

Core Seminars – Christian Living
Discipling
Week 3 – March 15, 2009



Overcoming Excuses and Barriers

Introduction

What are some reasons that a person might give for not engaging in discipling relationships?

1. I don't want to be in a position of "authority."

- a. Our culture struggles with the idea of authority being good.

- b. Jesus' teaching on authority and servanthood.
 - i. John 13:14 – washing disciples feet
 - ii. Matt. 20:25-28 – not served, but to serve
 - iii. John 15:15 – Godly leadership IS love

2. Intentional discipling relationships turn friends into projects.

- a. John 15 and Jesus' definition of "friendship" and "love"

- b. Ephesians 5:1-2 – Christ’s intentional sacrifice as model of love

3. I just don’t want to and I don’t have the time.

- a. Grace – the antidote to self-focus

- b. Discipling as a source of joy not drudgery

- c. Using the teaching ministry of CHBC as a time multiplier
 - i. Attend Core Seminars together and discuss

 - ii. Meet occasionally to discuss the Sunday sermon

- d. Is the problem really time, or prioritization of time?

4. I don’t have anything I can “teach.”

- a. The Gospel is great discipling content (Titus 3: 1-8)

- b. Using the teaching ministry of CHBC for content and your time together for personal application.

5. I’m just not gifted to disciple others.

6. I’m not holy enough to disciple others.

- a. Deal with your own sins.

- b. Remember God’s grace and forgiveness in Christ.

7. Overcoming fears of discipling

- a. Discipling is serious...some fear is good. (Matt. 18:6, 2 Peter 2:1)

- b. Dealing with general fears
 - i. God has a plan to work through his people (1 Cor. 16: 10-11, 1 Cor. 1:25-27, 1 Tim. 4:12)

 - ii. Our humanity should not surprise them

Conclusion

- Disciplemaking is a core end of our salvation experience.

- God is the final source of fruitfulness in discipling

- Biblical discipling leads to holy Christians, in the context of local churches...which exalts the glory of God.

Next Week? Holiness – the goal of discipling