

# VANTAGEPOINT<sup>3</sup>

A Commitment To Deeper Growth



Beginning with *The Journey*, VantagePoint<sup>3</sup> offers a pathway for adult development to deepen and ignite people in your church. The processes have been designed to help your people mature toward greater kingdom life and influence.

## ***The Journey***

Exploring who God is, who we are, and what God desires to do through our lives.

## ***A Way of Life***

Learning what it means to sustain a lifelong apprenticeship with Jesus.

## ***Walking with Others***

Learning to guide other adults toward a deeper maturity in Christ.

### VANTAGEPOINT<sup>3</sup> HOPES TO SEE:

- Ordinary people deepened and ignited toward kingdom life and influence.
- Walking alongside others becoming a way of life and ministry for Christian leaders.
- Churches becoming vibrant places of learning—that is, communities where people are consistently mentored into a life of apprenticeship with Jesus.



# THE JOURNEY

VANTAGEPOINT<sup>3</sup>  an invitation to grow deeper



# The Need

The need for spiritual maturity in a congregation gripped the Apostle Paul more than 2,000 years ago. It was urgent work then – it is urgent work now.



One is hard pressed to find a time in history when the Church has gone more places, provided more resources, and proclaimed the gospel more widely than over the past several decades. Yet amidst all these efforts, there is a growing realization that we are just skimming the surface.

A quick glance around our congregations reveals that people's lives are more often a reflection of our culture's superficiality than of the depth of the gospel. J. I. Packer has captured it this way, "The church in North America is 3,000 miles wide and half an inch deep."

A congregation cannot afford to procrastinate this work of helping others grow up into Christ because

its flourishing depends upon men and women maturing in their relationship with God and with one another. So many of us have been preaching Ephesians 4 for years, but we want more – we want to live it out more fully in our communities.

At VantagePoint3 we firmly believe the local church can be a place of deep growth and maturity for adults. What would it look like if groups of adults in your congregation, young and old, gathered together to work through an extended conversation about growing up into Christ?

VantagePoint3 wants to help you help your people awaken to God's good work in and through them.



# What's Next?

- Invite a conversation with a VantagePoint3 representative to talk about what *The Journey* could look like in your setting.
- Go to [vantagepoint3.org/stories/](https://vantagepoint3.org/stories/) to read how God has used these processes to impact lives and churches.
- Register yourself and others who may lead *The Journey* groups for a facilitator training: [vantagepoint3.org/facilitator-training/](https://vantagepoint3.org/facilitator-training/)



# Transformed Lives

Experiences of Deeper Growth

*"The Journey is neither a book nor a seminar, but rather a context and process for an extended conversation about God, ourselves, and where we fit into His kingdom work in the world."* **Rob Peterson** (Senior Pastor at Thornapple Covenant Church, Grand Rapids MI)

*"I see The Journey serving as a kind of 'greenhouse' for spiritual growth, where ideal conditions are provided for growth: supportive community, accountability to Bible reading and reflection, solid curriculum, mentoring, experiential learning, and an exploration of unique design. I have seen people embrace authentic community, find roles in the church and in the marketplace more in line with their God-given design, and respond affirmatively when invited into leadership positions."* **Lyle Buyer** (Senior Pastor at McKernan Baptist Church, Edmonton AB)

*"VP3 processes have changed our church. It has deepened the board level leadership. We are asking the right questions about life and ministry. We are sending people into missions and ministry because they have gotten in touch with what God is doing in them."* **Kirk Mackie** (Lead Pastor at Wilshire Avenue Community Church, Fullerton CA)

*"This [VP3] has provided in-depth study and reflection for individuals as they study God's Word, pay attention to how He is working in their lives and discover what He wants them to do in the next steps of life. It has taken us deeper as a congregation."* **Gloria Nollen** (Retired Director at Central Reformed Church, Oskaloosa IA)

*"The process of a learning cohort and mentor model is a great strength. We are completely convinced the process is right – formation over time within a community of learners under the watchful guidance of a mentor."* **Kervin Raugust** (Lead Pastor - Disciple Making/Leadership Ministries, Centre Street Church, Calgary AB)

We must no longer be **CHILDREN** ... we must **GROW UP** in every way ... **INTO CHRIST.**

—EPHESIANS 4:14-15

VANTAGEPOINT<sup>3</sup>



is a meaningful **WALK**  
**UP** of adults  
primary **QUESTIONS:**  
Who am I? What does God desire to do through me?





# Launching The Journey

## FACILITATOR TRAINING

The purpose of *The Journey* is the development of people, not the mastery of the material. Consequently, VantagePoint3 places a high value upon the preparation of those who facilitate this person-centered process. Leaders in your church will need to participate in facilitator training, which consists of two components: a two-day retreat and a coaching relationship.

### FACILITATOR RETREAT

Two-day facilitator retreats are offered throughout the U.S. and Canada. They help facilitators learn to lead a group, as well as to provide space for the facilitators to reflect on their own faith journey.

