

HERITAGE COVENANT CHURCH

HERITAGE WAY

Building a Heritage of Faith One Disciples at a time.



Covenant Union

Christ & Community

www.heritagecovenantchurch.org

The Heritage Way

YEAR 1

Covenant Union: Christ & Community

Year One of The Heritage Way establishes the foundation of the entire four-year discipleship journey by grounding believers in their union with Christ and their life within the covenant community.

This year focuses on settling believers in the gospel through a clear understanding of salvation, assurance, and identity in Christ, while orienting them to a lifelong pattern of growth through God's ordinary means of grace that shapes both conviction and practice over time.

Rooted in Reformed theology and shaped by Scripture, worship, prayer, and fellowship, Year One emphasizes doctrinal clarity and the formation of the heart. Participants learn not only what they believe, but how those beliefs shape loves, convictions, and the faithful interpretation of everyday life within the church and under God's providential care. As the first stage of The Heritage Way, Year One provides the Christ-centered foundation upon which covenant faithfulness in the home and church (Year Two), missional living in vocation and society (Year Three), and leadership development and gospel multiplication (Year Four) are intentionally built over time.

1. Gospel Foundations: Our Union with Christ

Focus: Establishing a believer's identity in Christ

- **Centers** on the gospel, salvation, assurance, and union with Christ
- **Forms** doctrinal clarity and heart-level transformation
- **Answers:** Who am I in Christ? What has God done for me?

2. Life Together: Means of Grace, Worship & Mission

FOCUS: Focus: Establishing life within the covenant community

- **Centers** on Word, prayer, sacraments, worship, and fellowship
- **Forms** disciplined spiritual growth and faithful church participation
- **Answers:** How do I grow in Christ within His church?

How to Use the Heritage Way This Year

A Guide for Transformational Discipleship

The Heritage Way is not designed to be completed quickly or consumed passively. It is a shared pathway of formation, shaped by Scripture, prayer, worship, and life together in the church. As you work through the resources this year, use the following framework to help ensure that growth is transformational, not merely informational.

Discipleship is most faithful and enduring when it shapes what we believe, what we love, and how we live. This guide is intended to help you grow in mind, heart, and life, regardless of the specific resource being used.

KNOW — Growing in Right Understanding

What am I learning?

As you read, listen, and discuss, ask:

- What truth about God, Christ, or the gospel is being taught?
- What does Scripture affirm, clarify, or correct here?
- How does this deepen my understanding of God's purposes?
- How does this shape a Christian worldview?

Aim: A renewed mind shaped by biblical truth and sound doctrine.

BE — Forming Gospel Convictions and Affections

What is this shaping in me?

As you reflect prayerfully, ask:

- What attitudes or assumptions are being challenged?
- What convictions should be strengthened or corrected?
- How should this deepen my love for Christ and His church?
- What does faithfulness look like at the level of desire and devotion?

Aim: A heart aligned with the truth, marked by humility, love, and devotion to Christ.

DO — Establishing Faithful Patterns of Obedience

How should I live differently?

As you consider application, ask:

- What habits or practices should this produce?
- How does this shape my life in the home, church, work, or neighborhood?
- What obedience is God calling me to embrace?
- How can this be lived out consistently, not merely occasionally?

Aim: A life of embodied obedience shaped by the gospel.

Holding These Together

Christian growth is not measured by how much material is completed, but by faithful growth over time.

Knowledge without love leads to pride

Conviction without obedience leads to hypocrisy

Activity without gospel grounding leads to legalism

The Heritage Way intentionally holds understanding, affection, and practice together, so that disciples are formed in a balanced, Christ-centered, and enduring way.

Growth will look different in different seasons. You are not rushing toward a role or comparing progress with others. Faithfulness begins in small, ordinary obedience and deepens through patient participation in the life of the church.

Year One Resources

Unit 1: Gospel Foundations — Our Union with Christ

*These resources establish **gospel clarity, assurance, identity in Christ, and heart transformation.***

- What Is the Gospel? — Bryan Chapell
- How should we view our children in the Church?— Beeke
- Rewire Your Heart — David Bowden
- The Christian's True Identity — Jonathan Landry Cruse
- Living Zealously — Joel R. Beeke
- Developing Healthy Spiritual Growth — Joel R. Beeke
- Growing Downward — Ben Thompson

Unit 2: Life Together — Means of Grace, Worship, and Mission

*These resources root participants in **Word, sacraments, prayer, worship, and covenant community life.***

- What is Discipleship? - Stephen Smallman
- What is a Reformed Church? - Stephen Smallman
- What Happens When We Worship — Jonathan Landry Cruse
- Life in the Father's House — Swavely
- What Is the Great Commission? — R.C. Sproul

Participant Commitments:

Be Ready to Grow

- Come with a teachable heart, open to God's work.

Prepare Each Week

- Do the reading and reflect on how it applies.

Show Up and Share

- Be consistent, honest, and engaged.

Care for the Group

- Encourage one another and protect what's

Live What You Learn

- Apply truth in everyday life

Readings

Book	Chapters
What is the Gospel - Bryan Chapell	Booklet
How should we view our children in the Church? - Beeke	Booklet
Rewire Your Heart - David Bowden	Ch. 1-3
Rewire Your Heart	Ch. 4-6
Rewire Your Heart	Ch. 7-9
Rewire Your Heart	Ch. 10-12
The Christian's True Identity - Cruise	Ch. 1-4
The Christian's True Identity	Ch. 5-7
The Christian's True Identity	Ch. 8-10
Living Zealously – Joel R. Beeke	Ch. 1-4
Living Zealously	Ch 5-8
Developing Healthy Spiritual Growth	Ch. 1-3

Developing Healthy Spiritual Growth	Ch. 4–6
Developing Healthy Spiritual Growth	Ch. 7–8
Growing Downward – Thompson	Ch. 1–3
Growing Downward	Ch. 4–6
Growing Downward	Ch. 7–9
Growing Downward	Ch. 10–12
Growing Downward	Ch. 13–15
What is Discipleship?	Booklet
What is a Reformed Church?	Booklet
What Happens When We Worship - Cruse	Ch. 1–4
What Happens When We Worship	Ch. 5–7
What Happens When We Worship	Ch. 8–10
Life in the Fathers House - Swavely	Ch. 1–3
Life in the Fathers House - Swavely	Ch. 4–6
Life in the Fathers House - Swavely	Ch. 7–8
Life in the Fathers House - Swavely	Ch. 9–10
What is the Great Commission? Sproul	Ch. 1 - 2
What is the Great Commission?	Ch. 13-4

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