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A Game Plan For Discipleship

A guide to help you effectively follow up and disciple the people at your table.

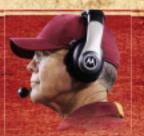
Matthew 28:19,
Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name
of the Father and the Son
and the Holy Spirit.

INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

There are many ways follow-up and discipleship can be accomplished after a Game Plan for Life event. We feel the following is a game plan that may work for people who were invited to a Game Plan for Life breakfast. We want everyone to remember that you don't have to be a biblical scholar to follow up and disciple other people at your table. But we do want you to have a relationship with them and help them to understand the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our hope is that this will be a useful resource that can aide and help equip Table Coaches in follow-up and discipleship. Also, understand that people are involved in this process and an audible (change the play at the line of scrimmage) may need to be called that is not in this resource.

We have business plans, wedding plans, financial plans, etc. Why not have a Game Plan for discipleship?

John 15:4, Abide in me, as I also abide in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must abide in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you abide in me.



THINK ABOUT THIS

- ► What did Jesus say is the Greatest Commandment?

 Matthew 22:37-38 (Deut. 6:5) Love the Lord

 God with all your heart, mind, strength and
 soul.
- ▶ What did He say is the second Greatest Commandment? Matthew 22:39 (Lev. 19:18, 34) – Love your neighbor as yourself.
- ► What was the conversation Jesus had with Peter in John 21:15-17? This is after Peter had denied Him 3 times.

Do you love me? Then tend my lambs, tend my sheep, feed my sheep.

▶ What is the great commission? If we truly love God then we will tend His lambs, tend His sheep and feed His Sheep.

Matthew 28:19 -20, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

For true discipleship to take place, we must invest our lives in the life of another just as a father and mother does with a newborn baby – this includes nurturing, equipping and eventually releasing that person once they have come to spiritual maturity. We release, but stay connected just as we do with our children when they become adults.

Hebrews 5:11 - 6:3, We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith in God, instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. And God permitting, we will do so.



2 Timothy 2:2, And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

In Billy Graham's book called "The Holy Spirit," Rev. Graham states that the following is vital in the process of building new believers in their faith: "One of the first verses of Scripture that Dawson Trotman, founder of The Navigators, made me memorize was 2 Timothy 2:2 (see above). This is a little like a mathematical formula for spreading the Gospel and enlarging the Church. Paul taught Timothy: Timothy shared what he knew with faithful men; these faithful men would then teach others also. And so the process goes on and on. If every believer followed this pattern, the Church would reach the entire world with the Gospel in one generation. Mass crusades, in which I believe and to which I have committed my life, will never finish the Great Commission; but a one-by-one ministry will."

GOALS

- Follow-up with everyone at your table (meet with each person one-on-one)
- Assess where each person is spiritually (Not yet a believer, new believer, rededicated their life or want to grow)
- Help each of them to understand the Gospel and grow spiritually.
- Start a weekly small group with the people from your table.
- Commit to discipling them all (this is the Great Commission)
- 6. Get them all into a good sound Bible teaching church when you feel the time is right.

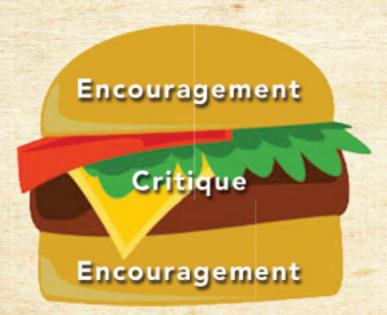




7. Prepare them to be able to share their faith with others so they are equipped to carry out the Great Commission and disciple others.

Keys to Being an Effective Discipleship Coach

- Pray for wisdom and discernment as you lead.
- Pray with and for your group. Teach others how to pray and encourage them to pray as they grow.
- 3. Encourage, Encourage, Encourage. If and when you critique someone in your group, do it in private with the sandwich approach:



4. Be transparent – You have to be willing to share your failures and weaknesses as well as your successes and strengths.



