

DISCIPLE ONE

THE HOW TO'S OF DISCIPLESHIP

OPEN: Let's get down to the nitty gritty...how do we go about making disciples for Christ?

- We don't want to just talk about it...we want to do it.
- The relationship between the discipler and the disciple (mentor and mentee) is critical.
 - ✓ This accountable relationship must be one of openness, respect and a teachable spirit.

1) MODEL **GODLY** BEHAVIOR. *(PRO PRESENTER SLIDE BULLETIN OUTLINE)*

- Your walk talks and your talk talks, but your walk talks louder than your talk talks.
 - ✓ My actions need to match my words or I will discredit my message.
- Peter's tips to pastors and other disciple makers: **1 Peter 5:2-3 (NLT)** - ²Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. ³Don't lord it over the people assigned to your care, but lead them by your own good example.
 - ✓ You can't expect from others what you are not emulating.
 - ✓ You can't take people where you haven't been.
- Paul told the believer in Philippi: **Philippians 4:9 (NLT)** - Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.
 - ✓ Ask God to keep you clean and close...clean from the stain of sin and close to the heart God.

- ✓ Put to death those things that don't please God, and don't hold on to or cling to sin.
- ✓ Embrace the things that cultivate a growing relationship with God.
- ✓ Surrender and be obedient to the Holy Spirit, show yourself a servant ready to carry out the work and will of God.
- We need to live out our faith...this is especially true when facing a crisis...our response reveals our true character.
 - ✓ When handling a crisis do you become critical and angry or do you show trust and depend on God.
- ❖ If you are to disciple someone, you must model godly behavior...live like I live.

2) **ENCOURAGE** AND **AFFIRM**. *(PRO PRESENTER SLIDE BULLETIN OUTLINE)*

- You are a cheerleader to those you mentor.
 - ✓ We live in a world of naysayers and critics, we need people who believe in us.
- Paul was a minister of encouragement:

Acts 14:21-22 (NLT) - ²¹ After preaching the Good News in Derbe and making many disciples, Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia, ²² where they strengthened the believers. They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God.

Acts 18:23 (NLT) - After spending some time in Antioch, Paul went back through Galatia and Phrygia, visiting and strengthening all the believers.

- ✓ Look for ways to build others up.

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT) - Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

Hebrews 10:24 (NLT) - Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.

❖ How might you do this?

a) Applaud the little steps of growth.

- ✓ Look for progress; say something affirming.
- ✓ Celebrate reaching certain goals and objectives.
- ✓ Our words are impactful and can help move someone along...remember sanctification is a process.

b) Be supportive and optimistic.

- ✓ The person you are discipling needs to know you are on their team.
- ✓ You love them and support them and you want to see them grow and succeed.
- ✓ Paul to Timothy: **2 Timothy 1:3-6** - ³Timothy, I thank God for you...⁵I remember your genuine faith...I know that same faith continues strong in you. ⁶fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you...
- ✓ Paul recognized Timothy's potential and he spoke words of encouragement.

❖ People will forget what you said, people will forget when you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel. Maya Angelou.

- Remember God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called.

- ✓ The greatest ability is availability.
- ✓ God will help you accomplish what He has called you to do.
- ✓ It's not faith in myself (that will lead to pride) but it's faith in God that makes the difference.

c) Correct and direct.

- ✓ Having earned the right to speak into a person's life (building rapport, making positive investments) you will need to make occasional withdrawals (you are out of line, you need to change your attitude, stop that behavior).
- ✓ **Hebrews 12:7-11 (NLT)** – ⁷As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as His own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? ⁸ If God doesn't discipline you as He does all of His children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really His children at all. ⁹ Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever? ¹⁰ For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in His holiness. ¹¹ No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.
- ✓ The goal is to be constructive and helpful.
- ✓ Sometimes the truth hurts but when spoken in love it is easier to swallow...even when they don't appreciate it...speak the truth in love.

Proverbs 27:6 (NLT) – Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy.

3) PRAY FOR YOUR DISCIPLE. *(PRO PRESENTER SLIDE BULLETIN OUTLINE)*

- Paul often prayed for those he was discipling.

Ephesians 1:16-18 (NLT) - ¹⁶ I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, ¹⁷ asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. ¹⁸ I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope He has given to those He called...

- Jesus prayed for those He discipled – **John 17:9 (NLT)** – “My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me,...

- Prayer puts the focus on God who does the transforming work. (Shows our dependency upon Him).
 - ✓ God causes the “seed” to grow – (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)
 - ✓ The Holy Spirit creates the desire to pursue God and provides the power – (Philippians 2:13)
 - ✓ Prayer is more often caught than taught...pray often with your disciple.

4) LOOK FOR **TEACHABLE** MOMENTS. *(PRO PRESENTER SLIDE BULLETIN OUTLINE)*

- It's hard to disciple at a distance...spend time together.

1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NLT) – We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too.

- ✓ Share what God is teaching you.
- ✓ One of Jesus' method of teaching was to ask questions.

Matthew 16:13,15 (NLT) - ¹³...He asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁵ Then He asked them, “But who do you say I am?”

- ✓ In the Gospels, Jesus asks more questions than He answers. He was asked 183 questions of which He only answers 3. Asking questions was central to Jesus' discipling.
- Offer Godly counsel and accountability.
 - ✓ Help those you are discipling to see things from God's viewpoint.
 - ✓ Base your counsel on the Word of God.
 - ✓ Teach them how to apply the principles of God's word to “gray areas” (who should I marry, should I take this job, buy this house...).
- Offer accountability to those you mentor.
 - ✓ We need people in our lives that check on our progress, ask tough questions and help us grow and develop.

- ✓ For openness to occur there must be confidentiality.
- ✓ Don't manipulate or try to control the person.
- ✓ Be a good listener.
- As you train and develop your disciple, follow the model of Jesus:
 - Jesus did it and the disciples watched.
 - Jesus did it and the disciples assisted.
 - The disciples did it and Jesus assisted.
 - The disciples did it and Jesus watched (cheered them on).

CLOSE:

- Will you intentionally decide to invest in the lives of others through Gospel centered relationships?
 - 1) Model godly behavior.
 - 2) Encourage and affirm.
 - 3) Pray for your disciple/disciples.
 - 4) Look for teachable moments.
- Don't miss the blessing of pouring your life into someone else.
- Remember God is with you...it's not the great mission it's the Great Co Mission (you and God working together).

Pastor Ralph Schneck
First Baptist Church of Lexington
Message Notes
October 22, 2017