

Disciple-Making Plan

Discipleship: Helping someone see how they were created to worship God, reorienting their worship away from idols, toward proper faith-fueled worship and obedience to Christ and the Word. (Genesis 1–2, Matthew 28:18–20)

Goals:

- Formulate a plan that allows people of all maturity levels to grow, from nonbeliever to mature Christian.
- Enable believers to access the Word of God, not just resources
- Help believers begin to interpret the Bible
- Challenge believers to apply it to their lives and rightly order their worship toward God.

To begin to reach these goals, this plan will put forth a “formula” to help facilitate growth. While doing so, I recognize that no amount of strategy or planning can change a person, but only God, His Word, and the power of the Holy Spirit can draw people to Himself. The only way to God is through Christ and the main way to grow in Christ is by drinking deeply from the well of the Word in community through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Timeline: Nonbeliever → new believer → immature believer → mature believer

- This is a spectrum, and everyone falls somewhere on this spectrum.
- When one reaches the point of mature believer, the work is not done. We are to never stop growing and learning because we never arrive or achieve perfection here on earth.
- In this spectrum, those who are further along can also begin pouring into those who are newer to the faith.
 - o This does not mean that those who are younger cannot teach those who are older, but those who are older should be pouring into those who are younger in the faith.

Entry (Engagement of the Area You are Living)

- This section of the disciple-making plan deals with how a believer can go about engaging with those who are far from God. The harvest plentiful, we must go and engage! (Matthew 9:35–38)
- Entry involves getting to know the area that you are currently living. God has placed you where you are intentionally to make disciples in your area.
- Tools:
 - o Culture mapping
 - This involves thinking through the cultures and contexts around you.
 - o Oikos Mapping
 - This is a mapping of who you are currently in contact with in four categories: Where I live, where I work, where I play, and family.
 - o Praying diligently for the lost in your area.
 - Pray for the Lord to move in the hearts of those near you.
 - Pray for the Lord to bring people into your life who are far from God.
 - Pray for the Lord to open your eyes to see those opportunities.
 - Pray for boldness to act on these opportunities. (2 Timothy 1:7)
 - o Reorient your rhythms to incorporate times where you are near people who are far from God.
 - o Bless Every Home Website

Evangelism (Engagement of Non-believers)

- This section deals with what you will say when you engage with the nonbelievers in your area, providing tools that help facilitate sharing the Gospel.
- Evangelism involves having spiritual conversations and sharing the Gospel with those who are around you.
- Effective evangelism is taking the initiative to share the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God. God desires our faithfulness in sharing and nothing we say can convince someone to turn deep in their hearts. Only God can do this!
- Tools:
 - Share My Story
 - 15 Second Testimony
 - This is a way of sharing your testimony in a short amount of time, ultimately ending with asking the other person if they have a story like this.
 - This involves using two words to describe your life before Christ, two words and a Bible verse describing how you met Christ, and two words that describe your life after Christ.
 - Share God's Story
 - This involves sharing the good news of salvation and what God has done for them through sending Christ!
 - Three Circles
 - Knowing God Personally
 - Perspective Cards
 - There are many other tools not listed here that can be used.
 - SWORD Method
 - Story Discovery Bible Study
 - This is an evangelistic walkthrough of the Bible, introducing people to God's redemptive work through five lessons that utilize the SWORD method in reading.
 - Creation
 - Genesis 1–2
 - Fall
 - Genesis 3
 - Rescue
 - Genesis 23
 - Mark 15–16
 - Restoration
 - Revelation 21–22

Short-Term Disciple-Making (Engagement of New Believers and Immature Believers)

