

Growth Track

Module 4: How Do I Make A Difference

Student's Notes

Lesson Five - Making a Disciple (Part II)

Key Takeaway

We can make disciples one step at a time.

Introduction

1. As disciplers, we need to understand and minister to the progressive needs of new believers.
2. In this lesson, we will focus on VFC's discipleship process for the first year of a new believer's spiritual life.

**See Annex for Christian Development Programme (CDP) Chart*

You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others. 2 Timothy 2:2

I. EFFECTIVE DISCIPLING TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE PHASES OF THE NEW BELIEVER

The focus of the first six months is on becoming a disciple of Christ. The main goals are developing a close relationship and consistent walk with Jesus.

The focus of the second six months is on becoming a disciple maker. Discipling with their discipler continues and they also become a discipler to someone else.

II. MINISTERING TO THE DISCIPLE'S NEEDS IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

Love

As apostles of Christ we certainly had a right to make some demands of you, but instead we were like children among you. Or we were like a mother feeding and caring for her own children. We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too. 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8

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Identity

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Nurture

1. Feed them spiritually with God's Word, e.g. through Bible study, attending classes such as Growth Track, Life in the Word (LIW) and School for Christian Growth (SCG).
2. Help them develop spiritual habits or disciplines such as spending time with God, prayer and Bible study.
3. Teach them to love and serve the church.
4. Protect them by constantly praying for them until Christ is formed in them. Instruct them in right and wrong, and help them guard against temptations.

Oh, my dear children! I feel as if I'm going through labor pains for you again, and they will continue until Christ is fully developed in your lives. Galatians 4:19

III. MINISTERING TO THE DISCIPLE'S NEEDS IN THE SECOND SIX MONTHS

Consistency

Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing... Philippians 4:9

Conviction and character

...but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

Witness

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...Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you. 2 Timothy 4:5

Disciple

He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons. Mark 3:14,15

Stewardship

Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us —I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving. 2 Corinthians 8:7

Conclusion

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it," Proverbs 22:6 (ESV)

The model you set for your disciples will set the course for the rest of their discipleship journey. As you invest into your disciples' lives, you will also enjoy the fulfilment of being part of God's plan for their lives.