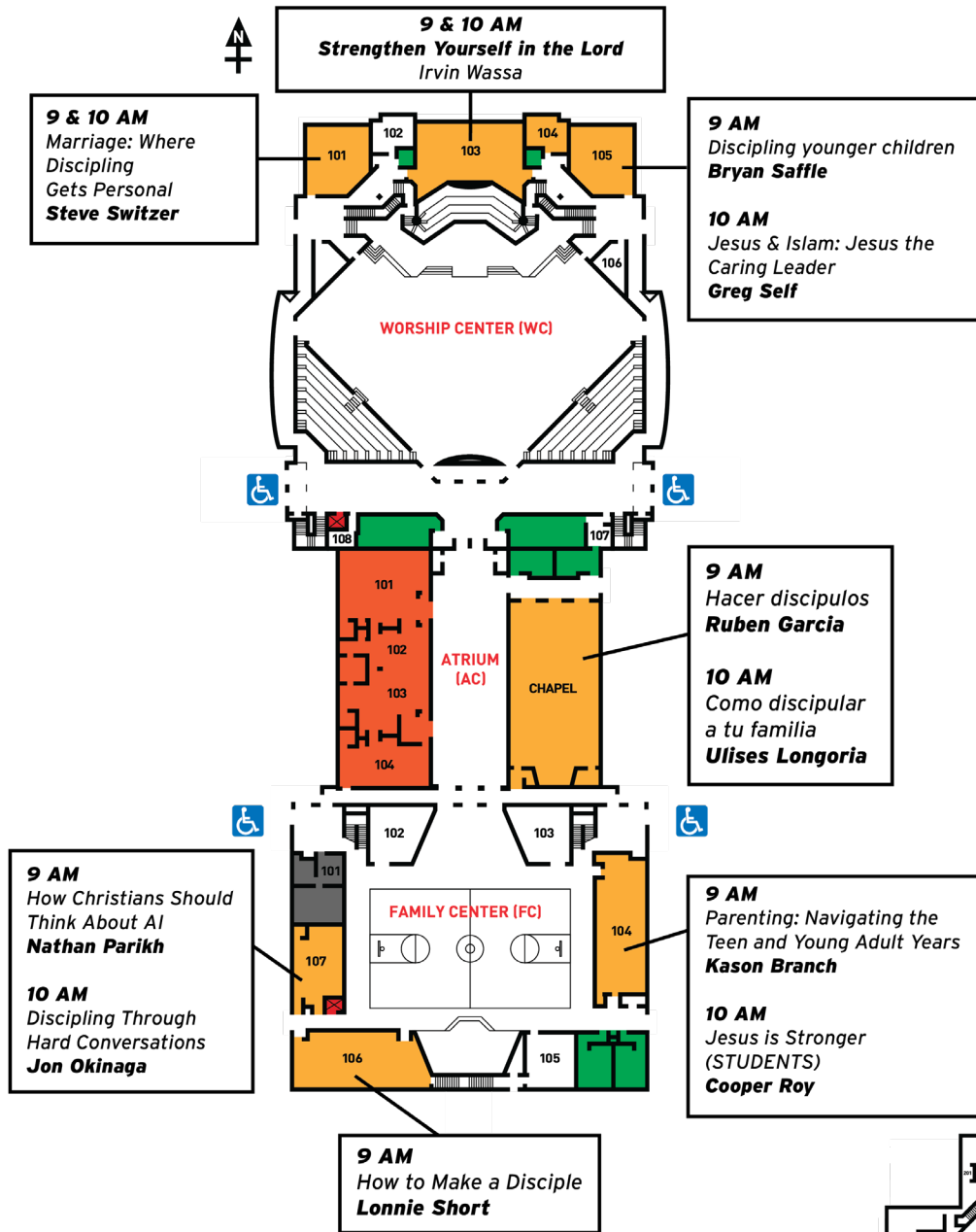


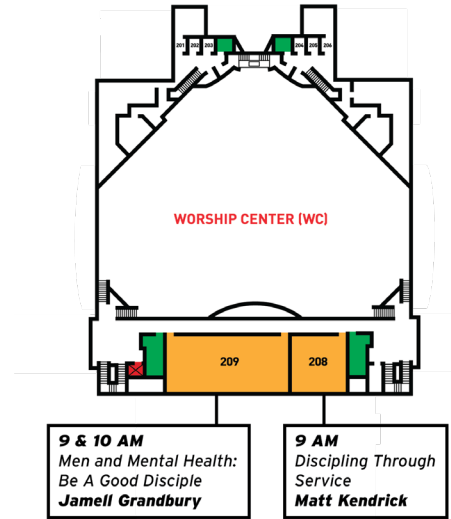
NEXT MAN UP

CALLED TO LEAD. COMMITTED TO DISCIPLE.

