

# Discipling Relationships

The Way of the Master

# A Healthy Model

- [ **Jesus the Master**
- [ **Men are the Method**
- [ **The One-Another Way**

# Jesus the Master

- [ **Word for Master, implies student relationships**
- [ **Mathetes; Pupil, understudy, student**
- [ **Lifestyle and Mindset**

A view of ourselves that is God centered, not self centered

Accurate, unbiased, helpful and workable.

I can do something, I know what to do, I am aware, advised, accountable.

The goal of a discipling relationship is to help me to understand Gods view of me(all sides of it)

To help me to identify where I am unaware, ignorant or resistant. To empower, and challenge me to change those things that are not Christlike. To be “like him’..see him as he is

# Mis-conceptions of Discipling

- [ Based on Bad Experiences
- [ “I got ‘Discipled’” ....as a Negative
- [ Rooted in Fear and Ignorance of Gods Plan
- [ Our View Must be (re)Evaluated for Accuracy

# Johari Window

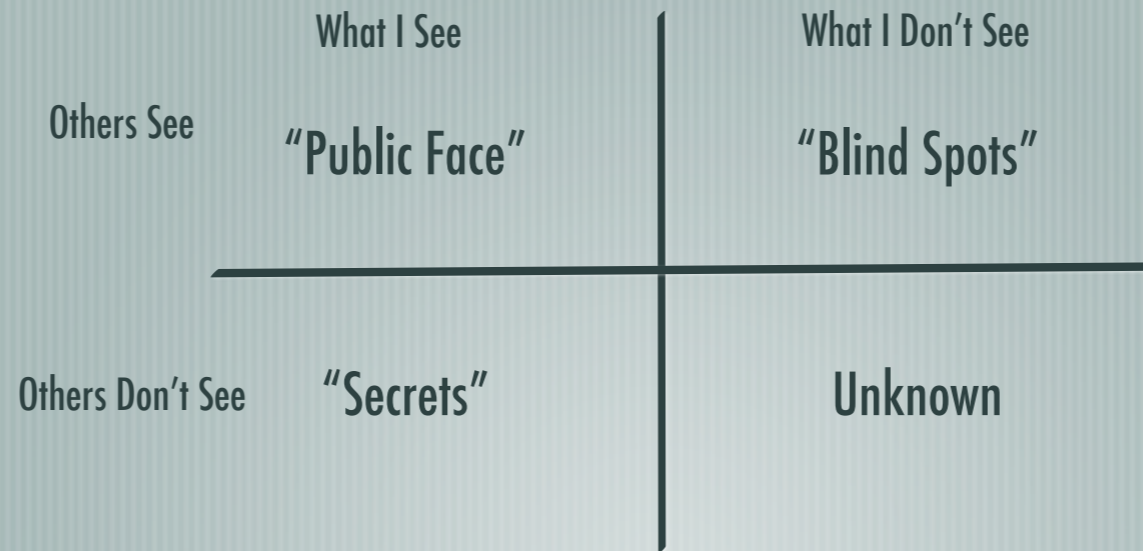
<b>What I See</b> What Others See	<b>What I Don't See</b> What Others See
<b>What I See</b> What Others Don't See	<b>What I Don't See</b> What Others Don't See

One Another relationships clean the glass of this window

They are Gods method of showing us who we are.

We can look closely and discover, or we can be 'shown', the choice is ours, based upon humility

