope Center, an urban crisis pregnancy center in North Philadelphia. He is an author, public speaker, and faithfully serves as the Chairman of the Board of Strategic Renewal.



JIM MAXIM
SR BOARD CHAIRMAN

"As the Chairman of this ministry, my wife Cathy and I are fully committed to SRI in every aspect because we have seen God's presence change the lives of so many devoted followers of Jesus Christ both 'behind the scenes' and in public meetings. We are so excited with the plans for the future of Strategic Renewal and how Almighty God is going to use this powerful ministry to continue to strengthen and equip His leaders. If you are looking to maximize your effectiveness for 'The Kingdom,' give, and give joyfully, knowing that your money will honor God!"

Introducing...

THE 6:3 DISCIPLESHIP

Pursuing Spirit-Powered Character and Service

This newly re-labeled ministry of Strategic Renewal will focus on building disciples that are like those described in Acts 6:3. Discipleship is a daily path that we walk, and therefore our guidance and resources will focus on being a 6:3 Disciple, not just having the tools. This is why we have chosen to use the word pursuing in the byline. Spirit-powered character is also essential in the daily walk of this type of disciple. Then finally, Spirit-powered service is a calling... one that followers of Jesus Christ should aspire to.

"Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty." Acts 6:3

Using these as Guideposts, along with worship-based prayer, Strategic Renewal has introduced a Discipleship by Design pathway to help local churches build 6:3 Disciples. The Guideposts along the Discipleship by Design Pathway:



WORSHIP-BASED
PRAYER



GOOD
REPUTE



FULL OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT



FULL OF
WISDOM

Amazingly the path was already being set, by our Lord, as we have discovered that many of our resources already lined up with this direction. You might be able to tell from the graphics, that *The Deeper Life* (good repute; character), and *Transforming Presence* (full of the Holy Spirit) fall right in line with the path. Along with those, we have rebranded an existing book as *Transforming Wisdom* (full of Wisdom), and then *Transforming Prayer* (worship-based prayer) is the foundation for a disciple to walk this path. The Guideposts will not be limited to these resources, but these resources will help us establish them as markers for the journey. The 6:3 Discipleship launch also comes with a team of Renewal Coaches who are trained to coach churches in Worship-based Prayer.

The 6:3 Disciple



JUSTIN JEPPESEN
6:3 NATIONAL DIRECTOR

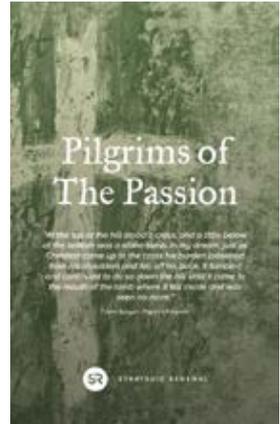
This past quarter has been one of great development and preparation to officially launch our rebranded ministry of Strategic Renewal to the “person in the pew.” As the 6:3 Discipleship, we are now ready to reach, equip, empower, and encourage praying disciples to partner with their pastors towards supernatural gospel impact. Our discipleship Guideposts and Renewal Coaching Team will expand our ability to come alongside the local church to build and fortify cultures of prayer throughout the nation and beyond. We

are also grateful for our continued growth and depth of connection through our weekly Facebook Live prayer times and virtual coaching opportunities. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!

PURSUING SPIRIT-POWERED CHARACTER AND SERVICE

This year Strategic Renewal celebrated Holy Week with a set of Facebook LIVE sessions, leading up to Good Friday, entitled Pilgrims of the Passion. These sessions were viewed by over 2,000 people, and were accompanied by a PDF booklet that guided the hearts of the participants through the emotions of this important week.

We also utilized the Facebook LIVE platform to participate in the National Day of Prayer with an opening as well as a closing session of prayer, which engaged nearly 500 people on May 5th.



As social media continues to drive our society, our presence on these platforms has been, and will continue to be, a large part of how we engage this - as well as the next - generation. Currently our Facebook reach is just over 6,000 users, and our Instagram account is up 44%, reaching over 400 users on that platform.

