

Summary of Discipleship “Engines”
Building a Discipling Culture
By Mike Breen & Steve Cockram

One of the buzzwords around today is the word “missional.” People want to create missional churches or missional programs or missional small groups. The problem is that we don’t have a “missional” problem or a leadership problem in the Western church. We have a discipleship problem. If you know how to disciple people well, you will always get mission. Always. Somewhere along the way we started separating being “missional” from being a disciple, as if somehow the two could be separated. Pastors started saying they didn’t want to be inwardly-focused so they stopped investing in the people in their churches so they could focus on people outside their churches. Granted, we should focus on people who don’t know Jesus yet, but Jesus himself gave us the model for doing that: Disciple people. If you know how to actually make disciples, you will reach people who don’t know Jesus. Because that’s simply what disciples do. That was Jesus’ whole plan. If you disciple people, as these people do mission in their everyday comings and goings, with the work and shaping of the Spirit, the future of the church will emerge (pages 12-13).

Understanding Discipleship

Types of cultures we create:

- High Challenge / Low Invitation. Stressful quadrant. Discouraged culture.
- Low Challenge / Low Invitation. Boring quadrant. Apathetic culture.
- Low Challenge / High Invitation. Chaplaincy quadrant. Cozy culture.
- High Challenge / High Invitation. Discipling quadrant. Empowering culture.

Three things we need to build a discipling culture:

- A discipleship vehicle (or engine): **Huddle**
- People need access to your life (*discipleship can’t be done at a distance*)
- A discipling language: **LifeShapes**

Definition of a Huddle:

A Huddle is a group of four to ten people God has called you to specifically invest in, and you will meet with them regularly (at least every other week) to intentionally disciple them in a group setting. The best discipling relationships always have an intentional, “organized” component to them as well as a less formal, “organic” component. Having a regular Huddle meeting is the “organized” component (page 45).

Using Huddles

Section 1: Key Concepts (What is a Huddle? How is it different than a small group? Why do Huddles work? Spiritual Formation)

Section 2: Launch Guide (Before your Huddle begins. Your first 10-12 Huddles. After your first 10-12 Huddles. Teaching mission in Huddles. After you have taught all the LifeShapes)

Section 3: Sample Huddle Outlines (Circle, Semi-Circle, Triangle)

Appendix Section

Appendix One: Character & Skill questions for UP, IN, and OUT

Appendix Two: Fivefold Ministries Questionnaire (*pastor, teacher, evangelist, prophet, apostle*)

A Discipling Language: LifeShapes

Learning Circle: *Seeing Spiritual Breakthrough*

Repent
Observe
Reflect
Discuss
Believe
Plan
Account
Act

Triangle: *Deeper and Balanced Relationships*

UP: *Connecting with God*
IN: *Connecting with Others*
OUT: *Connecting with the Community*

Semi-Circle: *Rhythms of Life*

REST
Abiding
Pruning

WORK
Growing
Fruitfulness

Square: *Multiplying Disciples*

Disciple Style

D1: *Confident & Incompetent*

High enthusiasm
High confidence
Low experience
Low competence

D2: *Unenthusiastic & Incompetent*

Low enthusiasm
Low confidence
Low experience
Low competence

D3: *Growing Confidence*

Increasing enthusiasm
Growing experience
Intermittent confidence
Growing competence

D4: *The End is in Sight*

High enthusiasm
High confidence
High experience
High competence

Leadership Style

L1: *Directive*

High direction
High example
Low consensus
Low explanation

L2: *Visionary/Coach*

High direction
High discussion
High example
High accessibility

L3: *Pastoral/Consensus*

Lower direction
Higher consensus
High discussion
High accessibility

L4: *Delegation*

Low direction
High consensus
Low example
High explanation

Pentagon: *Personal Calling*

- Apostle
- Prophet
- Evangelist
- Pastor
- Teacher

Hexagon: *Prayer* (Lord's Prayer)

- The Father's Character
- The Father's Kingdom
- The Father's Provision
- The Father's Forgiveness
- The Father's Guidance
- The Father's Protection

Heptagon: *Communal Life and Health*

- Movement: show you're not dead
- Respiration: breathing God's breath
- Sensitivity: the pentagon at work
- Growth: the inevitable result of a healthy life
- Reproduction: creating the future
- Excretion: a cleansed life
- Nutrition: the obedience diet

Octagon: *Mission through People of Peace*

- Presence
- Passing relationships
- Permanent relationships
- Proclamation
- Preparation
- Power
- Perception