

**Disciple-Making
New England
Tool Kit**

Cecil B. Day Foundation

First edition – August 2019

Our Purpose for this Analysis

Beginning in 2017, the Cecil B. Day Foundation began interviewing pastors and leaders intentionally involved with disciple-making as their primary mission. The results of this initiative appear in the report titled ***“Transformational Discipleship”*** available upon request.

In researching the various elements of effective disciple-making, we discovered several resources being used with good results. Churches were seeing discipleship cultures form that brought them closer to effective Great Commission ministry and brought the church back to its primary focus – making disciples who make disciples.

Our evaluation of these resources focuses on the following criteria:

- a. Does it emphasize a discipleship pathway or journey approach?
- b. Is it built on a multiplication model where disciples reproduce?
- c. Is there outside coaching available?
- d. How does the cost of the resource compare to other options?
- e. Does it help build a disciple-making culture or does it assume some disciple-making is already happening?

As the purpose of this evaluation is to provide helpful information about what’s working in New England, this is not intended to be an exhaustive analysis of all discipleship resources. There are many good approaches available that each need to be examined and evaluated based upon the conditions and needs of its potential users.

These resources are listed in no particular order. Each is unique and has its own strengths. We’ll continue updating this “Tool Kit” as we find additional effective resources.

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ACTS 2 JOURNEY



Specifically developed by and for Assembly of God churches, **The Acts 2 Journey** approach provides churches with over two years of in-depth discipleship training and experience. It first focuses on equipping effective leaders who will then meet with cohorts of discipplers. A series of four retreats also helps to bond the churches together in a common mission to connect with God, others, and the lost.

This approach accomplishes all the criteria suggested above and has all the marks of an initiative that should effectively spread among like-minded churches and individuals. Although its purpose is to equip those of the Pentecostal faith, other evangelical denominations are considering it for their purposes as well.

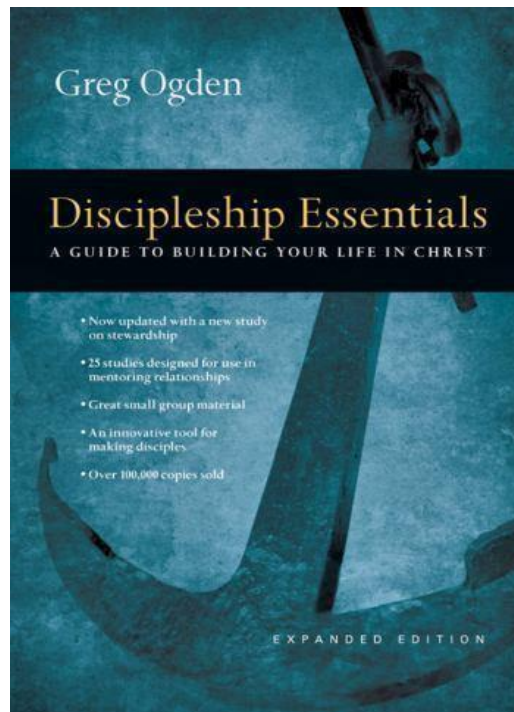
The cost is minimal with most of the expense in study books and other materials.

Coaching is ongoing and is provided through trained alumni.

As of this writing, August 2019, **Acts 2 Journey** is relatively new in New England. The southern NE district has implemented most of the components and the northern NE district plans for a fall 2019 launch.

More information can be found at www.acts2journey.com.

