

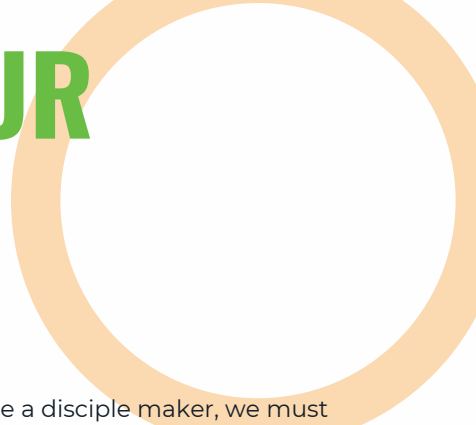


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# MULTIPLY

A DISCIPLE MAKING GUIDE

# FINDING YOUR PEOPLE




## Who do I disciple?

Disciple making begins with us. In order to be a disciple maker, we must first be disciples ourselves. We can only pass along what we have learned and experienced. Before we begin the process of discipling and investing with others, we must first take inventory of our life. Are we walking with Jesus? Are we growing in knowledge and love of Him daily? Is our life looking more like His? Once we answer yes, we can move into the next step - finding potential disciples.


One of the ways we begin identifying disciples is by finding people around us who might be open to discipleship. We call these our VIPs. VIP stands for very important person, and are the 2-3 people around you that you want to intentionally invest in over these next few weeks and months. VIPs can be anyone - friend, family, neighbor, or coworker. They just need to be someone you have regular contact with, who is yet to walk fully with Christ, and who you have a sense of compassion and care for. You may sense a particular burden for your VIP, they may just be someone you are close to, or it may just be someone you know that you desire for them to be in a relationship with Jesus. It is best to have 2-3 - you may not disciple all of them at once, but based on your current life stage these are the people around you want to invest extra time and energy into for the purpose of helping them to know Christ.

Take a few moments now to identify your 2 or 3 VIPs.




Name

Their relationship to me



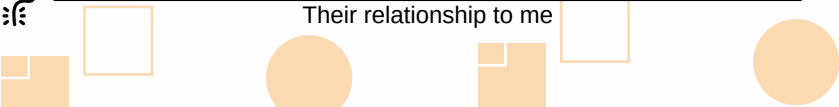
Name

Their relationship to me



Name

Their relationship to me



# VALUES OF DISCIPLE MAKERS

How can our lives be open to make disciples?

## Prayer

One of the best ways to be inspired to share the Gospel with your neighbors, friends, or family is to begin with prayer. As we put a name and a face to the people we pray for, there is a profound shift in how we view sharing our faith. Our hearts are softened toward those we're praying for, the Spirit of God begins to reveal the needs of people close by, and as our love and compassion grow, we begin to see opportunities for action right in front of us.

Prayer must be something that is prioritized and a consistent practice. And it comes most alive when we make it a part of our personal and family rhythms. You can start by committing to pray for your VIPs every day this series.

## Others

Have you ever heard the phrase "Invite six and bring one"? This is one way we can think about investing in others and making disciples. Bringing someone to church can feel like an overwhelming first step. But invitations don't have to be scary.

A culture of invitation highlights the value of putting others above our own interests. It is about being a person who opens their lives to people that might not ever walk into a church building. We regularly talk about inviting people to church, but you don't have to start there. Maybe the invitation is to coffee, or your home, or on a walk or hike. Someone might not accept an invitation to church, but everyone is looking for a relationship. A culture of invitation begins with open lives and open homes to people who may be different than those currently engaged in the church. How can you invite your VIP into a deeper relationship this week?



# VALUES OF DISCIPLE MAKERS

How can our lives be open to make disciples?

Fun



A third value that can inspire us to share our faith is to make it fun! We can do this by celebrating the process and not just the outcome. What we celebrate is what we repeat. As we continue to hear and share stories of radical life change and big steps of faith, we can also share and celebrate the stories of the small steps along the way.

When it comes to others meeting Jesus—we have a small part to play. We pray, we share, we invite, and we love, but God does the heavy lifting and moving of hearts through the work of the Holy Spirit. As we take time to celebrate and share—even before we see an outcome (or regardless of the outcome), we remind ourselves, and get to be reminded by others that evangelism is an adventure.

**How does my personal discipleship to Jesus impact my VIPs?**

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**Of the 3 Discipleship values, which is a strength for me? How about a weakness?**

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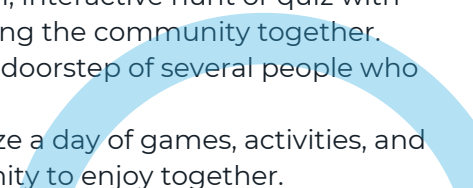
Adapted from Life.Church and Alpha





