



HANDBOOK FOR SPIRITUAL REPRODUCTION

TIM PARSONS, LEAD PASTOR





This book is dedicated to all of the incredible middle and high school students who have taught me the value of discipleship, and to all of the college students who have studied it together with me.

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FOREWORD

Although many people talk about, study, and even attempt discipleship, most Christians never experience the full joy of it. Discipleship is only truly complete when the person being *discipled* becomes a *discipler*. That's what this book is all about. I hope you will use it to teach many others how to give away the gift you have given them!

STUDY NOTES

Each lesson has the following components:

Introduction to read

Questions to answer

(some of which must be given by the discipler)

Homework section

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You made it! You are now approaching the final stage of your own personal discipleship, and you are preparing to give to others the great gift that was given to you! Many Christians only take and few give back. This book will teach you how to reproduce yourself and make other disciples. I hope it is a never-ending passion for you!

As you begin to think, pray, and strategize about your discipleship goals, ask God to place a couple of friends on your mind that He wants you to pour in to. Pray for these friends daily and begin to plan ways to help them grow. Learn as much as you can about them and build a relationship with them. Write the name of the friends who God is placing on your mind to share with or disciple and do the following activities:

Name:

Describe their family:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Describe their hobbies:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Describe their religious exposure:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List times when they are available:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Describe your plan of action to reach them:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Begin to pray, plan, and then take action. Review the plan of salvation below. If you have not certified with Prepare to Share you should do so immediately.

PREPARE TO SHARE

What are three basic requirements of someone who is prepared to share?

1. Must be a Christian
2. Must live a clean, committed life
3. Must have a concern for lost people

What should you ask someone who approaches you about spiritual matters?

What do you want God to do in your life?

What should you ask someone who comes forward at an invitation?

What did the speaker say that caused you to come forward?

How should you get started?

Let's look into God's Word and see what He promises us!

List the basic plan of salvation with its references:

1. God's promise to those who receive His Son (1 John 5:13)
2. We are all sinners (Romans 3:23, 3:10-12, 5:12).
The payment for sin is death (Romans 6:23a)
3. Jesus Christ paid the price for our sin
(Romans 6:23b, 5:8, 1 Peter 3:18)
4. Agree that my sin is wrong. Agree to allow God to make me into a new person (2 Corinthians 5:17, Psalm 51:10)
5. Believe and receive (Romans 10:9-10)
6. Ask for it (Romans 10:13)

What are three things that must be included in the sinner's prayer?

1. I know I have sinned
2. I believe that Jesus died and rose again for me
3. Come into my life and change me

Why is it important for the person to pray out loud?

So you know that they understand what they are doing.

How can you give them the added assurance of their new salvation?

Remind them of the promise in 1 John 5:13

What are some of the final things you should do?

1. Have them tell you what they just did
2. Fill out a decision card
3. Give them an "I'm a Christian, Now What!?" book and help them get started
4. Tell them all about our church and how they can get involved
5. Introduce them to friends from church
6. Set up a time to begin to disciple them - begin the Discipleship Progress Card
7. Check up on them the next day

It is very important for you to make sure that you are comfortable sharing this plan with your friends. Practice on your own and then take both the written and oral exams so that you can have the needed confidence to share with your friends.

On the next page, I have included a copy of the Discipleship Progress Card for you to review and become familiar with.

DISCIPLESHIP PROGRESS CARD

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Philippians 1:6

Name _____ Phone _____
Discipler _____ Phone _____
Date Began _____ Date Completed _____

“Raising the Baby”

Date:

- _____ Received Christ as Savior
- _____ Baptized/Joined a great church
- _____ Successfully added as a regular attender
- _____ Has had regular personal quiet times for 3 weeks
- _____ Learned to pray/Developed prayer list
- _____ Passed Prepare to Share, written and oral
- _____ Has become a self-feeder in Bible study
- _____ Lifestyle models Christ
- _____ Won first soul to Christ
- _____ Began discipleship of new convert

The Plan

- _____ I’m a Christian, NOW WHT?!?
- _____ The Change of Life
- _____ Growing Up in the Lord
- _____ Searching for Treasure
- _____ A Handbook for Spiritual Reproduction

Instructions: Keep one copy and turn in when complete. Give one copy to your disciple so they can monitor their progress.

CHAPTER ONE

The Basics of Disciple-Making

As Jesus left Earth, the final words He spoke were very important instructions for His followers: "Go and make disciples." Last words are important and these words of Jesus were chosen carefully. Most Christians have never made a disciple; that's why our world is unreached. The most rewarding thing you can do as a Christian is to pass it on to someone else. This book will teach you how.

