

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP – Church Questionnaire

To what degree is your church a ‘disciple-making church’? Jesus’ final commission to his disciples was to ‘go and make disciples’. In the midst of everything we are doing as a church are we ‘making disciples’ as our primary purpose? Disciple-making should be the heart of our church because it is the heart of the Great Commission.

This questionnaire is designed to help you evaluate your church’s life and function to see how well you are fulfilling your primary calling as a group of believers. Try to answer each statement as accurately as you can. Don’t overrate your church or underrate it. In areas where you are not sure, do what you can to find out to make this measure more accurate. Where are you as a church in fulfilling Jesus’ call to ‘make disciples’?

(Put a tick in the right hand columns under the number you have chosen as your response).

1. Preaching and teaching level

A disciple-making church will keep the challenge and call to discipleship clearly and regularly before its people. The pastor(s) will regularly preach it and teach it.

- How clearly do the members of your congregation understand that the call of Jesus is for us to be ‘disciples’, not just ‘believers’?
[1] all would know; [2] most would know; [3] some would know; [4] few would know.
- How clearly do the members of your congregation understand what being a ‘disciple’ means? Do they understand the meaning, the call and the cost of discipleship?
[1] clearly understood; [2] mostly understood; [3] partially understood; [4] little understood.
- How clearly do the members of your congregation know and understand the 3 conditions of discipleship taught by Jesus in Luke 14:25-33? (Jesus first over my relationships, my rights, and my resources).
[1] all would know; [2] most would know; [3] some would know; [4] few would know.
- How clearly do the members of your congregation know and understand in practical terms the 5 principles essential for growing as disciples – the Holy Spirit’s ministry in their lives, regular feeding on the Word, personal prayer and worship, fellowship with other believers, being active in witness, service and ministry?
[1] all would know; [2] most would know; [3] some would know; [4] few would know.
- How clearly do the members of your congregation know and understand in practical terms what it means to live under Christ’s Lordship in personal life, family life and in daily work?
[1] all would know; [2] most would know; [3] some would know; [4] few would know.
- How often are these discipleship themes preached and touched on as an emphasis from the pulpit?
[1] regularly; [2] at least monthly; [3] in last 3 months; [4] in last 6 months.

2. Leadership level

- A disciple-making church will have the primary objective of ‘making disciples’ clearly built into its vision or purpose statement. How clearly is ‘disciple-making’ emphasized in your purpose statement?
[1] is our core purpose; [2] is a part of our purpose; [3] is acknowledged in a general way; [4] is not really stated.
- A disciple-making church is one that is not only committed to making disciples in its vision and purpose, but has a leadership that is committed to it and modeling it. How clearly are your leaders modeling discipleship by their own example and commitment to the disciple-making process?
[1] all are modeling it; [2] most are modeling it; [3] some are modeling it; [4] few are modeling.

1	2	3	4

- How clearly is the disciple-making vision and strategy of your church communicated and emphasized to your congregation verbally (eg. from the pulpit) and in written form (eg. in the bulletin)?
[1] constantly; **[2]** often; **[3]** occasionally; **[4]** rarely.

3. Outreach focus

- Our church emphasizes the responsibility of every believer to be involved in witness, life-style evangelism, and caring ministries in the local community.
[1] constantly; **[2]** often; **[3]** occasionally; **[4]** rarely.
- Our church provides services, outreach programs and caring ministries designed to reach out in love to people in the local community.
[1] constantly; **[2]** often; **[3]** occasionally; **[4]** rarely.
- Our church has built into its budget a financial commitment to give to outside missions the following percentage of its annual budget:
[1] over 20% **[2]** 10-20% **[3]** 5-10% **[4]** less than 5%

4. Disciple-making structures

A disciple-making church not only emphasizes its disciple-making purpose through preaching, leadership example, and constantly communication this with its people, but it also puts intentional discipleship training structures into place that encourage its people to grow as disciples and to become disciples-makers.

- Our church has a clear system of follow-up and nurture for new Christians. Mature believes are trained and committed to take converts individually or in small groups through a prepared series of studies covering the essential foundations of the Christian life.
[1] this is happening; **[2]** this usually happens; **[3]** sometimes happens; **[4]** rarely happens.
- Our church goes beyond just discipleship for new Christians but also encourages all members to participate in regular discipleship training through small group structures that encourage them to grow further into mature disciples of Jesus.
[1] this is happening; **[2]** this usually happens; **[3]** sometimes happens; **[4]** rarely happens.
- Our church has training groups operating that train and equip people in the areas of personal witness and evangelism.
[1] this is happening; **[2]** this usually happens; **[3]** sometimes happens; **[4]** rarely happens.
- Our church has discipleship training groups operation that train and equip people in how to nurture new Christians, and how to disciple and mentor others.
[1] this is happening; **[2]** this usually happens; **[3]** sometimes happens; **[4]** rarely happens.
- Our church through its small group structures is clearly training believers in how to become disciples themselves, and then showing them how to make disciples of others.
[1] strongly; **[2]** moderately; **[3]** weakly; **[4]** not at all.

5. Small group participation

- Of the total number of people that belong to our church, the following percentage are also committed to regularly meeting in small groups:
[1] over 75% **[2]** 50-75% **[3]** 25-50% **[4]** less than 25%
- Of the total number of small group meetings in our church, the following have a clear discipleship training focus and follow a specific discipleship training curriculum:
[1] over 75% **[2]** 50-75% **[3]** 25-50% **[4]** less than 25%

1	2	3	4

- Of the total number of people belonging to our church the following percentage are involved in small groups with a discipleship training focus:

[1] over 75% [2] 50-75% [3] 25-50% [4] less than 25%

1	2	3	4
x5	x4	x2	x1

TOTAL ticks (for each column from the last 2 pages)

MULTIPLY each column total by:-

NEW TOTALS:

YOUR FINAL SCORE (add new totals of columns 1 to 4)

Score	Comments
20 - 40	Your church may be doing many good things, but your disciple-making focus is very weak. But don't be discouraged! You may not be able to change the whole system, but begin (like Jesus) with a small discipleship training group. Begin planting seeds and see them grow. Jesus began with a small group and changed the world! You can do the same to change your church.
40-60	Your church has areas where there is a general awareness of some disciple-making purpose, but it is not very strong or clearly focused. You may be strong in other areas of ministry. You may even be regarded as a 'successful' church. But how much better it would be to become 'successful' in the primary purpose for which God has called you. Take steps to put intentional discipleship training into the life of your church. Don't just maintain believers, make disciples!
60 - 80	Your church has some strengths and a disciple-making purpose is coming through in some areas. You can be encouraged by this. But don't be content to stay where you are now. Encourage those areas that are already focused on 'making disciples' and try to refocus and strengthen the weaker areas to bring them into line with God's primary purpose for you. You're on the way, so commit yourself even more strongly to be a disciple-making church.
80 - 100	Your church is already moving strongly in the disciple-making purpose that God has for you, so be encouraged! But don't be content to stay at the level you have reached. There are still important steps ahead for you, so keep on going. Strengthen even further your resolve to be the disciple-making church that God is calling you to be and God's blessing will be richly upon you.

Your response:

- What do you think the Lord of the Church might be saying to you personally and to your church through the questionnaire you have completed? In what areas can you begin to take some action to become a disciple-making church? List the steps you can take.

***“Make Jesus’ last command your first concern.
Don’t just maintain believers, make disciples!”***