

DISCIPLING

starter pack



First Edition, January 2018

Introduction: What is the point?

You may think that there has been a lot of talk about discipleship and discipling in CrossCulture. Well, part of it is intentional. We want to bring a point across. The point is this: if you call yourself a Christian, you need to be serious about discipleship (following Jesus) and discipling (helping others follow Jesus). Christian discipleship and discipling are fundamental aspects of the Christian walk. It is not surprising therefore that one of the major goals of CrossCulture is to have every member of the church be equipped and engaged in discipling relationships. That includes you and me.

This document aims to explain and unpack exactly what we mean by this. It is written by fellow CrossCulture church members, for members of the same body.

It is especially for those of us who are:

- i) Fuzzy as to what discipling actually is (*Is teaching my children about God called discipling? If I am already attending a life group, do I still need to do discipling?*)
- ii) Looking at engaging in a one-to-one discipling relationship (*Who do I approach and how do I do it? Am I really fit to disciple someone?*)
- iii) Starting out and would like some guidance and encouragement (*How do I help someone develop a prayer life? What books can we read together?*)

We have pitched this document at a level to help all of us get started, and we have tried to be as practical as possible in each section. We trust that you will find it encouraging and helpful. We want to see a culture where it is normal for church members, out of love for Christ and for one another, to take the initiative to build relationships with other members with the deliberate aim

of doing them spiritual good. We make this our point, because we believe it is the culture of a biblically healthy church (Ephesians 4:15). May the Lord help us!

Growing together in Christ,

The Discipleship Ministry Team
CrossCulture Church of Christ 2018

All feedback welcome at discipleship@crossculture.net.au

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1. Disciple, discipleship and discipling - what do you mean?

What we mean by the words

Nowadays, disciple is not a word we commonly use outside the Christian context, so we can become confused as to what it means. But the word 'disciple' is used more than 250 times in the Gospels and the book of Acts, compared to the term 'Christian' which only appears three times in the Bible! It is therefore imperative that we understand what it means.

Disciple – the root word of 'disciple' means 'learner'. Essentially, a disciple of Christ is (i) a follower and learner of Christ, and (ii) a fruit-bearer. If we call ourselves a Christian, we are a disciple of Christ.

Jesus is serious about what it means to be His disciple, so must we. What are some traits of a disciple of Jesus? In the Gospels, Jesus describes a disciple of Him would be:

- Learning to be like Christ Himself (Luke 6:40)
- Utterly devoted to Him (Luke 14:26-27, 33)
- Obeying Him (John 8:31)
- Loving others (John 13:34-35)
- Bearing fruit (John 15:8)

Discipleship is the process of following and learning to be like Jesus as his disciple. Christian discipleship is summarised in Mark 8:34 as denying ourselves, taking up our cross, and following Him. The Holy Spirit helps us in our transformation of becoming more like Christ.

Discipling is the act of helping other Christians be better disciples of Christ. It is inseparable from disciple-making ("make disciples of all nations... *teaching them to observe* all that I have commanded you", Matthew 28:19-20). The Bible urges all

Christians to be active in helping fellow believers in their spiritual growth.

We see that **discipleship** and **discipling**, in a strict sense, refer to different things. But in casual contexts, those two terms are often used interchangeably.

What discipling can look like

Discipling can take several forms:

i) One-to-one versus group settings

When talking about discipling, most of us think of **one-to-one discipling** relationships, in which two persons from church meet up to read the Bible and pray for each other. But discipling can happen in **group settings** too. For example, you could be meeting up with two church members in the same work industry to help each other proclaim Christ better at work. Meeting in a life group regularly, studying God's Word, encouraging each other and praying together is a form of group discipling too. Discipling is simply the intentional act, out of love, of helping other Christians follow Jesus better.

ii) Formal versus informal settings (pre-agreed versus occasional)

Formal discipling, or pre-agreed discipling, refers to relationships in which both parties commit to meeting up regularly to help each other be better disciples of Christ, usually with an agreed structure and frequency to the meet ups. **Informal discipling**, or occasional discipling, refers to relationships where no such formal agreement has been made, but the intention is present. An example of an informal discipling occasion would be when you have an impromptu catch up with a church member who is struggling with a particular issue, and you remind him or her about a passage from the Bible and then pray together.

