

Basics of Helping Young Christians

Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

- A. We need to be able to reduce things to the basic essentials.
- B. The average pastor is overloaded and his congregations are overburdened.
- C. One must keep his objective before him.

II. The pastoral job description. (Acts 4:21)

- A. The apostles first preached the gospel.
- B. They made many disciples.
- C. They appointed elders. Leadership was discovered and developed.

III. Community (Koinonia) groups.

- A. These groups can occur within already existing groups.
- B. These ought to center upon the Word of God.
- C. Groups can be built around fellowship. (1 John 1:3, 7)
- D. There are various ways it can be done.

IV. Individual attention.

- A. This ought to be given to help men become mature men.
- B. The point is not to preach a sermon three times, but to discover individual needs of the men and help them make application to their own life.
- C. There are many individual problems that need to be met.
- D. You can only use who you have.
- E. The curriculum for leadership has to be tailor made. Individual gifts must be developed. One needs right objectives before right methods.

F. Principles in selecting.

1. Prayer is necessary to discern who to spend time with.

2. One needs to look for faithful men. (2 Timothy 2:2)
3. The disciple must be open-hearted.
4. One wants to look for someone who will be ready the soonest.

G. What to do with the man.

1. Find time to spend with that person.
2. Discover the need and look for how it can be met.
3. One needs to know what some of the most basic things are to help a person in their personal walk.
4. The wheel.
 - a. The hub: there should be a Christ-centered life. (Colossians 1, John 15)
 - b. A spoke: the Word should be in the believer's life.
 - c. A spoke: prayer should be in the believer's life.
 - d. A spoke: obedience should be in the believer's life.
 - e. A spoke: witness should be in the believer's life.
5. The hand: getting into the Word.
 - a. One hears it preached.
 - b. One reads it himself.
 - c. One studies it.
 - d. One memorizes it.
 - e. One meditates on it.
6. There is flexibility with this development.
7. The meeting.
 1. One might share testimonies, the Word, and the prayer during the meeting.

2. Ask the new Christian his testimony and then ask him if he has had any doubts. Expression should be emphasized. The believer's relationship to Christ should be emphasized.

3. One should share his own experiences and struggles.

4. Get the person to do something—ideally memorizing Scripture.

5. Explain how Scripture can address doubts and difficulties and give reasons to partake in it.

6. Motivating a student to action.

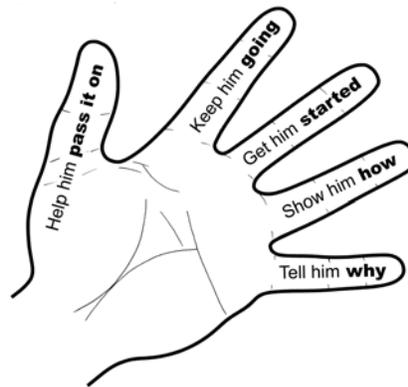
1. Tell why. This speeds production.

2. Show how.

3. Get him started. Get him started in something that he has some desire in and then bring him back to the Bible and Scripture memory. (1 Peter 3:15, Proverbs 22:17-21, Psalm 119:11)

4. Keep him going.

5. Get him to reproduce the same process.



7. Look for evidence of the desire before you start the discipline.

8. Let the student pray for a while about difficulties first so that they can be formed and shaped externally first.

9. The student is chosen so that they can share your life and ministry. (Mark 3:14)

Application questions.

1. What principles should one consider in selecting a man for one-on-one discipleship?

2. What things might one do in meeting with this person?

3. What was most helpful to you about this message? What adjustments do you need to make in your time with other people in developing men and women for Christ?
