

Starting a Discipleship Relationship

This lesson will teach you how to begin discipleship with another person.

Why Discipleship?

Matthew 28:18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The primary reason for discipleship is that Jesus told us to go and "make _____" (Vs 19).

When commanding us to make disciples, Jesus also told us how. He instructed us to _____ them to _____ everything He commanded. (Vs 20).

So how did Jesus start His discipleship relationships?

Initiating A Discipleship Relationship

Luke 6:12-13

12 One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles...

First, Jesus went out to _____ (Vs 12).

In order to start a God ordained discipleship relationship we should **PRAY**. It doesn't have to be over a long period of time. Jesus simply prayed for one night.

Secondly, He _____ His disciples. (Vs 13).

We must clearly **CALL** someone to meet with us in discipleship. We can't assume that a person understands what we are doing without us making it clear. Jesus was clear with people. Below is a sample **call to discipleship**.

"Jesus taught us to go and make disciples. Discipleship is simply helping another person grow in their faith in learning to obey Jesus. I want to invite you into that type of relationship with me."

(Pause here to discuss this together.)

Mark 3:13-14

13 Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. 14 He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach.

Thirdly, Jesus clarified what they would be doing.

First, to be _____ him and next to go out to _____.

ALLPEOPLESCHURCH

Discipleship Lesson 1

We must **CLARIFY** what we are calling someone to do. Discipleship includes spending time with another through a consistent discipleship meeting trying to obey the Bible by doing what Jesus's disciples did. An important step to clarifying discipleship is determining the day, time, and place of your meetings.

Here is a sample clarification:

"Please commit to meeting with me weekly, so that we can grow in our relationship with Jesus and be used by Him. We will meet on (define day) at (define time).

To review, the first three steps to initiating a discipleship relationship are PRAY - CALL - CLARIFY. Let's explore the next step, the discipleship CHALLENGE.

The apostle Paul showed that discipleship does not just go from teacher to pupil or discipler to disciple but actually should be multiplied to others as well.

2 Timothy 2:2

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

Paul wrote the verse above to his disciple, Timothy. This verse shows four "generations" of discipleship:

1. "Me" (Paul)
2. "You" (Timothy)
3. "Reliable People" (Timothy's disciples)
4. "Others" (Those who Timothy's disciples will disciple)

If we are to imitate New Testament discipleship it must be reproducible. A true disciple will become a discipler him/herself. The discipleship relationship is not a teacher to pupil relationship. Instead, a goal of discipleship is to equip the disciple to disciple others.

The fourth component of a discipleship invitation is CHALLENGE. We have explored how Biblical discipleship is reproducible. Growing disciples must be challenged to disciple others.

Here is a sample way to put forth this **challenge**:

"I will disciple you with the expectation that you will begin to disciple others"

Review: 4 Components of a Discipleship Invitation

In summary the four components of a discipleship invitation are:

1. P _____
2. C _____
3. C _____
4. C _____

Closing Your Conversation

Finish by making it personal. After making the invitation, encourage the potential disciple with what you see are the attributes and gifts God has put in their life. Say something like, "I want to encourage you that I really see a servant's heart in you." or "I see a real hunger for God's word in you".

Practical Response

Write down the names of those you are considering inviting to discipleship:

When can you invite them?
