



CORE
DISCIPLESHIP

PEOPLE · PROCESS · A MULTIPLYING CHURCH

From Church Attenders to Disciples Who Make Disciples

Integrating Core Discipleship into the Life of Your Church



LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES.



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The Discipleship Gap

Many people attend church, and some get involved, but few become disciples who make disciples.



Where are people getting stuck?

Good intentions are not enough. We need a clear and reproducible process.

It's not just about how many attend, but how many become and make disciples.

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Why Isn't Discipleship Happening?

Many churches want to make disciples, but there are real barriers.



People are busy

Life is full, and discipleship gets pushed aside.



Not enough disciple-makers

There aren't enough people equipped to disciple others.



Churches have programs

There is often activity, but not a clear pathway that leads to multiplication.



It's not a priority

Many see discipleship as important, but not urgent.



People don't know how to disciple

Many believers have never been trained or shown how.



Comfort and complacency

It's easy to stay where we are rather than step into the mission Jesus gave us.

Good intentions are not enough.

We need a simple, relational, and reproducible process that develops disciples who make disciples.





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What Did Jesus Model?

Jesus reached the crowds, invested in a few, and sent them to make disciples.



Crowds

Jesus preached to large crowds, and many came to faith.



A Few

Jesus invested deeply in a smaller group of disciples.



Sent

Jesus trained and sent them to make disciples who make disciples.

*“Come, follow Me,
and I will make you
fishers of men.”*

MARK 3:13-14

*“Therefore go
and make disciples
of all nations...”*

MATTHEW 28:19-20

**Jesus didn't simply tell us to make disciples.
He showed us how.**

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A Biblical Pattern for Making Disciples

From Jesus, to the early church, to Paul — the same disciple-making pattern.



MATTHEW 4:18–22
MATTHEW 28:18–20



ACTS 2:42
ACTS 6:1–7



2 TIMOTHY 2:2
EPHESIANS 4:11–16

Scripture is our authority.

Jesus is our model.

The early church is our example.

Paul is our encouragement.

Making disciples is our mission.



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Church Integration

Core Discipleship does not replace what the church is already doing. It helps connect it.



Large gatherings help people hear the gospel and come to faith.

WORSHIP
PREACHING
EVANGELISM
OUTREACH EVENTS



Smaller groups help new believers grow in their faith and belong to a church family.

SMALL GROUPS
SUNDAY SCHOOL
BIBLE STUDIES
FELLOWSHIP



Core Groups of 3–4 help believers become disciples who make disciples.

DISCIPLESHIP
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
TRAINING
SENDING

A healthy church needs all three strands working together.

From the crowds, to growing believers, to multiplying disciples — this is how we see churches become healthy, missional, and lasting.

“...so that the body of Christ may be built up...”

EPHESIANS 4:11–16

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The Missing Strand

A healthy church needs all three strands.



CROWD

Calls people
to Christ.

—
EVANGELISM
PREACHING
LARGE GATHERINGS

+



CELL

Forms people
in Christ.

—
SMALL GROUPS
BIBLE STUDIES
RELATIONAL COMMUNITY

+



CORE

Multiplies people
for Christ.

—
DISCIPLE-MAKING
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
MULTIPLICATION

*What if your church already
has the first two strands?*

You may not need another ministry.

You may need the third strand.

*Stronger
together for
a greater impact.*

Core Discipleship

Simple. Relational. Reproducible.

*As iron sharpens
iron, so one person
sharpens another.*

PROVERBS 27:17

Core Groups are:



3-4
people



Same
gender



Relational



Scripture-
centered



Accountable



Reproducible

The purpose:

*To help ordinary disciples become
disciple-makers who make disciples.*

Core Doesn't Replace **Your Church**

It strengthens what you are already doing.

KEEP WHAT IS WORKING.

Core can fit alongside:



Sunday
worship



Small
groups



Bible
studies



Missions



Evangelism



Pastoral
ministry

Core doesn't compete with the church.

**CORE CONNECTS THE CHURCH'S
DISCIPLESHIP PROCESS.**

*Different
ministries.
Same mission.*

*"Now you are
the body of Christ
and each one of you
is a part of it."*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

What Integration Can Look Like

A simple pathway from gathering to multiplying.

*And what you
have heard from
me in the presence
of many witnesses
entrust to faithful
people who will be
able to teach others
also.*

2 TIMOTHY 2:2



Start where you are. Build with the people you already have.



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From Disciple to Disciple-Maker

A pathway of growing responsibility.

*“But grow in the
grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.”*

2 PETER 3:18



DISCIPLE

Follow.



CORE LEADER

Grow.



TRAINER

Lead.



DIRECTOR

Multiply.

*It's not about a title. It's about spiritual maturity
expressed through increasing responsibility for others.*

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Start Small

You don't need to change the whole church.

*"Do not despise these
small beginnings, for the
Lord rejoices to see the
work begin."*

ZECHARIAH 4:10



One pastor/
leader champion.



A few faithful,
committed men.



A few faithful,
committed women.



One or two
Core Groups.



Train them.



Let them become
the beginning of a
multiplying culture.

It starts with **a few.**



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Imagine a Church **Where...**



Discipleship isn't another program.



Every believer knows their next step.



People are being intentionally disciplined.



Disciple-makers are being developed.



Core Groups are multiplying.



The church is making disciples who make disciples.

*“And let us consider
how we may spur one
another on toward love
and good deeds.”*

HEBREWS 10:24

Discipleship becomes part of the
culture—not another activity on the calendar.

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The Invitation

What is your next step?



Could your church begin with one Core Group?



Could you identify a few people who are ready to become intentional disciple-makers?



Could Core become one strand of your church's existing discipleship process?

Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples.