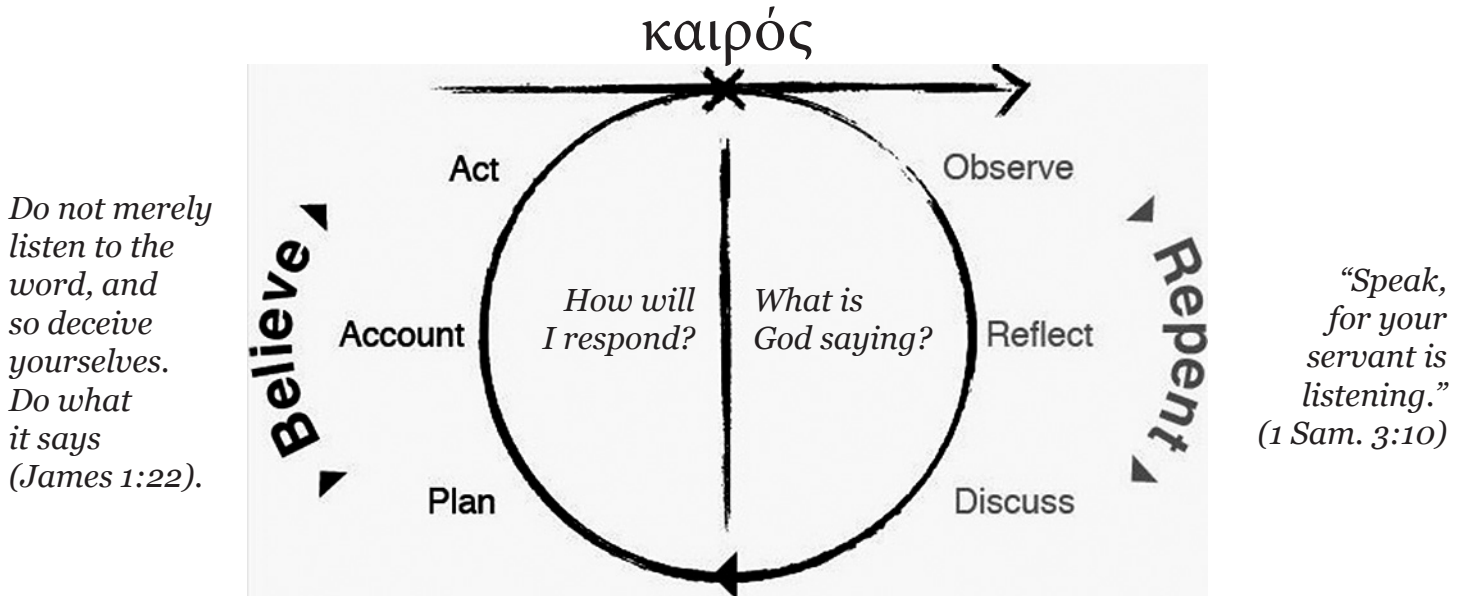


Building a Discipling Culture

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The Circle

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" —Mark 1:14–15



There are several words in the Greek language that translate into the English word for time. *Chronos* is the one we would find most familiar, meaning successive or sequential time, the kind of time you find on your wristwatch. Another is *Kairos*, meaning an event, an opportunity...A kairos moment is when the eternal God breaks into your circumstances with an event that gathers some loose ends of your life and knots them together in his hands. The Circle shows us: what it means to live a lifestyle of learning as a disciple of Christ; how to recognize important events as opportunities for growth; and how to process these events.

- Kairos Events Can Be Positive or Negative
- Kairos Moments Can Be Recognized by the Impact They Leave on You
- Kairos Events Signal Opportunities to Grow

Kairos moments are not neutral, as they leave an impression on us. But when a kairos moment occurs, we must decide to enter the Circle. From the moment we do so, we are in a learning mode.

If kairos moments are to lead to lasting change, **we must invite others into the process with us.** For repentance to take hold, we've got to share it with someone else.

Connection with the triangles and circle: In order to start understanding identity, we have to engage with our Father and communicate with Him on every level. We don't just go to a restaurant and say, "this is my favorite place" and drive off; or look at the menu, but not order; we are made to eat! "Taste and See that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8).

The Circle: I'm going to be observant that my Father is active in this world. How is the fact that God is present going to change me? When we act (obey), God reveals Himself to us. The Circle reveals that God loves me. I am a child of God, therefore, I can hear, God does have a plan for my life, and I have the power to discover and act in a way that gives me another chance to hear. I can have continuous breakthrough because of who I am in Christ.

Kairos moments: What questions have you asked God since you've had this experience? What kinds of conversations have you had with God surrounding this event? God, how do you want my life to change in light of _____?

Not about information, but something that leads me to activity. Observe everything that's happened around _____ (details--all info about that event). Because the further we get away from a moment, the fuzzier it becomes. What was I thinking about? What was I pursuing at the time? etc. Observational questions. **Start with prayer:** "God, please bring things to mind and the path you want me to be on." **After Observations:** Lord, do any of these things really stand out to me? That's where the reflection piece starts. Observe context and then reflect on why, etc.

To the spiritual person, everything becomes spiritual. God speaks loudly and is trying to communicate with us on many different levels.