



DISTINCTIVES

The word "DISTINCTIVES" is centered in a blue, sans-serif font. It is surrounded by a decorative arrangement of lines: a solid blue horizontal line passes through the text, and a solid blue vertical line passes through the top and bottom of the text. Eight dashed grey lines radiate outwards from the center, forming a starburst pattern. A stylized blue swoosh logo is positioned above the text.



# Distinctives

CHRIST	Gospel Grace
	Repentant Faith
	Holy Worship
SCRIPTURE	Biblical Authority
	Expository Preaching
FAMILY	Covenant Family
	Servant Leadership
	Hungry Prayer
	Kingdom Diversity
MISSION	<b><i>Fruitful Discipleship</i></b>
	Active Mercy
	Global Witness



# What is “discipleship”?

**Discipleship is a committed spiritual training relationship.**



# The Famine of Discipling Relationships





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- Family fracturing



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- Generational disconnect



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- Program-centered ministry
- Overwhelming busyness
- Personality excuses
- Lack of experience
- Sense of inadequacy



# 1. Paul and Timothy committed to a discipling relationship.

## Acts 16:3

Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him...



## 2. Paul personally taught Timothy biblical truth.

### 1 Timothy 1:13

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me...



### 3. Paul modeled Christian character for Timothy up close.

#### 1 Timothy 1:13

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, **in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.**





### 3. Paul modeled Christian character for Timothy up close.

You can impress from a distance,  
but you only impact up close.

— Howard Hendricks



## 4. Paul and Timothy spent diverse time together.

### Acts 16:3

Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him...



## 5. Paul affirmed Timothy's growth and gifts.

### 2 Timothy 1:3–6

<sup>3</sup> I thank God... as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup> As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. <sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands...



## 6. Paul warned and challenged Timothy.

### 2 Timothy 2:22–23

So flee youthful passions... Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies...



## 6. Paul warned and challenged Timothy.

### Proverbs 27:17

Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.



## 7. Over time, Timothy's life looked more and more like Paul.

### 2 Timothy 3:10–12

<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, <sup>11</sup> my persecutions and sufferings...



## 7. Over time, Timothy's life looked more and more like Paul.

### Philippians 2:20–22

<sup>20</sup> For I have no one else like-minded who will genuinely care about your interests... <sup>22</sup> you know his proven character, because he has served with me in the gospel ministry like a son with a father.



## 7. Over time, Timothy's life looked more and more like Paul.

### 1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.





## 8. Paul trained Timothy to train faithful men who would replicate the process.

### 2 Timothy 2:2

...what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.



## 9. Paul called older women to train younger women.

### Titus 2:3–5

<sup>3</sup> Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, <sup>4</sup> and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, <sup>5</sup> to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.



# 10. Paul urged Timothy to carry on the work and reach others.

## 2 Timothy 4:2

Preach the word... reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.



# 10. Paul urged Timothy to carry on the work and reach others.

## 2 Timothy 4:5

...always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.



# My Discipleship Story



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Josh Watson (1998)



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Devin Smith (2000)



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Michael Tyler (2004–)

Zane Pratt (2013)

Jim Hamilton (2010–2015)

Jim Orrick (2015–2017)



# Five Crucial Elements

- Sincere love for Christ
- Intentional pursuit of me
- Consistent time together
- Focus on truth and life
- Equipping me to minister to others