

key elements of discipleship: part 3



Give

1. Know what God says (2 Tim 3:15-17; 2 Pet 1:3-4; Ps 119:105) – your counsel is only as good as it is biblical
 - Be familiar with the background of a passage
 - Be familiar with the context of the passage (immediate context & larger context)
 - Know the meaning of important words
 - Strive to know the author's intent
 - Know the dynamic of change, putting off and putting on
2. Know how to teach what God says
 - Use appropriate outlines or studies
 - Teach in a way that motivates people to action (James 1:22)
 - Differentiate between God's directive and man's suggestions
3. Know that they understand what God says
 - Use any legitimate teaching tools – bible studies, cds, books, etc.
 - Have them teach you what they have learned
 - Have them share with others what they have learned
 - Get feedback on how that passage applies to their situation
4. We must challenge people with the need for a commitment to change
5. We must help them see the mercy and grace of Christ (Heb 4:14-16; Ps 32; Rom 3:24-25a)
6. We must press for a commitment with biblical motivation (2 Tim 2:20-22; Matt 7:5; James 1:20)
7. We must handle a variety of resistance (1 Thess 5:14) – know how to handle various situations
8. We must also secure a commitment to doing homework (James 1:22)
9. We must remember that the heart of the issue is the issue of the heart

Assign _____

1. Plan your agenda – what do they need to know to change their motives, thoughts, speech and behavior
 - Ex. happiness in life
 - Ps 1:1-2 – joy and happiness in God’s Word
 - Ps 32 – dealing with unconfessed sin for happiness
 - John 15 – abiding in Christ through obedience breeds happiness
2. Plan for change – what are the appropriate put offs and put ons
 - Heart desires – put off idolizing comfort and happiness and put on worshipping and glorifying God (Luke 10:27)
 - Thoughts – put off thinking that you deserve to be happy or must be happy and put on thinking what God wants to accomplish in you and through you (1 Cor 10:31)
 - Speech – put off grumbling and complaining and put on thanking and praising God (1 Thess 5:18)
 - Behavior – put off going into hiding and put on repentance and one anothering (Rom 12:10; Heb 10:24-25)
3. Plan for temptation (1 Cor 10:12-13; Prov 22:3; Ps 119:11)
4. Plan for failure (1 John 1:9)
5. Plan realistically
 - Requires daily dying (Luke 9:23)
 - Change is a process (2 Cor 3:17-18)
6. Have them integrate biblical change into all of life (2 Cor 5:17; Heb 13:21)
7. Have them develop and practice the spiritual disciplines
8. Have them integrate themselves into Christ’s body (Eph 4:16)
9. Have them minister God’s Word to others (Matt 28:18-20)
10. Criteria for determining when integration has occurred
 - Person understands and interprets problems and solutions biblically.
 - Decrease in frequency and intensity of temptation.
 - Experience of victory where and when person had previously failed.

- Failures understood and handled biblically.
- Person's self-evaluation and analysis.
- Reports of others.
- Person becomes counselor, discipler, servant and evangelist.
- Continued progress over time.

11. When the counselee understands what caused his problems and the biblical way of handling them.
12. When the counselee becomes comfortable with the new response pattern(s).
13. When the counselee begins to practice the new pattern(s) automatically.
14. When the counselee has failed and can diagnose the reason for the failure and make plans for correcting the problem.
15. When the counselee can state specifically how he has changed.
16. When the counselee has been tested and has been victorious in the test.
17. When others have verified the changes in the counselee.
18. When the counselee starts to share with others what he is learning in counseling, effectively becoming an informal and spontaneous counselor to others.