- This section deals with discipling younger and more immature believers, many for the very first time. In this section, the goal is to give the believers a framework for knowing who God is and who God made them to be. The desire is to see each new and immature believer become confident in making disciples themselves. When a person accepts Christ, they already know everything they need to know to share the Gospel with someone else!
 - A mature believer can also find themselves in need of this section to remind themselves of the basics of the faith, or to help a mature believer reorient towards a proper understanding of the Gospel, their identity, and disciple-making.
- Above, we define what discipleship is and, in this section, we begin to get down to the nitty gritty. Disciple-making is messy because we are all sinful people in need of God's grace. It is also rewarding to see people reorient their lives to rightly worship God and let go of their idols!
- Short-term disciple-making tends to last between 1 to 3 months, so you must make the most of your time!
 - The amount of time you can spend with the disciple may dictate the length of time you need for short-term disciple-making.
- Below, tools are listed in a specific order that I believe you should take a disciple through as you begin discipleship for the first time. This lays the foundation of the Gospel and gives them an identity and vision for disciple-making themselves.
- Tools:
 - Week 1-2
 - SWORD Method
 - 411
 - Preach the Gospel to Yourself Training.
 - 3/3rds Model of Discipleship
 - Weeks 3-5 (Give or take)
 - Story DBS (See above)
 - Weeks 6-12
 - Basic Commands of Christ DBS
 - Repent, Believe, Receive the Holy Spirit
 - Be Baptized
 - Receive the Lord's Supper and Worship the Lord
 - Love God and Love Others
 - Pray at All times for All Things
 - Give Generously of your Time, Treasure, and Talents
 - Make Disciples by Bringing others Along with You and teaching them to obey.

Long-Term Disciple-Making (Engagement of New, Immature, and Mature Believers)

- This section deals with the continuation of discipling of believers who already have a foundation of the material in short-term disciple-making. One can enter this period immediately after short-term disciple-making takes place or many years down the road. Disciple-making and being disciplined never ends. We are always in need of biblical accountability and community in our lives (Ephesians 4).
- Long-term disciple-making tends to be 6 to 9 months in duration. This timeline is flexible depending on your situation in life and the availability of the discipler and disciple.
- Long-term disciple-making can take place one-on-one or in community, but the goal is for the disciple to be brought deeper into the community of the church as well as being sent out on mission as an ambassador. I believe that this section is fluid with the community section below, taking place within or outside of the intended church community.
- Like we mentioned in short-term disciple-making, people are messy, and this only becomes more evident the more we spend time with people. Listed below are some tools to help facilitate long-term disciple-making. Some of this is ordered intentionally to help discover the areas that the Lord needs to work in the disciple's life. I encourage you to think through for yourself how you would order these tools.
- Tools
 - o Week 1
 - Personal Assessment
 - The goal of this is to help the disciple set goals for the immediate future and to enable them to reorient their rhythms to put Christ first.
 - SMART Goals
 - Review SWORD Method.
 - Pick a book of the Bible to start working through together.
 - Could also go through more of the commands of Jesus listed at the end of the Basic Commands of Christ sheet.
 - Withness.
 - You can also know your strengths and weaknesses and offer a set of topics as a disciple-maker.
 - You might be strong in prayer, theology, evangelism, or something else. You can focus in here and teach your disciple these truths.
 - o Week 2
 - Idol Inventory
 - DBS in chosen book of Bible/Command.
 - o Week 3 to the End
 - Church Circle Assessment.
 - DBS in chosen book of Bible/Command.
 - MAWLLL
 - Model, Assist, Watch, Launch, Leave, Love

Church/Community Focused Disciple

- At this point in the disciple-making process, the disciple is hopefully involved in a community within their local church and growing outside of the disciple-making relationship. The last thing to do with a disciple is to launch them out to reproduce what you have done with them, while also leaving them to do it on their own.
- This section is very similar to the long-term disciple-making section where your disciple is involved in a local church community, pursuing disciple-making, and being disciplined. This is where it is important to know the strengths and weaknesses of the believers around you to help believers find ways they can grow.
- The tools here are like the later section in long-term disciple-making.
 - o Church Circle Assessment
 - o MAWLLL
 - o 1:3:9
 - o Witness
- The goal for your disciple is for them to be a generational disciple-maker. This means that they make disciples who make disciples (2 Timothy 2).
- We never cease growing and we always have a need to be disciplined and make disciples. Jesus has called us to give our lives to this cause, no matter if we are in full-time vocational ministry or a teacher, engineer, or accountant. We can make disciples in any station of our lives; we just must be willing to orient our lives to make this happen.
- The result of this disciple-making plan is for this to circle back around with the “mature” disciple beginning with entry themselves. We desire to form leaders who will go with the Gospel in all that they do! We pray for this end!