The Discipleship Director – Starting Right, Serving Well

Things the Discipleship Director should know:

- The Director should become familiar with available discipleship resources
- The Director should get to know the available leaders.
- The Director should understand how the <u>discipleship process</u> fits into the life of the church.
- The Director should get to know the <u>major areas of discipleship</u> which need the greatest focus in his or her church family.

Things the Discipleship Director should do:

- Work with the pastor / staff / team to <u>develop a comprehensive discipleship</u> process for the church.
- Enlist mature Christians to lead discipleship courses.
- Enlist assistants to help with records and storing/distributing discipleship resources.
- Plan out a calendar of courses that will, over time, encompass:
 - New believers / New church members
 - Abiding in Christ / Growing in faith
 - o Living in the Word / Biblical literacy
 - Prayer / Spiritual disciplines
 - o Marriage, Parenting and Fellowship with Believers
 - Ministry and Service
 - Sharing one's faith
- Provide materials and meeting space.
- <u>Promote discipleship</u> within the church.
- Encourage leaders.
- Evaluate the process.

Personal Practices of the Discipleship Director:

- <u>Pray</u> consistently
- <u>Participate</u> in the discipleship process and training opportunities
- <u>Persevere</u> as a servant-leader
- <u>Partner</u> with the pastor, staff and other discipleship leaders.

The Pastor's & Minister of Education's Role in Supporting the Discipleship Director

- <u>Pray</u> for the Discipleship Director keep an open line of <u>communication</u>.
- Provide the Director with a clear set of guidelines and expectations.
- <u>Support</u> the Director by:
 - Offering words of praise and encouragement
 - Recognize and uplift other Discipleship leaders
 - Help the Director in procuring space and resources for courses
 - Help with publicity and promotion
 - Visit discipleship classes
 - o Offer to help lead classes as time permits
 - Inform the Director of beneficial training opportunities
 - Help the Director connect with association and state leaders
 - Provide input / suggestions as to course offerings
 - o Set meeting times for evaluation and brain-storming
 - o Avoid the trap of micro-managing the Director
 - Be an Ephesians 4:12 minister
 - Praise in public / critique in private
- Make Discipleship a visible and viable priority in your church.