DISCIPLESHIP ESSENTIALS



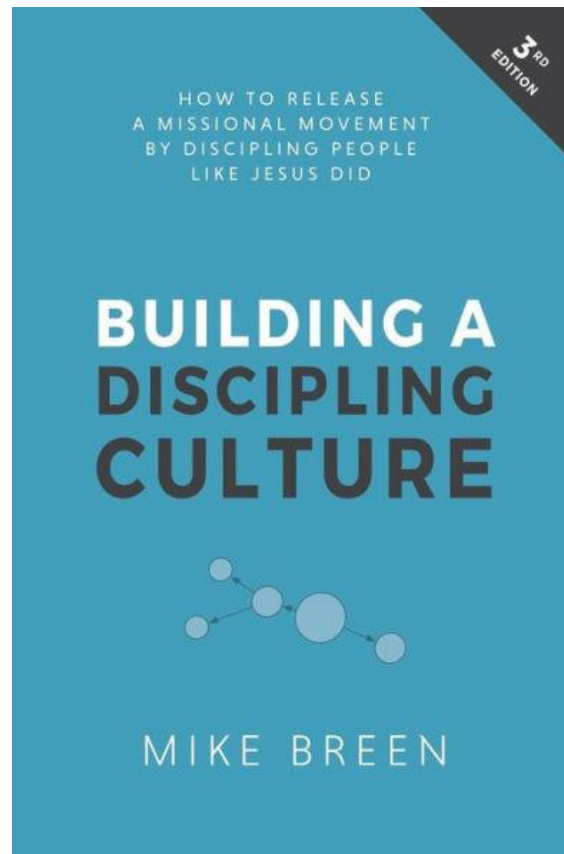
“The vision of **Discipleship Essentials** is the development of a trained, mature base of Christ-followers as a means to evangelize and disciple the next generation of Christian leaders to carry out Jesus’ Great Commission, for disciples of Jesus around the world to become “multiplying disciples.” It is our desire that believers, young and old, rich and poor, male and female, will be helped in their daily Christian walk and that as they embrace these essentials of Christian living, the gospel would transform them, their families, communities, indeed their entire nations, into committed Christ-followers.” (*from Discipleship Essentials website*).

This resource provides a full curriculum for both personal Christian living as well as spiritual leadership. It can be tailored and adjusted for the time available and the size of the group. It’s suggested that disciples and mentors meet in “triads” or “quads” for the best effectiveness. It has wide appeal since it’s one of the most comprehensive resources for making disciples and has been used effectively for decades. The cost is minimal, mostly for study books and courses. It has a strong online component and individuals can access their study portal at any time.

Where some resources focus more specifically on building a discipleship culture in the church, this material places greater emphasis on the individual disciple.

More information can be found at www.discipleshipessentials.org

3DM MOVEMENTS



3DM Movements is an in-depth, multiple year, intensive disciple-making experience using a unique structured approach involving Learning Communities, Workshops, and Huddles. The approach utilizes materials developed by Mike Breen and his team and is strong on training, leadership development, coaching and accountability. Using a multi-media approach, it involves disciple-makers in the building of a culture of discipleship that will become the basis for church growth and development. It emphasizes the pathway approach and looks for strong spiritual growth and maturity in all areas of living.

The cost depends upon what levels a church might consider. Membership subscription is encouraged with Gold, Silver and Bronze fee structures, each with its own unique level of resource. Overall the cost is on the higher end of what we've surveyed.

3DM Movements has active Learning Communities in New England with nearly 12 years of experience.

More information can be found at <https://www.3dmovements.com>

LIFE ON LIFE



Life on Life is a comprehensive multi-year approach to disciple-making involving a significant emphasis on developing leaders who will begin to create a culture of discipleship in the local church. Utilizing a unique clinic-based approach along with training cohorts, **Life on Life** seeks to feed into a movement of disciple-making churches that want to change the culture around them and make devoted followers of Jesus.

This approach follows a schedule that brings interested churches together to get trained simultaneously. Further training and equipping of leaders require adhering to a fixed calendar coordinated with Perimeter's staff availability. Pastors and their teams become part of a leadership community with other like-minded churches working toward igniting a movement of discipleship in their church.

The disciple-making portions use curriculum developed and provided by Randy Pope of Perimeter Church, Johns Creek, GA. Each workbook is designed to take the disciple through multiple 18-month studies investigating the panorama of Christian theology and practice.

