

What is a Disciple Maker?

I. A disciple maker is first a disciple of Jesus.

1Cor 11:1 (NASU) Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

1Cor 4:16 (NASU) Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me. 17 For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church.

2Tim 2:2 (NASU) The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Matt 4:19 (NASU) And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Titu 2:3 (NASU) Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, 4 so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 [to be] sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

II. A disciple maker develops strong relationships with a few.

Mark 3:13 (NASU) And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him. 14 And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He [could] send them out to preach,

Question: How can I develop discipling relationships with a few?

1. Take the initiative to build the relationship.

1The 2:8 (NASU) Having so fond an affection for you, we were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us. 9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, [how] working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

Roma 1:11 (NASU) For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established; 12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you [while] among you, each of us by the other's faith, both yours and mine. 13 I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that often I have planned to come to you (and have been prevented so far) so that I may obtain some fruit among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles.

****Prayer is vital to choosing who to reach out to.**

2. Seek out ways to demonstrate love.

Phil 1:8 (NASU) For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Prov 17:17 (NASU) A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

****Be interested in his/her life**

****Pray for specific details**

****Remember what is going on in his/her life**

****Understand that God chooses these friendships for you.**

****Accept the person without conditions and communicate this.**

****Encourage them in the progress of their faith.**

3. Place Jesus at the center of your relationship.

1Joh 1:3 (NASU) what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

****Spend most of your time in spiritually directed conversation.**

****Relate all the details of life to Jesus.**

****Direct the person to the Word for answers to problems and questions.**

****Do not be afraid to exhort and rebuke.**

4. Be patient and persevere.

1Cor 15:58 (NASU) Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not [in] vain in the Lord.

****They will stumble.**

****They will not always respond with joy.**

****They may withdraw.**

5. Spend time with them outside of formal “discipling”.

****They are not a “project”, but a person.**

6. Introduce them to other healthy Christian relationships.

****Do not let jealousy hinder their spiritual growth.**

****Pray for other friendships to be formed.**

****Be careful that they depend upon God, not you.**

III. A disciple maker's goal is to reproduce the life of Jesus in others.

Question: How can I reach this goal?

1. Teaching and instructing

Matt 5:1 (NASU) When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him. 2 He opened His mouth and [began] to teach them, saying,

2. Modeling and commissioning

John 13:15 (NASU) "For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.

3. Motivating and comforting

John 14:1 (NASU) "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

4. Warning and confronting

Mark 8:33 (NASU) But turning around and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's."

5. Forgiving and restoring

John 21:17 (NASU) He said to him the third time, "Simon, [son] of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus ^said to him, "Tend My sheep.

6. Entrusting and sending

Luke 10:3 (NASU) "Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.