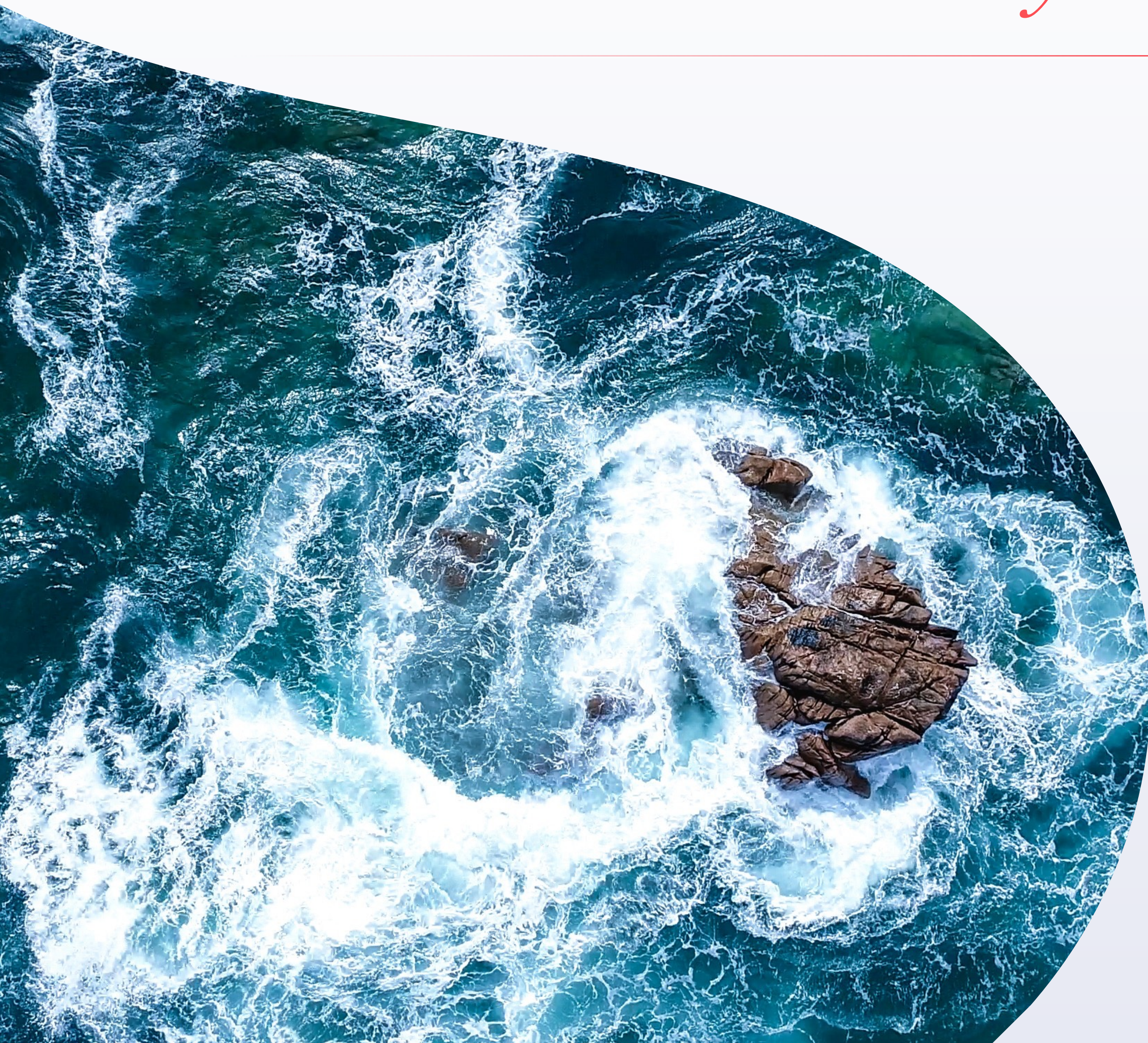




Ministering Out of the Overflow

Foothill Bible Church | The Training Hour | Discipling

Ministry Confronts Us



We can assume the strength of our Christian walk.

Ministry challenges these assumptions.

