

How to Disciple a New Believer

Some Questions to Ask First

Who should be disciplined?

A new believer or a believer who wants help growing spiritually

Who are potential candidates to disciple a new believer (providing they are equipped)?

Parents

A sibling (brother, sister)

A family member

A pastor

A friend

A concerned church member

How do you know when to disciple a new believer?

When you lead someone to the Lord, when you encounter a new believer with whom you have a “connection”, when you encounter a believer who wants help growing spiritually.

How do you know when you are equipped to disciple a new believer?

When you are born again and ...

When you are living a life that is obedient to God’s word and ...

When you have a concern for the spiritual condition of new believers and ...

When you make efforts to specifically prepare yourself to disciple new believers.

How does a new believer know when to be disciplined?

They usually do not know.

How do you know when to begin the process of discipling a new believer?

When you see a need and the new believer accepts being disciplined.

What resources should you use in discipling a new believer?

The Bible and ...

Prayer and ...

Personal experience and ...

Spiritual discernment

How do you prepare a plan or approach in discipling a new believer?

Explain that the Bible, being the word of God, is the foundation for the discipling.

A booklet written for a new believer can supplement the discipling process.

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A customized plan prepared by you as the mentor specifically prepared for the new believer.

A booklet written for a new believer plus your own customized comments and observations.

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What Bible texts do you use in discipling a new believer?

Bible texts that are basic and foundational for a believer.

How do you know when to stop discipling a new believer altogether?

When it becomes obvious that the new believer has made the training a part of his/her life.

When the new believer decides to stop the discipling process.

When the mentor sees that there is no longer a positive response to the discipling process.

When the mentor believes that there is a danger of the new believer becoming dependent on the mentor.

What is the goal in discipling a new believer?

To take him/her another step forward in his/her Christian walk.

How do you know when you have reached the goal in discipling a new believer?

By personal observation and feedback from the believer and others (seeing spiritual fruit develop).

How is discipling different from a Sunday School class?

Discipling

Purpose is to change a specific lifestyle.

Purpose is to provide new information for change.

Training.

Is usually one on one.

The mentor has experience discipling.

The new believer's attitude is to learn a lifestyle change.

Mentor is personally involved in the person's life

Mentor is very transparent with new believer

Mentor is involved with great intensity

Mentor is sharing life skills

Sunday School Class

Purpose is to provide information with application.

Purpose is to provide new information.

Teaching.

Is usually a small group.

The teacher has experience teaching.

The student's attitude is to learn.

A classroom situation

Teacher may be transparent

Teacher may not be as intensely involved

Teacher is hoping for lesson application

How is discipling similar to a Sunday School class?

Discipling

Uses the Bible.

Uses an experienced mentor.

Purpose is to share new information.

Requires feedback from the new believer.

Sunday School Class

Uses the Bible.

Uses an experienced teacher.

Purpose is to share new information.

May allow feedback from students.

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