

Making Disciples Who Are...

Implementation Guide



A Helpful Guide to Implementing Discipleship in Your Church

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This guide is to help Pastors and Ministry Leaders implement the discipleship curriculum Making Disciples Who Are... in your church or ministry. The Making Disciples Who Are... curriculum is not intended to be yet another program for your church, but more of a lifestyle applicable to everyone in your church. Because the Making Disciples Who Are... curriculum was designed to be used primarily in a One-to-One context, it can be done informally, inexpensively, and with minimal staffing resources.

Why One-to-One?

Transparency & Vulnerability

Two believers generally have the highest level of trust in each other. Often, even adding a third person can diminish the level of honesty and sincerity, especially when talking about intensely personal subjects. A developing personal relationship with God is intensely personal, and the Holy Spirit's working in the believer's heart will likely bring forth both joy and conviction of sin.



Why One-to-One? (Continued)



Accountability

For life transformation to occur, the disciplee must be committed to the assignments. For example, just learning how to have Times With God, or even learning why, has only minimal value. The real value is in actually having

consistent Times With God. One-to-One fosters accountability, because in a group of people it is far too easy for disciplees to avoid the accountability to do these things, but when two believers meet it is apparent if the assignments were not done.

Ease of Implementation

Launching a Making Disciples Who Are... discipleship ministry requires very little organizing and managing. There are no groups to form or leaders to recruit and train. It is very easy for the first time discipler because the curriculum teaches itself, although there is a short orientation Discipleship Guide available.



Why One-to-One? (Continued)

Meeting Flexibility

Because only two people are involved in each meeting, this provides an extremely high level of flexibility. If the two want to switch to another day of the week or change the start time, it can be easily done. One-to-One also provides a high degree of flexibility as to when they start the curriculum, as not everyone is ready to start right away. Some people will need to warm up to the idea and become excited when they see others grow in their spiritual vitality. That's OK. Go ahead and start the pairs who are ready now, and as others reach the place where they are ready, they can be paired.



Steps to Implementing

Step 1

People will be ready for Discipleship at different rates. Determine who is ready to join you on this journey right now. Obviously, pay special attention to your leadership (staff and lay leaders), although not all of them may be ready yet. Consider purposely including an emphasis on discipleship in your sermons and/or announcements. You can do this in any number of ways, but as people step forward you will want to pair people up. Obviously, pair men with men and women with women, so remember to include the spouses of your leaders in your planning.



Steps to Implementing (continued)

Step 2

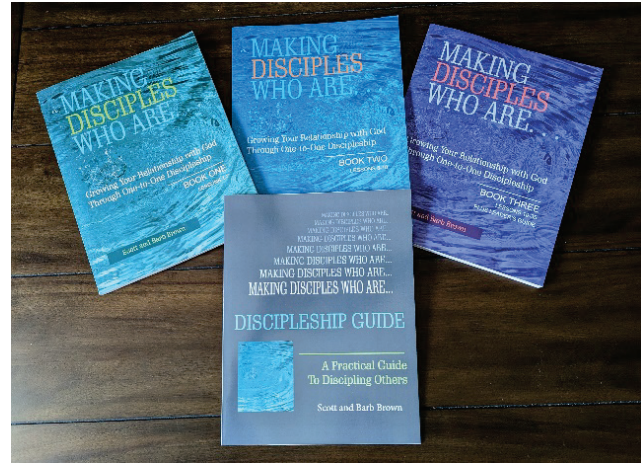
You will want to become familiar with the website:

MakingDisciplesWhoAre.info

There you will find many helpful resources such as testimonials, videos, flyers, and a link to the publisher's website to order the books. At a minimum, it is recommended that each participant initially receive:

- The Discipleship Guide – This orients the students to the curriculum and provides some helpful guidance
- Book 1 of the Making Disciples Who Are... curriculum

The curriculum teaches itself, so it is just a matter of getting the pairs together with each other and with the curriculum.



Step 3

Determine what follow-up needs to look like. You can do this yourself or select someone who is particularly enthusiastic about discipleship. Whoever does it, they should make it a point to follow up with the pairs occasionally to be sure they are on track and to address any issues should they arise. This is often done simply via email.

Steps to Implementing (continued)

Step 4

As people get into God's Word you will begin to hear stories of true-life transformation, from the inside out. You will want to capture these and consider sharing them in a service, or videos, or both. It won't be long before the enthusiasm builds and



those who resisted earlier will want to be involved. Just repeat the process of getting them paired with someone else to get them started.

As people grow more solid in their relationship to Christ, they will fall more in love with their Savior. Then as John 14:21 says, their love for their Savior is demonstrated by their commitment to obedience of our Lord. This shows up in many areas, including commitment to serving, giving, unity in the body, and discipling others.

So, are you ready to lead your church on this journey? Are you ready to help them discover what it really means to have a close personal relationship with God and be willing to obey him in anything?

If so, there is no better time to get started than right now.

Your church will never be the same!



For More Information

If you would like more information, go to:

MakingDisciplesWhoAre.info

There you will find a wealth of information to help you, and if you would like, use that page to send us a message and we will have one of our Discipleship Implementation Specialists contact you to answer any questions you may have.