

| Disciple Making |

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

Go and Make Disciples

We have been commissioned. We have been sent. We are to be genuine followers of Jesus in our everyday lives and we are to proclaim the gospel and build into others so that they too can follow Jesus with all of their lives. Our aim in our groups is nothing short of the full acceptance of the call given to the disciples in Matthew 28:18-20.

Teaching Them to Observe All That I Have Commanded

As Group Leaders we take seriously the command to teach others to follow Jesus. We do this in word and deed. We both model and narrate what it means to follow Jesus. We model this by being genuine followers of Jesus ourselves. We point others to the gospel. We practice what it means to be church family. We are everyday missionaries. We repent and confess sin. We put on display what discipleship is. But we also narrate. We teach. We explain "why" we're doing what we're doing as we're doing it. So that we help those who want to follow Jesus to see what it looks like and know why we practice the things we do.

So as a Group Leader you will help create opportunities for your group to join you and your LIT in what it looks like to be gospel-centered community on mission. This is the bulk of what your role is as a Group Leader: to personally follow Jesus and invite others to follow him alongside you in normal everyday life.

The Multiplication of Healthy Groups

Making disciples means making genuine followers of Christ who pursue other people in their daily lives. It involves spurring fellow Christians on toward Jesus and pushing non-Christians closer to beginning their relationship with him. We believe that the best way that we can fulfill this call is through the multiplication of healthy groups. If we are seeing more people meet Jesus and more group leaders trained, then we are actually making disciples. The multiplication of healthy groups is how we fulfill the call placed on us by God. This is the point of everything else we do. We exist as a gospel-centered community on mission for the sole purpose of making disciples of Jesus. If we fail to make disciples, we cease to be the church.

Making New Group Leaders

Training and sending new Group Leaders is the primary way in which we know that we are actually making disciples. As group members grow in their commitment level in your group you can begin to give them more and more responsibility in your group. Eventually you can invite

them into being a Leader in Training or a Disciple Maker. A Leader in Training is someone who wants to begin the process of being trained to be a Group Leader and grow in what it means to train others to be Group Leaders. A Disciple Maker is someone who is willing to commit to staying the in the “second chair” position and does not desire to eventually be a Group Leader. Disciple Makers certainly help lead groups and while they are certainly good examples of what it means to follow Christ; they do not have the desire to fully shoulder the weight of group leading.

LIT Process

Much of the attention of a Group Leader should be given to equipping their Leaders in Training. As a Group Leader you will set aside extra time each month to personally walk with you Leader in Training - check in on them, plan group rhythms, give specific coaching and feedback towards leadership roles. Group Leaders will walk LIT through the LIT Process online and will help sign off on when the LIT is ready to be sent out to start a new group. Let's take a look at this process.

Identifying a Leader-in-Training

- 1) Are they a member?
- 2) Are they consistent?
- 3) Can they be a culture captain?

Do they practice what it means to follow Jesus?

Are they a good example of gospel-centered community on mission?

Do they love Jesus? Do they genuinely repent? Do they serve and care?

Would you want other group members to be like them?

If it was just you and ten cloned versions of this person (or couple) in your group - what would your group be like?

Will they practice the practices with you?

If it's just you as a group leader and your LIT would it be good? Will you reach people?

Invite them in

- 1) They need to be invited in
- 2) They have to commit to

A) Being Consistent in all rhythms

Should already have displayed a high level of consistency

May have to say “you can't skip mission events” etc.

B) Being Coachable

Willing to shore up weakness -

“We need to work on good news v good advice”

“When we do mission stuff you just hang out with our people”

(All LIT training is available to shore up weaknesses. Pick and choose.)

Training Process

As a Group Leader you will set aside time each month to meet specifically with your LIT. Each LIT needs to have consistent feedback and coaching as they help lead your group. LIT's need an opportunity to lead aspects of group life and receive coaching and instruction so that they can grow.

As you meet together you will walk your LIT through the online Leader-in-Training process. Have them work through the Train - Try - Multiply sections and you following up and discussing how that is going in your monthly LIT meetings. Our desire is to provide some of the knowledge, equipping, and practices so that Group Leader's can focus on developing the character and competency of LIT's.

LIT Meeting Outline

As you walk through equipping your LIT you can follow this general outline in your time together.

LIT Meeting Outline

1) Relationship to Jesus

- How is the Bible to you lately?
- How is your prayer life?
- Anywhere you need to repent/believe/be reminded of the gospel?

2) Coaching / Modules / Follow-up

- Check in on any follow up from training
- Any coaching from recent events / "Try" Section
- How have the "Multiply" Section efforts been?

3) Group Good & Bad

- Who is doing well that we need to encourage?
- Who needs to be equipped/empowered to use their spiritual gifts?
- Who is hurting and needs to be followed up with?

4) Mission

- What are our plans?
- How is this going?
- Is there anyone in our group we need to empower/join with?

5) Rhythms Review / Plan

- Group Meeting Time
- Family
- Mission
- LIT

Pray