

# **Creative Disciple-Making – Getting Started**

## **1. Introduction**

People are diverse and therefore have differing needs. People have differing levels of knowledge, character development, past damage, and spiritual experience.

*Discussion:* Anything that we teach can be adapted to a certain degree, but which things are the things that we need to communicate to everyone we disciple? What are the things that every Believer needs to know?

## **2. Overview of the Steps to Disciple-Making**

- a. Personal on-going commitment to God
- b. Vision/ Conviction to make disciples
- c. Praying to the Lord of the harvest
- d. Build friendships
- e. Ascertain spiritual needs
- f. Begin to meet those needs/ Introduce appropriate content into the relationship
- g. Choosing a disciple/ Persuading a disciple
- h. Keeping the commitment until multiplication occurs

### **3. Personal On-Going Commitment to God**

- a. Being a disciple is something that we can all do.
  - i. Rid yourselves of controversies
  - ii. Use the things you learn
  - iii. Write a “memorial”
  - iv. Persevere!

### **4. Vision/ Conviction to Disciple**

- a. Books/ Classes/ Bible studies/ Examples

### **5. Praying to the Lord of the Harvest**

“Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “ The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”

Mt. 9:36-38

### **6. Spiritual Friendships**

- a. Choice/Intentionality vs. Natural/Kindred
- b. Active Listening
- c. Introducing spiritual content – testimony, sharing a verse, etc..

- d. Spend time together.
- e. Try to find ways to get into their world. <c.f. meet family, go out with their friends, go see them play in their band, etc.> Each time you go with them to an event or gathering, pray for an opportunity to serve.
- f. Try to think of people you could introduce them to – potential friends, people they could minister to, people who could act as additional teachers, etc..

## **7. Ascertain Spiritual Needs**

Notice, look for, share

## **8. Meeting Spiritual Needs/ Introducing Appropriate Content**

- a. What is the next step?
  - i. For a new believer who doesn't know anything about God, they need to learn the basics
  - ii. For a young believer who knows how to grow spiritually, they need to consider commitment
  - iii. For a young disciple who is committed, they need to consider building a life of ministry

- iv. A young worker needs to consider servant-leadership
- v. A servant-leader needs to prepare to lead independently.

b. How can I help her/him get there?

### **9. Choosing a disciple/ Persuading a disciple?**

- a. Selection – it is important (stewardship)
- b. Qualification: We Persuade (2 Cor. 5:10-11)

### **10. Communicating Commitment**

“What we have failed to appreciate is the power of invitation to be with others on an intimate basis over time...At a most basic level, ‘intentional’ means that the discipling partners will meet on a regular time schedule, preferably weekly. ‘Let’s get together when we can’ is at the other end of the spectrum from intentional.

Intentional also implies purposeful. A relationship is established for the purpose of growing together toward maturity in Christ.” –

Greg Ogden *“Transforming Discipleship”* p.123,130.

### **11. Developing Conviction**

“The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind in others the conviction and will to carry on.” –Walter Lippman

- a. Modeling conviction
- b. Teaching conviction
- c. Resisting the urge to give answers
- d. Encourage free thinking
- e. Encourage ministry – nothing will develop conviction more than ministry experience.