



# Evaluating a Healthy Disciplemaking Ministry

ONLINE WORKBOOK

**DM**

DISCIPEMOVEMENT

# A healthy disciple-making ministry is one that meets the needs of people at various levels of growth and development.

The wineskin must be developed to meet the needs of the new wine... biblically, you can say that there are basically four levels of following Christ (disciple means follower).

## 1 Seekers

Lost people who are searching for God but have yet to trust Christ as their Savior and Lord.

## 2 Believers

Those who have trusted Christ and are growing in a relationship with God.

## 3 Workers

Faithful, available and more mature followers who are involved in the work of the ministry.

## 4 Disciple-makers

Proven multipliers who now have spiritual children, grand-children and even great grandchildren and need to know how to shepherd this growing family.

**Outreach activities (programs)** are targeted at the needs, questions and interests of 'seekers'. The primary purposes are to help believers expose their spiritually lost friends to Christ in a positive way and to help them either to lead their friend to Christ or move them closer to accepting Christ. These events are designed to help Christians bring their lost friends to a saving relationship with the resurrected Christ.

**Growth-level activities (programs)** are targeted primarily for 'believers'. Growth-level activities are designed to help believers grow in their relationship with Christ by balancing the four key ingredients of Acts 2:24: The Word (apostles' teaching), fellowship, worship (the breaking of bread—exalting Christ), and prayer. The church, following Christ's example, continued steadfast in these four priorities as a group of new believers (3000) were added to their midst.

**Ministry training events** are targeted at encouraging, resourcing and training the few 'workers' in a ministry (Matthew 9:37). These activities are targeted for the workers and address issues critical to being successful at doing the ministry entrusted to their care and being a worker in the harvest field. You find Jesus often trying hard to spend time alone with His few workers to impart His life to them. (Mark 9:30-31). The workers were a priority to Jesus.

**A healthy disciple-making ministry is one that meets the needs of people at various levels of growth and development.**

## Write it out

1. What stands out to you about the purpose of your programs?
2. Where would you agree or disagree with this overview?
3. Where does your church/ministry tend to have the most programmatic focus?



PRINCIPLE **1**

# Programs are simply the way we structure our people relationships.

We define those programming relationships this way:

## Outreach Events

Activities designed to help believers lead their friends to Christ.

---

## Growth Events

Activities designed to help people grow through the Word, prayer, fellowship and worship

---

## Equipping Events

Activities designed to train workers to care for believers and share with non-believers (we call this peer-care and peer-share)

## PRINCIPLE **2**

# Programs are not sacred — only the purpose, product and process are!

Someone once said, “for goodness sake, if the horse is dead, dismount.” Sometimes we keep trying to revive dead horses. We maintain programs even when they’ve lost their original purpose. Programs are not sacred... but the purpose of winning the lost, growing the believers and equipping the workers is sacred. The process is sacred as God created a natural way to grow from a child, to an adolescent, to a mature adult.





PRINCIPLE **3**

**It is better do  
few programs  
well than to offer  
many events  
of mediocre or  
similar purpose.**

Just as we must steward the resources God entrusts to us, so we must steward the time of the people God brings our way. If we have dozens of activities that are not well defined or unnecessary... we are not stewarding well the limited time of our people. We must help our people grow and we must carefully design our activities to meet the needs of our people at various levels of growth and development. If our people are so busy at church that they never have time to be a “friend of sinners” like Jesus, how is that helping them? We need balanced, biblical programming to help our people live balanced, biblical lives.

## PRINCIPLE 4

# Our activities must be purposeful and strategic.

As a rule, each program can only have one primary purpose. Confusion results when a program has no clearly defined and communicated purpose. When the purposes are not clear frustration and disappointment will surface. When the group members and leaders all own the primary purpose the programs begin to be effective.

### For each activity, the leadership must:

- **DEFINE** the primary purpose.
- **COMMUNICATE** the purpose clearly.
- **EVALUATE** the success of the program based upon whether it achieved the stated primary purpose.

**When the group members and leaders all own the primary purpose, the program begins to be effective.**



# Your Church Program Evaluation Worksheet



Answer the questions below that reference the  
4 Levels of Following Christ (see page 2)

1. What activities do we already employ that are currently ministering to **Seekers**?



*How can we better minister to the **Seekers** in our ministry?*

2. Where are we currently ministering to the **Believers**?



*How can we better minister to **Believers** in our ministry?*

3. Where/How are we currently ministering to the **Workers**?



*How can we better minister to the **Workers** in our ministry?*

4. Where are we currently ministering to the **Disciple-makers**?



*How can we better minister to the **Disciple-makers** in our ministry?*

Looking for more?

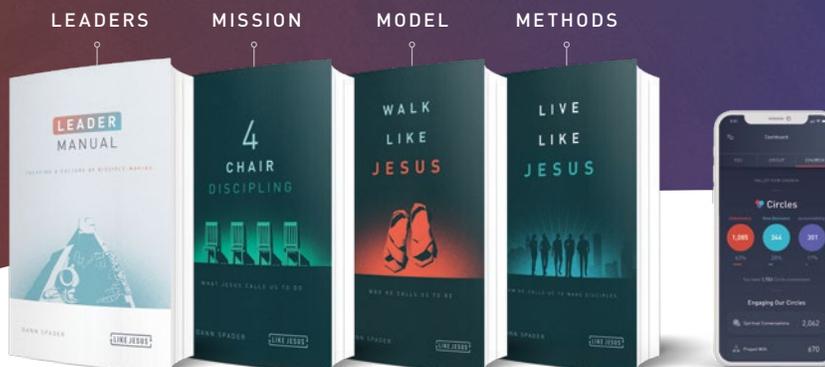
# Start building a disciple-making culture.

**Like Jesus is a disciple-making resource based on Jesus' Mission, Model and Methods.**

Like Jesus helps you get back to scripture by studying Jesus' life and ministry and how He made disciples. He laid out a pattern and modeled disciple-making for us to follow. We can emulate His life and build movements of multiplication in our churches, small groups and ministries. That's what this resource is all about.

**TRY A 30-DAY FREE DIGITAL TRIAL:**

[www.likejesus.church](http://www.likejesus.church)



LIKE JESUS

 [LikeJesus.church](http://LikeJesus.church)