- *biblical knowledge*
- *understanding of how to live the Christian life*
- *relationship with Christ*

Abiding in Christ

- *John 15:1–11*
- *He is the Vine, the source of life.*
- *We are the branches, receiving our spiritual vitality by abiding in him.*
- *As we abide, fruit appears.*
- *Fruit = Character (Gal. 5), Behavior (Col. 1:10)*

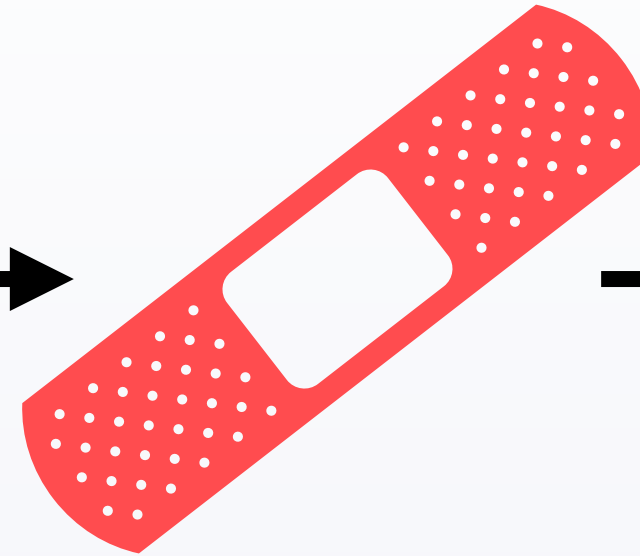


Fruitlessness

- *Fruitlessness is not good, but can be helpful.*
- *It is possible to do Christian “ministry” without abiding in the Vine, but it’s impossible to make disciples when your soul is running on empty.*
- *One of the best ways to test our relationship to the Vine is to engage in a spiritual relationship with a fellow struggler.*



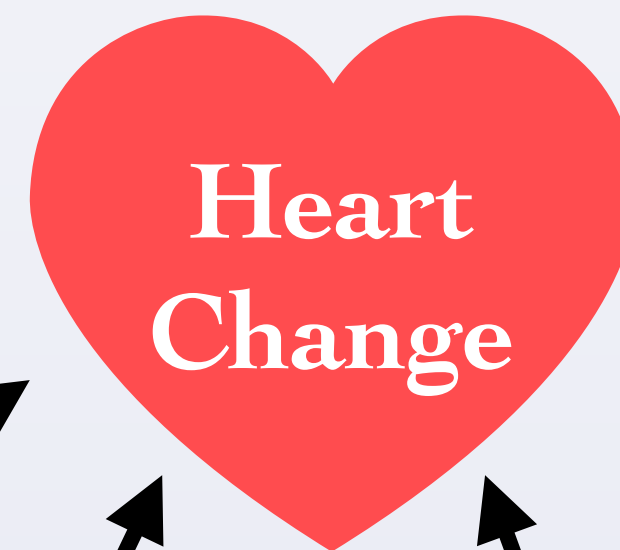
FIX IT EXTERNALLY



**TEMPORARY
SUPERFICIAL
CHANGE**

**NEGATIVE
FRUIT**

**BEING AN INSTRUMENT
OF CHANGE**



**POSITIVE FRUIT/
CHRISTLIKENESS**

Love

Know

Speak

Do

The Elements of Discipling Friendships

- Love . . . the Lord & your friend.
- Know . . . your friend & their heart.
- Speak . . . God's word to him.
- Do . . . Help your friend do something with what he learns.



Love

- *Love is the foundation of people-transforming ministry.*
- *Our love is rooted in and made possible by the gospel.*
- *1 John 4:7–12, 19*
- *Love is demanding.*
- *1 Thessalonians 2:7–8*
- *Without love, our ministry is nothing (1 Corinthians 13:1–3)*

Disciplining with Love

<i>Others-Centered</i>	<i>Self-Centered</i>
<i>People as ministry</i>	<i>People as obstacles</i>
<i>Start with Listening</i>	<i>Start with Speaking</i>
<i>Willing to be Inconvenienced</i>	<i>Frustrated with Interruptions</i>
<i>Looking to Help People</i>	<i>Looking to Solve Problems</i>

How Is Your Love?

- *How much are the people in your life a source of personal frustration?*
- *How often do you give in to stress and do things that do not honor Christ and display his character?*
- *How often do you see people as obstacles to ministry rather than the objects of it?*
- *Whom have you given up on?*
- *Do people sense the love of Christ in you?*

