

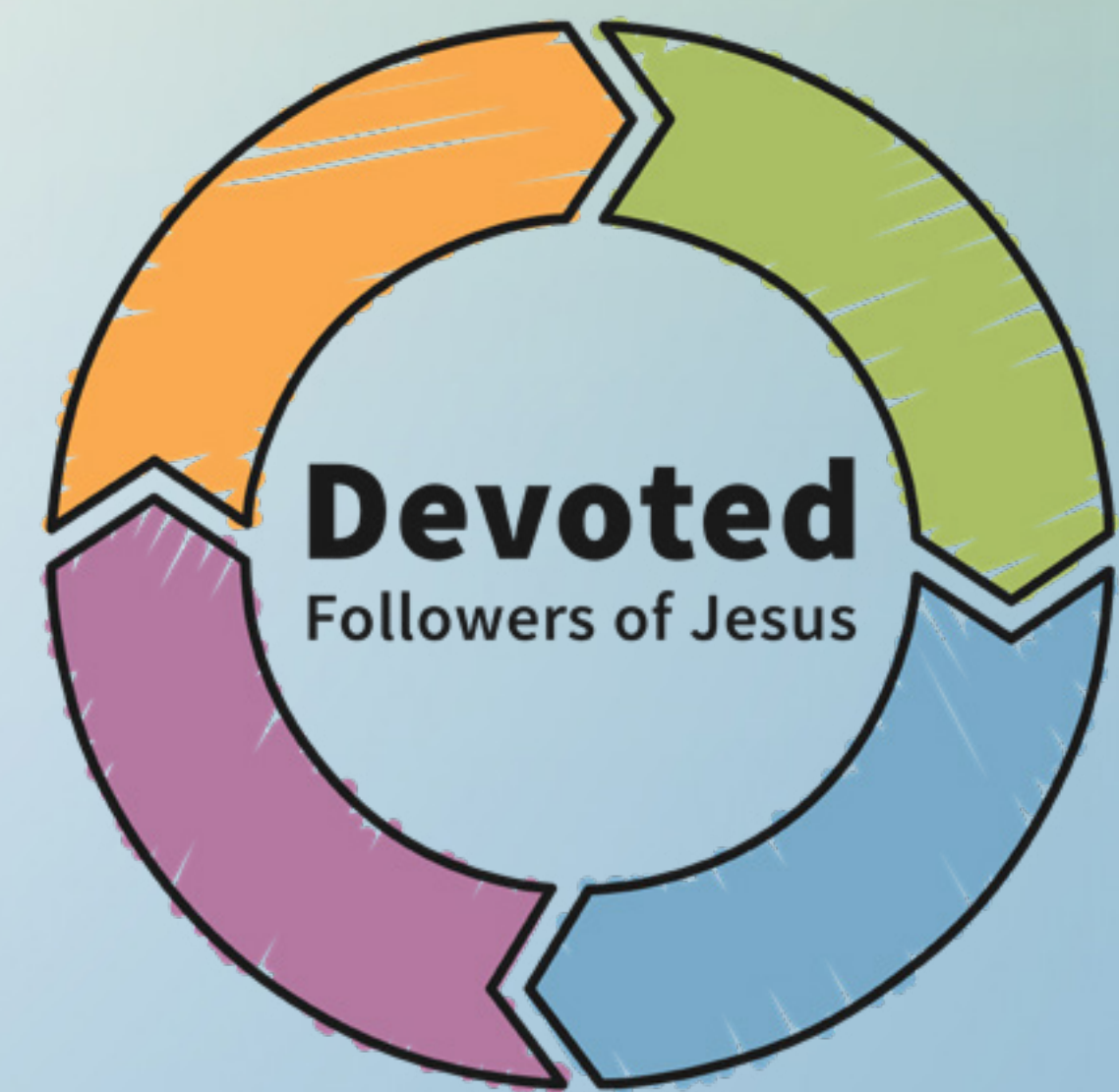




**Devoted followers
of Jesus mature
spiritually and serve
others humbly.**

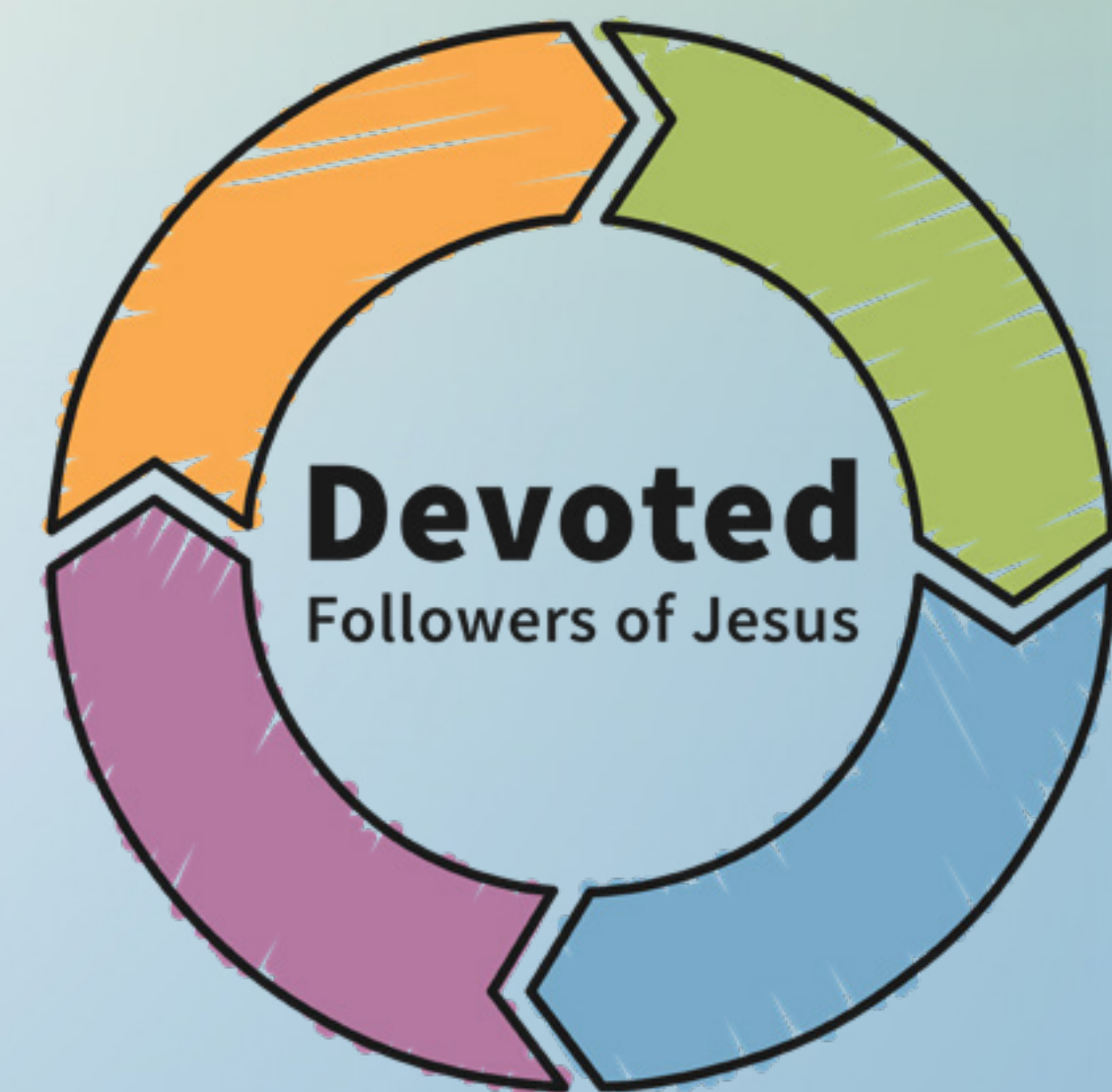
It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