We focus on **one-to-one formal discipling relationships** in this document, because it is one of the most effective ways to help another person profoundly in their spiritual growth. *But we want to emphasise that discipling is about the attitude, not the form it takes.* Many of the principles mentioned in this document can be applied to other forms of discipling relationships. The form of discipling we do can vary according to our phase of life, but as Christians we are always called to be involved in discipling. We discuss some reasons in Section 2.

2. Why bother with discipling?

There are at least two important reasons for this.

1) Making disciples was one of Jesus' priorities during His time on Earth. He commands disciple-making to be our priority too.

When Jesus was on Earth, his first and foremost mission was to head towards the Cross as the perfect, obedient sacrifice to atone for our sins, to redeem us from our sins and from God's wrath (Mark 10:45). Secondly, it was to make disciples. Jesus focused a lot of His attention on making disciples. We see this when we read about how:

- Jesus prayed before selecting His twelve disciples (Luke 6:12-13), then personally invited people to follow Him (Matthew 4:19, 9:9, John 1:38-43).
- Jesus spent much personal time with His disciples, teaching them and showing them who He is (for example Matthew 13:10-52, 16:13-17:8, John 11:1-27, 13:1, 21:1-14, Luke 11:1).
- Jesus spoke much of what being His disciple meant (refer Section 1).
- Jesus calls His disciples to make disciples too. When He called Andrew and Peter to follow him, He called them so that they might be 'fishers of men' (Matthew 4:19) – to make disciples for Christ! When He ascended to heaven, His last command for His disciples was to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). Not optional.

Jesus was serious about disciple-making during His time on Earth, and is serious for us to be serious about disciple-making during our time on Earth.

2) The Bible has many commands for us to encourage one another in our faith. This is essentially discipling.

The idea that Christian discipleship involves building up other believers towards maturity (i.e. the act of discipling) is found throughout God's Word. Just to list a few examples, with our emphases for you to consider:

- “*Encourage* one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- “[Christ] we proclaim, *warning* everyone and *teaching* everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.” Colossians 1:28
- “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, *teaching* and *admonishing [i.e. rebuking, warning, advising]* one another in all wisdom...” Colossians 3:16
- “I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and *able to instruct one another.*” Romans 15:14
- “*Speaking the truth in love*, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body *[i.e. the church]*, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow *so that it builds itself up in love.*” Ephesians 4:15
- “*Exhort [i.e. encourage, urge]* one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.” Hebrews 3:13

- “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you...*” Matthew 28:19-20

It is clear that one of the main concerns of the New Testament writers is that all the Christians in the various churches would be active in helping one another follow Christ.

You will notice too that from the above examples from Scripture (and others we have not listed) – while there are teachers, elders and pastors who have leading responsibilities in declaring God’s Word in the church – there is a recurring command for *every* Christian to minister the Word to one another; it is not just the job of our pastors or life group leaders. In fact, we read in Ephesians 4:12-13 that *all Christian ministry is for building up the church towards spiritual maturity.*

What do you think about these two reasons? This world is full of distractions, but how are we faring in obeying our Lord in this area? May the Lord help us!

3. How can I get disciplined?

Wanting to get disciplined (in a one-to-one formal relationship, refer Section 1) is a great start. This intention to dedicate an allocated time to grow in the knowledge of Christ should then be followed through with some tangible steps.

- i) **Pray:** God sees the heart and will honour those who genuinely seek after Him. So, before you even think about who would be suitable to disciple you, it's important to commit this intention unto the Lord. Pray that the Lord will grant you the humility to be a learner and pray that He will guide you to the right discipler to journey with you during this stage of your life.
- ii) **Observe:** Have a mental shortlist of individuals whom you look up to as someone who is more spiritually mature than you. Who would you like to learn from? Who do you think you can imitate as he or she imitates Christ? It's important to be objective in your observation and to ensure the benchmarks are of Biblical basis (1 Timothy 3:1-8).
- iii) **Make it known:** If you have someone in mind whom you would like to meet up with, humbly ask if he or she can journey with you for certain period of time as your discipler. You can say something like this: "I am looking for someone to help me grow in Christ. Would you be willing to meet up with me to read the Bible together?"

