

MAKING DISCIPLES



A Rationale For Making Disciples Of Jesus Christ
And A Practical Guide To Meet With Others One-on-One
To Make Mature Disciples of Jesus Christ
Who Make More Mature Disciples of Jesus Christ.

*“What you have heard from me
in the presence of many witnesses
entrust to faithful men
who will be able to teach others also.”
2 Timothy 2:2 (ESV)*

PJ Bogoniewski

Study Questions

Introduction

1. Have you ever made something from scratch? What did you make and how well did you do with the finished product?
2. When you made something, did you follow a list of instructions? Was this an easy thing to do? Why or why not?
3. When you finished your project, did you assess how well you did? What was your process? How did you score with the assessment?
4. Have you ever thought about a process to develop disciples of Jesus Christ? If you have, what kind of a process have you outlined?
5. Have you implemented your process? How well do you think you're doing? What changes do you think you have to make in order to improve your process?
6. Did you watch the YouTube video entitled, *Don't be Deceived – Disciples Make Disciples* by Francis Chan and David Platt? What was your reaction? Any thoughts to share?
7. How do you see the hand-in-hand relationship that disciple-making and evangelism hold? Explain how it should work.
8. Which of the five proposed options for the disconnect in discipleship do you resonate best with? Why?

Study Questions
Chapter 1
What Does a Disciple Look Like?

1. Have you ever considered that there is a difference between a convert and a disciple before?
2. To what extent have you been involved in making “converts to Christianity” in the past?
3. To what extent have you been involved in making “Disciples of Jesus Christ” in the past?
4. What do you think of PJ’s working definition of disciple? What would you add if you were developing your own? What would you take away from his if you were developing your own?
5. As you look at your relationship with the church you attend, do you see yourself as a student in any of the services or ministries? How so?
6. How can you be a student without engaging in self-study through reading books?
7. How key do you think that assessment is in the process of discipleship?
8. Have you ever used a tool for assessment in the past? Which one? What did you learn about yourself?
9. Did you do the “Discipleship Assessment Sheet” – adapted from *Growing a Healthy Church*? What were some of your observations from your own assessment?
10. Did you scale yourself on Engel’s Evangelism Scale? Where did you fall?
11. What are some of your own personal observations on the steps required to move from immaturity to maturity?
12. Were you on the mature or immature side of the chart?
13. How do you respond to that?
14. Most people will not find themselves in every category of maturity. What steps are required in your life to move from immaturity to maturity in at least one section of the chart?
15. What’s keeping you from taking those steps?

Study Questions
Chapter 2
Developing a Plan for Spiritual Formation

1. Have you ever served as a teacher in a class or ministry at church? Tell your story.
2. How did you approach the question of what level of discipleship to target in your lessons? Did you target pre-Christians, baby Christians, or those more mature in their faith?
3. Did you ever struggle with an attempt to teach them all at the same time? How so?
4. PJ took seven pages to outline the college metaphor. What are some of your own personal observations with this metaphor?
5. How can you compare your own personal church involvement with the college metaphor? In what ways do you see a parallel though process in the development of learning opportunities? Or is there more of a disconnect from this theory of education?
6. Have you ever felt that a teacher was covering material that was “way over your head?” Tell of the circumstance and your reaction to it.
7. Have you ever felt that a teacher was covering material that you could have covered? Tell of the circumstance and your reaction to it.
8. On page 65 PJ outlines his personal ministry philosophy regarding the implementation of the college metaphor. How well does this resonate with your experiences? Have you experienced another implementation of it that worked to build spiritual formation in your life? Tell your story.
9. Have you ever been part of a learning environment at church where you had to do homework? Tell the story.
10. Have you ever been involved in a one-on-one discipleship relationship with a spiritual mentor? How well did this build into your spiritual life?

Study Questions
Chapter 3
Building a Leadership Structure

1. Which of the two leadership structure models have you experienced the most in your life?
2. How have you experienced the top down model?
3. What benefits and limitations did you observe with this model?
4. How have you experienced the side-by-side leadership model?
5. What benefits and limitations did you observe with this model?
6. How many people do you think you know in your life?
7. How many of those people are you able to really keep track of?
8. How do you feel when someone “slips through the cracks” and you lose track of them?
9. Have you ever been part of a new church plant or new ministry plant that was developed by grafting a group of people from an existing church or ministry? What was your experience like?

Study Questions
Chapter 4
How Long Does It Take to Make Disciples?

1. How long have you been in the church?
2. How far do you think you've progressed through the spiritual formation model that is presented by your church?
3. If "starting new relationships for the purpose of bringing the Gospel into their lives" is the end-game goal of being a disciple of Christ, how well do you think that the spiritual formation model you've experienced has prepared you for that goal?
4. Have you ever been part of a ministry team that wrestled with the question "what does a disciple need to know?" Tell of your experience and the lessons you learned.
5. Now it's time for you to list your six things!