EPHESIANS 4:11



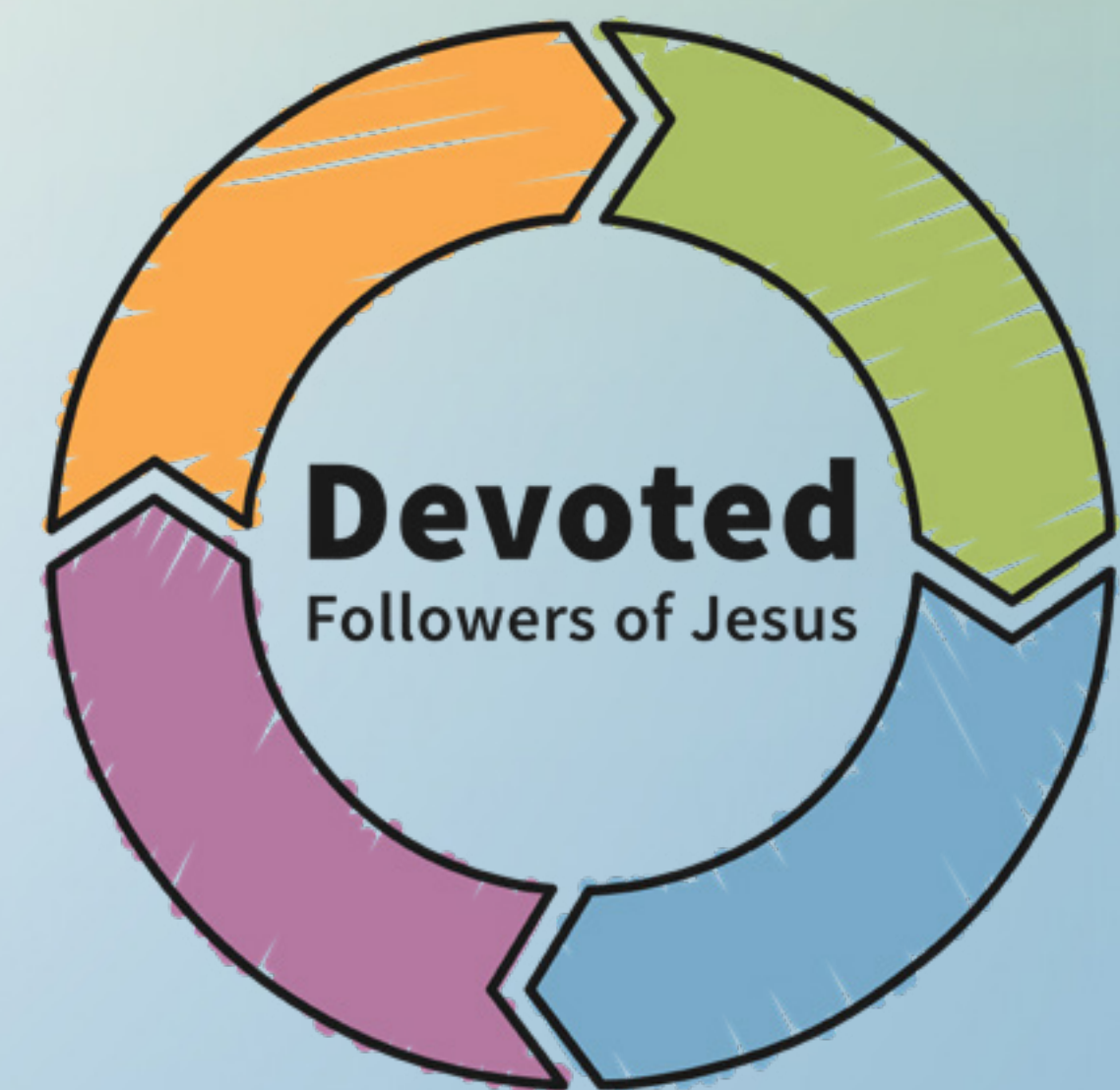
to prepare God's people for
works of service, so that the
Body of Christ may be built up

EPHESIANS 4:12



until we all reach unity in the faith
and in the knowledge of the Son
of God and become mature, attaining
to the whole measure of the
