

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING GUIDELINES

The following are suggested areas to include in your time of building a discipleship relationship and training a disciple. Your time will be divided into two general areas: Structured Training Time and Project Time.



Developing Biblical Understanding

Definition: Weekly time spent in a goal-oriented time in the Word. This time involves accountability and practical application.

Areas to include:

- Discipleship training materials which emphasizes foundational training, and Scriptural training. (Biblical Beliefs Books One & Two may be used for this)
- Prayer for personal needs, church, and world missions.
- Scripture memory and review of previously learned verses.
- Review of quiet time diary to share what Scriptural application was gained from time in the Word.
- Time of sharing personal needs.



Project Time

Definition: Goal-oriented time that is less structured with the purpose of making application of structured training time and building a relationship between the discipleship leader and the disciple.

Areas to include:

- Developing Character may be used to increase your disciple's accountability. If a disciple is dealing with a particular weakness in his/her life, they may need a daily accountability chart. For example, a disciple struggling with priorities may need to daily check off priorities as they are completed.
- Developing Ministry Skills may be time spent together with your disciple making application of what they have learned during their structured training time. For example, if they are learning to write their testimony, you may take them into a specific arena where they have opportunity to share it.
- Awareness Projects may be time spent together to increase your disciple's vision. For example, a windshield tour of your city, stopping to pray for those in an inner city project, stopping at a nursing home to pray for needs of the elderly, or stopping outside of a jail to pray for inmates can serve to increase your disciple's awareness of needs around them and encourage them to reach beyond their Christian environment.
- Availability Projects may be a time of simply being available to do things to give you and your disciple "talk time." This gives them time to share their thoughts and what concerns them. This may be time together shopping, having lunch, baking cookies - anything that allows you to be available to your disciple.

In a given month with your disciple you need to have a balance between structured time and project time. The key is **BALANCE!** Training without application is simply head knowledge; attempting application without training is dangerous; training **with** application is **DISCIPLESHIP!**

For additional leader's discipleship training and resources, you can order the manual, Organic Disciplemaking

BUILDING INTO THE LIFE OF A PERSON

Jesus' method of teaching was always in the realm of actually experiencing a situation or a confrontation of faith IN LIFE; then he would draw the disciples aside to lovingly explain, answer questions, draw them out, and apply doctrinal truth (God's viewpoint about life) to the situation. The classroom was life.

We need to meet regularly with those we are led to encourage in discipleship. Time in the Word and prayer coupled with outreach ministry will begin to build into a life those attitudes and heart burdens that are Christ's. There are two kinds of people God gives to us as a stewardship of ministry. The Spirit chooses to minister through us at a critical time in the person's spiritual pilgrimage. We may spend an hour, a day, or scattered time with this person, sharing and encouraging. God picks the time, prepares the hearts of both of us, and does His eternal work as we are Spirit led. (Romans 8:14) We are to be daily prepared to share.

God also gives us an opportunity to share on a more regular basis with individuals. There is established an apprentice relationships where we are used of the Spirit to lead another person forward in their life's walk in Christ. The more direct the exposure over a period of time, the greater is the possibility of deeply penetrating that life for His glory, with the Lordship of Christ. We want men and women to "fall deeply in love with Jesus Christ." There is no higher motivation. (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)

Building Into the Life of a Person and Things to Remember in Personal Discipling have been taken from the Building Disciples notebook by Waylon B. Moore, Missions Unlimited Publishers, Box 8203, Tampa, Florida, 33604.

THINGS TO REMEMBER IN PERSONAL DISCIPLING

1. Be loving, but resist the temptation to smother your disciple.
2. Model for your disciple. You do it - you do it WITH them - THEN they do it. Use this model in ministry, outreach and projects.
3. Correct immediately; Ecclesiastes 8:11.
4. Get ALL the facts before judging or accepting an accusation about one of your disciples. Make no accusations before a close check-up. Proverbs 18:13.
5. Keep regular appointments with your disciple. If they cannot come, insist they call you. Always check up to see if they have completed assignments. Sometimes a cancelled meeting really means unfaithfulness in getting the job done. Luke 16:10
6. Give them goals and encourage them to reach their goals. A disciple understands the need for accountability.
7. Give assignments that will stretch your disciple -- "the desire accomplished is sweet to the soul." You want them to succeed. A small project sometimes allows greater discussion time. NEVER break their confidence in not being hard on them if they fail to do a project. Start small; keep your training standards HIGH.
8. Pray for a vision for your disciple--Share your heart and vision -- your disciple wants to know.
9. Remember your responsibility and vision to set the pace. There must be the "sharp edge" of conviction and application of the Word to the daily life in you.
10. REMEMBER: Ministry skills are something you use or you lose them.
11. Ask the Lord to make you aware of special needs in the lives of your disciples to encourage prayer together. Prayer transmits love and care.
12. In team relationships, don't allow disciples to be involved in criticism. In dealing with cultural differences remember, you can't change the Bible to fit a "custom" of the country. The Word is for all. Continue to show them the relevance of God's standards from the Bible.
13. Never use a double standard; leadership expectations should be consistent.
14. Always have your disciple give BACK to you what you have shared. Teach them to "commit to memory for RECALL." So many learn things for NOW. Attitude is vital here. Stress the assignments are not just for their growth, but will be used in the future as they disciple someone.
15. **Let your disciple feel he/she is a vital part of your life and ministry.**