Luke 10:1, After these things the Lord appointed 70 others also, and sent them two by two ahead of Him into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

How to Reach the Goals

Be Equipped:

Some people shy away from follow-up/ discipleship because they really don't know how, or they are afraid of being rejected or asked a question they can't answer.

Resources to Help Develop Your Game Plan

- www.marketplaceambassador.com
- http://www.menatthecross.org/resources/ limitless-free-book-downloads/
- www.multiplymovement.com

Following are steps to help you develop your discipleship Game Plan

First Quarter (Step 1)

- Make sure you follow up with everyone who attended the breakfast.
 - a. Call each of your guests to set up a 1 on 1 meeting.
 - b. Meeting should be held in a place where your guest will feel comfortable.
 - Examples Coffee House, lunch, sporting event, recreational event, etc.
 - ▶ Offer to pick them up so you can talk on the way to and from the meeting.
- Meet with each person at your table so you can assess where they are spiritually.
 - a. Not Yet a Believer
 - b. A New Believer
 - c. Rededicated his or her Life to Christ
 - d. Want to grow spiritually



Second Quarter (Step 2)

- 1. Meet with each of your guests individually.
- 2. Ask open ended questions:
 - "Thank you for coming to the event and meeting with me."
 - Ask about their family, job, kids, hobbies, etc.
 - ▶ "How did you enjoy the GPFL breakfast?"
 - ▶ "What did you think about some of the things Coach Gibbs had to say?"
 - "Was there anything that stuck out to you?"
 - ▶ "When Coach Gibbs prayed, what did you think?"
 - "What are your thoughts on God and Jesus?"
 - ▶ "What do you think about meeting once a week to start to dig deeper?"
 - ▶ "Do you have a Bible?"
 - ▶ "Tell me what type of church background you have?"
 - ▶ "If you died tonight and you were to stand before God, why should He let you into Heaven?"
- Again, try to assess where each one is spiritually.

Third Quarter (Step 3)

 Start a small group study with the people from your table a week or two following the GPFL event.

Small group suggestions:

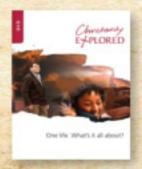
- a. Game Plan for Life (Small Group Vol. 2) that will be provided by the GPFL team for any Table Coach who wants it for free (DVD series featuring Coach Gibbs).
- b. Christianity Explored this is a DVD series that takes the group through the Gospel of Mark.

Do not give the enemy time to come in and snatch the seed that was planted by the GPFL event. Get the seed rooted down into good Bible based soil.

Proverbs 10:5 He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame.

Continue to meet with those who didn't join the small group one-on-one.







Fourth Quarter (Step 4)

Church Attendance/Membership & Sharing your faith with others

- Encourage, when you feel the time is right, your people to attend a Church that has the following key elements 1) Ministry to God (worship), 2) Ministry to Believers (nurture & teaching) & 3) Ministry to the world (evangelism and mercy work). Make sure the Church they are attending is a Bible-believing and teaching Church.
- 2. At some point in the process of discipleship there should be a time where you have taken your guys off the milk and moved them on to the solid food. This may be at different times for different people.
- 1 Peter 3:15, But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

Final Pep Talk

(this is for YOU)

"Surely I will be with you always to the end of the age."

God's promise at the end of the Great Commission to the disciples is to be with them always. Discipleship is not an act we do by ourselves. It is something God does through us to help others. In our one-to-one discipleship, it is an opportunity to join God in what He is doing in our lives and the lives of others. God is committed to His people.

Thessalonians 5:23-24, Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Philippians 1:6, I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.



We have the privilege of influence but not the power to change people. That is what God does and what He is committed to for His people. The pressure is off of you. Discipleship is a gift of helping someone grow in their walk with Jesus Christ. God is with you. He will work in you as well, as you lovingly pursue others to disciple them in their relationship with the Lord.

Corinthians 3:5-7, What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord asigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

Be encouraged brothers and sisters.

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