

**VALUE 4** 

## Disciple Multiplication

**Best Practices and Ideas** 

## **Pandemic-Proof Discipleship**

Ben Phillips | Mitchell Berean Church | Mitchell, Nebraska

Discipleship is a relational process, and we all know that the pandemic hit relationships hard. Use this creative idea to pandemic-proof your discipleship strategy and keep your students encouraged to pray for, care for, and share the Gospel with their friends.

- Determine what the discipleship structure in your ministry looks like. For example, maybe you (the youth leader) will disciple your adult leaders, your adult leaders will each disciple a student leader, and your student leaders will each disciple a small group of their peers.
- Create faith-sharing groups in the Life in 6 Words app for each discipleship group:
  - Open the app menu.
  - Click on "Groups."
  - Click on "View Groups," and then select "Create Group."
  - Have the leader of each discipleship group create one for themselves and the people they are discipling.
- The leader of each group will be able to see if the other people in their faith-sharing group are regularly praying for, caring for, and sharing with the people in their Cause Circles.
- They can use this information to encourage others where they are struggling and celebrate with them where they are excelling.
- Have the leader of each discipleship group check in with their group weekly to ask how they can be praying for them and what they can be celebrating with them.

"My students have a goal now of seeing 50 students discipling students by the end of the school year—it's an incredible thing. And it's bled over into the rest of our church! The adult ministry is using this now as the full vision for this year—teaching and training up disciple-makers. It has started a revival in our church and our community—all sparked out of what's happening in the youth room."

## **Youth Room Discipleship**

Scott Tinman | Findlay Evangelical Free Church | Findlay, Ohio

Facilitating peer-to-peer discipleship is crucial to developing a thriving and sustainable Gospel Advancing Ministry. Building this value into the framework of your weekly program will create space for discipleship to happen organically and effectively.

- ◆ Download the "4 Chair Discipling" resources from Sonlife Ministries.
- Identify which "chair" each of your students is in:
  - 1. Come & See
  - 2. Follow Me
  - 3. Fisher of People
  - 4. Go & Bear Fruit
- Dedicate 20 minutes each Wednesday night to "Huddle Groups." Each group should consist of an adult leader and same-gender students of different "chairs." Try to keep these groups smaller than six if possible.
- During Huddle Groups, have your students share something fun from their week, along with what they are learning in their walk with Jesus.
- Then have them pray over one another and the friends in their Cause Circles.
- Mixing students of different "chairs" together allows first- and second-chair students to see what their third- and fourth-chair peers are doing and learning, and encourages them to move along in the disciple-making process.

"Since starting this, we have seen high school students in chairs 3 and 4 desire to be more than consumers in our student ministry and to serve their peers. We have high school students who are now leading Huddle Groups of middle school students and investing back into our student ministry. This is also trickling down to our middle school students, as we have some of those students now serving in our children's ministry as small group leaders too!"

## **AAA Café**

Mickeal Quillman | Temple Baptist Church | Jonesboro, Arkansas

Creating space for students to role-play Gospel conversations together is a great way for your students with more faith-sharing experience to disciple those with less. Not only will this practice allow all of your students to grow their confidence in evangelism, but it will also give them the opportunity to train the friends they've brought to Christ in the practice of asking good questions, creating meaningful conversations, and sharing the Gospel with nonbelievers.

- Set up an "AAA Café" (AAA stands for Ask Admire Admit) in your youth room.
   Arrange tables throughout the room with two or three chairs at each, and provide food or a coffee bar for your students to enjoy.
- Ask a few students or adult leaders ahead of time to help with a short skit. Start the event by running through the skit as an example of a thoughtful and respectful Gospel conversation.
- Have your students break up into small groups or pairs at the tables. Ask one
  person at each table to take on the role of someone of a different faith (consider
  leaving some <u>notes</u> at each table on the basic beliefs held by people of other
  worldviews).
- Give your students 10 minutes to role-play a Gospel conversation:
  - Have them open their conversation using the Ask Admire Admit approach:
    - Ask great questions.
    - O Admire what they can.
    - O Admit their need for Jesus.

- Then, share the G.O.S.P.E.L. message:
  - O God created us to be with Him.
  - O Our sins separate us from God.
  - O Sins cannot be removed by good deeds.
  - O Paying the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again.
  - Everyone who trusts in Him alone receives eternal life.
  - O Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever.
- Have them wrap up the conversation with these closing questions:
  - O Does that make sense?
  - Is there anything holding you back from putting your faith and trust in Jesus?
- After time is up, have the students debrief the conversation. Ask those who played the role of a non-Christian how they felt the conversation went. Did they feel respected, heard, and valued? What feedback would they give to their peers?
- Have your students move tables to switch partners or groups, and repeat.

"To be a member of our student leadership team, or even an adult leader in our ministry, you have to be able to navigate through these conversations with each type of person described in the [worldviews resource]. This ongoing practice has been instrumental in our student ministry reaching students for Christ. In the last four years of my ministry, we saw 423 students accept Christ. Of that 423, over 200 remained within our ministry. From that 200, 50 of those became part of our leadership team. It was a lot of work on their part to study, but when they began to reach their friends for Christ, it was no longer work to them."