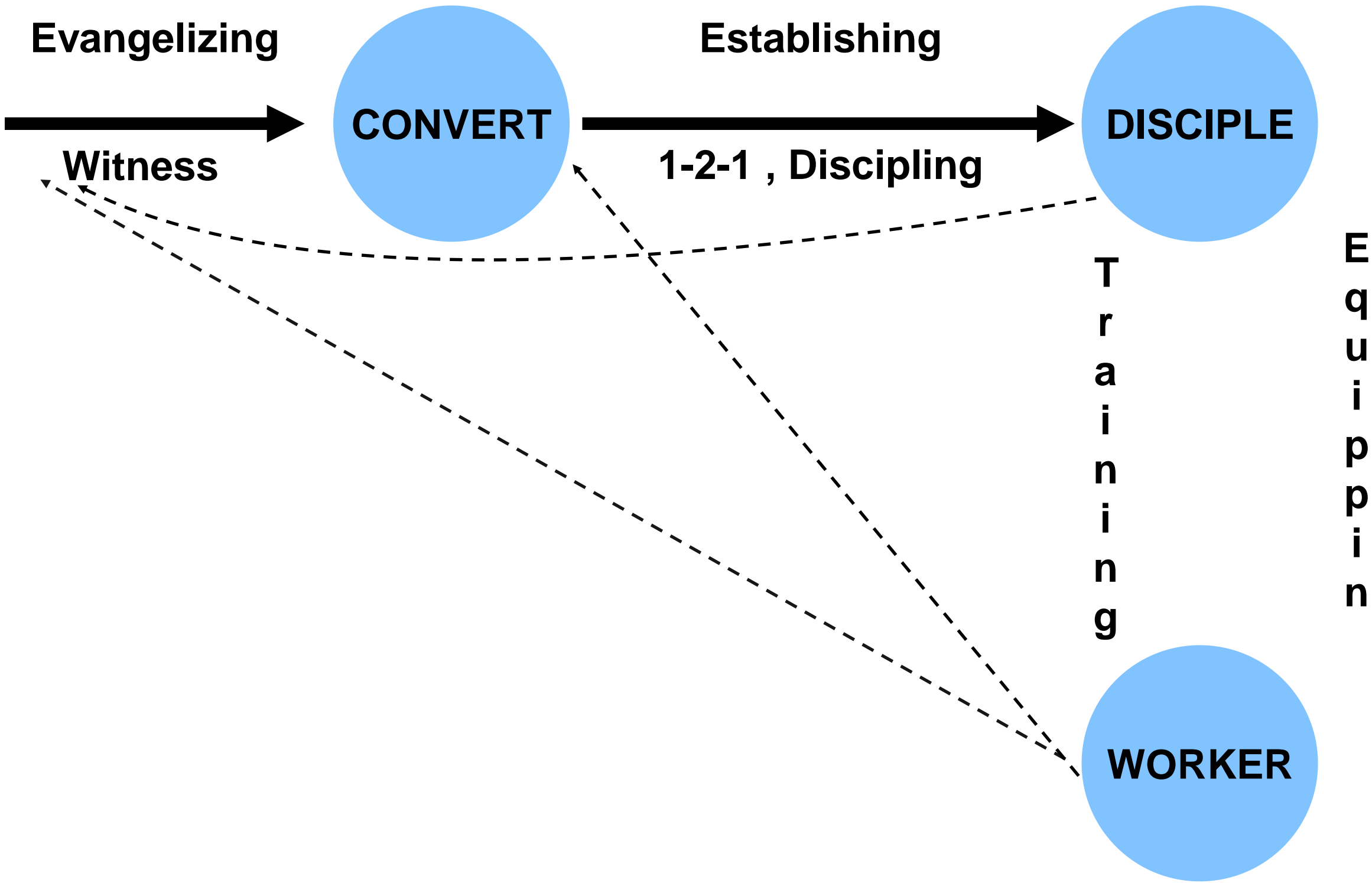


Teaching Disciples



VALUE 1

- There is an urgent need for people to hear the good news about Jesus Christ because all men are lost without him. (Jn 3:36)

