

Finding the person you can disciple!

Tony Howeth

1. Pray that God will provide you with a person that you can train and disciple for the kingdom of Christ.
 - a. Jesus prayed all night –God to God—before choosing His disciples. Luke 6:12
 - b. Begin praying now and pray and watch at all times until God gives you a person to train.
2. Watch for the person God wants you to train.
 - a. Ask God for a band of men whose hearts he has touched. I Samuel 10:26
 - b. Look for men that you can call to yourself and train. I Samuel 14:52
 - c. Some will come from our own family as we train our children--Noah and his three sons, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the 12 sons.
 - d. Some will come from our ministry--Moses and Joshua and the other leaders, captains and judges that worked with Moses.
 - e. Some God will miraculously call out and send to you--Eli and Samuel.
 - f. Others will be at work in other jobs and not even in the ministry but God will use you to see them called into His service--Elijah and Elisha.
 - g. Others will give their lives to be trained as in the sons of the prophets.
 - h. Men will be drawn to you as they see God's hand on you and want to be a part of what God is doing in your life and ministry.
 - i. Some will be struggling to find their place and you will be there at the right time to help them--Barnabas and Saul.
 - j. Some will be saved under the ministry of someone else but you can adopt them into your ministry as your son--Paul and Timothy.
 - k. Some will be prepared under the ministry of another to a certain point and then God will send them to you—disciples of John the Baptist that followed Jesus Christ.
 - l. Some will be saved under your ministry.
 - m. The point is God will get you the men to train as you seek to put his plan into

- action.
- n. Your first disciples will come from your family.
 - o. Be actively trying to lead people to Christ and then you can take them on to maturity.
 - p. Find people who are struggling in their personal lives to know what God would have them to do.
 - q. Watch for people in our church that you have a common interest, age, etc. with in order to share life together and you can disciple them.
 - r. You can be sure that God will lead you to the right person to disciple if you are seeking to put His plan into action.
3. Remember that true discipleship is more than a lesson from a book.
- a. It is life on life.
 - b. It is loving them as your family.
 - c. It is investing or pouring yourself into another person.
 - d. It is *with-ness* Mark 3:14.
4. Get the right attitude towards your disciple.
- a. It is more caught than taught. They learn from watching us. I Corinthians 16:10-11, 4:17
 - b. You can't tell them to do what you are not already doing.
 - c. Take them forward at the speed that they are able to go. Genesis 33:13-14
 - d. Have double vision. See them as they are and then see them where God wants them to be. Judges 6:13-18. (How God saw Gideon)
 - e. You cannot lead people where you have not already been nor to do what you have not already done or are doing.
 - f. Have compassion. Hebrews 5:1-4
5. Use the right method.
- a. Allow your disciple to think for himself and to make mistakes.
 - b. Consider what Jesus did with his disciples.
 - i. Luke 10:1, 17
 - ii. Luke 8:22, 25
 - iii. John 6:6

Getting ready to be a Discipler

Austin Gardner

Colossians 1:26, II Timothy 2:2

- Commit the keeping of, to set before (one) in teaching; to set forth (from one's self), to explain, to place down (from one's self or for one's self) with any one, to deposit; to intrust, commit to one's charge.
- I. Realize that discipleship will put you in a leadership relationship with the other person.
- a. We are to be an example. I Timothy 4:12. To be an example means to *fashion, manner, the mark of a stroke or blow, print, a figure formed by a blow or impression; hence a figure, an example; in the technical sense, the pattern in conformity to which a thing must be made; **an example to be imitated: of men worthy of imitation; pattern, for imitation, of the thing to be imitated or, of a thing to be shunned.***
 - b. In discipleship we will be asking people to follow us.
 - i. Ye ought to follow us! II Thessalonians 3:7
 - ii. Paul did things not because he had to but rather to make himself an ensample for them to follow. II Thessalonians 3:9
 - iii. Whose faith follow Hebrews 13:7
 - iv. They were to choose who to follow. III John 11
 - v. Paul begged them to follow him. I Corinthians 4:16, 11:1,
 - vi. They were to be followers of God. Ephesians 5:1
 - vii. They followed Paul and the Lord. I Thessalonians 1:6
 - viii. They followed the example of other churches. I Thessalonians 2:14
 - ix. They should follow the right kind of people. Hebrews 6:12
 - c. The word follow literally means to mimic; follow, to imitate: any one, follower, an imitator."
 - d. Paul commanded them to follow or imitate him and not others. Philippians 3:17
- II. What to do in the actual session
- c. Start with prayer.
 - d. Teach him to read his Bible each day.

- i. Don't forget that you can't ask him to do anything that you are not doing.
 - ii. You will be accountable to him as he is to you.
 - iii. He is to read a passage that is the same one that you are reading.
 - iv. He is to keep a written record .
 - 1. Date, text
 - 2. What the passage says
 - 3. How he can apply it to his life
 - e. Discuss what he has read each day the past week and motivate him to read to get something from the Word each day.
 - f. Have him take notes on all the Pastor's messages and Sunday School so that you can discuss what he doesn't understand. Matthew 13:10-17, 36
 - g. Go over the Bible verse for the week.
 - h. Each week have him memorize 5 books of the Bible until he has memorized all the books of the Bible and can successfully find Bible passages.
 - i. Ask him what he is dealing with or might have a question about so that you can help him from the Scriptures.
 - j. Take the lesson of the week and go over it for the remainder of your time.
 - k. Do not progress until he understands and accepts the Bible lesson.
 - l. You are not in a hurry to cover a certain amount of the lesson. Your goal is to love him and help him in his personal and family life.
 - m. Give him some homework for next week and then have prayer.
 - n. Be sure to work at developing your friendship.
 - o. It is your responsibility to spend time with him at church, before and after so that he can be assimilated into the church.
- III. After about 8 lessons have him seek out his own disciple and begin teaching him.
 - i. You will coach him each week as you help him disciple others.
 - ii. Make him a success and he will love you for the thrill he gets from helping others.
- IV. Get him involved in the ministry of the church.
 - a. Sit with him and his family.

- b. Get him to Sunday School and all the activities of the church.
 - c. Teach him to tithe, get to church on time, listen etc. by your example.
 - d. Ephesians 4:11-12
- V. Remember that the goal is not a series of lessons but to develop a man who can train others also.
- a. Our Goal is to develop leaders of leaders and not just leaders.
 - b. To truly develop a man you must take him from the very basic level to the priority God wants him to have of being reproductive.
 - c. Prepare all to serve God full time and be shocked if they do not.
 - d. Take them as far as they are willing to go.
- VI. Discipleship starts at or before salvation.

