

Lifestyle Discipleship Part 3

Max Barnett

I. Introduction.

II. Ways to witness to one's family.

A. One of the best ways to witness to one's family is to ask for forgiveness for past wrongs or express gratefulness.

B. A believer should be prepared to discuss practical life issues with people from the Scriptures as an opportunity to witness. (I Corinthians 15, I Thessalonians 4)

C. Relationships are a great way to witness to others.

III. We ought to be in relationships in the church where we can nurture each other in intimacy.

IV. Man to man discipleship is essential for a healthy church.

A. A man must understand the gospel foremost.

B. Once one has received the gospel, he needs to understand his eternal security. (I John 2:25, 5:11-13, Romans 8:35-39)

C. The new believer needs to know about fellowship with God (I Corinthians 1:9, Mark 4:14), temptation (I Corinthians 10:13) and forgiveness from sins (I John 1:9).

D. He should be taught about Scripture memory and listening to sermons on tape.

E. There should be structured time and unstructured time.

V. Witnessing at work.

A. Work can give a great opportunity for work. (Acts 17:17)

B. Work is ordained of God. (Genesis 2:15, 3:17-19)

C. Reasons to work.

1. God wants us to work. (Ephesians 6:5-6)

2. Our responsibility to our family is to work. (I Timothy 5:8)

3. We need to keep from being a burden to others. (I Thessalonians 2:9, 3:8)

4. We need to help meet the needs of others.

a. Those in ministry. (Acts 20:34)

b. Those that are weak. (Acts 20:35)

c. Those that are in need. (Ephesians 4:28)

5. We need to have a good testimony with non-Christians. (I Thessalonians 4:9, 12)

6. We need to be a good example before Christians. (II Thessalonians 3:9)

7. Laziness is forbidden in Scriptures. (II Thessalonians 3:10-12, Proverbs 13:4, 20:4, Romans 12:11, I Timothy 3)

8. Diligence is commended in Scripture. (Proverbs 22:29, 6:6-11, I Thessalonians 4:11)

D. Attitudes and actions.

1. One's attitude at work should not depend on one's boss or what one is doing. (Colossians 3:22, Ephesians 6:5)

2. Realize that you are serving God and not man. (Ephesians 6:5-7, Colossians 3:22-23)

3. Supervision should not have to do with how hard one works. (Colossians 3:22, Ephesians 6:6, Proverbs 6:6-11)

4. One should do his work hardily. (Colossians 3:23, Ephesians 6:6, Ecclesiastes 5:10, II Corinthians 8:11)

5. Be obedient to those in authority. (Colossians 3:23, Ephesians 6:5)

6. Realize that a job well done brings satisfaction. (Proverbs 13:19)

7. Little mundane tasks are not insignificant. (Luke 16:10-11)

8. Serving is work, and work is the only way one is going to become like Jesus. (Mark 10:45, II Corinthians 4:5)

9. Realize that your reward comes from God. (Ephesians 6:8, Colossians 3:24-25, Hebrews 6:10)

Application questions:

1. What can you do to reach out to a family member this week?

2. How should a Christian look at work in contrast to a nonbeliever?

3. What are some things that a healthy discipleship relationship should include? Explain.
