

FOLLOW UP STUDY 5: Discipling

Scripture Memory Verse: **Col 1:28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.**

Objectives: The two main objectives of this study are to help disciples understand the importance of discipling (mentoring) and to inspire them to develop healthy one another relationships.

Discipling is simply the training and learning process of becoming like Jesus. Discipleship and discipling is woven throughout the NT. It's a relationship(s) that has ongoing and open conversations and has actions taken together to help each other become more like Christ. From Matt 28:18-20, church members "teach obedience" to each other through individual and group settings.

Christ Centered Discipling

1 Corinthians 11:1

--In our discipling relationships, Christ is the standard and our lives are examples.

--We need to have the humility and desire to imitate the Christ-like qualities in one another. The foundation and focus of our discipling relationships should always be to be just like Jesus.

Teach & Admonish

Colossians 3:16; Colossians 1:28

Q: What should always be "richly" a part of our discipling relationships?

Q: What is the difference between "teaching" and "admonishing"?

Teaching is to impart skills or knowledge. Admonishing is to warn or notify of a fault; to reprove gently or kindly, but seriously; to exhort; to counsel against wrong practices; to caution or advise; to warn against danger. Both are needed to become mature in Christ.

Proverbs 12:15 The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to **advice**.

Proverbs 13:10 Where there is strife, there is pride, but wisdom is found in those who take **advice**.

Proverbs 19:20 Listen to **advice** and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.

Proverbs 20:18 Plans are established by seeking **advice**; so if you wage war, obtain guidance.

Proverbs 27:9

Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt **advice**.

Q: Who is the real friend? The person who tells you what you want to hear or the person who tells you what you need to hear?

Encouragement

Hebrews 3:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:18

--What all Christians need more than anything else is encouragement.

Q: How often do we need encouragement? Why?

Q: What are some ways to encourage others?

One Another Passages

There are dozens of "one another" passages in the Bible. These passages give simple direction for how Christians should and should not act toward one-another. These passages help govern and instruct our discipling relationships.

- **Hebrews 10:24**—spur one another on toward love and good deeds
- **Galatians 5:13**—serve one another
- **Galatians 6:2**—carry each other's burdens
- **James 5:16**—confess your sins to one another
- **Ephesians 6:18**—pray for one another
- **Ephesians 4:32**—Forgive one another
- **Ephesians 5:21**—Submit to one another

Q: Do you have spiritual friends that you trust enough to allow them to correct, challenge, encourage, serve, etc.?

Q: Do you have these kind of "one another" relationships? Do you actively seek them out for your life?

Important Discipling Practicals

- Have a designated discipling partner and /or group in your life; meet regularly.
- Have helpful and positive "discipling times" with your partner/group: share what is going well; discuss, if needed, what is not going so well and find solutions from the Bible; primarily encourage one another; confess sins when needed and help one another not to be trapped by a sin; share challenges/burdens; share victories; pray together; talk about what you are learning from God; share your faith together; etc.
- Build your friendship by doing things together that you both enjoy and that leave you refreshed and bonded together. Jesus ate, went hiking, went sailing, etc. with those he was discipling. *(End in some prayer.)*