

**Workshop Outline**  
**Perfecting the Saints: Recovery of the Wesleyan Emphasis on Small Group Discipleship**  
Bishop Darryl B. Starnes, Sr.

**PROPOSITION:** *Small-group discipleship is not only the indispensable key to fulfilling the Church's God-given mission of making disciples; it is also the principal factor in perfecting the saints, so that they can grow spiritually, make progress in the pursuit of holiness, participate in meaningful ministry, and build up the body of Christ.*

**I. Perfecting the Saints: Nurturing believers to maturity in Christ**

- A. What is the significance of perfecting the saints? (*Ephesians 4:11-12*)
  - 1. It is the primary responsibility of church leadership.
  - 2. It is the secret of building up the church, the body of Christ.
- B. What does it mean to *perfect* the saints? (*Ephesians 4:12-16*)
  - 1. It means to equip the saints for meaningful ministry.
  - 2. It means to nurture the saints to maturity in Christ.
  - 3. It means to guide the saints in character development.
  - 4. It means to train the saints to share their faith effectively.

**II. Prioritizing Disciple Making: Restoring the integrity of the Church's mission** (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

- A. Clarifying the Church's Mission
- B. Prioritizing the Church's Mission

**III. Utilizing Holistic Small-Groups: Employing disciple-making's indispensable key** (*Mark 3:13-14*)

- A. The most effective vehicle for full-orbed disciple-making
- B. Disciple-makings indispensable key

**IV. Transforming the Life: Pursuing Holiness Together** (*Hebrews 12:14-15*)

- A. The Class Meeting: A Vital Fellowship
  - 1. A Nurturing Fellowship
  - 2. A Caring Fellowship
  - 3. A Disciple-making Fellowship
- B. The Class Meeting: Facilitating the First Meeting
  - 1. Getting acquainted
  - 2. Clarifying the nature and purpose of the Class Meeting
  - 3. Securing the members commitment to the ground rules
- C. The Class Meeting: The Vital Components of the Meeting
  - 1. Gathering
  - 2. Sharing
  - 3. Praying
  - 4. Sending
- D. The Class Meeting: The Vital Role of the Class Leader
  - 1. Setting the tone for Class Meetings by being sn example of transparency and accountability
  - 2. Providing Sub-pastoral Oversight of members
  - 3. Helping members to grow spiritually
  - 4. Helping members to discover, develop, and use their spiritual gifts