What is a disciple? _____

What do you think discipleship is? _____

Let's first look at the command of discipleship. The commands that God gives are for us to obey, right? They are not optional! We do not simply get to choose which of them we want to obey; we must obey them all. What does God command us about discipleship?

Look up Matthew 28:19-20 and read it carefully. What are the three commands given to us there about disciple-making?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What do you think each of them means?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Read Ephesians 4:11-13. What does God call all of us to do in verse 12?

Jesus told us to share the gospel with everybody. Did He command us to do something that is impossible? For centuries, Christians have been trying and failing to reach our world. But what if we tried reaching the world the way Jesus told us to: lead a person to Christ and teach them how to lead someone else to Christ? That's discipleship.

Consider this: if you were to lead one person to Christ per week for the next 16 years, at the end of that time, you would have won 832 people to Christ. Pretty good?

If you were to lead one person to Christ per day for the next 16 years, at the end of that time, you would have won 5,840 people to Christ! But even after that, how close are you coming to sharing the gospel with the whole world?

Now think about this: if you just lead one person to Christ every 6 months (very attainable) and disciple them, at the end of the first year, you will have won 6 to Christ (the 2 you won and the 2 each of them won).

And this is what it all adds up to:

At the end of year 2, you will have won 24 people

At the end of year 3, you will have won 96 people

At the end of year 5, you will have won 1,536 people

At the end of year 16, you will have won 6,442,450,944 – that’s nearly the entire world’s population – just because you obeyed Jesus’ command to disciple those you evangelize! Jesus knew exactly what He was talking about.

Think of the Christians you know who are committed to God’s Word and growing in their faith. Now think of the Christians you know who are not really committed or seeking to grow. How do the two groups compare?

Jesus wants everyone to be a committed, growing Christian, but we must be willing to reach people and teach them how to grow in their faith. The world in which we live is very interested in knowing God.

Now, let's make sure we get some vocabulary straight so you will understand the rest of this book.

The PROCESS of discipleship can take two different forms:

- _____
- _____

The STYLES of discipleship can vary:

- _____
- _____
- _____

The TYPES of discipleship are:

- _____
- _____

The TASK of discipleship is the last area. (Refer to Matthew 28:19-20)

THE BASIC PROCEDURE

1. Help a friend to _____.
2. Help them to _____.
3. Teach them how to _____.

List some things you think this might involve:

4. Help them _____.
5. _____ with another.

Chapter Assignments

Look up the following references where the word disciple is used. What do you think it means in that verse? To whom was it referring?

Matthew 8:21

Matthew 10:42

Matthew 27:57

Luke 14:26,27,33

Acts 9:36

The most obvious discipleship relationship in the Bible is that of Jesus with His twelve disciples. See if you can find at least three more in the Old and New Testaments. List the disciple and the discipler.

Have you ever been disciplined? If so, what was the process that your discipler used? _____

Have you ever disciplined anyone? Write about the experience.

NOTES

CHAPTER TWO

Choosing a Disciple

Now that you have a basic understanding of what discipleship is, the command to do it, the need around you, and the terms and procedures, it's time to choose a disciple. The best person to choose is a friend that you have won to Christ or has received Christ through an activity or a program that you brought them to; it is your responsibility to help them grow. Remember, "If you birth a baby, it is your job to raise it!"

If you are still working on winning a friend to Christ, or have come up dry, here are some others to consider when choosing a disciple.

1. _____ for God's direction

Look up Matthew 6:33 and John 15:7. What do they say about prayer?

2. Think about the people that God has put in your life

Read Luke 22:31-32. What do you think this verse is saying?

3. Determine that person's interest in a discipleship relationship. You can do that by:

4. Look for FAT people

F _____ to church and the group

A _____ to meet

T _____

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS

Read Matthew 4:18-22 and paraphrase the story in your own words:

Make a list of several prospective disciples. Start with those who you have led to Christ, those who have come to Christ through your invitation (to an activity, event, church service, etc.), and those who you are trying to win to Christ right now:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Talk about discipleship with each of them and write their response beside their name. Remember to tell them that you won't be starting for another couple of weeks and begin to pray for them each by name.

CHAPTER THREE

Choosing the Material to Use

If you have a desire to follow Jesus' example by discipling others and you've arranged a disciple to meet with, we can now talk about picking the material that you will use. Remember, though, that **discipleship is not simply about a book – it's about a relationship.** That being said, the right materials are helpful in the process of developing someone into a growing Christian. So, how do you choose the right material?

1. _____ the disciple

Their level of learning

_____ Don't know what you don't know

_____ Realize what you don't know

_____ Know it, but have to think about it

_____ Know it without thinking about it

Their stage of Christianity

C _____

C _____

C _____

C _____

C _____

C _____

2. Make sure the material covers the _____

Their understanding of _____

Personal _____

_____ their faith

3. Using the discipleship _____
_____ (p. 7)

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS

Look up the following verses that outline the stages of Christianity and identify which stage corresponds to each verse.

