



Discipleship Groups

Discipleship groups are vital to our effectiveness as a student ministry. These will serve as our lifeline to the students that come through our doors. Ideally, discipleship groups should number around five students. However, we may have larger groups at this time due to the number of sponsors. Only those students interested in being part of a discipleship group will be part of this endeavor.

Discipleship groups will meet once per month. These meetings will have two essential components: spiritual development and fellowship. Some possibilities for the spiritual component might be reading through a book together or reading through a book of the Bible accompanied by a discussion. Discipleship leaders may schedule any variety of activities for the fellowship portion with his/her group. For example, bowling, putt-putt, watching a movie, a pool party, or a sleepover all would be possible ideas for activities.

To be a disciple (*mathetes*) meant to be a learner. Disciples were those who:

- directed their minds to something
- were engaged in learning
- were attached to a person
- answered a call to partnership in service

When Jesus called the Twelve, they comprehended that Jesus was not inviting them to either a conference or an occasional coffee. Jesus was inviting them to purposeful proximity, to be taught in the context of relationship.

Jesus walked with His disciples for hours along dusty paths. Today, we anonymously drive by each other at 65 mph on our way to work.

Jesus Himself gave us a mandate to disciple in Matthew 28:19-20, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

The charge to the disciples to make disciples necessitated reproducing the discipleship process that they had learned from Jesus Himself. We will follow His model.