If the person is unable to meet up with you, do not be discouraged. God is in charge. Keep praying and looking out!

If you can't find someone, let your church circle know about your intentions. This may include your fellow life group members, particularly your life group leader, pastors and/or the discipleship ministry team.

The fear of being committed to someone should not be a barrier. The length of the relationship, the frequency of meetings and duration of each meeting should all be discussed upfront so that expectations are clear. Of course, there is always room for review throughout that period once rapport has been established. You've got to be in it to experience it, so let's just do it!

4. Who should I disciple?

It's fantastic that you want to start discipling someone; the church is full of people wanting to grow and become better followers of Jesus. Because there are so many people, you might feel overwhelmed as to who you can start discipling. Here are three pointers to help you start:

- i) Firstly, you would want to think of discipling **someone within your local church** (i.e. someone who goes to CrossCulture). There is nothing wrong with meeting up with a Christian who doesn't attend your church, but there are advantages in discipling someone from your local church, besides loving the local body of Christ. Practically, this makes more sense in terms of convenience and time. On a more spiritual level, it helps if the other person is following the same teaching series in church and is under the same church pastoral team.
- ii) **Pray** – pray for your own heart, and pray that God will guide you to someone whom you can invest in for His glory.
- iii) A potential disciplee should be **Faithful, Available and Teachable** (or FAT for short). In other words, someone who is committed to wanting to grow in Jesus, someone who recognises the importance of taking time out of their schedule to read the Bible with someone, and someone who is humble and willing to be transformed by the Word.

Chances are, if you're ready to disciple someone, there would be people around you who would fit these criteria. Take a look in your life group, ministries you serve in, or the people you spend time with at church. For example, take notice of those who are growing faster than others in your life group. Or someone who is showing signs of FAT (refer above) in your church circle. When

you approach them, explain to them your intention, the commitment required, and ask them to pray about it. If they say no, that's fine also. The main thing is to be vigilant to any opportunities which may arise.

Lastly, for one-to-one discipling relationships, we should only engage in discipling **members of the same sex** (close family members such as spouse and children are an exception). Simply put, our hearts are deceitful, and we would be wise to maintain a clear conscience as much as we can.

5. What are some key components in discipling?

Discipling can be as simple as reading the Bible and praying together with another person with a view of bringing believers to spiritual maturity in Christ (Colossians 1:28). However in essence, the key components in discipling are **three-fold**; namely:

- **Teaching** – imparting the word of God (Colossians 3:16)
- **Training** – imparting skills for life and ministry (2 Timothy 2:15, Psalm 78:72)
- **Building** – imparting character and godly convictions (1 Corinthians 11:1, Hebrews 5:14 -6:1a)

Teaching

The discipler's first role in a discipling relationship is that of a teacher – giving instructions, explanations and guidance for godly living. This is best done through good Bible studies together or reading the Bible together with meaningful discussion on the Word. Teaching should include formal aspects like a Bible study and informal aspects like sharing life experiences and allowing your disciple to witness your life in action.

Training

The second component of discipling is training and a discipler's role is now of a coach/trainer. At this stage, the discipler says, "Now you do it and I'll observe". Basic principles of training include the following:

1. Tell him/her why
2. Show him/her how
3. Get him/her started
4. Keep him/her going
5. Teach him/her to reproduce.

An example of imparting the skill of "Daily devotion with God or the Quiet Time" to your disciple:

1. Why – Do a bible study on why we need to feed on God’s word daily.
2. How – Show him/her a method of doing Quiet Time. E.g. using the daily bread or using the booklet by the Navigators entitled “7 minutes with God” or show him/her how you do your quiet time.
3. Get started – Meet up regularly with him/her to do the quiet time together.
4. Keep going – get him/her to share thoughts from his/her time with God alone in the word.
5. Reproduce – help him/her to teach others on how to do quiet time.