The 6:4 Pastor

This spring, we put a lot of time and energy into securing eight locations for regional *Days of Renewal*, to encourage leaders in their walk with God and the development of prayer cultures in their churches. We now have dates and locations planned fourteen months out. We begin in November, in Virginia, at Eastlake Church. In addition, we now have an International Conference, scheduled for May, in Canada.



DENNIS HENDERSON
6:4 NATIONAL DIRECTOR

There is a growing cohesiveness and camaraderie among our Regional Directors, and their wives, as they meet once a month for a Zoom call of prayer and fellowship. These men continue to work on developing regional leaders and will be spending five days during the first week of November praying and planning as we see 2023 approaching.

PASTORS COMMITTED TO PRAYER-AND-WORD-POWERED MINISTRY



JEREMIAH PORTER,
PASTOR, CHRIST'S
COMMUNITY CHURCH,
GRANITE FALLS, WA;
REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
THE 6:4 FELLOWSHIP

"Serving as a 6:4 Regional Director has been an incredible blessing. I've had the privilege of connecting with more than 300 pastors through prayer summits, days of renewal, and 6:4 spotlights in various pastoral gatherings. I have experienced so much joy in helping pastors rediscover intimacy with God through worship-based prayer, resulting in increased faith, clarity of vision, and supernatural ministry impact. I especially love my team of regional leaders and cherish the brotherhood that has developed through our times of encouragement and prayer together. I'm praying that God will provide a regional leader in every major city in the Pacific

Northwest, and that together we would be able to extend an invitation to every pastor in our region to join The 6:4 Fellowship."

- **Jeremiah Porter**, *Director, Pacific Northwest Region*

An International Fellowship



LEN CROWLEY

6:4 INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR

With the beginning of multiple translation projects in four key languages, The 6:4 Fellowship is expanding internationally. *Praying the Psalms*, now in 5 volumes, including all 150 psalms, will be in print by mid-November. We hope to have a single book version in English, Russian, Spanish, French, and Chinese available by the end of 2023. Moreover, we are beginning to give 6:4's international web landing and welcome page the ability to be read in these other languages. We are trusting the Lord to get this energizing and encouraging resource - and many others - into eager hands worldwide.

DO YOU KNOW LEN CROWLEY?

Len Crowley grew up in Pasadena, CA (his father was the mayor for a short time). He went to school in Minnesota (Carleton College) and graduated from Talbot Theological Seminary with honors in 1979.

Len is the only Division III player to play in the first ever Monday Night Football Game (pre-season, Lions vs. KC Chiefs, Tiger Stadium, Detroit, 1970 - stories available on request).



Len and Linda Crowley

He married Linda Anderson in 1980. They have two children. Meghan and husband Kevin, along with three granddaughters that live in Ft. Collins, CO. Evan, and his wife Bronwen, have two children, and live in Split, Croatia. Evan (with Josiah Venture) and Kevin (with Restoration Project) are both members of The 6:4 Fellowship.

Len is a starter. He has been a trainer, teacher, board member, investor, entrepreneur, and a full-time as well as bi-vocational pastor with considerable experience in international travel, missions, and multi-ethnic collaborations. His particular interest and writings are on biblical church purpose and practices. And he loves pastors! (...and golf, when his game is on.) He is the International Director for The 6:4 Fellowship and runs 6:4PRESS (publisher of *Praying the Psalms*, Volumes 1-5).

Coaching

Sessions For The 6:3 Disciple

TRANSFORMING PRAYER COACHING

Our April Transforming Prayer Coaching was a great success, and we ran into the need to create additional groups to accommodate the amount of individuals interested in participating.

