

Loris First Baptist Church
“Twelve Marks of a Mature Disciple of Christ”

TEST FOUR OF DISCIPLESHIP MATURITY

Relationship #4 - “Who Are You Mentoring?”

A careful study of the transformation of the Apostle Paul, from a brand new Christian (Acts 9) into a mature disciple of Jesus Christ (Acts 28), reveals that there were six key relationships he maintained which contributed significantly to his spiritual growth. The failure for a Christian to have and work on these relationships will severely hinder his or her ability to become Christ-like as has been commanded by The Word of God (Luke 6:40; Matthew 16:24; 1Peter 2:21; 1John 2:3-6).

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to be “like” Him (Matthew 10:25) and “imitate” Him (Ephesians 5:1-2). To accomplish these very difficult goals, God sends special teachers into our lives to demonstrate, proclaim, interpret, and model the various essentials of the disciple life to help us progress and to hold us accountable to become more like Christ. After we have been “mentored”, the Lord expects us to “mentor” others (Matthew 28:19-20). Paul had Barnabas as a “mentor” (Acts 9:27; Acts 11:25-26) then Paul “mentored” Timothy (Acts 16:3-4; 2Timothy 1:3-8). Every mature disciple of Jesus Christ can name at least one or more “mentees” that they have helped to learn the Word of God and/or how to apply it to their lives so that they became more Christ-like. So, “Who are YOU Mentoring?”

Directions: Please circle the number that best represents how you would rate yourself in response to each of the 12 questions and corresponding Scripture provided.

Scripture #1: *““Therefore go and MAKE DISCIPLES ... TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20)*

Question #1: I understand that as a disciple of Jesus Christ it is my responsibility to also “disciple” (i.e. “mentor”) other believers to help them become Christ-like as I work to follow Him.

Disagree (I don’t understand or agree with this) Agree (I understand, but haven’t mentored anyone) Strongly Agree (I understand Mentoring is my responsibility)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Scripture #2: "Come, FOLLOW ME," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

"A DISCIPLE is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained WILL BE LIKE HIS TEACHER." (Luke 6:40)

Question #2: As a follower of Jesus Christ, I know that God's goal for me is to be like Jesus. So, I need to participate in His plan to "fish for men" by looking for someone I can "mentor" to help them in their Christian walk.

Not Sure (I am not sure I need to Mentor)		Kind of Agree (I know I should look for a mentee)			Strongly Agree (I search regularly for someone to mentor)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #3: "Similarly, encourage THE YOUNG MEN to be self-controlled. In everything SET THEM AN EXAMPLE BY DOING GOOD. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness..." (Titus 2:6-7)

Question #3: I know that new believers can learn from more mature believers how to apply God's Word to their daily lives. Therefore, I try hard daily to "model" Christ-like behaviors so that people "younger than me in the faith" will know what it means to follow Jesus Christ.

Rarely True of Me (I rarely think of new believers)		Sometimes True of Me (I try to be Christ-like, but not to benefit others)			Always True of Me (I always try to set example for others)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #4: *Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, THOUGH HE KNEW ONLY THE BAPTISM OF JOHN. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and EXPLAINED TO HIM THE WAY OF GOD MORE ADEQUATELY. (Acts 18:24-26)*

Question #4: When God brings someone across my path that does not accurately understand or teach the Word of God, I take the initiative by asking if they will let me "mentor" them so they will understand the ways of God "more adequately".

Not Me (I don't feel comfortable discipling others)		Kind of Agree (I am willing to disciple others)			Strongly Agree (I take the initiative to disciple others)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #5: *“We proclaim Him, ADMONISHING AND TEACHING EVERYONE WITH ALL WISDOM, so that we may present everyone PERFECT (MATURE) IN CHRIST.” (Colossians 1:28)*

Question #5: When I “mentor” someone, I know that the goal is to get my “mentee” to learn how to best think, talk, and act like Jesus Christ.

Not Me		Kind of Agree		Strongly Agree
(I don’t think I should influence others)		(I just try to help people do better)		(I work hard to get them to be like Christ)
1	2	3	4	5
				6
				7

Scripture #6: *“ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED AND USEFUL for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, SO THAT THE MAN OF GOD MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.” (2Timothy 3:16-17)*

Question #6: I use the Scriptures found in the Bible as the basis for all of my “mentoring” and “modeling”.