Building

The ultimate test of Christian growth of a disciple is not how much he knows the scripture or how well he prays or memorizes the scripture but how his life reflects the life of his master, the Lord Jesus. Growing in God-centeredness and Godliness is the key. Imparting character as the third component of discipling requires **ministering life-to-life**. It is a relational concept of one life personally touching another in building godly character by intentionally imparting **values, passion and vision**. Building character is more caught than taught. The disciple models the life of Christ and challenges the disciple to imitate him (1 Corinthians 11:1). The whole discipling process moves away from a program/study to the impact of a transformed life lived out before the disciple. Helping your disciples develop spiritual disciplines and habits of the heart is the start of this process.

6. What, where and how of one-to-one discipling?

What should actually happen during one-to-one discipling meetups? As you can imagine, there is an incredibly diverse range of possibilities. This is because the *form* is not important, but rather the *function* (refer Section 5). Here are some starting pointers:

Where to meet up

Meeting at a café for a coffee or at a restaurant or food court for a meal is perfect when starting out, provided it isn't too loud or busy. For those who are married and/or with children, inviting the other person to see how you conduct life at home can be a great blessing for him or her. Please however exercise common sense and caution before you do so!

How often to meet up

Generally, every fortnight is a good period between meetings. If your disciplee is showing faithfulness and growth, and you have the capacity, you could meet up more frequently for a period of time to build solidly into each other's lives. Any longer than a month may make staying up to date in each other's lives more difficult.

What to do when meeting up

The first thing to mention is that God's Word must be central to discipling meetups. Both the discipler and disciplee sit under the authority of the Word.

If we keep in mind the three key components of discipling – **teaching, training and building** (refer Section 5) – it may be helpful to consider four ingredients in your meetups to maintain a balanced diet over time:

- i) **Practical truth** – This usually involves some form of study of God's Word. Some examples:

- Does your disciplee know and understand the fundamental Christian doctrines? *Lessons on Assurances* by NavPress or *The Blueprint* by Matthias Media may be good places to start.
- Systematically working through the Bible is always a good idea. One suggestion is to work through the Psalms. Being the 'songbook' of the Bible, the Psalms provide a deep insight to the various authors' personal praises, cries and laments to God. Praying through the Psalms together is a great idea.
- The gospels or New Testament letters are easy to start with too. You could work through them using the COMA (**C**ontext, **O**bservation, **M**eaning, **A**pplication) method.
- You could read and discuss a good Christian book together. But if the Bible is all we need to live and to know God, why do we need to read other books? Simply put, we can also learn much from solid Christian authors who know the Bible better and are wiser than us. Your disciplee might be struggling with certain sins, or they might want to find out more about certain aspects of the Christian life. Good Christian books can provide guidance to these topics.

ii) Pertinent issues – Real and current life issues come up without us planning for them. Dealing with them means examining them – and the underlying issues of the heart and of character – through the lens of the Scripture (Hebrews 4:12). What does the Bible say? Are our underlying beliefs and attitudes in alignment with God's Word?

iii) Personal questions – What does your disciplee want to know? We need to allow opportunity for our disciplee to raise questions in their journey to maturity, even if we may not have the answers (which then may require us to do some additional thinking and study to answer!).

iv) Progressive relationship – All of us need to be listened to, taken seriously, understood and accepted. This requires trust and love, which involves two-way communication, spending time together, doing activities together, and serving each other. Too much time on Practical Truth can leave someone starved for authentic relationship. Remember too that values and passion are more caught than taught.

In general, catching up, reading the Bible and then praying with each other over coffee usually covers all four aspects! But remember these are just a guide. Be sensitive to where God is working. Don't forget the goal of discipling – which is to help one another be better disciples of Christ!

7. I don't think I am ready to disciple someone.

We will always feel insufficient in some ways. It can be an uncomfortable or even scary feeling. Consider the following reasons why we may feel insufficient to disciple someone:

I don't have time

A common refrain from engaging in discipling is that we have other things we need to do, which can even include other Christian ministries. Two quick points about this:

- i) What we usually mean when we say we don't have time for discipling is that we don't have time to engage in one-to-one formal discipling relationships (we discussed formal and informal discipling relationships in Section 1). This can be true, and appropriate, in certain phases of our lives.
- ii) If we think about it, *all Christian ministry is really about helping others know and follow Jesus better* (we argued for this in Section 2). That is, if you are involved in any Christian ministry, you are involved in Christian discipling.

