

Resources for Discipleship

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Books

Used in Sunday School:

- [Discipling](#) by Mark Dever (Crossway)
- [One to One Bible Reading](#) by David Helm (Matthias Media)
- [Just for Starters](#) by Phillip Jensen, Tony Payne (Matthias Media)

Recommended:

- [Growing Together](#): Taking Mentoring beyond Small Talk and Prayer Requests (The Gospel Coalition) by Melissa Kruger (Get free eBook [here](#))

Podcasts

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/lets-talk-podcast/finding-mentor-being-mentor/>

Articles

<https://www.9marks.org/article/journaldiscipleship-according-scriptures/>

Asking the Right Questions in Discipleship

1. What is God teaching you? What is God prompting you to work on?
2. How is your personal intake of God's Word going?
3. Prayer life?
4. Have you been engaged with other believers in fellowship regularly?
5. Who are you praying for and attempting to engage with the gospel?
6. What is discouraging at present?
7. What is your present partnership with the gospel globally?
8. Honestly, how is your personal pursuit of purity at present?
9. Is there anyone you need to forgive?

10. Are you using your spiritual gifts with consistency?
11. Are your finances reflecting Godly stewardship and sacrifice?
12. What area of theology and/or biblical content need development?

2 Timothy Journaling

1. What do we learn about ministry?
2. What obstacles to ministry does Paul describe?
3. What doctrinal truths does Paul emphasize for Timothy?
4. What specific actions does Paul exhort Timothy to engage in?
5. What does this text tell us about discipleship in the local church?
6. Reflect on the character of a disciple:
 - a. Soldier
 - b. Athlete
 - c. Farmer
 - d. Importance of purity
 - e. Importance of patience
 - f. Importance of endurance

How to manage and resolve conflict from God's Word? Part 1

Use Philippians 4:2-8 as preparation for resolving conflict

I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

1. Help people center their identity in Jesus Christ plus nothing: Rejoice in the Lord.
2. Reasonableness can mean gentleness and meekness----not insisting on your way. And The Lord is watching, and He is coming back soon.
3. Replace anxiety with prayer and remember that prayer enables you to trust God with the results of the reconciliation.
4. Write down all the way the other person has benefited you. Think about how much you value the other person.

How to manage and resolve conflict from God's Word? Part 2

Last time we looked at preparing people who are in conflict to get ready to attempt reconciliation.

Philippians 4:2-8.

We need to model and encourage a biblical process for spurring one another forward in our walk with Christ.

Personal Sharpening----Foundations for Church A Culture of Discipleship

Galatians 6:1 - Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

- Restoration is the goal of this personal interaction.
- We have a gospel responsibility to have these conversations with one another.
- Restoration conversations are characterized by:
 - Gentleness
 - Humility

Matthew 5:23-26

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

- We have gospel responsibilities to speak to anyone who appears to be in conflict with us.
- Restoration is more important than attending worship.

Some Practical Thoughts

- This is the kind of sharpening that ought to be part of our culture as a congregation.
- We need to model and train people to speak to the person who needs to be talked to first. We do not run to a staff person or pastor or elder.
- We all need people who can admonish us.
- Can someone easily confront you?

What if the individual attempt at restoration fails?

Matthew 18:15-17

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Steps in the Restoration Process

- Personal Restoration Attempt: Matthew 18:15
 - This must become the culture of the church, or the elders will be overwhelmed with personal reconciliation issues.
 - If repentance and restoration are accomplished the process is complete.
- Personal Restoration Attempt with help: Matthew 18:16
 - If the attempts for restoration and repentance are unsuccessful then help with others can be brought in to assist the process. It is best to take along those already familiar with the facts (“witnesses”), and it is always important to guard against gossip and slander especially if it turns out that you were wrong.
 - More input can provide more wisdom.
 - It is also important to confirm the facts of the issues that have precipitated the restoration efforts.
 - The elders may or may not be involved in this step. The more public the issue, the more acute the sin issue, may involve some elders even at this step.