VALUE 2

- We are called by Christ to go into the world making disciples and teaching them to obey (Matt 28:18). This is ***the*** mission of the church and the way we bring glory to God. All disciples are called to engage and contribute in some way to making disciples (Lk 5:10). We **ALL** have a role to play in fully using the gifts and opportunities God gives us:

VALUE 2

- Gospel proclamation in preaching and evangelistic events (Eph 4:11-12 & 2 Tim 4:2 & 5)
- Some have particular gifts and some may be called to a more focussed role as an evangelist (Eph 4:11)
- Personal testimony and response to questions provoked by changed lives (1 Peter 2:12; 3:15)
- Relationships where the love of Christ can be demonstrated and discussed being a powerful apologetic, advert and authentication of the gospel. (Jn 17:20-23; Col 4:2-6)
- Prayer and financial support (Col 4:2-6 & Phil 4:15)

VALUE 3

- We recognise the Sovereignty of God that he calls and gives new life (Acts 13:48, Eph 1:4, Jn 3:7-8) but also our responsibility to be faithful gospel tellers and to expect fruit. (Roms 10:13-15, Col 1:28-29)

VALUE 4

- Mission is both local and global - from our neighbours to the nations, neither should be neglected (Col 1:6; 1 Thess 1:8)
 - We should prayerfully desire and expect the Holy Spirit to call individuals from the church to mission in other places or churches (Matt 9:38; Acts 13:1-3)

New Believers will:

- **NEED PROTECTION**

1 Peter 5:8 - Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour

- **NEED FELLOWSHIP**

1 Cor 12:12 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body.

Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

New Believers will:

- NEED FOOD:
 - 1 Peter 2:2 - Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

- **NEED TRAINING**

- 1 Thess 4:1 We instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living.
- Titus 2:11 FOR the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say NO to ungodliness and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in the present age, while we wait for the blessed hope.

New Believers will:

- NEED THE GOSPEL:
 - Jn 15:4 Remain in Me and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

Discussion

Get into groups and grab a large piece of paper and begin to design a discipleship course, a 1-2-1 training programme for a new believer:

What key things would you want to impart?

What key truths/ doctrines?

What key Habits?

What key understanding of the gospel life needs to be shared?

How would you do this?

How long might the course last?

Feedback

Discussion

- Have a look at the following course outline:
 - Note any differences, things you would change.
 - What is missing? What is in there that you did not have?

Feedback

Profile of a Disciple

- Write a profile of what a growing disciple of Jesus would look like?

Profile of a Disciple

1. As a follower of Jesus, they will put Christ first in the major areas of their live and are taking steps to separate from sin (Luke 9:23; Rom 12:1-2)
2. They continue in the Word through such means of intake as Bible Study and Scripture memory; They are regularly seeking to apply the Word to their lives with the help of the Holy Spirit (John 8:31; James 1:22-25; Ps 119:59)

Profile of a Disciple

3. They maintain a consistent devotional life and are growing in faith and intercessory prayer (See Mark 1:35; Heb 11:6; Col 4:2-4)
4. They attend church regularly and demonstrate Christ's love by identifying with and serving other believers (See Psalm 122:1; Heb 10:25; John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:20-21; Gal 5:13)

Profile of a Disciple

5. They openly identify themselves with Jesus Christ where they live and work. They are manifesting a heart for witnessing, able to give their testimony clearly and present the gospel regularly with increasing effectiveness (See Matt 5:16; Col 4:6; 1 Peter 3:15)
6. They are learners who are open and teachable (Acts 17:11)
7. They are visible followers and learners of Jesus Christ and demonstrate a consistency and faithfulness in all of the above areas (Luke 16:10)

What Next?

- Are we growing disciples?
- How would you measure up against such a profile?
- In order to be someone who disciples others you have to be living it!