

How do I start to become an expert on Christian discipleship?—Answers

By Dave Batty

Introduction

What makes one an expert?

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.

See Teacher Notes for Suggested answers:

Characteristics of an expert on discipleship

We need to use the Great Commission to provide the priority for us to become an expert on Christian Discipleship. Matthew 28:19-20

1. An expert lover

A 1 Corinthians 13 kind of lover

John 13:35 All men will know you are my disciples if you love one another. (NIV)

2. You have a comprehensive understanding of the principles of discipleship.

You are skilled in the trade, not simply gifted.

2 Timothy 2:15 – Study to show yourself approved to God.

When you become an expert at Christian discipleship, you understand the process of discipleship

- A. What is discipleship
- B. How it works
Not simply laying hands on a person & praying
- C. Why it works

3. A discipler is a facilitator

They know how to provide an atmosphere for healing & growth.

You are an expert at helping others learn how to apply God's truths in their lives.

Difference between an expert doer and an expert at teaching others to do it.

4. A discipler is an expert encourager

You can see undeveloped potential.

Mark 5:1-20

Excellent at planting seeds of hope.

Do you understand what is appropriate at this level of maturity?

1 Peter 2:1-3

Hebrews 5:11-14

1 Corinthians 3:1-3

What are you doing to encourage others today?

5. An expert at discipleship works for balanced growth

This issue will be covered in greater detail in the course: **Basic Elements of Discipleship Training**

To be Christ-like is to be balanced.

Satan wants us out of balance.

You can be an expert in your ministry and also be out of balance from God's point of view.

Three components of balanced growth:

A. Learning the Christ-like lifestyle

B. Practical ministry

C. Deal with their life-controlling problems

6. An expert of discipleship sets a powerful example of what it means to be an committed Christian.

Matthew 5:16 – Let your light shine.

- A. So men can see your good deeds.
- B. And praise/glorify your Father in heaven

1 Corinthians 11:1

7. An expert discipler really cares about his/her relationship with the person being disciplined.

Luke 13:34

Conclusion

If you are at expert at Christian discipleship:

You understand the process of discipleship

- A. What is discipleship
- B. How it works
- C. Why it works

What are the areas where you need to focus on learning the discipline of being a discipler?