

BECOMING AN INTENTIONAL DISCIPLE MAKER



Discipling others may not require a degree, but it does require a process.
Disciple-makers need to be intentional leaders..



3 KEYS TO BECOMING AN INTENTIONAL DISCIPLE MAKER:

Be an intentional planner
(prioritize your schedule)

Prioritize your schedule:

- Make a weekly time to get together with the person you are discipling. Whether it is for coffee, a workout, or a Bible study -Having a consistent weekly time ensures you are keeping up an awareness of each others lives and what is happening.

Connect often:

- Put an alert on your phone a few times a week to remind you to send a text or make a phone call just to say Hi and check in.
- Add them to your social media accounts, tag them in something that reminds you of them, be sure to comment on or like their posts. This may seem superficial, but it is one of those small things that can have a big impact on someone.
- Put their important dates on your calendar - birthdays, their kids games, their anniversary..etc. It will only take a moment of your time to text or message them about it, but it is amazing how much it can mean to someone when you remember the things they have going in their life. It demonstrates a deeper level of care.

"Greater love has no one than this: To lay down one's life for one's friends"

JOHN 15:13

Be an intentional presence (listening, self-awareness)

Really be there:

- When you do spend time with the person you are discipling, be sure you are really there. Put away or mute your phone, make eye-contact and listen when they are talking, ask them questions about their life, family, walk with God, feelings, struggles..and then listen for the purpose of understanding. Be sure you aren't just waiting for them to pause so you can give them a response. And whatever you do - don't interrupt them when they are sharing.

Be aware:

- Try to keep an awareness of what your body language may be saying about your level of interest in the conversation. Lean in, keep your eyes on them, don't fidget and look around - that indicates boredom and disinterest.
- Commit the things they are sharing to memory, then bring them up in conversations later during the week. This shows you care and want to follow up, it also leads the way to accountability, which is a necessary component of disciple-making.

"My dear brothers and sisters, take not of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

JAMES 1:19

Model intentional transparency (lead by example)

Accountability is vital:

- This is key, and it is not easy - but in order to develop a relationship that goes deeper and that allows room for accountability, you will need to lead the way by being open and transparent.

Become a safe place:

- When you share things you struggle with it can have a huge effect on the person you are sharing with. It lets them know that you are not perfect. It lets them know that they are not alone. It makes them feel safer about sharing their struggles with you.

Develop trust:

- Trust is very important as you enter this depth of relationship with the person you are discipling. Be certain you do not share the things that are said in confidence to you. This is a very important piece of being an example that cannot be overlooked. Trust is slow to be earned but can be lost very quickly.

"A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret."

PROVERBS 11:13



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