

CHRISTIAN CAREGIVING

DISCIPLING



DISCIPLING: DEFINED

- Mark Dever puts it well in his book “Discipling: How to Help Others Follow Jesus.” He writes bluntly but truly, “Christianity is not for loners and individualists. It is for a people traveling together down the narrow path that leads to life. You must follow and you must lead.” Discipling is helping other believers live lives committed to Jesus, in both spirit and truth.
- Though sharing in this pilgrim life together does not have one style or format, every Christian’s discipleship and efforts in discipling should be focused on living for Christ’s glory.

DISCIPLING: DEFINED

- Your discipling others is a matter of fully completing the commission, to go and teach the disciples that have been made to observe all that Jesus had commanded (Matt 28:20).
- Reflections on The Great Commission
 - “Difficult life circumstances are frequently what prompt deeper connections, spark people’s faith, and present discipling opportunities. As such, we contend caring is quite possibly the epitome of living out the Great Commandment and Great Commission. Spurring one another necessitates engaging others, speaking the truth of God’s Word, and encouraging people in their personal journey.”
CareMinistry.com

A DISCIPLING LOOK AT THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: MATTHEW 13:1-23; LUKE 8:1-15

- Consider the parable as spurring people to greater faith.
- Group 1: The seed that fell along the path reflects an unresponsive heart.
 - I.e. Agnostics, Atheists, or embrace a different world religion
 - A common way to minister to this group is through short-term mission trips, full time missionaries, and other evangelism effort

A DISCIPLING LOOK AT THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: MATTHEW 13:1-23; LUKE 8:1-15

- Group 2: the seed that fell on the rocky place reflects a superficial heart
 - People in this group often have an ancestral connection to Christianity.
 - Though they may intellectually accept a triune God and envision spending eternity in Heaven, their faith is frequently nonexistent as it has no real meaning. They are most likely watching and wondering.
 - This group tends to be uninterested and even resistant to hearing the Gospel message. IE. “I’m glad it’s working for you.”
 - The peace and joy we exude may be our best witness for the time being.



A DISCIPLING LOOK AT THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: MATTHEW 13:1-23; LUKE 8:1-15

- Group 3. The seed that fell among the thorns reflects a worldly heart.
 - They are likely to embrace Christian values, own a Bible, pray occasionally, attend church, and be involved in some type of “Christian” service or activism.
 - Their faith is likely to be more intellectual and transactional than personal and ongoing .
 - The spiritual disciplines in this group are often nonexistent, undeveloped, or seldom practiced.
 - They are favorably predisposed to Christianity, and therefore likely open to invitation, ideal for discipling, and ready for equipping.

A DISCIPLING LOOK AT THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER: MATTHEW 13:1-23; LUKE 8:1-15

- Group 4. The seed that fell on good soil represents a receptive heart that cherishes God's Word.
 - They develop a love for the Lord, are transformed and multiply.
 - They have some type of spiritual awakenings as they tend to recognize their need for Jesus, realize the power and purpose of God, desire to surrender their lives to the Lord, and discover new life in Christ.
 - These people are typically the best equipped and most eager to live out their faith and care about others.



THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD: CONSIDER THESE

- Care receiver Number 1: A widow/widower
 - What are their needs?
 - What are they feeling/experiencing?
 - How can you provide Christian Caregiving?
 - What appropriate scripture would you use?
 - How to pray?

THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD: CONSIDER THESE

- Care receiver Number 2: Health Condition: Miscarriage
 - What are their needs?
 - What are they feeling/experiencing?
 - How can you provide Christian Caregiving?
 - What appropriate scripture would you use?
 - How to pray?

THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD: CONSIDER THESE

- Care receiver Number 3: Divorce
 - What are their needs?
 - What are they feeling/experiencing?
 - How can you provide Christian Caregiving?
 - What appropriate scripture would you use?
 - How to pray?