In other words, if we are Christians, we should consider our social spheres of influence and how we are being intentional in making disciples in those spheres. Remember discipling does not necessarily have to take the form of one-to-one relationships. Discipling can happen informally and in group settings too. For example, this can (and should) include our ministry team members, our church lunch friends, and/or our grandchildren.

I am afraid

The element of fear is subtle but pervasive. What are we afraid of? Are we afraid of people looking down on us? Are we afraid of "messing up" someone's life?

Discipling others is not based on our authority, but Jesus' authority (Matthew 28:18-20). Remember it is Jesus whom we want others to follow, not us! Both the disciple and disciplee sit under the authority of the living Word. A fatal mistake is to think that our wisdom and authority matters. That leads to pride, disappointment and frustration. Our attitude must be "He must be increase, and I must decrease" (John 3:30).

I don't feel mature enough or worth imitating

Many of us don't feel mature enough. There are many areas in our life that we don't think is worth imitating.

However, if we consider the reasons for our call to discipling (discussed in Section 2), we are reminded that we engage in disciple-making not because we are mature, but because Jesus wants us to make this our priority. Part of God's amazing plan is that He chooses to work through us in our imperfect state. Jesus grants us the resources. That way, we get the help we need, and God gets the glory. In some ways, too, we meet up to encourage and pray for each other *exactly* because all of us need the encouragement to follow Jesus better!

I don't know how to disciple

Firstly, we would love to help! Here are some suggestions for you to get started:

- i) Approach someone in church to be disciplined. This way, you observe and learn directly how that person disciplines you, which you can then apply to help someone else. This model of "*spiritual reproduction*" is a Biblical model (Psalm 78:1-4, 2 Timothy 2:2, 1 Thessalonians 1:5-9, amongst other Scripture references).
- ii) Section 5 of this document breaks down some key components of discipling. Section 6 describes what a one-to-one formal discipling relationship can look like practically.

- iii) We have a short-listed some resources at the end of this document that will be very helpful for you. Please consider them.
- iv) Speak to your life group member, one of the pastors or elders, or one of us in the Discipleship Ministry Team to discuss this further.

Remember that a major goal of CrossCulture is to cultivate a culture of discipleship and discipling in all of us. We are all working together towards this as members of the church body!

8. Should I disciple someone forever?

Our discipleship with the Lord Jesus and discipling of fellow brothers and sisters never cease until we are in heaven, but formal discipling relationships with one another can come to an end for various reasons. It is good for both the discipler and disciple to evaluate how things are going at regular intervals, to bring to discussion any issues, expectations, and suggestions. Reasons why a formal discipling relationship may end include:

- i) **Goals of meeting up have been met**
- ii) **Role of the discipler has changed** – the disciplee may have reached a stage of maturity where they no longer need weekly Bible studies with us. The discipler's role in this case may shift from a teacher or coach to a collaborator or counsellor, where less formal meetups may be sufficient.
- iii) **Life situations are now different**
- iv) **Difficult reasons** – we are not naïve to the fact that there can be tough problems that may necessitate a formal discipling relationship to end.

You *will* encounter issues in your discipling journey! Issues can be related to the disciplee, the discipler, the nature of the relationship (dependence, attachment, authoritarianism, inappropriate sexual attraction), spiritual dryness, spiritual attacks, different learning styles, or wrong perspectives. Obviously not all problems will mean the discipling relationship cannot continue. We cannot address all the potential scenarios here, but please discuss issues that arise with a mature Christian (we encourage all who are discipling to be disciplined too). The books on discipling under the Resources section deal with difficult issues which you may find helpful. Remember that much prayer, patience and love is essential in helping someone grow (Colossians 3:12-17, 2 Timothy 4:2).