The Transforming Prayer coaching helps participants achieve greater personal fulfillment and effectiveness by taking their prayer lives from ordinary to extraordinary. This 30-day coaching experience helps to truly discover how everything changes when you learn to seek God's face. This intensive process includes four coaching sessions and provides access to a wealth of our spiritual formation resources. The next session starts October 12th. For more information visit our website through this code:



"Going through the Transforming Prayer coaching has changed how I pray. Using the '4/4 pattern' of prayer has led me to seek God's face in a rich, new way. I would recommend this seminar to anyone who wants to improve their prayer life at a deeper level."

- TRANSFORMING PRAYER PARTICIPANT

Sessions For The Acts 6:4 Pastor

PRAYING LEADER COACHING

Twenty-one pastors worked through The Praying Leader Coaching this spring, which we celebrate as 21 more churches learning to pray the 4/4 pattern, and (conservatively estimating) 800 more disciples seeking the face of God.

This Praying Leader coaching has equipped more than 750 church leaders, many of whom have become key prayer leaders in their own denominations. The impact of this coaching reaches far beyond the members that take these sessions. The pastors that take this course are affecting hundreds of thousands of lives.

We offer this course three times a year. The third quarter session will begin September 20th with all new groups. For more information visit our website through this code:



Opportunities



Praying For You

Every week our staff team prays for our partner pastors and churches. We also set aside time to pray for you, our ministry partner. It is an honor to pray for you as a staff.

▶ [EMAIL US AT PRAYER@STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM](mailto:PRAYER@STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM)

Monday Motivator

Every Monday you can get weekly insights for the Christian life in your email inbox. Be inspired, challenged, and motivated by understanding God's word and how to apply it to your daily life.

▶ [VISIT STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM/DEVOTIONAL](http://STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM/DEVOTIONAL)



Facebook LIVE

Every Monday at 9 AM ET Strategic Renewal hosts a prayer time on Facebook LIVE. We have been praying through the Psalms together with people from all over the world, and consistently lifting up current events. This platform was also utilized for our Special Prayer Time for the Crisis in Ukraine.

▶ [VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE @STRATEGICRENEWAL](https://www.facebook.com/STRATEGICRENEWAL)



Discipleship Daily

"The hardest part of the Christian life is that it's so daily." – Daniel Henderson. Have you ever thought about this? In response to that idea, The 6:3 Discipleship has set up daily notifications that are delivered directly to your device with a simple thought, scripture, and a single prayer prompt each day. ▶ [VISIT STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM/APP](http://STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM/APP)



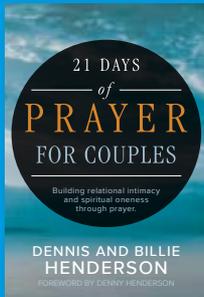
Resources



We have repurposed a book published under the title *The Prayer God Loves to Answer* to coincide with our Discipleship by Design pathway. We're calling it *Transforming Wisdom*. The contents of this book have always fit with the direction of the ministry, and now it is part of what we are calling *The 6:3 Discipleship Guidepost Series*. The impact of this content has already touched lives:

"As musicians warm up prior to a concert the sound is often quite distressing. That is how my prayer life felt--hit and miss, out of key, playing my own tune, while others played their own. Then the conductor lifts his baton and directs the musicians; and beautiful music fills our souls. I've read many, many books about prayer and how to pray, and have benefitted in some way from each one. When I opened *Transforming Wisdom*, I discovered a deep, refreshing well of life-giving, practical instruction that taught me to learn how to respond to the Conductor of my soul. My times with my God have become more precious and life-giving, and I sense His presence throughout my day. God bless you for listening to our Lord, and for sharing His Word with us!"