### COACHING RELATIONSHIP

After the retreat, facilitators will be linked with a VantagePoint3 coach who will connect with them throughout the year. This coaching relationship helps facilitators:

- Continue to pay attention to their own formation.
- Talk through various content and learning processes associated with *The Journey*.
- Think about the learning needs and next steps for group members, and possible implications for their church.

Facilitator training is an investment in the life of your congregation. It provides a great context for the growth of facilitators who are equipped to intentionally walk alongside others as a way of life and ministry.

[vantagepoint3.org/facilitator-training/](http://vantagepoint3.org/facilitator-training/)

# The Journey

Participants are invited into an exploration of deeper intimacy with God, identity as God's beloved children, and where they fit into God's kingdom work.

*The Journey* group (usually 6-12 people) meets together weekly, guided by a trained facilitator from your church who encourages accountability, safe relationships, thoughtful reflection, honest conversation, and prayer. The facilitator's role is not to be the "subject matter expert," but to guide the group through a set of reflections, relationships, and experiences.

## HOW THE JOURNEY WORKS:

*The Journey* is a commitment and the rewards can be significant.

- Small group gatherings (two hours a week)
- Walking together for six to eight months
- Regular study, reflection, Bible reading, and prayer (two to four hours a week)
- A spiritual mentoring relationship with a mature believer (twice a month)

For more than 10,000 individuals from over 280 churches, *The Journey* has served as a catalyst to a deeper commitment to Christ and to the work of their local church. God is using it to transform lives.

[vantagepoint3.org/our-processes/the-journey/](http://vantagepoint3.org/our-processes/the-journey/)



### Responses of *The Journey* participants in a recent survey:

85% said *The Journey* deepened their relationship with God.

89% said it enhanced the application of the Bible to their lives.

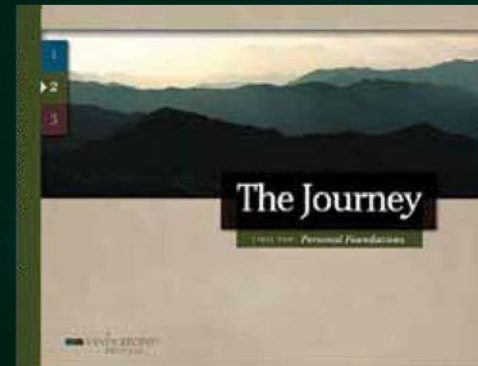
88% said it revealed the importance of community and relationships as a key ingredient to spiritual growth.





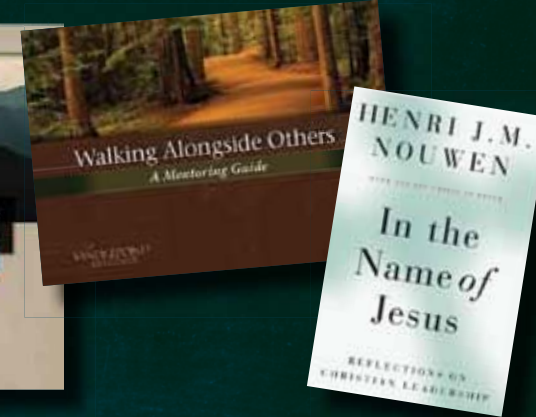
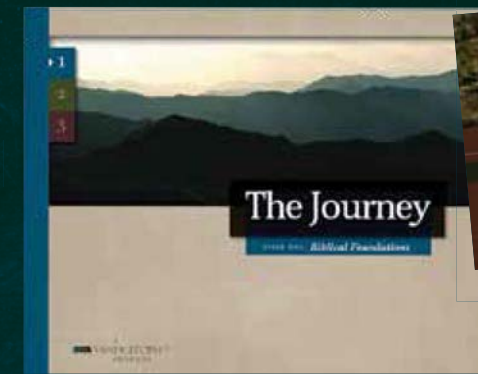
### STAGE 1: BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS

Explore Scripture's role in God's transforming work in our lives.



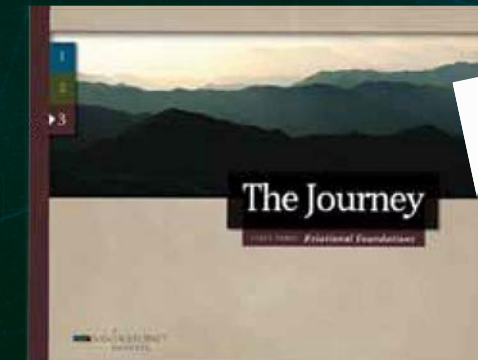
### STAGE 3: RELATIONAL FOUNDATIONS

Explore the significance of relationships in God's transforming work in and through us.



### STAGE 2: PERSONAL FOUNDATIONS

Take time to examine our life stories, recognizing God's already present work.



You will **WALK** with your people through **THREE STAGES OF LEARNING.**