Discerning when a formal discipling relationship should cease because of a difficult problem requires wisdom. In ending a discipling relationship, always pray for the help of God's Spirit for love and involve your Christian community. Honesty is important too. Describe the perceived problem from your viewpoint without being accusatory. Explain why you think you can no longer serve the person well as a discipler. Suggest another suitable discipler, if available (ask the potential new discipler first!). Finally, do not be discouraged. This experience helps in your personal maturity. Although you may not be able to help the person in a formal discipling relationship now, you may be able to help him or her in the future in some other capacity.

Like all relationships, discipling relationships can be messy, but the fruits of investing in someone's life for eternity are encouraging and rewarding. For many, it would only seem natural to maintain contact with their disciples even after the formal discipling relationship ends. This is where meaningful informal discipling begins.

9. How can informal discipling look like in my ministry?

All Christian ministry is really about helping others know and follow Jesus better. That is, if you are involved in any Christian ministry, you are involved in Christian discipling. Besides caring for the people you are ministering to, it is also important to care spiritually for your ministry members and help them grow in Christ, to equip them to be better servants and more effective in ministry. This applies to both ministry leaders as well as fellow ministry members – we can all do our part to help our fellow labourers for the Gospel grow in Christ.

This happens mainly in two ways: **pastoral care** and **ministry mentoring**. Ministry leaders have to be intentional in building up their ministry members spiritually. This can include making time for sharing devotions and praying for one another during ministry meetings, making time to meet up with members individually to find out how they are doing spiritually, and being intentional about sharing or teaching spiritual truths. There is also a responsibility as people in ministry to model Christ to one another, especially as leaders – to be humble, faithful, teachable and gentle, with a servant-heart. People are influenced not just by teaching and prayer, but by the examples of other people they serve alongside in ministry.

Besides the pastoral care described above, discipling can also include mentoring for ministry, where the leader seeks to impart both the skills and the heart for the ministry they are involved in. Examples include:

- a heart of worship and purity in music while also teaching practical music or worship-leading skills,
- a heart of compassion and empathy towards those in need while sharing best practices for how to minister to the needy,

- a prayerful and courageous heart for evangelism while sharing methods for communicating the Gospel,
- a passion for the truth in teaching or apologetics, while sharing tips for asking good questions to provoke deeper thinking,
- a heart of humility and obedience when serving in small things as well as big plans for the glory of God.

In these sorts of meetings, the ministry leader communicates how their ministry fits into the bigger picture of God's kingdom, and models with their own life how to pursue God's calling in ministry. They also help the disciple discover and obey God's call to ministry, and encourage them in the use of the gifts God has given them.

Appendix: What resources can I use?

Courses run by our church

We run these courses regularly. Please enquire at discipleship@crossculture.net.au or watch out for announcements.

Introduction to Discipling: Help One Another Grow in Christ

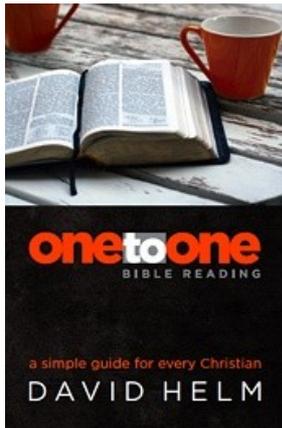
One of CrossCulture's major goals is to have every church member equipped and engaged in discipling relationships. But what does this mean, and is it achievable? This is a 2 hour session that provides an overview of what we mean by discipleship and discipling, and what is involved. There will be plenty of discussion time and opportunities to ask questions. Every church member is welcome.

The Adventure of Discipling Others

This 3-module, 4-sessions-per-module course is based on the workbook of the same name (refer Workbooks section below). It seeks to impart a solid biblical vision for disciple making, skills for life-to-life ministry, a reliance on God's resources, and provides a learning atmosphere in the context of a community of disciplers for mutual encouragement and accountability. Those who desire to help others become established as disciples, as well as small group leaders who want to add a more focussed discipling component to their small groups will benefit from this course.

Books about discipling

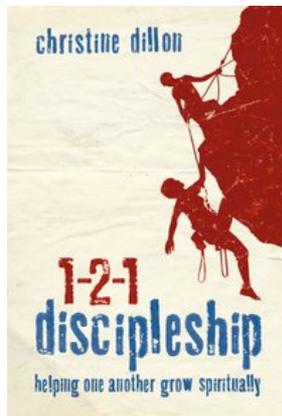
These books can easily be purchased from a Christian book retailer (such as Koorong), or online from the publisher's website (such as Matthias Media). For some books, we may have some copies available. Please enquire at discipleship@crossculture.net.au.