Using *One to One Bible Reading* by David Helm

1. There are people in your life today who need personal attention, God’s Word, and a context for them to ask questions.
 - a. Non-Christians who are seeking.
 - b. Very new believers.
 - c. Believers who are starting to come back to God and His people.
 - d. Believers who need more training.
2. How would you start meeting with someone to read the Bible?
 - a. Pray about someone that you could invite to read the Bible with.
 - b. Ask the Discipleship Committee <discipleship@stonehillprinceton.org> about potential people that may need this kind of personal ministry.
 - c. Invite someone.
3. Avoid asking people for an unrealistic series of meetings.
 - a. Start with a smaller number of weeks to meet. You can always extend.
 - b. Start with a series of meetings that would allow you to work through a short book of the Bible.
4. What approach should you use in your Bible reading time with someone else?
 - a. Swedish Method
 - i. Read the Bible passage together once aloud.
 - ii. Each of you read it again privately.
 - iii. Look and mark three items throughout the text:
 - Light bulb for an important truth or something that gets your attention.
 - Question mark for something that does not make sense.
 - Arrow for anything that is applicable to the readers.
 - iv. Then, you discuss and share together.

5. COMA Method (page 47-48 in *One-to-One Bible Reading*)
 - a. Context
 - b. Observation
 - c. Meaning
 - d. Application
6. Discovery Bible Study Questions
 - a. What does this text teach us about people?
 - b. What does this text teach us about God?
 - c. If this is true, what specific action should I take in the next 72 hours? (Find something that is measurable)
 - d. What are you going to do differently in the next few days?)
7. For Unbelievers
 - a. Genesis 1, 3, Isaiah 53 plus Romans 5:8 (3 Sessions)
 - b. Genesis 1-12
 - c. Mark
8. For New Believers
 - a. Colossians
 - b. Ephesians
9. For More Mature Believers
 - a. Romans
 - b. Ephesians
 - c. Psalms

Using *Just for Starters*

The Need:

- New Believers
- Not Yet A Believer
- Coming Back to Faith
- Not Yet in A Small Group
- Struggling Believer

Common Misconceptions about One-To-One Discipleship

- You Talk-Mentee Listens
 - You want your mentee to talk more than you in most cases
 - You need to hear them interact with God's Word
- You must know all the answers that your mentee will ask
 - Sometimes the best answer is - "That's a great question, I'll have to get back to you."
- Remember the Parable of the Soils: Mark 4:1-20
 - $\frac{1}{4}$ of the soils produces fruit
 - Work against the discouragement that comes with personal ministry

- Pray for/against the following:
 - Hardened heart/Satan's work
 - Cares of this world
 - Trials
 - Fruitfulness

A Plan:

- One Hour per week
- Mentee does homework before the meeting
- Divide time into three parts
 1. Sharing Life together (20 minutes?)
 - Getting to know your mentee
 - Work
 - Family
 - Background
 - Sharing your spiritual journey with one another
 - Highs/Lows, Praise/Prayer, Joys/Struggles
 - You are modeling to your mentee what it means to live in community
 - You are making this personal for them
 - Asking the Right Questions
 2. Working through the Lesson (35 minutes?)
 - Read the passage together
 - Ask selected questions as you work through the lesson
 - Don't ask every question
 - Suggestions:
 - Always ask mentee to summarize the passage
 - Pick the questions you plan to ask before the meeting
 - Some numbered questions to make sure the mentee understands the text
 - Some think-it-through questions to gauge how well the mentee is able to apply the text
 - If mentee doesn't seem to understand or is answering the questions incorrectly-what then?
 - Ask mentee where in the text are they seeing what they are saying
 - Ask mentee to reread the text
 - Ask them if they have any other questions?
 3. Conclude with Application/Prayer (5 minutes)
 - Pray for your mentee
 - Invite mentee to pray if appropriate
 - Set the next meeting time/place

Trauma Healing

- Guide from the American Bible Society that is part of a trauma healing group curriculum that they offer. This should be a guide for your use to help someone, not necessarily something you would give them directly, though some pieces may be helpful.

<https://cloud.squidex.io/api/assets/thi-beacon/65e6dc18-85ef-4dd1-aabc-4171fabbad27/2016-04-th-companion-a5.pdf>

- Resource on specifically abuse in the church written by Diane Langberg who is a global trauma specialist:

<https://www.amazon.com/Redeeming-Power-Understanding-Authority-Church/dp/1587434385>

- One of the organic ways that discipleship starts to heal trauma is simply your caring and attentive presence with them that serves as a counter example to what they have experienced.