fullness of Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:13



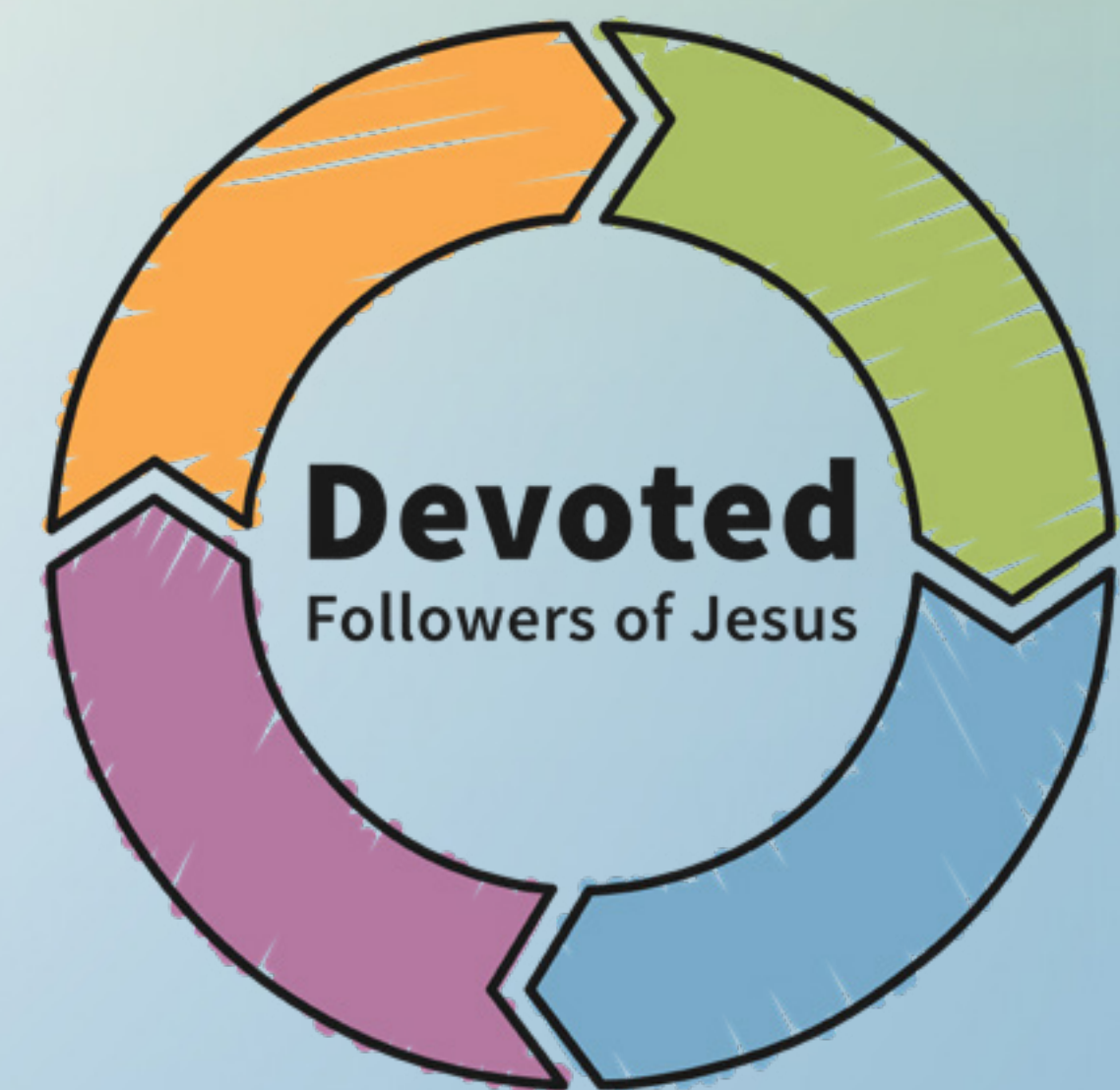
Then we will no longer be infants,
tossed back and forth by the waves,
and blown here and there by
every wind of teaching and by the
cunning and craftiness of men
in their deceitful scheming.