BREAKOUT SESSION HANDOUT



First Floor



Second Floor

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Saturday Morning - Training (April 25th)

8:30 - 9:00 - Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 9:45 - Session #1

10:00 - 10:45 - Session #2

10:00 - 10:45 - Student Session (Chapel) Cooper Roy

11:00 - 12:00 - Closing Rally with Carl Bradford

Available Breakout Sessions

Steve Switzer - *Marriage: Where Discipleship gets Personal*

WC 101 - 9 & 10 AM

Irvin Wassa - *Strengthen Yourself in the Lord*

WC 103 - 9 & 10 AM

Bryan Saffle - *Parenting: Discipling Younger Kids*

WC 105 - 9 AM

Greg Self - *Jesus and Islam: Jesus the Caring Leader*

WC 105 - 10 AM

Matt Kendrick - *Discipling through Service*

WC 208 - 9 AM

Jamell Grandberry - *Men and Mental Health: Be A Good Disciple*

WC 209 - 9 & 10 AM

Kason Branch - *Parenting: Navigating the Teen and Young Adult Years*

FC 104 - 9 AM

Cooper Roy - *Jesus is Stronger (Students)*

FC 104 - 10 AM

Lonnie Short - *How to make a Disciple*

FC 106 - 9 AM

Nathan Parikh - *How Christians Should Think About AI*

FC 107 - 9 AM

Jon Okinaga - *Discipling through Hard Conversations*

FC 107 - 10 AM

Rueben Garcia - *Hacer discípulos*

Chapel - 9 AM

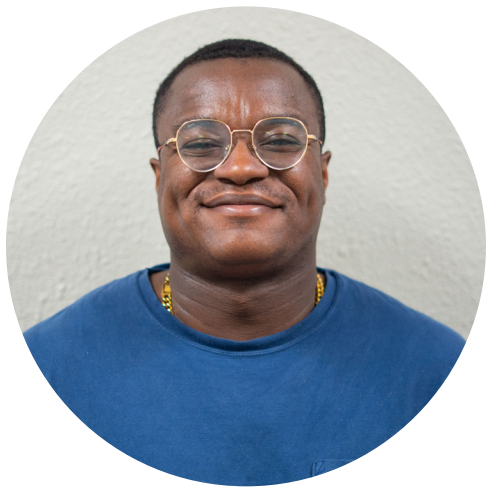
Ulises Longoria - *Cómo disciplinar a tu familia*

Chapel - 10 AM

NEXT MAN UP

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 9 AM & 10 AM Sessions

DISCIPLING YOURSELF



Nathan Parikh | FC 107 - 9 AM
How Christians Should Think About AI

Nathan Parikh is the Discipleship Pastor for Hallmark Baptist Church. He joined Hallmark in 2012 and has served on staff since 2014.

Nathan completed his Bachelor's degree in Pastoral Ministries from Pensacola Christian College in 2011. He earned his Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2014. He has served a variety of local churches in Illinois, Florida, and Alabama.

Nathan currently resides in Fort Worth with his beautiful wife, Danielle. They met at Hallmark in 2015 and married in 2017. They have been blessed with a beautiful daughter, Priya. Together Nathan and Dani lead the Young Couples Connect Group. Nathan leads our Connect Groups, Discipleship Groups, adult Bible studies, and guest assimilation at Hallmark.



Irvin Wasswa | WC 103 - 9 & 10 AM
Strengthen Yourself in the Lord

Dr. O is the Director of the Biblical Counseling Certificate Program and Assistant Professor of Biblical Counseling in the Terry School of Educational Ministries at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a Certified Biblical Counselor with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). With over 15 years of counseling experience, he has served in various ministries and treatment facilities, specializing in addiction and substance abuse. He is married to Nicole and they have son, James.



Jamell Grandberry | WC 209 - 9 & 10 AM
Men and Mental Health: Be A Good Disciple

Jamell Grandberry is the Young Adult Minister at Great Commission Baptist Church, under the tutelage, and leadership of the Pastor, Dr. Douglas E. Brown. Jamell is the founder, and executive director of a local non-profit entitled, As Fathers We Unite. Jamell sits on the board of directors at The Grandberry Intervention Foundation, a local foster care agency, that has serviced this community for the past 25 years. Jamell is the Husband of Shakyra Grandberry, and the Father of three sons, and one precious girl. He has spent the last 25 years working in the mental health field, as therapist to those who struggle with mental health issues. Jamell favorite quote is "All glory be to God, for who God is, and for what God has done".

DISCIPLING YOUR FAMILY



Steve Switzer | WC 101 - 9 & 10 AM *Marriage: Where Discipleship gets Personal*

Steve Switzer has been a missionary with MANNA Worldwide since August of 2021. He previously served as the lead pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Taylorville, Illinois and of Crossbridge Church on Long Island, New York. As a missionary with MANNA, Steve serves as a director for Africa, serving the children and leaders there and connecting them with partners here in the states. He and his wife Shelley have been married for 38 years and together they have the privilege of encouraging couples in churches around the country through marriage events. His desire is to see men growing stronger in faith and in the leadership of their families.

Kason Branch | FC 104 - 9 AM *Parenting: Navigating the Teen and Young Adult Years*

Pastor Kason Branch is a devoted husband and father, married to his college sweetheart, Shanea, since 2003. They have two children who bring them great joy.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration (Marketing) from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, a Master's in Christian Leadership from Dallas Theological Seminary, and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a licensed and ordained minister.