# WAYS TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

## Practical Ways to Make a Difference

- **Prayer & Encouragement Conversations** - Keep your eyes open for opportunities to ask “Can we pray for and encourage you?” Offer to pray for people’s needs and share the love of Jesus.
  - **Share Your Story** - Create a space where you can share your journey of hope, transformation and healing despite tough circumstances.
  - **Coffee Shop Conversations** - Invite someone to the Branch for coffee and a relaxed chat about faith.
  - **Letters of Hope** - Create a station where people can write encouraging notes to others.
  - **Support Local Schools** - Provide treats or thank-you gifts for teachers and staff.
  - **Give Flowers to Caregivers** - Bring joy to nurses, doctors, and caregivers who are working.
  - **Gas Station Blessing** - Give out small prepaid gas gift cards or clean people’s car windows while they refuel.
  - **Water and Snacks** - Hand out a bottle of water and some snacks to those who are working outside
  - **Handmade Card Delivery** - Groups can deliver handmade cards to those you know and don’t know: local businesses, community centers, or shut-ins. with personal messages of hope and encouragement to distribute to those in your community.
  - **Sidewalk Chalk Artists** - Use colorful chalk to create positive messages, drawings, or Scripture-related art on sidewalks in high-traffic areas. This can spark conversations with passersby.
  - **Park Clean-Up** - Grab trash bags and gloves to clean up a section of a local park. As you work, engage with people enjoying the park and offer a friendly hello or greeting.
  - **Scavenger Hunt** - Organize a fun, interactive hunt or quiz with prizes to engage families and bring the community together.
  - **Goody bags** - Drop them on the doorstep of several people who you want to bless.
  - **Host a Family Fun Day** - Organize a day of games, activities, and crafts for families in the community to enjoy together.
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# MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

As you connect with others, you'll likely have moments where conversations could go deeper. That can feel intimidating or scary—you may be thinking, What if I say the wrong thing?—but it doesn't have to be.

Spiritual conversations don't need to be forced or awkward. When led by the Holy Spirit, they can feel natural and even enjoyable.

The key is to have meaningful conversations—talks that go beyond surface-level to real thoughts, feelings, and experiences. This kind of connection creates trust and opens the door to deeper spiritual moments. Sharing Jesus is more about loving, listening, and inviting than persuading.

## 3 Ways to Let Conversations Go Deeper

### 1. Build Trust Over Time

Deeper conversations usually grow out of consistent, caring interactions. Show genuine interest, listen well, and create a safe, judgment-free space.

### 2. Weave in Faith Naturally

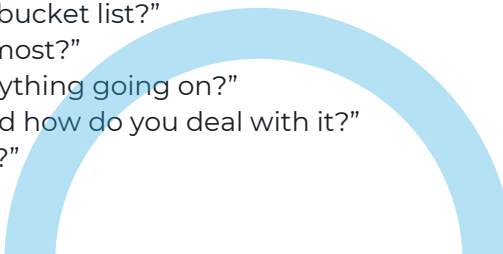
Mention faith as part of everyday life:

- “I heard something at church that stuck with me...”
- “I was praying about...”
- “This podcast really helped me think about...”
- These small moments can lead to bigger ones—no pressure, just honesty.

### 3. Ask Thoughtful Questions

Be curious and caring, not pushy. Let people share at their own pace, and don't feel the need to correct everything. Love them as they are.

Try asking:

- “What's something still on your bucket list?”
  - “Who's influenced your life the most?”
  - “How are you feeling about everything going on?”
  - “What's one regret you carry, and how do you deal with it?”
  - “What's been helping you lately?”
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# WHO ARE YOU WALKING WITH?

## How do we equip every believer to be a disciple maker?

The answer might be simpler than we think. You don't need to have all the answers or a theology degree. Discipleship is "walking with people on an intentional relational journey." If you know just a bit more than the person you're leading, you're qualified.

With this framework there are four goals in disciple making:

- Restore what's been lost
- Repair what's broken
- Prepare someone for their future
- Train them to fight spiritually

Discipleship isn't about being an expert, it's about being available. You don't have to be perfect - just present.

Discipling others isn't a leadership strategy, but rather a call to every believer.

## Next Steps

1. Who of your VIP's are you intentionally pouring into right now?
2. Who has God placed near you, not just for friendship, but for formation?
3. How can you identify and celebrate the God gifts in others?





# INTENTIONAL DISCIPLE MAKING

## Who are you intentionally discipling?

If you're a follower of Jesus, this is the top task that He has left you here on earth to do! Do not disqualify yourself from this calling. According to Jesus, making disciples is for every believer, even if you're brand new to following Him. So prayerfully jump in, and trust that along the way the Spirit will mature and develop you in the skills you need.

So if you are ready to step into the call to make disciples check out some steps below.

## Next Steps

- **Begin with Prayer**
  - **Love God - How can you help your disciple grow in their love for God?**
    - Invite them to Church
    - Share your story
    - Ask appropriate questions about faith
  - **Connect with Others - How can you help your disciple continue to build relationships?**
    - Invite them to your group
    - Invite them to your home
    - Make mutual connections to allow other Christians to speak into their life
    - Provide loving accountability
  - **Discover Your Purpose - How can you help your disciple discover who God has made them to be?**
    - Celebrate the gifts you see in them
    - Ask questions discovering what they enjoy
  - **Make a Difference - How can you help your disciple invest in the lives of others?**
    - Encourage your disciple to get involved serving (inside or outside church)
    - Help them identify someone they can begin discipling
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