EPHESIANS 4:14



Instead, speaking the truth in love,
we will in all things grow up into Him
who is the Head, that is, Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:15



From Him the whole Body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

EPHESIANS 4:16



God's Training Plan:

The People Gifts (4:11)

Christ gives gifted
leaders to His Church.

God's Training Plan:

The Body Purposes (4:12)

Gifted leaders equip believers for mutual service and collective maturity.

“The New Testament concept of the pastor is not of a person who jealously guards all ministry in his own hands... but of one who helps and encourages all God’s people to discover, develop, and exercise their gifts.”

JOHN STOTT



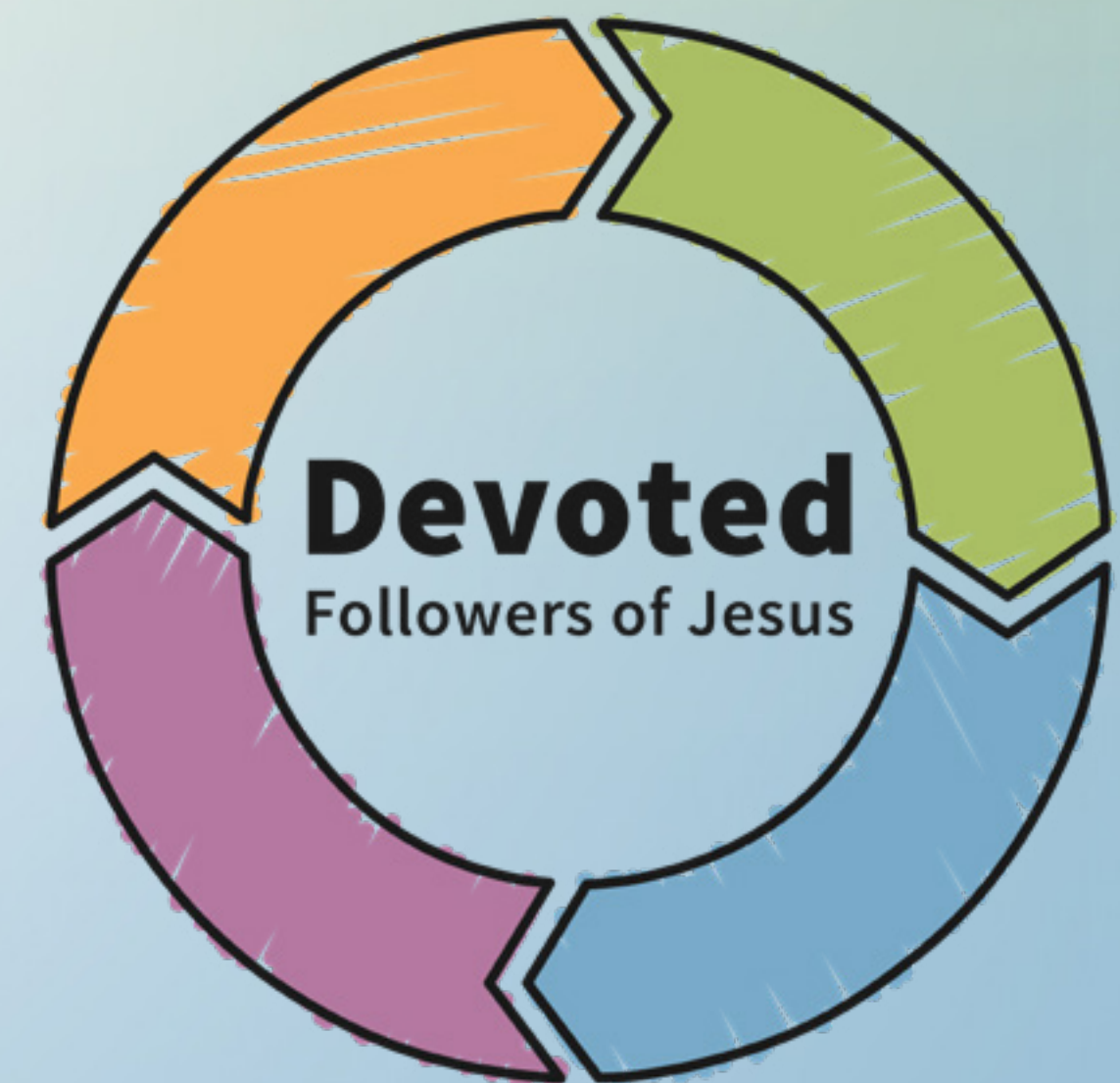
God's Training Plan:

The Spiritual Results (4:13)

We are made for unity in
Christ to reflect His greatness.

“Christian growth or progress does not occur in isolation; God’s people are collectively en route to this vital destination.”

PETER O’BRIEN



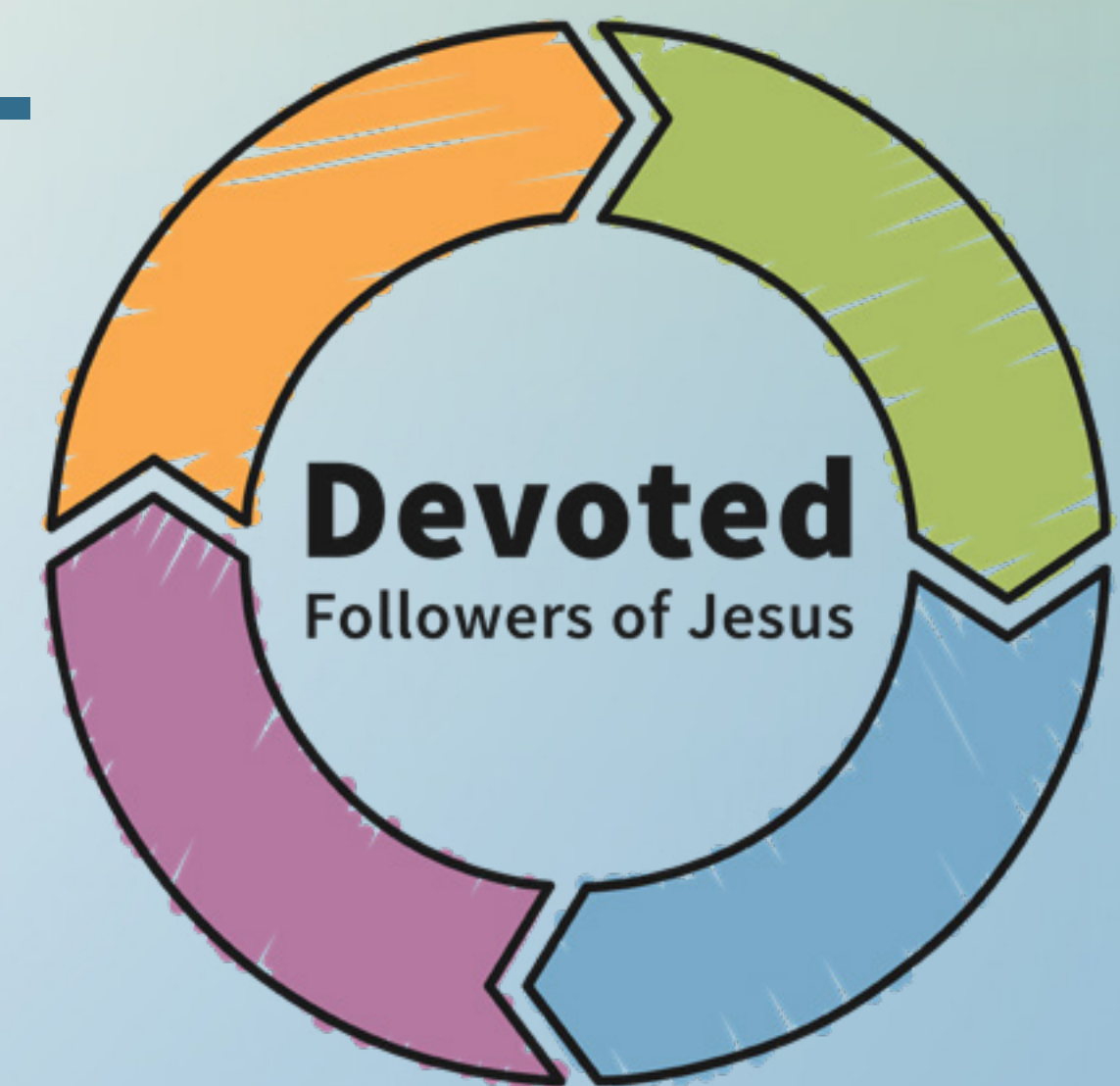
Training's Observable Results:

Anchored in Truth (4:14)

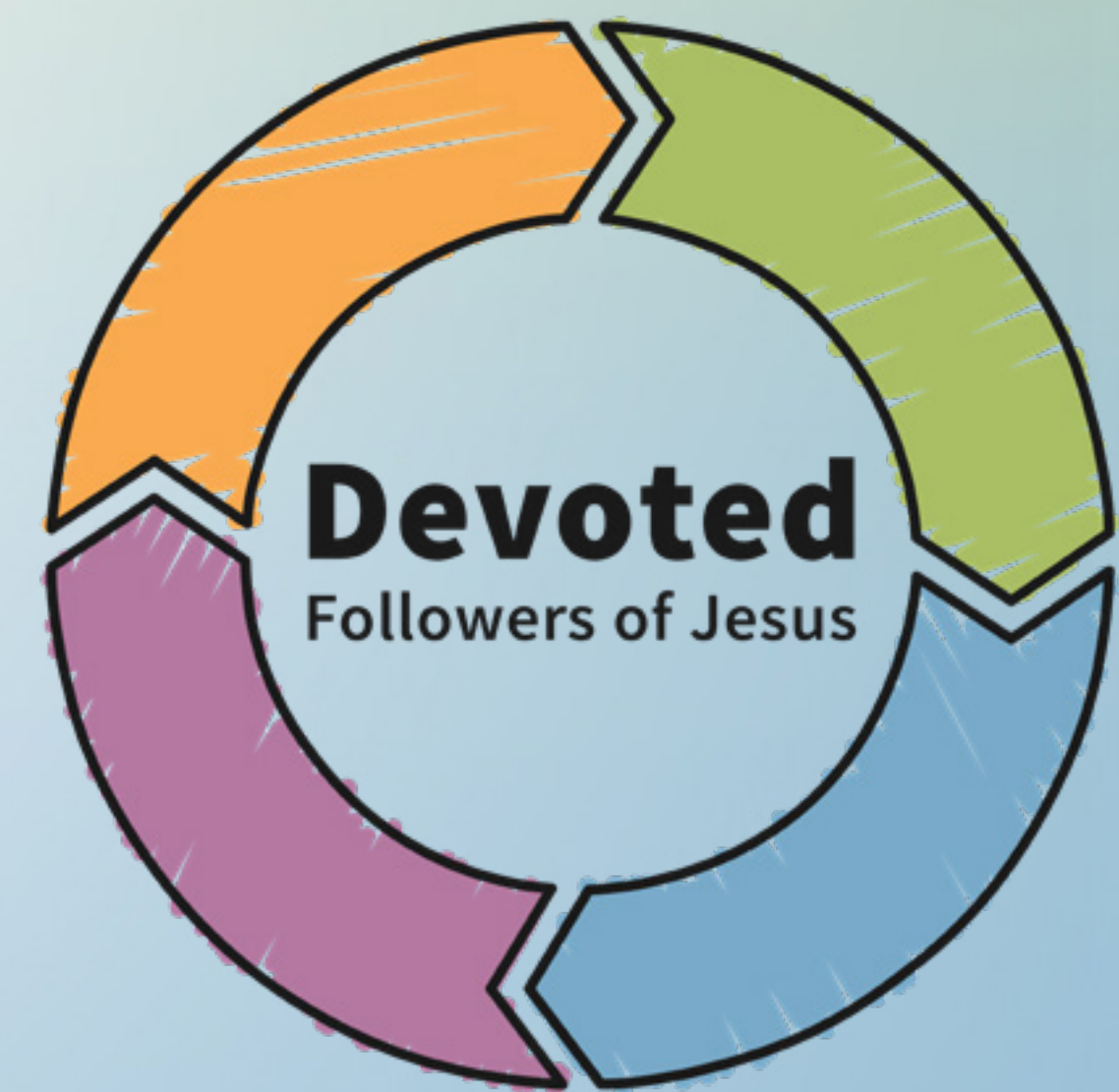
We aren't distorted and
undermined by false teaching.

