

Liberty University

**Justification for Selected
Micro-project Assignment**

A Paper Submitted to

Submitted to Dr. James Zabloski,

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the completion of

Micro-Project I: Biblical Precedence

DSMN 851 – D01

by

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1. *What is the problem in your ministry area you are seeking to resolve?*

The problem I am seeking to resolve is that the multi-site mega-church where I serve does not exhibit the exponential growth that the early church experienced. I believe this is rooted in a lack of spiritual maturity among the believers and their lack of awareness of how to progress toward the spiritual maturity of a disciple. The church corporately needs to develop a method of consistently equipping new believers in a manner that they become competent and prolific disciple-making disciples. This proposed solution would also address the evangelism problem that most churches experience as these disciples would reach those closest to them and minister to them as trusted friends and family. As their influence transforms these individuals to become disciples, the circle of influence would expand and, over time, our region would be significantly reached for Christ.

2. *What is your cognate? How does your choice of micro-project align with your DMIN cognate?*

My cognate is discipleship. I propose to conduct an “Interviews and Analysis” micro-project where I will seek to interview two people who I can identify as “mature” believers and three people identified as “developing” disciples. These individuals will be asked questions regarding their understanding of discipleship and what qualities a disciple will have. I will seek to learn how they have become believers and how they experienced spiritual growth. I will inquire as to their opinion of the current state of discipleship in the local church and seek their thoughts about changes that might be made.

3. *How does your choice of micro-project align with the course description?*

The course description focuses on the Biblical Precedence. The analysis portion of the project will consider how the interviewees perceive the direction given in the Shema (Deut 6:4-5),¹ the Great Commandment and the New Commandment given in Matt 22:36-40, and the Great Commission given in Matt 28: 28-30. These verses provide the direction of foundational imperatives that set an individual's path toward becoming a disciple. In addition, questions will consider John 15:5 where Jesus indicated that no spiritual work could occur separate from Him and Jesus' repeated calls for unity within the body of Christ. Other questions will provide information of how the interviews perceive the role of the Holy Spirit to direct, empower and support them as they seek to minister to others.

4. *How does your choice of micro-project align with your abilities, passions, and interests?*

I have been a believer since I was seven years old. God has consistently acted in my life and called me specifically to serve His people, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I have taught virtually every age group within the context of traditional model "Sunday School" and in attractional model "home groups". My experiences have led me to believe that our churches are not generally aware how to build biblical community or how to build disciples. I worked as a turnaround specialist in the corporate world and love to fix broken organizations. The church is broken in my opinion and worthy to have all my attention and effort to help realign it back to the place it operated during the time of its exponential growth.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all biblical passages referenced are in the English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2008).

5. *Have you read the assignment instructions for all four phases of your chosen project?*

(Yes/No is sufficient) Yes

6. *Do you clearly understand the requirements for each phase or have any questions*

regarding them? (Yes/No is sufficient, or add your questions.)

Organization Phase – prepare a five-page (at a minimum) paper which details a plan to contact, interview and analyze the results of five interviews where twenty open ended questions will be asked, along with describing the parameters of why these individuals were selected.

Elaboration Phase – in this phase a paper will provide the schedule for the interviews and present the twenty (at a minimum) open-ended questions for review. The schedule will include names of the individuals, the time and day of the interview, and whether the interview will be in person or conducted virtually.

Implementation Phase – each of the interviews will be recorded audibly and transcribed. These transcripts will be compiled into a document, along with a brief analysis of the interview process and procedure.

Culmination Phase – a twenty-page (at a minimum) analysis will be prepared which evaluates the transcripts and compares, contrasts and looks for insights that emerge from the interviews. The paper should include a synopsis of each interview, the interpretation of each interview, and an overall analysis of the interviews noting commonalities, differences, and key insights identified. The interview transcripts should also be provided in a single-spaced format, while the rest of the paper content will be presented in a double-spaced format.

Question – Have I correctly understood and described the process?

7. What is your greatest reservation regarding this selected micro-project?

The preparation of the questions is the most important challenge and the opportunity to miss the target. The secondary challenge is correctly identifying the spiritual maturity level of those interviewed so that I can correctly stratify them for analysis. Great care should be taken in the preparation of the diagnostic questions.