- VICKI WILLIAMS

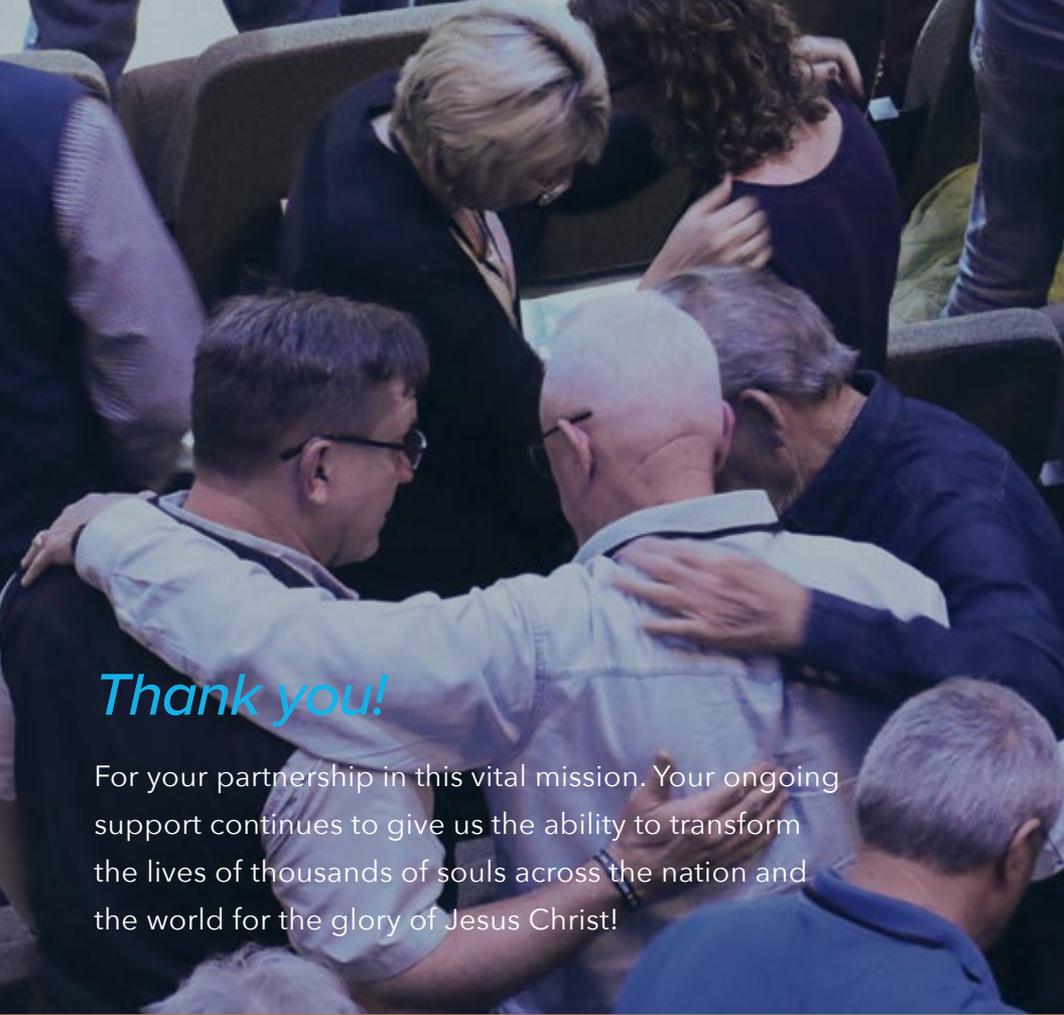


New from Dennis Henderson, National Director of The 6:4 Fellowship and co-leader of our Ministry Marriage Coaching, a daily devotional to help couples develop their own "oneness" and daily spiritual renewal. In this book, Dennis and his wife, Billie, offer couples an aid to help them get started in the habit of praying together. The daily topics are not lengthy commentaries on these subjects. The topics are those we face in our marriages on a regular basis. They are merely jumping-off points to give you a start for prayer.

Includes 21 daily readings along with an audio prayer, by Dennis and/or Billie, to follow along with each day (available on both our website and the *Strategic Renewal App*).



FIND OUT MORE AT [STORE.STRATEGICRENEWAL.COM](https://store.strategicrenewal.com)



Thank you!

For your partnership in this vital mission. Your ongoing support continues to give us the ability to transform the lives of thousands of souls across the nation and the world for the glory of Jesus Christ!



STRATEGIC RENEWAL

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*Enhancing Trust
in Ministries*