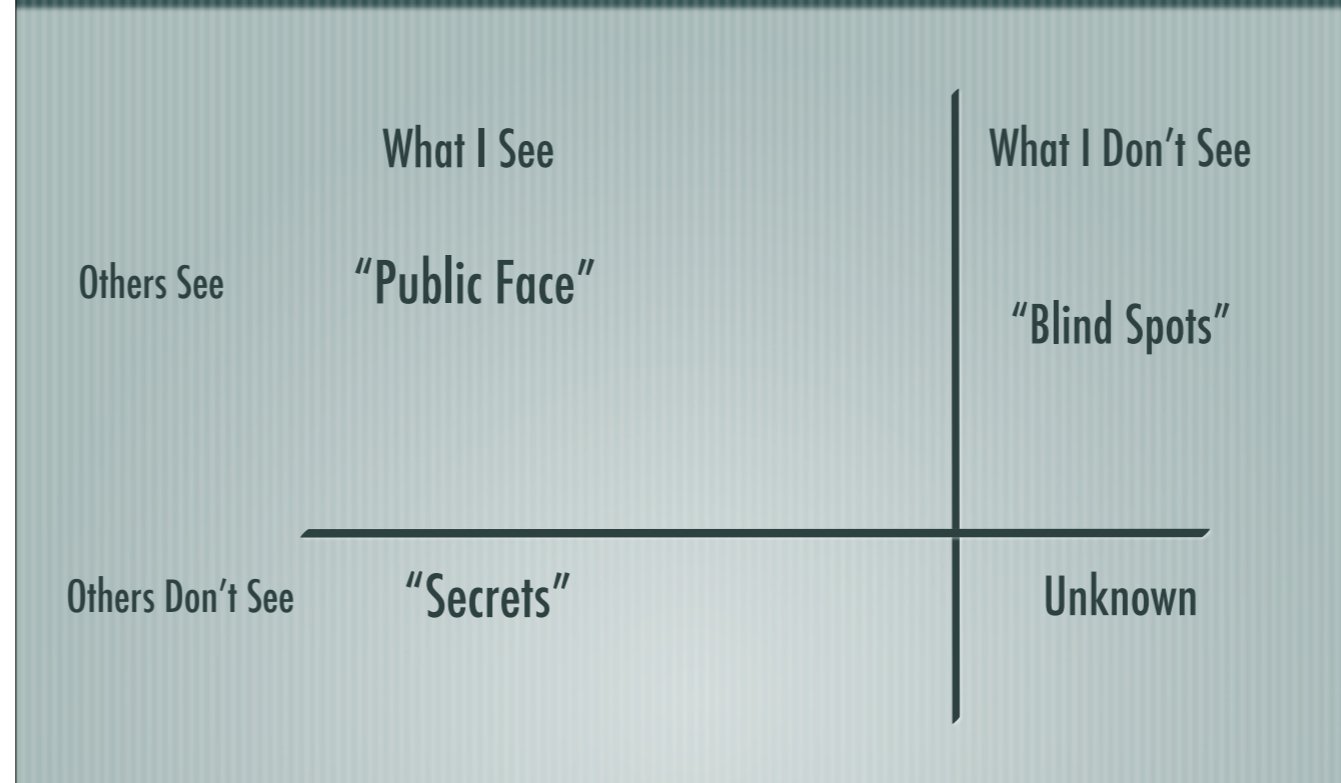
# Who am I?



# Who Am I?



# High Awareness = High Growth



Integrity: "What you see and what I display is who I really am"