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

6. If you studying this with a group, share your six things and give a rationale for why you selected those six things.
7. How hard was it for you to come up with your six things? If you had too many, by what process did you whittle your list down to just six things.
8. What do you think of PJ's "one thing" on his list?

Study Questions
Chapter 5
How to Hear the Voice of God in Your Life

1. How familiar are you with the concept of listening prayer?
2. How do you hear the voice of God speaking in your life?
3. Has God spoken to you in visions and dreams? If so, tell a story of a time He did.
4. Are there other ways that God has spoken to you in your life? How so?

Spend at least one session in listening prayer. Then answer the following questions:

5. How hard was it for you to set this hour aside?
6. How hard was it for you to sit still before the Lord?
7. What did you hear the Lord say to you during your time of prayer?
8. Test what you heard from the Lord!

* Does it match what you read in Scripture?

* Do spiritual mentors affirm that it is from God?

* Does it exalt Jesus Christ?

* Does it produce good fruit?

* Does Jesus Christ bring it pass?

9. What barriers to hearing the Voice of God have you identified in your life?
10. What can you do to free up more time to spend in listening prayer on a regular basis?

Study Questions
Chapter 6
An Amazing Growth Strategy

1. Would you rather make a convert or a disciple?
2. Have you ever thought about meeting with someone for a year so that you could disciple them? If yes, how did that go?
3. Why do you think that most churches are not experiencing growth?
4. What do you think that churches could do to experience more growth?
5. How many people have you personally brought to church with you this year?
6. How many of them stayed and became productive members of the church?
7. Why did they stay or why didn't they stay?
8. Have you ever been part of a church growth strategy that majored on coming together to pray that God would bring more people in the church? Tell the story.
9. Which of the fruits of discipleship listed on page 135 have you seen in your life?
10. Have you ever considered how modern American Christianity has merged with "The American Dream?" Discuss your observations.
11. Can you name five false teachers that are popular in American culture today? How do you know that they are false teachers?
12. What steps do you take in your life to ensure that you're doing discipleship the right way?

Study Questions
Chapter 7
One-on-One Discipleship Plan

1. Is there someone in your life who met with you one-on-one to disciple you in the past? Tell the story and the impact that relationship had on your faith.
2. Have you ever met one-on-one to disciple someone who was further behind you before? Tell the story and the impact that relationship had on you and the person you were meeting with.
3. Much of this chapter outlines a process by which you can meet with someone. Did you find the chapter to outline a doable process for you? Why or why not?
4. What benefits do you see in using books of the Bible or books about God as a major part of a one-on-one discipleship process?
5. What other tools do you think would be helpful to use?
6. Are you familiar with a note taking technique that is similar to the interactive logging technique? How does it work?
7. Do you see how ministries of the church can be used as a discipleship tool?
8. Have you ever used a ministry of the church as a discipleship tool in the past?
9. Can you add to the potential pitfalls listed at the end of the chapter? What can be done to ensure we don't fall into them?

Study Questions
Chapter 8
Reaching Forwards and Reaching Backwards

1. Have you ever been taught the phases of spiritual formation?
2. Can you relate a story of a time that the Lord brought you to a new awakening in your spiritual life?
3. Can you relate a story of a time that the Lord brought you through a time of purging in your spiritual life?
4. Can you relate a story of a time that the Lord brought you through a time of illumination in your spiritual life?
5. Can you relate a story of a time that you experienced a dark night of the soul?
6. Can you relate a story of a time that the Lord brought you through a time of union in your spiritual life?
7. Look at the four phases. Where do you think you are at this point of your spiritual journey?
8. What do you think your next steps are?

Study Questions
Chapter 9
How Do I Get Started?

1. List the spiritual mentors that the Lord has put in your life.
2. Which of those mentors do you see meeting with others one-on-one?
3. List five people who are walking side-by-side with you in your spiritual journey.
4. Which of them have you met with personally to learn from each other?
5. Name someone who posts good spiritual discussion questions or comments on social media.
6. Name someone who asks great questions in a Bible study, Sunday school class, or small group you are part of.
7. Do you desire to leave a disciple-making legacy? How well do you think you have invested in that legacy to date?
8. What are your next steps to better invest in that legacy?
9. What's keeping you from taking those steps?
10. Spend some time praying about someone in your life who can disciple you and someone you can disciple. Who does He bring to your mind?
11. What is keeping you from meeting with each of them one-on-one to learn yourself and to teach someone behind you on the journey?