Coaching is a key component of **Life on Life** and has truly helped participants become disciple-making churches. This encouraging and supportive coaching helps the pastors stay on track to ensure the movement continues to gain momentum.

The cost is on the higher side of the approaches we've researched as the program's prescriptions require significant involvement of leaders as well as participants. However, the resources provided are certainly of great value to a church serious about making disciples.

More information can be found at <https://lifeonlife.org>

ROOTED



Rooted originated in Kenya where it was known as “Mizizi” (*Rooted* in Swahili). Discovered by Mariner’s Church in CA, it has been developed into a curriculum useful at the local church level. It has fast become the most popular disciple-making tool we’ve found in New England, regardless of the size of the church. Its strength is in its ability to develop a sustainable discipleship culture from the leadership to the entire church. From the website, *“Rooted is a simple, proven method to build disciples. It is not just for new believers or new members; it’s for the whole church. Rooted changes the way people are disciplined and impacts holistic church growth while building, launching and sustaining healthy life-changing small groups in your church.”*

Beginning with a pilot group, facilitators are groomed to take the material to the rest of the church in intentional discipleship small groups. The first level of curriculum has 10 sessions composed of doctrinal teaching, corporate prayer, serving together, and celebration. As **Rooted** spreads through multiple generations in the church, the culture of disciple-making spreads as well.

The cost is minimal and basically covers the price of the workbooks. Coaching and further equipping is accomplished through **Rooted’s** extensive national network.

More information can be found at www.experiencerooted.com

CHRIST TOGETHER GOSPEL SATURATION



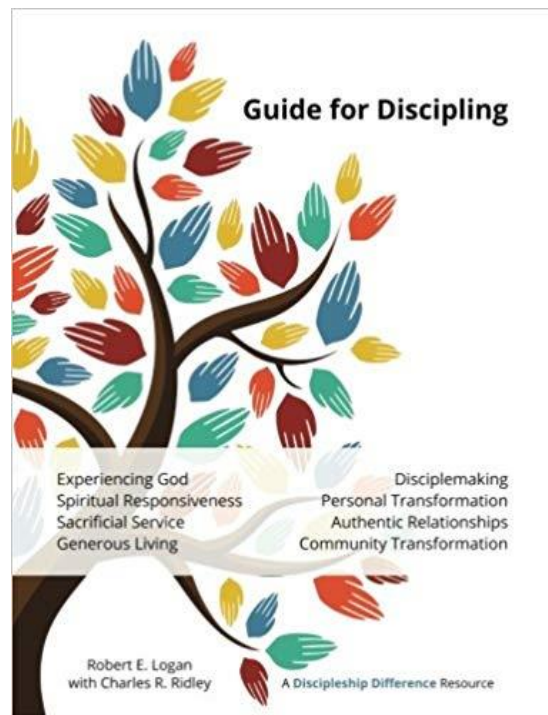
A different approach presently operating among churches on the North Shore of Massachusetts is the Gospel Saturation Movement and Christ Together. Here, a collaborative of churches that have banded together to see the Gospel thrive in some of the darkest regions of New England. Utilizing training provided through two workshops, church leaders have begun the process of making disciples who have a burden for those outside the church today.

From the website: *“Our desire as churches on the North Shore of Boston is to see an extraordinary work of God’s Spirit that results in thousands of people meeting Christ, growing as disciples, and serving in Gospel-centered churches. We live in one of the least reached counties in the U.S., where it’s estimated that less than 3% of our friends have a real, meaningful, and biblical faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that God wants to see the gospel grow in the areas where we live, learn, work, and play. So, we’re collaborating together for the promotion of prayer, leadership development, and starting & strengthening churches. And we’re doing this as part of the wider movement of Christ Together.”* Pastor Bobby Warrenburg

The emphasis of this approach is strength through collaboration among churches in a region. As churches band together to make discipleship a common priority, a movement can take hold. Many instances of this have already been seen in other areas of the country. Churches working together for the same cause should result in a greater effect than any church operating in a community independently.