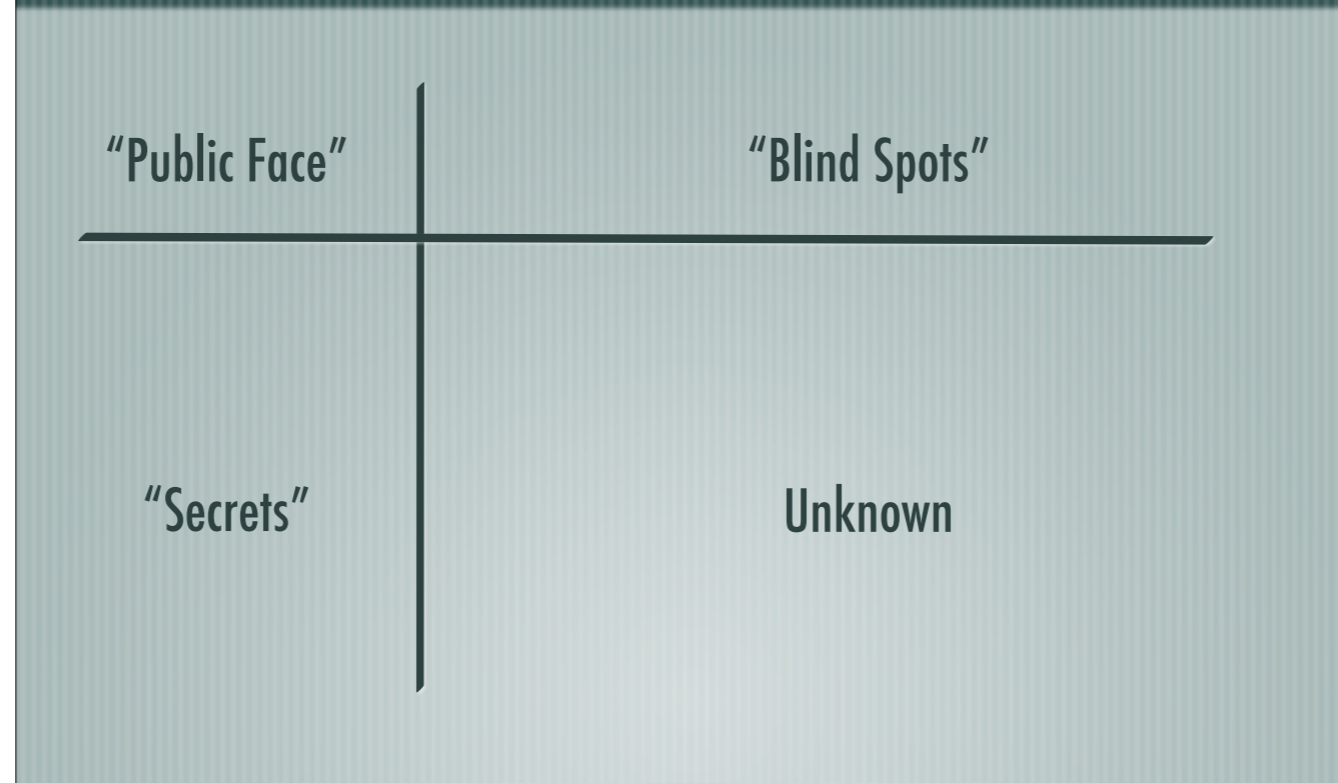
High Growth because there are ample opportunities for change, and encouragement



# A Growing Christian

- [ **Chooses** To Expose Hidden Areas to the Light of Christ (Confession)
- [ **Values** Help in Identifying Blind Spots (Correction)
- [ **Desires** to Know God and be Known (Openness)
- [ \*\* Will Value and Pursue Good Discipling Relationships

# Low Awareness = Low Growth



Small Visibility, Huge Blind Spots, Many Secrets, Largely unknown to self and others.

Repeated patterns, high mistake, long learning curve, multiple relationship failures, low degree of change, growth, low level of encouragement from relationships that rely on understanding to meet needs.

This person feels:

Detached, unknown and unloved, lonely, isolated, misunderstood a lot. Is by nature hugely selfish and needy. Usually very fearful. Pride becomes the defense against exposure and 'hurt'

Sees "Discipling as a terrifying prospect because so much is unknown, and our worst fears guide all of our perceptions.

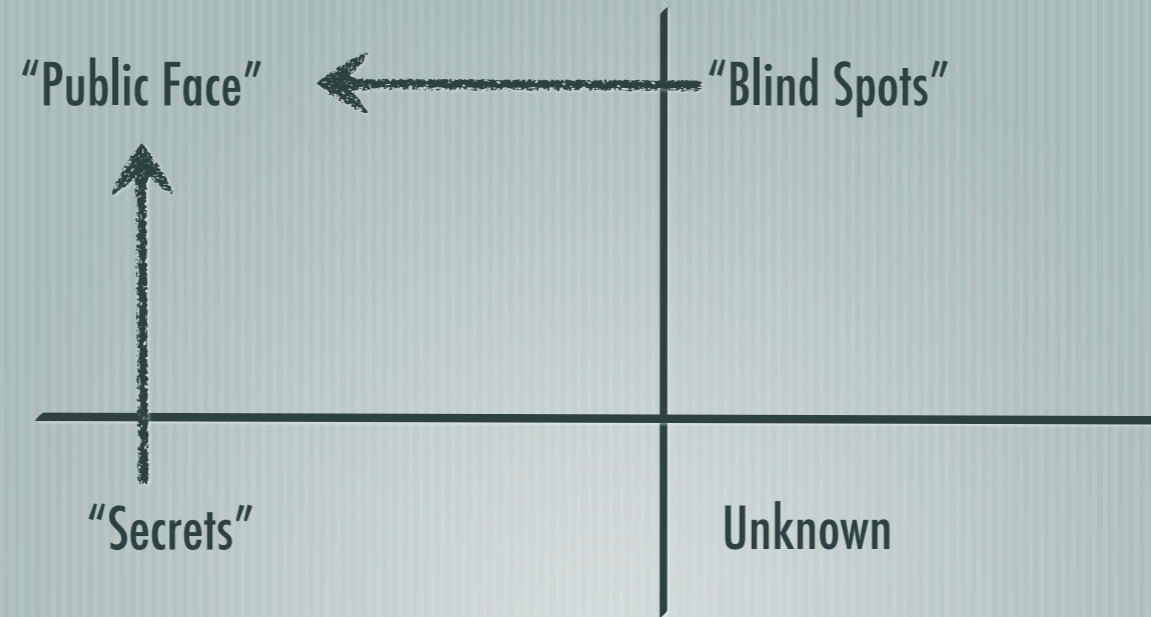
# A Weak(er) Christian

- [ **Hides** Weakness and Fears Being Exposed (Deceit)
- [ **Resents/Ignores** Help in Identifying Blind Spots (Pride)
- [ **Desires** to be Unknown or Left Alone (Darkness)
- [ **\*\*Will Flee/Avoid Discipling Relationships**

Resistance in these areas produces resentment,  
Feelings of being controlled or “Found Out”  
Thinks of Discipling only as “Control”

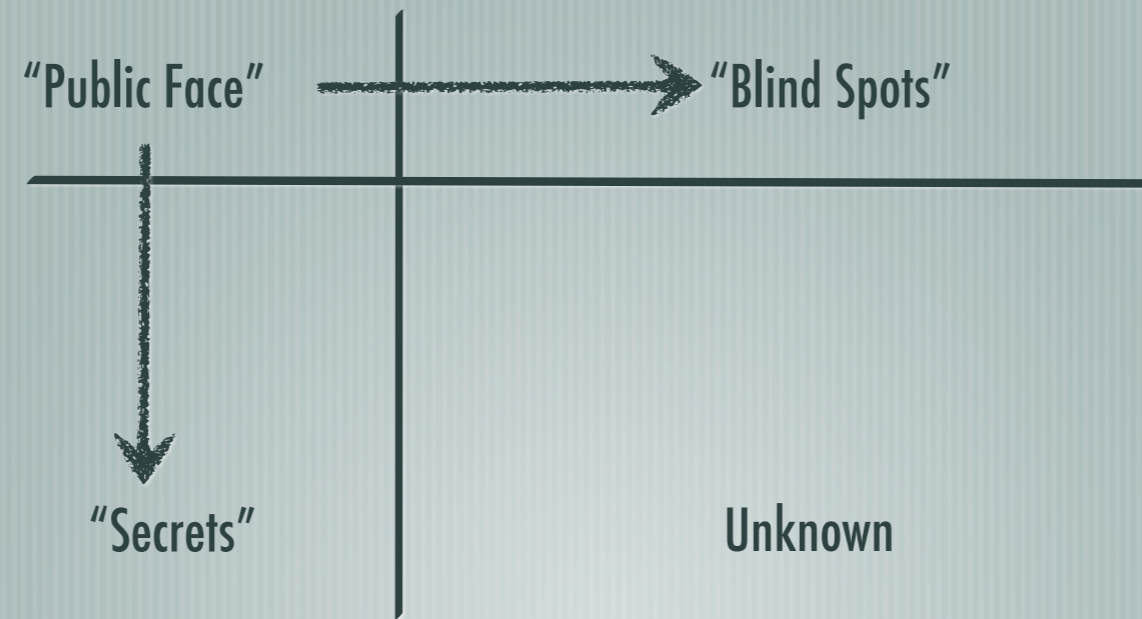
Discipling feels like coercion.