Romans 10:9-13 _____

Acts 16:31 _____

Hebrews 10:25 _____

1 Peter 2:2-3 _____

2 Timothy 2:15 _____

Acts 1:8 _____

Matthew 9:36 _____

Numbers 15:40 _____

Romans 12:1-2 _____

1 Cor. 6:19-20 _____

Take time to review some of the possible books that you may choose to use in discipleship. Here are a few to consider:

I'm a Christian, Now What?!

The Change of Life

Growing Up in the Lord

Searching for Treasure

CHAPTER FOUR

Conducting the Meeting

By now, you have a grasp of the basics of discipleship, how to choose a disciple, and how to decide which materials to use. Let's talk about how to prepare for your first meeting.

The most important aspect of discipleship is _____ with your disciple. You must earn the right to be heard; most people will not listen to you if they do not like or respect you.

Read the story in John 4:3-29. List the techniques that Jesus used to build a relationship with the Samaritan woman:

What are some ways you plan to build a relationship with your disciple?

Another thing to remember is that your first meeting should be a time of _____. During this time, you and your disciple should discern where your disciple is spiritually and talk about a plan of action that would enable them to grow. A good system of evaluation to use is the stages of Christianity (p. 17). Give your disciple an initial assignment in your chosen material.

End your first meeting with a time of _____. The best way to do this is to take a small card and ask your disciple to list things that they need to change in order to grow in their relationship with Christ. Make sure they list both the things that they must stop doing and the things they must begin to do. Close the meeting with prayer.

When conducting each of your following meetings, always remember to:

Build the _____

Take time for _____

Study the _____ together

_____ they have*

***Never make up an answer if you do not know it.** Tell your disciple that you do not know but will find out the answer for them.

The best way to do discipleship is to meet consistently – at the same time and place – each week. You will lose a disciple quickly if you fail to meet regularly.

As you cover the weekly material, keep in mind that your goal is to reproduce yourself through this relationship. You want to create someone who can do for someone else what you are doing for him/her. Remind yourself and your disciple of that!

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS

Take time now to prayerfully plan your first meeting. Write out what you plan to do:

Write out a plan for the next 12 weeks, noting what you will cover and what your goals are:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Material to Cover</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Example:	<i>I'm a Christian, Now What</i> Chapter 1	Make sure disciple knows Christ and understands baptism
Week	Material to Cover	Goal

CHAPTER 5

Understanding Discipleship Better

We have worked our way through the process necessary to spiritually reproduce. Let's review. What are the steps to spiritual reproduction?

1. Win a friend to _____
2. Help them get attached to your _____
3. Lead them through _____
4. Teach them how to _____ God's word
5. Model a _____ for God and a _____ lifestyle to them
6. Teach them _____
7. Help them _____ a friend to Christ
8. Teach them how to _____ that friend

Then start over with someone else!

Let's look a little deeper into what discipleship really means using Jesus as our model.

1. Jesus chose _____ those who were _____
2. Jesus gave out his _____ and _____ clearly in the beginning

Read the following passages and write out the expectations that Jesus laid out:

Matthew 10:37

Matthew 16:24

Matthew 19:16-22

3. Jesus gave of His time _____
4. Jesus disciplined by _____, _____, and _____.

Read Mark 4:2-20. How did Jesus disciple His followers in this passage?

5. Jesus allowed the disciples to be _____ and taught them through their _____ and _____.

6. Jesus focused on His _____ with the _____, not allowing for any _____.

Look up Matthew 26:39-45 and paraphrase the story:

Read Matthew 14:23. How did Jesus refocus Himself?

7. When Jesus' task was completed, he _____ _____

_____.

In his book, *The Ministry of Nurture*, Duffy Robbins gives two characteristics of true discipleship:

Real life discipleship is what happens _____

What do you think that means? _____

-
- Real life discipleship is marked more by _____ than by _____

What do you think that means? _____

We must have a greater concern for what our disciples will do, the decisions they will make on their own, and whether or not they can reproduce themselves than we do for our discipleship meeting itself. Meetings and monuments are important, but they are not the ultimate goal!

Discipleship can be summarized by the following pattern:

I _____, you _____

We _____

You do, I _____ to a new _____

CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS

Let's work on your philosophy of discipleship. What do you believe discipleship is? _____

What is God is telling you to do and how is He telling you to do it?

Pray and ask God to guide you as you take this step of personal growth.

I hope God has impressed upon you the importance of obeying His command to disciple others. It was His final instruction to His closest followers. I hope you will master these skills and teach many others to do so, and that you will become a discipler and a disciple-maker for life!



