

Basic Elements of Christian Discipleship Training

By Dave Batty

A. Difference between birth and living

Physically – not too hard to bring a new child into the world

- at least – man's part

- a lot more pain for the woman but still – 9 months and it's done

But raising a child to become a mature adult – more than 9 months.

Spiritually – not too hard to bring someone to the point of salvation

- Evangelism – a separate workshop on this topic

But raising that new Christian to the point of spiritual maturity!

- that is quite a process

- not identical for all new Christians

- depends on special needs

Physically not enough to bring baby home and give them a sheet of instructions

- food

- clean clothes

- bathroom

- have a great day

- we are quite busy with our own lives and work

- have a great life!

Police would soon arrest us for negligence.

Spiritually

Do we give the new Christian a Bible and say, “God bless you? We are glad to have you in the family of God.”

Question: Would God arrest us for negligence on behalf of the new Christians in our church?

B. Life Training

TC ministry – getting them to stop using drugs is not too hard. But to put on a whole new way of thinking – that’s quite a challenge.

Colossians 3:1-17

Ephesians 4:17-5:21

Phil. 2:5 – put on the attitude of Jesus

My part versus God’s part

Matthew 11:28-30 – come to Him

Romans 12 – whole chapter

(Danger here: Where do new Christians look to see how to put off the old man and put on the new man? They look to older Christians as examples – you and me.)

C.3 Basic Areas of Discipleship Training

Need for balanced growth in all 3 areas.

1. _____ life style

-love, kindness, patience, qualities that describe Christian life. 2 Peter 1:5-8

2. Ministry of Christian _____

Ephesians 4:11-16 – especially vs. 12 & 16

-Appropriate ministry for new Christians

-Evangelism – have friendships

-everyone is gifted

Romans 12

1 Cor. 12 – esp. vs 18 – God has arranged the parts, just as he wanted them to be

Ephesians. 4

3. Personal _____ solving

We sometimes fail to understand the complication of past sins

Don’t slap a “super-spiritual” bandage on problems that need real solutions.

D. People are in search of _____relationships.

- discipleship is a call to personal relationship
- not done with books and video tapes alone
- we often describe being a Christian as having a personal relationship with Jesus

E. Focus is on _____

- The critical focus of discipleship training is personal application
- conclusion of Sermon on the Mount – Matthew 7:24-27
 - Wise man and the foolish man – in common – both heard the truth
 - difference between them – one applied it – the other did not.

Difference between Education and Discipleship

Education		Discipleship
Head	vs	heart
Knowledge	vs	Application
Understanding	vs	Commitment
Letter of the law	vs	Spirit of the law
Legalism	vs	Life & Light

Philippians 3:14 Paul - I press toward the mark of the high calling of God

Hebrew 12:1-2 Lay aside every weight and sin that so easily entangles and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us – let us FIX our eyes of Jesus.