More information can be found at <https://christtogether.org/> and <https://saturatetheworld.com>.

GUIDE FOR DISCIPLING



Guide for Discipling is just what it says – it’s a set of eight interactive guides which encourage disciples new and old to love God, love others, and make disciples. With a total of forty lessons, each is supported by related scriptures and includes thought-provoking questions to encourage discussion. Pastors, church leaders, and individuals can use these guides in a variety of ways to grow in holistic discipleship. It explores eight dimensions of a disciple of Jesus: Experiencing God; Spiritual Responsiveness; Sacrificial Service; Generous Living; Disciple-making; Personal Transformation; Authentic Relationships; and Community Transformation.

This is a good guide for beginning a program of discipleship. It builds off a solid scriptural base and touches on practically every area of spiritual growth and development. The time to complete the book is dependent upon the individuals using them. The lessons are designed to be used alone, one-on-one, or in a small group.

For this to be an effective tool for building a discipleship culture in a church, the leadership should develop an overall plan for disciple-making and utilize this as one of the tools. It likely doesn’t have the structure for culture change on its own. For more in-depth culture building, consider joining a discipleship cohort offered by Logan Leadership. Additional teaching materials are also available from the website.

More information can be found at <https://loganleadership.com>

LONDON INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANITY (LICC)



LICC exists to envision and equip Christians and their churches for whole-life missionary discipleship in the world. They seek to serve them with biblical frameworks, practical resources, training and models so that they flourish as followers of Jesus and grow as whole-life disciple-making communities.

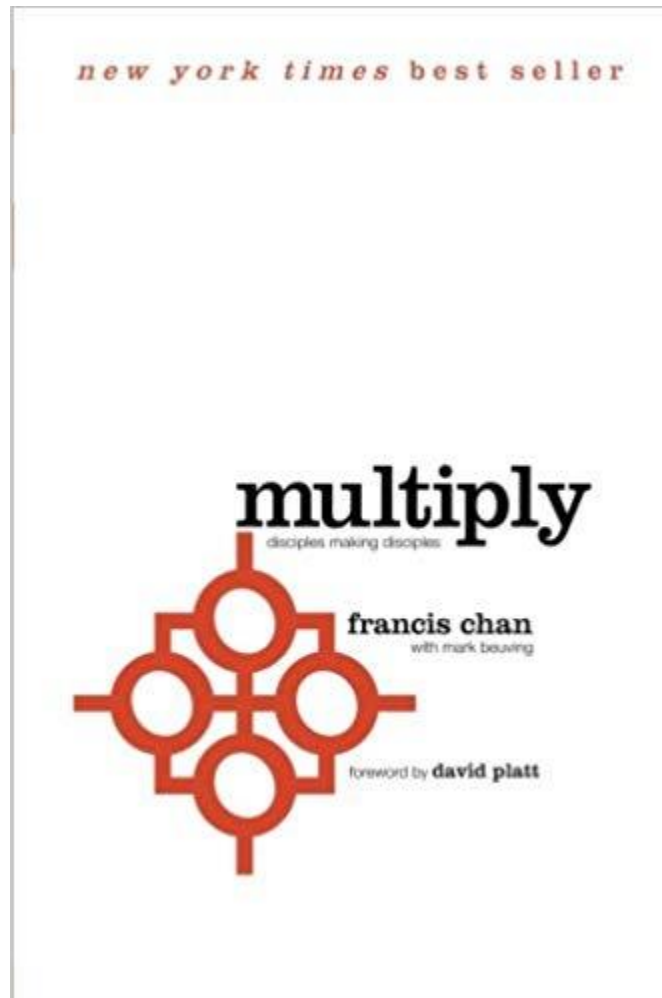
The strength of this approach is in making whole-life disciples who intentionally live out their Christianity in everyday circumstances in the workplace, school, family, etc. There is a huge and ever-growing body of resource materials available through **LICC** including books and other printed literature, logs, videos, and live training opportunities.

LICC is growing in popularity in New England particularly due to the publication of *Imagine Church* by Neil Hudson and its partner in the US, the VERE Institute. This has been a helpful resource for many churches seeking to change the culture within the local church to one that intentionally makes disciples.

A church looking to begin the journey to disciple-making may find **LICC** a bit overwhelming at first as it encompasses many facets of Christianity. However, beginning with a good read of *Imagine Church* might be a helpful first step.

More information can be found at www.licc.org.uk and www.vereinstitute.org

MULTIPLY



Many churches are finding this to be a helpful guide for training in disciple-making. By means of a multimedia approach to teaching, a comprehensive treatment of discipleship is accomplished. Designed for use in discipleship relationships and other focused settings, *Multiply* will equip you to carry out Jesus's ministry. Each of the twenty-four sessions in the book corresponds with an online video at www.multiplymovement.com, where David Platt joins Francis Chan in guiding you through each part of *Multiply*.

This is an excellent resource for intentional discipleship small groups with facilitators leading the discussions. The videos do a thorough job unpacking the material and explaining the definitions, concepts, and action steps for disciple-making. The book contains discussion questions to encourage lively interaction within the group.

The cost of the book is minimal, and the videos are free.
More information can be found at www.multiplymovement.com

DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES THE TIMOTHY INITIATIVE



Disciples Making Disciples is the vehicle that drives **TTI's** church planting strategy around the world. Every believer is called to be a disciple, and every disciple is called to be a disciple-maker. When disciples reproduce, we capture the New Testament model of church planting. The three-phase process takes 18-24 months.

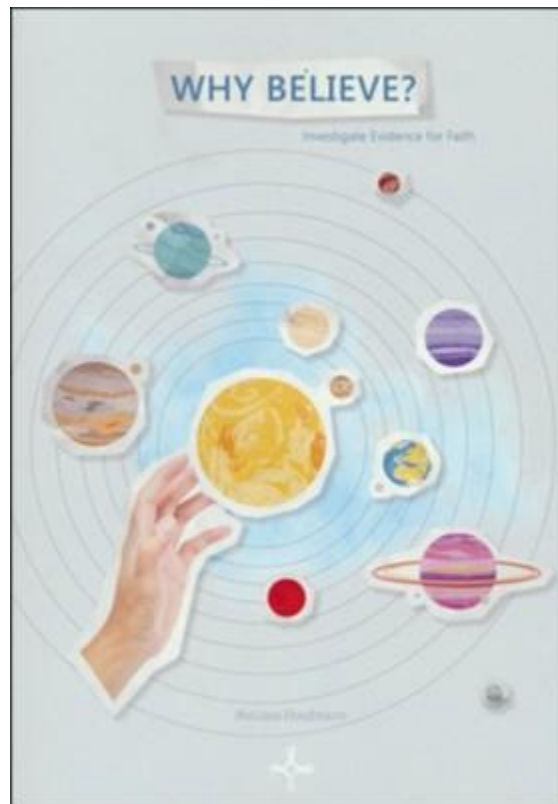
DMD is an online training tool that can be done individually or in small groups. Originally developed for church planters, it will benefit anyone who wants to dig deeper into disciple-making. There are accompanying books that can be purchased through the website.

Although not as deep as other resources, it can be a good starting point for those who have not yet had a discipling experience. Again, the goal is church planting with disciple-making as the ultimate mission. The cost is reasonable, and the materials are adequate for the overall purpose.

Compared to the other resources we've reviewed, this might be considered "disciple-making lite".

More information can be found at <https://www.ttionline.org>

WHY BELIEVE? STONECROFT



Stonecroft equips women for evangelism through training and resources. The training is multifaceted, preparing volunteers for leadership, event speaking, facilitating small groups, and several ways of sharing the Gospel one-on-one. Stonecroft has also developed different types of resources to help in evangelistic efforts. Stonecroft Bible Studies, Conversations guides, handbooks, conference calls, digital trainings, and social media content serve as tools to share the Gospel to reach as many women as possible, across the generations, in the most relevant and effective ways possible.

Each Stonecroft Bible Study, led by a trained guide, includes discussion questions, Scriptures to investigate, and time to pray. “*Why Believe?*” is one of the many resources used to guide a disciple through a deeper understanding of the Christian faith and to help grow as a believer. Although not designed for whole church discipleship, this is an excellent tool with lots of additional resources for helping women stay on a pathway for discipleship.

More information can be found at: <https://www.stonecroft.org>

IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S BREAKFAST



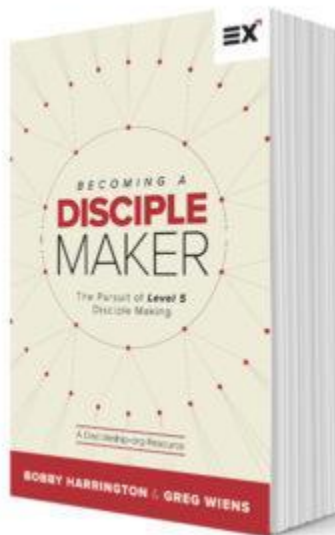
Originally started in 2001 as a ministry for men, ISI continues to encourage men to grow as vibrant disciples of Jesus Christ and have a positive impact on their families, workplaces, churches and communities. Although largely a conference ministry for men, ISI has developed excellent materials for helping men grow spiritually.

A popular resource is Men's Breakfasts where men can watch videos of many of ISI's conference speakers and then interact with local teachers. ISI events are held throughout New England where men and men's ministry groups can experience discipleship across a larger venue along with other local churches.

In 2015 Iron Sharpens Iron started developing resources targeted to Men's Ministry Leaders. These resources include *PastorPrayerTeam.org*; *Breakfast DVDs*; *The Men's Bible*; *The Life of David Bible Study*; and a new resource *Engage: Building Your Church Based Ministry to Men*.

More information can be found at: <https://ironsharpensiron.net>

DISCIPLESHIP.ORG BOBBY HARRINGTON



This online site has a wealth of good information and some step-by-step strategies for launching a disciple-making movement in your church. Beginning with an assessment tool found at <http://church-multiplication.com/disciplemaker/>, you can determine just where you are regarding your depth of discipleship on a scale from 1-5 with 5 being the highest. The site also contains links to several other key ministries specializing in disciple-making. Here's a sample of what you'll find:

- Read the eBook *Becoming a Disciple Maker*. This FREE eBook which goes with and explains this tool, it is available through discipleship.org and Exponential.org.
- Read the FREE eBooks [Spark](#) and [Becoming Five](#) as they more fully bring the five profiles to life and address key tensions churches face in seeking to move to levels 4 and 5. Also read the free eBook [Dream Big, Plan Smart](#) which gives more details about the 3D model of multiplication. These short eBooks are an easy and quick read. Have your key team members read these books. Consider working through the content together as a team.
- **Have Other Team Members Take the Assessment:** Have key friends and members of your team or small group independently take the Disciple Maker Assessment. Simply send them the link to the website. We recommend that you take this assessment - and encourage others to take the assessment together - in supportive relationships.
- **Assess Your Gaps:** It is important to note the "gaps" between your current behaviors and Level 5. Be candid and honest. Consider ways to grow and become more intentional.

