



# CHUCK KNOWS CHURCH

## The Committee: Discipleship System

*This group study is designed for a 45-60 minute discussion after viewing the film.*

All Chuck Knows Church videos can be viewed at:

**[www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com](http://www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com)**

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## Introduction:

*The Committee* is a humorous and poignant online series that examines the struggles congregation's face as they look toward a preferred future. Using real world topics, *The Committee* is sure to open discussion in your congregation.

The series follows Park Grove Community Church, a make-believe urban U.S. congregation, which has lost its pastor and is closing its doors, unless it reinvents itself. Park Grove is faced with a difficult decision. They seemingly have tried everything humanly possible. Should it close? Things are so bad that a retired pastor didn't show up to help them decide the congregation's future – so it's up to the last remaining members to discover it for themselves.

Although some of the characters and situations are simplified to accommodate the format, they may feel familiar. Your congregation may not be facing closure, may have a wonderful pastor, and be a vital and growing church. However, all congregations face the issues addressed in *The Committee* at some point.

Have an open conversation about the issues covered in the series.

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## Chuck Knows Church Resources

**Website:** [www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com](http://www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com)

**Discipleship Ministries Website:** [www.UMCdiscipleship.org](http://www.UMCdiscipleship.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/ChuckKnowsChurch](http://www.facebook.com/ChuckKnowsChurch)

**Twitter:** @ChuckKnows

**Instagram:** ChuckKnowsChurch

Suggest ways on Twitter to save Park Grove. Use this Hashtag **#SaveParkGrove**

## > Watch *The Committee: Discipleship System*

(15 minutes)

### > Starters (15 minutes)

#### **What does it mean to be a “real” disciple of Jesus Christ?**

1.

2.

3.

#### **Discuss with one or two people, and then share with the whole group:**

- How did the first disciples in the Bible live out their faith?
- How do you show others that you are a follower of Jesus?

### > Discipleship Defined (15 minutes)

In this episode Mrs. Beasley says, “A disciple of Jesus is a grace filled follower of Christ who puts faith into action.”

Two other quotes from this episode stand out:

“It’s a process not a destination.”

“It’s a lifelong journey”

#### **Discuss with one or two people, and then share with the whole group:**

- How does your church define discipleship?
- What ministries, opportunities, and experiences do you offer to encourage people in their spiritual journeys?
- How do these ministries work together to guide people in a discipleship system: Worship, small groups, Sunday School, children’s and youth ministries, Wednesday night learning, missional outreach. What ministries in your church work together to create a discipleship system?

## > Reflection on the Bible (20 minutes)

**Ask a member to read aloud the following passage from Matthew 28:17-20.  
Ask another person to read the Background.**

*When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - Matthew 28:17-20*

### **Background:**

In the concluding passage from the Gospel of Matthew, we have these words from Jesus given to the disciples after his resurrection. Notice the words of action – “go”, “make”, “baptizing”, “teach”, and “obey.” The passage ends with the promise that the resurrected Jesus would be with them “to the end of the age.”

### **Questions for Discussion:**

If your group has more than seven members, divide into groups of four to discuss the Scripture passage.

- How does this passage further define the word “discipleship”?
- Which of the action words speak most strongly to you?

### **Making it Personal:**

As Park Grove Community Church worked together, Chuck said, “Every organization or business or team has a system in place to help them reach their goals”. As they discussed this idea they defined their discipleship system as follows:

- Hospitality:** Inviting and gathering people into the body of Christ.  
**Opportunity:** Deepening people’s beliefs and commitment to Christ.  
**Purpose:** Bearing fruit through the ministry of the church.  
**Engagement:** Going out into the world to offer God’s love.

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1. How do these all work together?

2. How does this help you think about the discipleship system of your church?