Kason began his career at AT&T through its Leadership Development Program, serving in multiple leadership roles including Sales Operations Manager and Associate Director of Operations.

In 2010, he became Chief Operating Officer at Concord Church in Dallas, where he led operations and major initiatives such as capital campaigns and facility expansion.

He later launched Creekstone Church in 2016, where he continues to lead a growing, Christ-centered congregation. Kason is actively involved in community initiatives, mentors young men, and regularly coaches church planters while speaking at conferences nationwide.



Bryan Saffle | WC 105 - 9 AM *Parenting: Discipling Younger Kids*

Bryan Saffle is a graduate of Mary Hardin Baylor with a bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies. He has served in ministry for the past 34 years in roles from Youth Pastor to lead Pastor. He has served the past 12 years at the Fountains Fellowship in the role of teaching pastor developing curriculum and sermon preparation for multi site.

Bryan gave his life to Christ at an early age. However, growing up as a pastor kid he saw the harm religion without relationship can cause not only in the church but to the cause of Christ. This left a bad taste in his mouth for all and he chose to abandon church and travel the country in a rock band. But you can't outrun God's love and eventually it was the kindness of the Lord that brought him back. This unfailing love of Christ instilled in him a passion and mission to help others to discover their relationship with God through Christ and the joy to life it brings beyond circumstances. A joy that is lived in a life of service to God and others. Bryan has 3 children who have a passion for serving God and others, and 8 grandchildren.



DISCIPLING OTHERS



Lonnie Short | FC 106 - 9 AM
How to make a Disciple

Lonnie joined the GBC staff in 2013. Previously he was a senior pastor, professor at Baptist Bible Graduate School of Theology. He has been in ministry since 1988. He is passionate about discipleship and diving into God's Word. You will find him many weekends going to garage sales and estate sales for the purpose of meeting new people and inviting them to church. Lonnie and his wife Disty were married in 1985 and have been blessed with four incredible kids, two beautiful daughters-in-law, and three amazing grandkids.

Greg Self | WC 105 - 10 AM
Jesus and Islam: Jesus the Caring Leader

Greg has been a follower of Christ since 1973. He later spent 8 years ministering to Muslims in Georgia and studying Islam before attending Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he became the first student to earn a Master's Degree in Islamic Studies from a Southern Baptist seminary. He also holds two Bachelor's Degrees from Auburn University in Business and in Medieval and Shakespeare Literature.

His wife, Hortensia, is from Mexico City, and together they have two sons, Gregory Jr., and Daniel.



Jon Okinaga | FC 107 - 10 AM
Discipling through Hard Conversations

Dr. O is the Director of the Biblical Counseling Certificate Program and Assistant Professor of Biblical Counseling in the Terry School of Educational Ministries at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a Certified Biblical Counselor with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). With over 15 years of counseling experience, he has served in various ministries and treatment facilities, specializing in addiction and substance abuse. He is married to Nicole and they have son, James.



Matt Kendrick | WC 208 - 9AM
Discipling through Service

Dr. O is the Director of the Biblical Counseling Certificate Program and Assistant Professor of Biblical Counseling in the Terry School of Educational Ministries at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is a Certified Biblical Counselor with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC). With over 15 years of counseling experience, he has served in various ministries and treatment facilities, specializing in addiction and substance abuse. He is married to Nicole and they have son, James.



STUDENTS



Cooper Roy | FC 104 - 10 AM *Jesus is Stronger (Students)*

Cooper Roy was raised in church but came to true faith in Jesus Christ on September 8, 2019, when his salvation became personal. After several years of living saved but not fully surrendered, he grew in his calling to serve and walk closely with the Lord.

On September 24, 2024, Cooper survived a devastating head-on collision with a wrong-way driver—an impact that, by all accounts, should have taken his life. Instead, he believes God spared him for a purpose.

Today, Cooper travels sharing his testimony, proclaiming the hope of Christ, and reminding others that God still writes redemption stories—even in the most broken moments.

SPANISH

Ulises Longoria | Chapel - 10 AM *Cómo discipular a tu familia*

Ulises was called to ministry at the age of 21 and has since served the Lord in a variety of roles. He is passionate about sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and is deeply committed to discipleship, believing that strong, growing believers are the foundation of a healthy church.

He is a church planter with the BBFI and TXBBF, with Midway Church in North Texas serving as his ambassador church. Since 2016, Ulises has faithfully pastored Ebenezer Church.

Ulises is happily married to his wife, Claudia, and together they have two children, David and Sara.



Ruben Garcia | Chapel - 9AM *Hacer discípulos*

Pastor Ruben Garcia was born in Los Angeles. He served as a pastor in Los Angeles from 1984 to 1993 and in Indiana from 1993 to 2006. He is currently the Hispanic Pastor at GCBC en Español. He graduated from SWBTS with an MDiv, is a DBTI alumnus, and is enrolled in the DMin program at SWBTS.