“America’s problem isn’t too much religion, or too little of it. It’s bad religion: the slow-motion collapse of traditional Christianity and the rise of a variety of destructive pseudo-Christianities in its place.”

ROSS DOUTHAT



We are a gullible people,
fueled especially now by
social media. But a healthy
Church is not gullible.



Training's Observable Results:

Corporate Maturity (4:15)

We love one another with the truth.

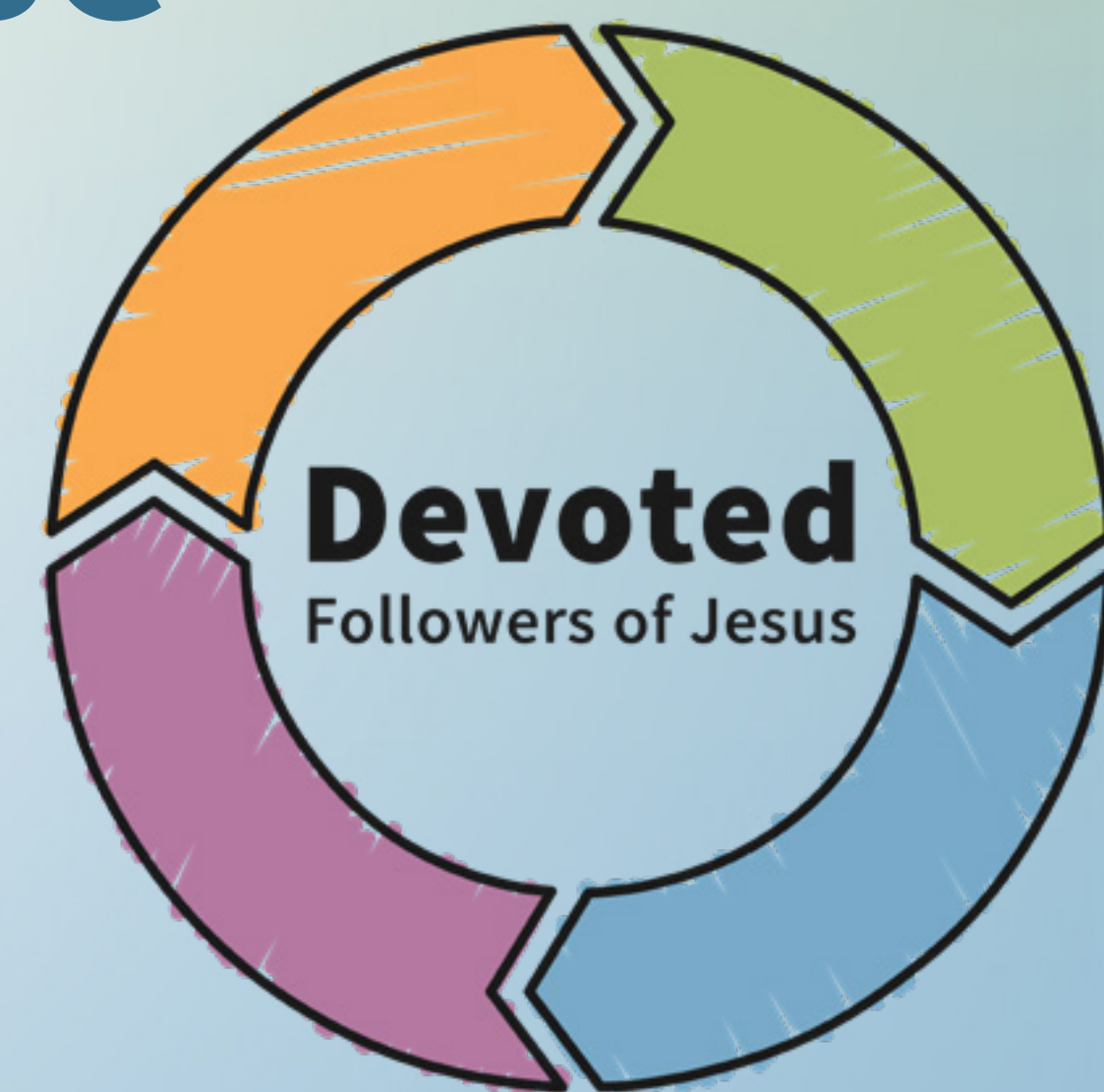
Training's Observable Results:

Individual Contribution (4:16)

God has given each member an indispensable role to play.