- **Get Help:** The good news is that there is a growing number of resources and organizations that can help you in this pursuit. There are too many resources and networks to list, but we can recommend the following leaders and websites to you. They have participated in the ministry of discipleship.org and they have helped us create this online tool.
 - Exponential.org - Todd Wilson leads Exponential. They have a great number of free eBooks, blogs, video resources, and podcasts on disciple making and multiplication.
 - Discipleship.org - Bobby Harrington leads Discipleship.org. They are focused on Jesus' style disciple making for churches and individuals with an increasing number of free eBooks, blogs, video resources, and podcasts on disciple making and multiplication.
 - HealthyGrowingChurches.com - Greg Wiens leads a team of church catalysts and coaches to align church's vision, relationships, ministries and structure to produce healthy churches that are producing disciples and multiplying.
 - Relationaldiscipleshipnetwork.com - Jim Putman and the Relational Discipleship Network provide online materials, experiential learning opportunities, and a network that coaches church leaders.
 - Thebonhoefferproject.com - Bill Hull and Brandon Cook provide online materials and training resources. The Bonhoeffer project is an international group of disciple-making leaders who help develop other disciple-making leaders.
 - Replicate.org - Robby Gallaty provides resources, books, blogs, online trainings, reading plans, downloads, seminars and coaching. Many senior pastors join in Replicate's training groups.
 - Ralphmoore.net - Level 5 church multiplier Ralph Moore shares blogs, teachings, books and other resources to help disciple-makers.
 - lionshare.org - Dave Buehring leads a team that makes disciple-makers. They provide books, videos, curriculum and training for everyday disciples who want to become disciple-makers.

More information can be found at: www.discipleship.org.

IF:GATHERING



IF is designed for women and uses various approaches including group gatherings, leading, and equipping for disciple-making. It's unique system of Bible studies and small group events prepares new disciples to deepen their roots and become better equipped for leading others to Christ. It follows a solid pathway approach.

"IF exists to equip women with Gospel-centered resources, event, and community so they may learn more about who God is and disciple other women right where they are."

Using a robust website with a significant number of tools, women can find resources for a variety of Bible study topics and specific help with their journey of faith.

Although no **IF** groups presently operate in New England, the ministry desires to come to any areas where someone is willing to host. The organization has staff and volunteers eager to provide coaching and encouragement as well as to help launch an **IF** Gathering.

IF materials are reasonable and can be purchased from the website.

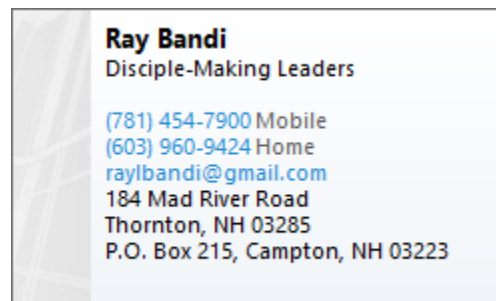
More information can be found at: <https://www.ifgathering.com/>

DISCIPLE-MAKING CONSULTANTS AND COACHES

As disciple-making becomes the intentional mission and focus of local churches, it's often helpful to employ the assistance of individuals skilled in working with pastors and leaders to choose the best strategy for developing the culture of discipleship.

The following individuals and organizations are available in New England to assist in the implementation of a discipleship strategy from the initial analysis, leadership training, and launch.

THE DISCIPLE-MAKING LEADER



Ray Bandi provides extensive interactive workshop training and coaching for pastors and key leaders in churches serious about developing a disciple-making culture. Ray is located in central New Hampshire and can be reached at raylbandi@gmail.com.

EXPONENT GROUP



*"We understand the **frustration** of disciple making efforts that **do not resonate with people, multiply beyond us** or bring about **lasting change** in our communities. That is why we formed the Exponent Group — to test and evaluate disciple making strategies that work best in our modern contexts. Over the past several years we have discovered and refined simple processes that continue to improve as we learn from our efforts."*

Training

We teach people how to begin making disciples with their friends and families

Mentoring

We connect people with mentors that have a proven track record of sustainable and multiplied disciple-making

Collaborating

We connect people with the growing Accelerate network to expand their learning and find others to build ministry with

Joe Reed from the Exponent Group can be reached at joe@exponentgroup.org

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