

The Life Core
The Source of Life & The Life Core

#27
Training New Believers

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Training New Believers

- We want to first focus on caring for new believers
- Align with God's goals
- A baby requires special care and feeding

Caring for the little ones


"I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.... I have written to you, children, because you know the Father" (1 John 2:12-14).

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Small attempts

- The Lord's Great Commission
- We all say is important but tend to neglect the discipleship part
- What woman gives birth and walks away from the baby?
- The questions why so many believers leave the faith are largely answered in observing the lack of discipling new believers.

No matter what our history or tradition has handed down to us, the church is called by the Great Shepard to lavish love on the new believer and provide personal spiritual care.

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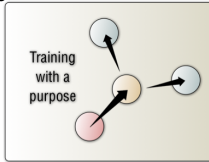
The vision of training

- First, as trainers we must extend the vision that it is the responsibility for more mature believers to nurture and provide for the basic care of new believers.
- Second, we will define what this basic care looks like.
- Third, we need to show how new believer training fits into the whole picture of spiritual development and training.
- Fourth, identify what new believers are to learn and master at that first stage of Christian growth.
- Suggested is to identify 7-10 week training resources to help guide one's mentoring time.

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A greater perspective

- God works in both the discipler and the disciple simultaneously (e.g., mother-child).
- See hunger pangs, cries
- See dangers and protect
- Prepare oneself to care
- Realize ignored areas become major problems



"For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe" (Heb 5:12-13).

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The Challenge

- Meet immediately with the new believer
- Anticipate their growth
- Train to have them care for others.
- "I was so greatly helped by this or that brother. I'll never forget what I learned."

What a shame that the church is often found criticizing believers for not spiritually growing up rather than repenting over their lack of personally providing biblical nurture and training for them.

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Our Lessons

- Every new believer needs a more mature believer to personally disciple him or her.
- Without personal discipleship new believers go through many extra struggles and often leave the church.
- Those involved in evangelism and caring ministries must not only train counselors to personally disciple new believers but also to extend the vision of one day being used by God to train other new believers.

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Application

- ➡ Have you mentored a new believer?
When? Who?
- ➡ If not, why not?
- ➡ How did you train them? Note any materials or themes that might have been discussed.