One-to-One Bible Reading: A Simple Guide for Every Christian, David Helm

This simple short book is very readable, practical, and encouraging. You could finish it in one sitting one afternoon. You may remember it was recommended by our pastoral team for the whole congregation in 2016, and remains highly recommended if you haven't read it. It includes a

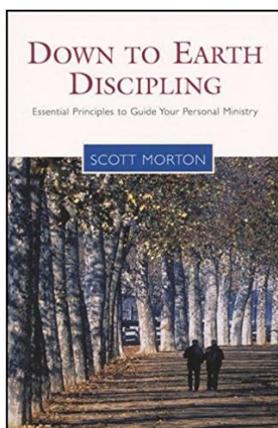
sample COMA questions for the various types of books in the Bible. We have copies available, please enquire at discipleship@crossculture.net.au. - Joseph Sia



1-2-1 Discipleship: Helping One Another Grow Spiritually, Christine Dillon

This is an excellent book for those who take discipling seriously. Dillon's treatment of the subject is thoroughly biblical, pastorally sensitive and eminently practical. It's not a naive book – it deals clearly and frankly with problems that can arise in discipling others, thus hopefully saving the diligent reader/discipler from some of the

pitfalls. Dillon's experience in other cultures makes this book more readily usable in different cultural settings. – Pastor Sam Reeve

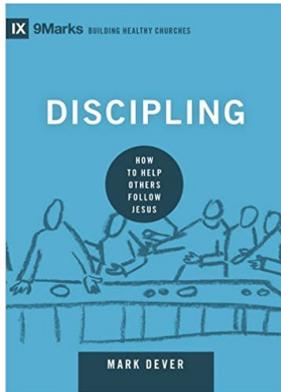


Down-to-Earth Discipling: Essential Principles to Guide Your Personal Ministry, Scott Morton

This is indeed a down to earth book on discipling. It's a practical, friendly workable guide to everything you need to know about discipling. It breaks out discipling into simple, manageable steps, based on biblical principles. You could think of it as a “discipling for

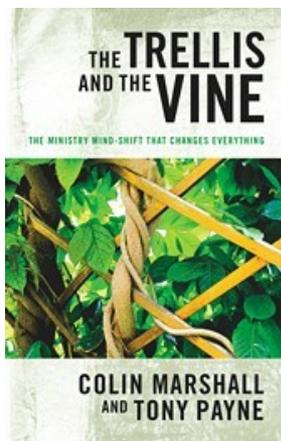
dummies” book yet it is full of guidelines and lessons that will enable you to have an exceptionally rewarding discipling

ministry. Topics such as “Discipling from the Heart” and “Jesus’ 9-point checklist on discipling” give valuable lessons for both the novice and the experienced discipler. – Chin Min Lian



Discipling: How to Help Others Follow Jesus, Mark Dever

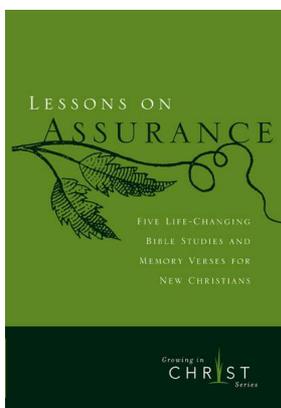
The self-explanatory title tells you what you are exactly going to get in this short book by Mark Dever. Dever explores the what, where and how of discipling others, focusing on the premise that discipling is simply helping others to follow Jesus. – David Chen



The Trellis and the Vine: The Ministry Mind-shift that Changes Everything, Collin Marshall and Tony Payne