No		Sometimes		Yes
(I have not purposely mentored anyone)		(I use the Scriptures at time for Mentoring)		(The Bible is my main source for Mentoring)
1	2	3	4	5
				6
				7

Scripture #7: *“For this reason I REMIND YOU TO FAN INTO FLAME THE GIFT OF GOD, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. SO DO NOT BE ASHAMED TO TESTIFY ABOUT OUR LORD, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God...” (2Timothy 1:6-8)*

Question #7: I know how frustrating trying to become like Christ really is. So, when I am mentoring someone, I sometimes “encourage” and “motivate” them not to give up during those times when they have failed to live up to God’s Word.

No		Sometimes		Yes
(I have not purposely mentored anyone)		(I struggle with motivating mentees)		(I motivate and encourage Mentees)
1	2	3	4	5
				6
				7

Scripture #8: "You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. AND THE THINGS YOU HEARD ME SAY in the presence of many witnesses ENTRUST TO RELIABLE MEN who will also be QUALIFIED TO TEACH OTHERS." (2Timothy 2:1-2)

Question #8: I am constantly taking the principles of the Word of God that I have learned from others and sharing with others to help them grow.

Not Very Often (I have a hard time teaching others)		Usually (I sometimes try to teach others)			Almost Always (I am constantly teaching others)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #9: "TO TITUS, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. The reason I left you in Crete was that YOU MIGHT STRAIGHTEN OUT WHAT WAS LEFT UNFINISHED AND APPOINT ELDERS IN EVERY TOWN, as I directed you." (Titus 1:4-5)

Question #9: I understand the benefit of giving those I am mentoring "ministry tasks" so that they can learn from trying to apply what they have learned to help others.

Not Very Often (I rarely mentor anyone to do ministry)		Usually (I sometimes assign mentees tasks)			Almost Always (I give my mentees ministry tasks)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #10: Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" SO HE INVITED PHILIP TO COME UP AND SIT WITH HIM. (Acts 8:30-31)

Question #10: I purposely make myself available (like Philip) to help "non" or "new" believers understand what they are reading in the Bible.

Not Really (I barely know the Bible myself)		Sometimes (I have explained difficult verses to others)			Often (I teach a S.S. and/or discipleship class)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #11: *“Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, TO TIMOTHY, MY DEAR SON: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, AS NIGHT AND DAY I CONSTANTLY REMEMBER YOU IN MY PRAYERS. Recalling your tears, I LONG TO SEE YOU, so that I may be filled with joy.” (2Timothy 1:1-4)*

Question #11: I have someone (or more than someone) that I am constantly remembering in my prayers to ask God to help them get victory in their struggles to become more like Christ.

Not Very Often (I rarely pray for a new disciple)		Sometimes (I sometimes pray for new disciples)			Almost Always (I pray for new disciples by name)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #12: *He came to Derbe and then to Lystra, WHERE A DISCIPLE NAMED TIMOTHY LIVED, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek. The brothers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. PAUL WANTED TO TAKE HIM ALONG ON THE JOURNEY, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. (Acts 16:1-3)*

Therefore I URGE YOU TO IMITATE ME. For this reason I am sending to you Timothy, my son whom I love, who is faithful in the Lord. He will remind you of MY WAY OF LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church. (1 Corinthians 4:16-17)

Question #12: I currently have a mentee who I am teaching and modeling how to live a faithful Christ-like life for the Lord.

Not Really (I have not mentored anyone)		Kind of (I have mentored someone, but not mentoring now)			Yes (I am mentoring someone)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

How to Grade Yourself on “Who Am I Mentoring”?

- 1) Add up all of the numbers you circled for the 12 questions above. (Max score “84”).
- 2) Compare your scores to the scales below and take action as the Lord leads you:

84 – 56 *You are being obedient to God’s plan for you by regularly “Mentoring” others to help them follow and act like Jesus Christ!*

55 – 29 *You are only sporadically “Mentoring” someone and are not routinely “active” in establishing a Mentor/Disciple relationship with a less mature Christian than you. You need to pray and ask God to help give you the courage and the opportunities to build relationships with new believers so that you can “mentor” them and help them to become more like Christ. (1 John 5:14-15)*

28-7 *Are you sure you are a disciple of Jesus Christ? If you know that you are, it is critical that you “become obedient”, “become committed to being a Mentor”, and seek to be “Mentor” less mature Christians so that they can learn how to allow the Holy Spirit to control their lives so that they can resist sin, exhibit the fruits of the Spirit, and walk and act like Jesus Christ! (1 Cor 3:1-3)*