

# Regenerated... Then Formed: The Biblical Pathway of Discipleship

Bill Hull writes in *The Complete Book of Discipleship*:

**"A regenerated person is one who is justified, who receives legal standing with God."**

This is courtroom language. When you're regenerated, heaven's gavel drops—"Not guilty. Fully accepted." But God doesn't justify us so we can sit still. He justifies us so we can be formed.

## Biblical Foundation

- **Romans 5:1** – *"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God."*
- **John 1:12** – *"As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God."*

Regeneration gives you position; discipleship shapes your practice.

## **STEP 1** — Live From Your New Identity (Justification)

You don't obey to be accepted—you obey because you *are* accepted.

### Scripture

- **2 Corinthians 5:21** – *"That we might become the righteousness of God in Him."*
- **Colossians 2:6** – *"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him."*

**New believers must learn this early:**

**You don't fight *for* victory—you fight *from* victory. Justification is the anchor. Identity comes before activity.**

### **For Yourself:**

Daily remind yourself: *"I belong to God. I stand righteous in Christ."*

### **For Others:**

Affirm identity before correcting behavior.

## **Biblical Transition**

Once identity is secured in Christ, the Spirit begins the inward work of transformation.

## **STEP 2 — Submit to Spiritual Formation (Sanctification)**

**Discipleship is the lifelong shaping of a regenerated life by the Holy Spirit.**

Hull reminds us we are:

“Positioned to be spiritually formed by the direct act of the Holy Spirit.”

Scripture

- **Philippians 1:6** – *"He who has begun a good work in you will complete it."*
- **2 Corinthians 3:18** – *"We are being transformed...by the Spirit of the Lord."*
- **Romans 8:29** – *"Predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son."*

**This isn't self-improvement; it's Spirit-empowerment. Formation happens as we yield—through prayer, Scripture, obedience, and community.**

### **For Yourself:**

Create rhythms: Word, prayer, repentance, worship.

### **For Others:**

Walk with them patiently—formation takes time.

### **Biblical Transition**

As the Spirit forms Christ within us, our lives are then commissioned for kingdom influence.

## **STEP 3 — Practice Obedient Living (Mission & Multiplication)**

**Disciples are formed not just to grow—but to go.**

Scripture

- **Matthew 28:19–20** – *"Go therefore and make disciples..."*
- **James 1:22** – *"Be doers of the word, and not hearers only."*
- **1 Corinthians 11:1** – *"Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ."*

A regenerated life that's not discipling others is incomplete obedience. Growth that doesn't multiply eventually stagnates.

For Yourself:

Live visibly—let others see Christ in your walk.

For Others:

Teach what you live; model what you teach.

## **Powerful Action Steps for Everyday Living**

Here's where the rubber meets the road:

1. Wake up justified – Start each day grounded in grace, not guilt.
2. Walk submitted – Ask the Spirit daily, *"What are You forming in me today?"*
3. Live obedient – Choose actions that match your confession.
4. Stay connected – Disciples grow best in community, not isolation.
5. Reproduce intentionally – Pour into someone else what God is pouring into you.

Dramatic Conclusion

Regeneration gets you into the family.

Discipleship teaches you how to live in the house.

You are justified—now be formed.

You are accepted—now be transformed.

You are regenerated—now live like it.

This is not about perfection.

It's about progress with purpose.

And when the Spirit finishes His work, your life will preach before your mouth ever opens.

**That's a regenerated life—aligned, active, and advancing the Kingdom daily.**

# The Foundational Spiritual Disciplines

## (For Personal Study)

The **full framework**, clean and usable for teaching new believers and growing leaders. Bill Hull's work consistently emphasizes **foundational spiritual disciplines** that shape ***a regenerated believer*** into a mature disciple of Jesus Christ. While Hull sometimes groups or teaches them contextually, the following **14 Spiritual Disciplines** reflect his discipleship theology and are widely used in alignment with *The Complete Book of Discipleship*. This is discipleship with *structure, scripture, and staying power*.

### Bill Hull's 14 Spiritual Disciplines (with Scripture)

#### 1. Assurance of Salvation

Knowing you are regenerated and justified in Christ.

- **1 John 5:12–13**
- **Romans 5:1**
- **Titus 3:5**

#### 2. Lordship of Christ

Submitting every area of life to Jesus as Master.

- **Luke 9:23**
- **Romans 12:1**
- **Colossians 1:18**

#### 3. Daily Time in the Word (Bible Study)

Letting Scripture shape belief and behavior.

- **2 Timothy 3:16–17**
- **Psalms 119:105**
- **Joshua 1:8**

#### 4. Prayer

Developing constant dependence and communication with God.

- **Luke 11:1–4**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:17**
- **Philippians 4:6**

#### 5. Worship

Responding to God with reverence, gratitude, and obedience.

- **John 4:23–24**

- **Psalm 95:6**
- **Romans 12:1**

## **6. Fellowship (Biblical Community)**

Growing through shared life with other believers.

- **Acts 2:42**
- **Hebrews 10:24–25**
- **Ecclesiastes 4:9–12**

## **7. Obedience**

Aligning actions with Christ's commands.

- **John 14:15**
- **James 1:22**
- **Matthew 7:24**

## **8. Holiness**

Pursuing a life set apart for God.

- **1 Peter 1:15–16**
- **Hebrews 12:14**
- **Romans 6:22**

## **9. Stewardship**

Managing time, talents, and resources for God's glory.

- **1 Corinthians 4:2**
- **Luke 16:10–11**
- **Malachi 3:10**

## **10. Service**

Using spiritual gifts to build the Body of Christ.

- **Mark 10:45**
- **Galatians 5:13**
- **1 Peter 4:10**

## **11. Evangelism**

Sharing the gospel intentionally and faithfully.

- **Matthew 28:19–20**
- **Romans 1:16**
- **Acts 1:8**

## **12. Discipleship (Making Disciples)**

Reproducing Christ's life in others.

- **2 Timothy 2:2**
- **Matthew 28:20**
- **1 Corinthians 11:1**

## **13. Perseverance**

Remaining faithful through trials and testing.

- **James 1:2–4**
- **Hebrews 12:11**
- **Galatians 6:9**

## **14. Spiritual Formation by the Holy Spirit**

Allowing the Spirit to shape Christlike character over time.

- **2 Corinthians 3:18**
- **Romans 8:29**
- **Philippians 1:6**

## **Closing Word (for Teaching & Living)**

Regeneration gets you **into Christ**.

Discipline shapes Christ **into you**.

These disciplines are not ladders to earn God's love—  
they are **pathways to live it out**.

No shortcuts. No spectators.

Just daily decisions that form a life worth following.

If you want, next we can:

- Turn these into a **12–14-week discipleship curriculum**
- Create **lesson plans or small-group guides**
- Or expand **each discipline into a full teaching manuscript**