

New Path Mentor Guide

Thank you for saying yes to being intentional about disciple making! The investment you are making in followers of Jesus is fruit bearing. Jesus' method of making disciples was intentional and personal. This material is designed to imitate the way of Jesus in disciple making. I wanted to provide you some tips and suggestions for being a mentor.

First, it is important that you and those you are discipling own a Study Bible. I strongly recommend you use the ESV Study Bible. It is one of the most comprehensive and cost affordable. Each week's lesson involves Bible reading, and the ESV Study Bible will help you be prepared for your mentoring sessions. It also gives you free access to an online version when you purchase a hard copy.

One of the key goals of this material is to help people learn to read the Bible in a devotional way. The weekly discussion is centered on the lesson's Bible reading. From the start, establish a pattern that material must be read and engaged with in order for you to meet each week. The disciple should have written down his or her observations from the readings plus bring questions for you.

This may bring some fear and concern for you, but don't let it. You are not expected to be an expert. If you don't know the answer, teach your disciple how to go find answers. Ask your pastor or elders, another mature believer, or search it out using other resources. A key lesson here is for the disciple to know everyone has questions and needs to search out answers.

Point out the top of the page with the Bible reading and emphasize the things to look for in the reading. Here are some tips and emphasis for each lesson and study.

Lesson One - Reading God's Word.... Emphasis - How to read God's Word and discover God

- Take considerable time to walk through a Study Bible. Show them what the beginning of each book of the Bible gives them.: author, date, theme, purpose, occasion etc. Take them to the back of the Study Bible to show them maps, concordance and so on. Show them the extra materials in the ESV Study Bible called Biblical Doctrine and Overview. In general, walk them through how to use their Bible.
- The four questions will be the method used each time as they read. The Observation, Interpretation, and Application sheet may be used, but also may be too much for some. We want new or newer believers to learn to read their Bible to see God and His gospel.
- Make sure to note the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit emphasis on this week's study. As they read about who God is we want to connect the Trinity.

Lesson Two - Jesus..... Emphasis - Who is Jesus and how did he live

- This study will emphasize who Jesus is and the method Jesus used to make disciples. Discuss direct and indirect teaching by Jesus. How do these verses show his humanity and Deity?

- You want to note how Jesus used “invite,” “include,” and “invest” in his life. Begin to help the disciple think of people he or she could identify and use this with.
- Talk about some of the passions and priorities Jesus had in the verses from this week. Also connect how Jesus taught his followers these —note it is not in a classroom!

Lesson Three - Your New Identity.... Emphasis - I am a child of God, accepted and secure

- In this lesson you want to emphasize that you are accepted through Christ and now declared a son or daughter of God.
- Be aware that those you are discipling may have had a bad family experience. You want to highlight the extravagant love of God and His acceptance of them.
- Make sure to spend extended time on the Luke 15 passage about the prodigal son. Approach this passage looking at who the father is and what are his attributes as well as the son's return.
- Make sure to discuss that being a follower of Christ means you are connected to other followers.

Lesson Four - Prayer.... Emphasis - Interacting with God, speaking and listening

- Spend time talking about prayer in your life and how you pray.
- Help the disciple understand praying is not accomplished by using big words and that God desires for us to come to him intimately.
- Go over the page on praying using Scripture and use it in your time together this week.

Lesson Five - The Gospel.....Emphasis - Understanding the gospel and sharing it

- Review the four parts of the gospel. Take your time and help them understand how this is the storyline of Scripture.
- Make sure you help them know the gospel means good news and distinguish between the gospel books and the gospel message.
- This week they will start to learn about their story. There is a worksheet for them to use on how to tell their story. Take time the next couple weeks to help them write down their story. Make sure it is centered around and includes the gospel.
- Take time to share your story and how you have had opportunities in the past to share it. Emphasize that their story is unique and something natural for them to share. They may be tempted to make their story sound better or worse; guard against that.
- Help them understand that their story is something they won't have to defend or debate. It is their story, God calling to them, and them responding.

Lesson Six - Next Steps.....Emphasis - Christian community, baptism, and having a church home

- Make sure to discuss the importance of baptism. You may need to include an elder in this if you feel like there are questions you cannot answer.
- Share about your Christian community. Share how important being connected is.
- Help them find a church, and be willing to visit churches with them if possible.

