

Rolling Up Our Sleeves and Engaging

DiscipleShift, Session Eight (Chap. 8)

What do we actually equip people in the church to do?

3rd Key Shift: From Program to Purpose

“We want churches to make the shift from program to purpose, from activities that just draw crowds or impart information to activities that take place in relational environments where discipleship occurs” (p. 152).

“If we study Jesus’ method for making disciples and then study how the early church repeated this pattern, we discern a blueprint that we can follow as well” (p. 153). We call this SCMD!

Discipling people is a _____!

SHARE (stages: dead/born again/infant)

--incarnate Christ’s life in a lost world (how God shows up)

“Loving relationships are the _____ to communicate the gospel and begin the discipleship process” (p. 156).

--invite people to respond to Christ

Engel Scale

Conversion—as a work solely of the Holy Spirit—is a moment with a process behind it.

Insightful model, but its decision theology is to be avoided! God chooses us, we don’t choose Him!

“When you win the _____, you win the families” (p. 161).

Discuss: Where have you detected spiritual progress in someone as the Engel Scale features?



The Engel Scale

CONNECT (stage: children)

--help new Christians associate with other disciples

--emphasize consecration, obedience to God

“Sometimes the key connections will be in the more intimate discipling groups of two to four men or women in same gender groups” (p. 159).

(train to) MINISTER (stage: young adult)

--demonstrate service to others (Jesus showed what service looked like)

--delegate service opportunities (Jesus gave his disciples something to do)

--supervise the progress (Jesus made his disciples accountable)

“Along with your successes, they’ll need to see your shortcomings and failures, how you handle the mistakes you make” (p. 160).

“Every new believer needs to know that it’s okay to share their _____, this is a key part of the growth process” (p. 161).

“People learn best by doing and disciple makers need to give people a time and a place when and where they can participate in doing something, or they will soon get bored and walk away” (p. 161).

(release to) DISCIPLER (stage: parent)

--_____ is the expectation (fruitfulness!)

“It is difficult to envision someone who has been truly saved by Jesus and truly loves lost people but does nothing to help people come to Christ, and be all that he or she can be. It is hard to see those who avoid involvement in spiritual parenting as having mature biblical love” (p. 162).

“The best indicator that someone is mature is not that they are making disciples but that they are making disciples who have gone on to be disciple makers themselves. A mature disciple maker can point to several people whom he has disciplined who are discipling others” (p. 164).

T / F It’s the role of every believer to make disciples.

T / F No one is ever completely mature.

How do spiritual parents relate to each other? What do they need from each other?

Some Corrections for this Chapter:

p. 158: I would express the born again aspect as having been baptized, in addition to faith and repentance that Putman mentions. (This is not a book we are reading for its sacramental insight!)

p. 163: Matthew 28:19-20 are not Jesus’ last words of his earthly ministry because Jesus did not speak the Great Commission (mountain in Galilee) at His ascension (Mount of Olives, Jerusalem).