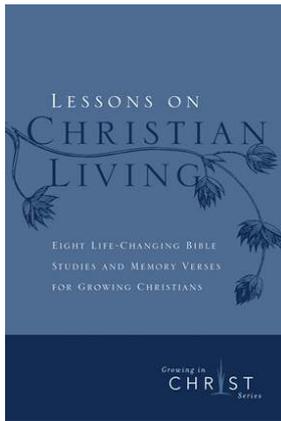
Marshall and Payne use the trellis and vine analogy to illustrate the relationship between the church’s structures (groups, programs, activities) and its goal (to make and nurture disciples). Rather than discussing the nitty-gritty details of discipling or disciple-making, this book provides important big-picture mind-shifts for the jaded church-goer, for the person whom all that comes to mind about church is groups and activities. – Joseph Sia

Workbooks to use in discipling



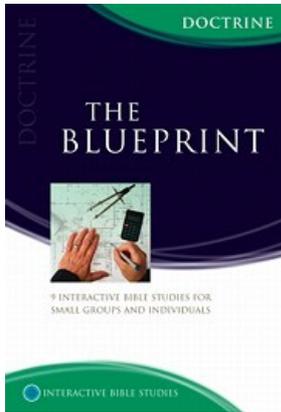
Lessons on Assurance: Five Life-Changing Bible Studies and Memory Verses for New Christians, NavPress

Lessons on Assurance presents five short Bible studies on passages of God’s promises: assurance of salvation, answered prayer, victory over sin, forgiveness, and guidance. It is an excellent book for new Christians to help get them started and to build a good foundation.



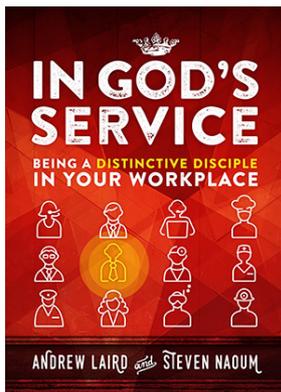
Lessons on Christian Living: Eight Life-Changing Bible Studies and Memory Verses for Growing Christians, NavPress

Designed to follow on from Lessons on Assurance, Lessons on Christian Living presents eight short Bible studies on major scriptural principles. Learn how to put Christ first in your life and rely on His strength. These studies also help you recognize the importance of the Bible, love, giving, the church, good works, and witnessing. This workbook is useful to help the young Christian grow in maturity.



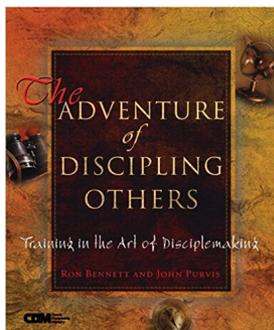
The Blueprint, Matthias Media

This workbook looks at the interlocking biblical themes at the heart of Christian doctrine, concerning God, mankind, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, salvation, resurrection and the life to come. The Blueprint invites you to interact with these great truths by investigating key Bible passages and answering questions about their implications for our lives.



In God's Service: Being a Distinctive Disciple in Your Workplace, Andrew Laird and Steven Naoum

Co-written by Andrew Laird of the Life@Work program of the Melbourne City Bible Forum, this is an excellent short workbook for those looking to be better disciples of Christ in their “secular” work. The ten studies cover motivation, the nature of work, difficulty, love, service, integrity, humility, contentment, speech and rest in the workplace. It is realistically written for the Australian context, and for the worker whose time is limited! We have some copies available, please enquire at discipleship@crossculture.net.au. - Joseph Sia



The Adventure of Discipling Others: Training in the Art of Disciplemaking, Ron Bennett and John Purvis, NavPress

This is more than just another book on discipling. It is a resource book: a 12-session workbook for training and building up a generation of disciples who will have the *passion, vision* and the *skill* to intentionally disciple others. Each session has 3 helpful components: i) a bible study to gain what is in God's heart concerning the topic of discussion, ii) relevant articles written by experienced men and women of God gleaned through years of discipling others, and iii) each session concludes with practical pointers and tips to apply in discipling. We have some copies available, please enquire at discipleship@crossculture.net.au. - Chin Min Lian

Matthias Media (www.matthiasmedia.com.au) has many good workbooks, study guides and books for discipling. The website has details and free downloadable samples. Some examples:

- For new Christians: Just for Starters, Christian Living for Starters
- For established Christians: Short Steps for Long Gains, the Daily Reading Bible