



Discipleship Pathway

COACHING COHORT

WEEK ONE



CONVERGE

MIDAMERICA | SOUTHEAST | CARIBBEAN

Identifying and Defining Your Discipleship Pathway

Definition of Discipleship Pathway - Where Joe Grow goes when he comes to your church and how you measure if he is growing.

What is your discipleship pathway marked by?

“More People”

- Increased worship
- More growth
- Higher attendance
- Additional services
- Reaching more people

“Transformed Church”

- More desperate for Jesus
- More intimacy between husbands and wives
- More engaged in social justice and civic responsibilities
- More families having devotions together
- More friendships with people far from God

Part 1: A Good Discipleship Pathway Has a Good Strategy

WHERE JOE GROW GOES WHEN HE COMES TO YOUR CHURCH

The average church has **50 programs**.

The average person has **2-3 time slots** to fill on a regular basis.

1. When we think of Joe Grow, which slots would we most like to see him commit to?
2. Which slots will produce the greatest growth in his life?
3. What are our “top three” opportunities that we would like to see everyone in our church commit to?
4. Are those 3 slots church space (in the building) or life space (outside the building)?

Part 2: A Good Discipleship Pathway Provides Good Measurements

HOW YOU MEASURE IF JOE IS GROWING

THE BENEFITS OF MEASUREMENTS :

1. Provides clear and measurable **DEFINITION** of “spiritual success”
2. Defines the Christian life in terms of **COMPLETE TRANSFORMATION** rather than “head knowledge”.
3. Establishes a **SYSTEMATIC** way to teach our people.
4. Helps us know what to hold our people **ACCOUNTABLE** for.
5. Positions **PEOPLE** as more important than programs.
6. Gives our **GROUPS/CLASSES** a thoughtful way to assist people in their walk with God.
7. Keeps the **LEADERS** of the church focused on the life transformation of our people.

QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN DEFINING MEASUREMENTS :

1. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?
2. What does Jesus say a disciple looks like?
3. What themes arise out of questions 1 and 2?
4. Can our people articulate those themes?
5. Does our discipleship pathway intersect with these themes?

Part 3: Is it better to use our existing ministry model or introduce a change?

THREE BARRIERS TO CHANGING A DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY:

1. **Model Complexity:** So many models available that it creates confusion and uncertainty and paralyzes us from moving forward.
2. **Sacred Cows:** The inability to see a different way of doing ministry because we have always done it this way.
3. **2nd Generation Passion:** When a leader copies another ministry model, the emotional connection to a problem it solved doesn't automatically come with it.

FOUR DECISIONS REGARDING A DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY:

1. We **MAXIMIZE** the same model for the same results.
 - a. How can we **OPTIMIZE** our model for more of the same results?
 - b. How can we **INCREASE THE CAPACITY** of our existing model for more of the same results?
 - c. How can we **STRENGTHEN** our existing model to ensure more of the same results?
 - d. To whom can we **SHARE** our existing model in order to duplicate more of the same results?
2. We **ADAPT** the existing model for more of the same results.
 - a. How might we adapt our existing model to **ENHANCE** our existing results?
 - b. How might we adapt our existing model to **ACCELERATE** our existing results?
 - c. How might we adapt our existing model to **EXPAND** our existing results?
 - d. How might we adapt our existing model to **EXTEND** our existing results?
3. We strive to **ACHIEVE** new results **WITHIN** an existing model.
 - a. How might we **ACTIVATE** a totally new result in one part of our existing model?
 - b. How might we **ALIGN** everything in our existing model toward a single new result?
 - c. How might we **REPURPOSE** one or more of the parts of our existing model for a new result?
 - d. What could be **REMIXED** in our existing model that would enable a new result?
4. We **CREATE** new results with a new model.
 - a. How can we generate a new output result with our **EXISTING PEOPLE** with a new model?
 - b. What **NEW GROUP OF PEOPLE** can we penetrate for the Gospel that our existing model has never reached?
 - c. If we **EXPERIMENT** with a new ministry, or new possibility, what would we incubate?
 - d. If the ability to **MULTIPLY** disciples, leaders, groups, campuses, or churches is not built into our existing model, how do we redesign it?

"WHERE THERE IS NO MARGIN, THERE IS NO IMAGINATION.
IF YOU DON'T STOP DOING SOMETHING, YOU'LL NEVER
START DOING SOMETHING BETTER." -WILL MANCINI

Discipleship Pathway Week One Worksheet

Is our church's discipleship pathway (DP) marked by "More People" or a "Transformed Church"? Prove it.

What are your "top three" adult opportunities that you would like to see everyone in your church commit to? Are those 3 church space (in the building) slots or life space (outside the building) slots?

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus at our church? Do our people know it? Does our DP flow from those themes?

What decision will we make in regards to our DP model? Will we maximize the model, adapt the model, infuse the model with new results, or create a new model? When and how will we start?

What's one take away from today that will affect tomorrow?