



The Navigators'
Founder, Dawson
Trotman

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

-Jesus

Around 1928-1929, only two years after Daws' conversion, he was diligently engaged in teaching boys the disciplines that would help them succeed in the Christian life. Daws borrowed the illustration he'd heard from someone else to help them remember the fundamentals of the Christian life—The Word, Prayer and Witnessing. That illustration was a 3-legged stool, with each leg representing one of the three elements.

A series of horizontal lines for writing, consisting of two sets of five lines each, one set positioned above the quote and one set below it.

He liked that the 3-legged stool, an extremely stable design, showed the necessity of all the legs. If any one of them were missing, the stool would collapse.



But, the more he thought about this illustration, the more he disliked it. A stool carried the idea of sitting. The Christian life was too dynamic, too exciting to be represented by a stool.

So, he asked the Lord to help him come up with another idea, one that conveyed the action of the Christian. The idea he got was one of a wheel.

The Wheel conveyed the sense of motion, of moving forward. He decided to show the three elements from the stool on spokes of the wheel but added a fourth element as he realized that one could be doing the disciplines yet not be exhibiting Christ in daily life. The new element was "Living the Life." This spoke was later re-named "Obedience."



About 1940, Jim Downing was leading The Navigator effort on the USS West Virginia. The guys on this ship took The Wheel & modified it so that it took the form of a helmsman's wheel. This is one of the forms we see it in today.



Later, Navigators realized an essential element of the Christian life was missing from The Wheel and added the spoke, "Fellowship."



The Volitional Dimension



The Volitional Dimension: How you relate to self

The Hub, Christ the Center

2 Cor. 5:17

Gal. 2:20

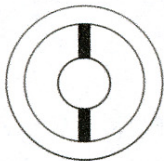


The Rim, Obedience to Christ

Rom. 12:1

John 14:21

The Vertical Dimension

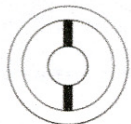


The Vertical Dimension: How you relate to God

The Word

2 Tim. 3:16

Josh. 1:8

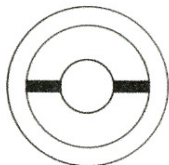


Prayer

John 15:7

Philippians 4:6-7

The Horizontal Dimension



The Horizontal Dimension: How you relate to Others

Fellowship

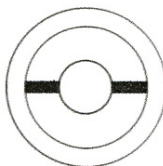
Matt. 18:20

Heb. 10:24-25

Witnessing

Matt. 4:19

Rom. 1:16





“The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

-Paul (to Timothy, one of his faithful men)