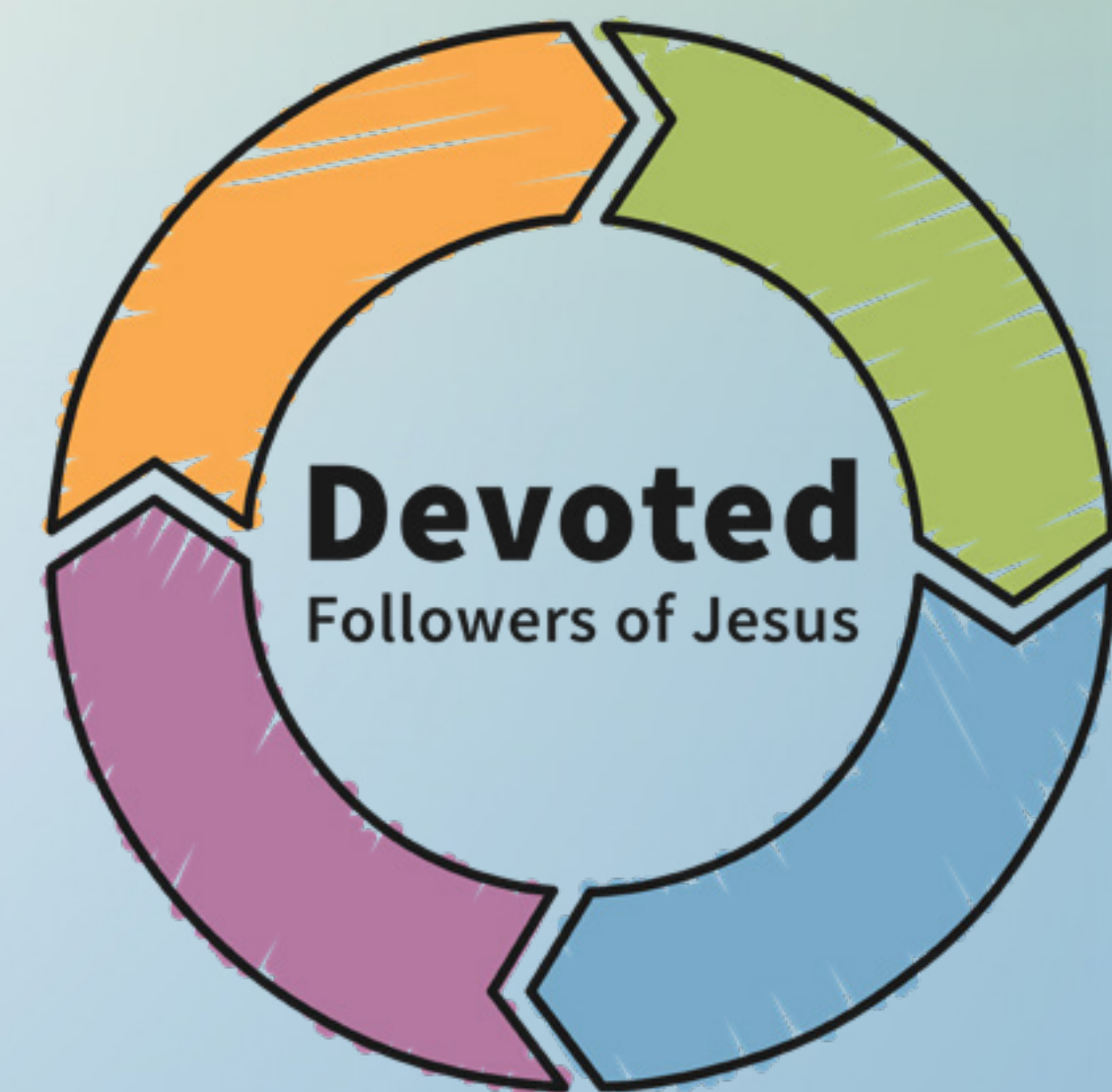
“The growth of the Church is not a result of clever methods but of every member of the Body fully using his spiritual gift in close contact with other believers.”

JOHN MACARTHUR



“The Church exists to equip people in order to release them back into the world, grounded in truth and community, dangerous for the Gospel.”

SUE MALLORY



Personal Characteristics:

Devoted followers of Jesus grow in conviction of Jesus' truth, expression of His character, and competence in His Great Commission.

Personal Characteristics:

Devoted followers of Jesus
demonstrate grace and love both
to believers and unbelievers.

Personal Characteristics:

Devoted followers of Jesus employ their unique spiritual gifts to build up the Church, Christ's Body.