



PRACTICAL APPLICATION: DISCIPLING BELIEVERS INTO COMMUNITY



1. Teach Them the Biblical Vision of the Church

Key Scriptures:

Acts 2:42-47 – The early church devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer, and caring for one another.

Ephesians 4:11-16 – Christ gives leaders to equip believers and build up the body into maturity.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 – Believers are members of one body with different but equally important functions.

1 Timothy 3:15 – The church is "the household of God" and "the pillar and foundation of the truth."

2. Help Them Find a Healthy Church

Key Scriptures:

Acts 20:28-31 – Shepherds are called to guard the flock from false teaching.

2 Timothy 4:2-5 – Faithful preaching of God's Word is essential.

Titus 1:5-9 – Qualifications for godly church leadership.

Hebrews 10:24-25 – Believers are instructed not to neglect meeting together.

3. Connect Them to a Small Group

Key Scriptures:

Hebrews 10:24-25 – Encourage one another regularly.

James 5:16 – Confess sins and pray for one another.

Galatians 6:2 – Bear one another's burdens.

Romans 12:10 – Love one another with brotherly affection.

4. Help Them Discover Their Spiritual Gifts

Key Scriptures:

Romans 12:4–8 – Different gifts are given according to God's grace.

1 Corinthians 12:4–11 – The Holy Spirit distributes gifts for the common good.

1 Peter 4:10–11 – Use your gifts faithfully as stewards of God's grace.

Ephesians 2:10 – Believers are created for good works prepared by God.

5. Encourage Them to Serve

Key Scriptures:

Mark 10:42–45 – Jesus came not to be served but to serve.

Galatians 5:13 – Serve one another in love.

John 13:12–17 – Jesus models servant leadership by washing the disciples' feet.

1 Corinthians 15:58 – Labor in the Lord is never in vain.

6. Model Commitment

Key Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 11:1 – "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

Philippians 3:17 – Observe those who walk according to godly examples.

1 Timothy 4:12 – Be an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.

Hebrews 13:7 – Remember and imitate faithful spiritual leaders.

7. Walk with Them Through Conflict

Key Scriptures:

Matthew 18:15–17 – Jesus' process for resolving conflict.

Ephesians 4:31–32 – Forgive one another as Christ forgave you.

Colossians 3:12–15 – Bear with one another and forgive one another.

Romans 12:18 – Live at peace with everyone whenever possible.

8. Celebrate the Blessings of Community

Key Scriptures:

Psalms 133:1 – "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Acts 2:46–47 – The early church rejoiced together, and God added to their number daily.

Romans 15:5–7 – Accept one another as Christ accepted you.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 – Encourage and build one another up.