

DISCIPLING THE BELIEVER – FIRST STEPS

PAUL'S EXAMPLE

WHAT IS MUCH OF THE NEW TESTAMENT?

- PAUL'S WRITINGS WERE THE WAY HE SOUGHT TO DISCIPLE INDIVIDUALS AND CHURCHES. MANY TIMES HE WAS PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO MEET PERSONALLY WITH OTHERS IN THE FAITH. HENCE, HE SENT HIS THOUGHTS VIA LETTERS. THESE LETTERS WERE AN ATTEMPT TO CONVEY:
 - THE MAGNIFICENCE OF JESUS CHRIST
 - THEOLOGY
 - PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVES ON LIFE AND SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE
 - PRAISE
 - CONDEMNATION

EXAMPLES: I COR. 11:1; 1 COR. 13:11; II COR. 7:8, 9:1-5; I THES. 2:8-14; 5:12

ME

HOW WILL I KNOW WHEN I'M READY TO DISCIPLE SOMEONE ELSE?

- Assess my own, personal walk. Is truth overflowing in my life that I want to share with others?
- Is the Holy Spirit leading me to do this?
- What is the situation with other life issues?
- Where are my priorities?

THEM

HOW WILL I KNOW WHOM I SHOULD DISCIPLE?

- HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT DIRECTED ME TO THIS PERSON?
- AM I MORE SPIRITUALLY MATURE THAN THIS INDIVIDUAL?
- DOES THIS PERSON DESIRE TO BE DISCIPLED?

Us

SHOULD WE BE FRIENDS?

SHOULD I DISCIPLE SOMEONE OF THE OPPOSITE SEX?

SHOULD I BE OLDER?

How

SET GOALS

- SHORT TERM
- LONG TERM

IF GOALS HAVE BEEN SET, IT IS EASIER TO DEVELOP A PLAN OF ACTION TO REACH THOSE GOALS.

What

WHAT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN A DISCIPLESHIP MEETING?

- BIBLE STUDY
 - SELF GUIDED STUDY
 - STUDY OR DEVOTIONAL BOOK
- ACCOUNTABILITY
- PRAYER
- LIFE ISSUES
 - SCHOOL
 - WORK
 - FAMILY
- GENERAL DISCUSSION
 - POSSIBLY HELPFUL, BUT NOT PURPOSEFUL; NOT TRAINING

WHEN/WHERE

HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE MEET?

FOR HOW LONG SHOULD WE MEET?

WHERE SHOULD WE MEET?

METRICS (ASSESSING THE DISCIPLESHIP RELATIONSHIP)

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

COMMITMENT LEVEL

OTHER

How many people should I disciple?

How will I know when the person I'm discipling is ready to disciple someone else?

How can I tell if the discipleship relationship is not going to work?