# Maturity Is...



Moving in the continual direction of awareness and reality of who we are so that we can grow and mature in Christ

# Immaturity Is...



Moving away from People that can help us, show us who we are and guide us toward maturity in Christ

# The Purpose of Discipling

## — [ COLOSSIANS 1:28-29

— [28 We proclaim him, **admonishing** and teaching **everyone** with all wisdom, so that we may present **everyone perfect** in Christ. 29 To this end I **labor, struggling with all his energy**, which so powerfully works in me.

a classic text on this idea;

Noutheteo: to admonish, an ongoing, active process, not a momentary

3805 νουθετέω (noutheteō): vb.; ≡ Str 3560; TDNT 4.1019—1. LN 33.231 instruct, teach on proper behavior and belief (Ro 15:14; 1Th 5:12+); 2. LN 33.418 admonish, rebuke for a wrong done (1Th 5:14), for another interp, see next; 3. LN 33.424 warn, advise on the consequences of a wrong action (Ac 20:31; 1Co 4:14; Col 1:28; 3:16; 2Th 3:15+; Tit 1:11 v.r. NA26), for another interp, see prior; note there may be overlap in the verses and entries0

Rebuke; an after the fact, an act

Admonishment; a process, a repetitive action, neither positive nor negative, but for our perfecting, it may 'feel negative' or 'feel positive' it has a strength and urgency to it, but it not necessarily negative, but is always instructive and corrective.

# Admonish ; word study

[ νοουθετέω (noutheteō): vb.; ≡ Str 3560; TDNT 4.1019–1. LN 33.231  
instruct, teach on proper behavior and belief

[ to correct the mind, to put right what is wrong

[ νοουθετεῖν, however, describes an effect on the will and disposition, and it **presupposes an opposition which has to be overcome**. It seeks to correct the mind, to put right what is wrong, **to improve the spiritual attitude**. “The basic idea is that of the well-meaning earnestness with which one seeks to influence the mind and disposition by appropriate instruction, exhortation, warning and correction,”

# Paul's Motivation

— [ Acts 20:30-31

— [ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped **warning** each of you night and day with tears.



# The Instruction of Paul

— [ 1 Thess 5:12

— 12 Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who **work hard** among you, who are over you in the Lord and who **admonish** you. 13 Hold them in the **highest regard** in love **because of their work**. Live in peace with each other.

# The Example of Timothy

— [ 1Cor 4:14

— [ 14 I am not writing this to shame you, but to **warn** you, as my dear children. 15 Even though you have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus **I became your father through the gospel**. 16 Therefore I urge you to imitate me. 17 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 Christ Jesus**, which agrees with what I teach everywhere in every church.

-our word 'warn' causes heartburn here, unless we see the concern behind it as parental, and loving

-Paul became their father and imitation is for the purpose of advancing the gospel and for their ultimate protection from apostasy and error.

-Timothy's sterling example, a man transformed into a model of maturity and healthy Christlikeness via imitation

# God's Plan for Relationships

## — [ GALATIANS 6:1-2

— [ 6:1 Brothers, if someone is **caught in a sin**, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. **Carry each other's burdens**, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

## — [ HEBREWS 3:12-13

— [ 12 See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, **unbelieving heart** that turns away from the living God. But **encourage one another** daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

God Expects us to do these things. They are not optional, but essential for growing disciples of all ages

Discipling is supposed to be encouraging

1. I am supposed to want it and appreciate it
2. It leads me closer to God, which is supposed to be what I want and promised to Him

When I do not want to be closer to God, I resent the discipling

Even a correction, is supposed to help me be more like Jesus, I am supposed to WANT that!!! for myself and for my brothers and sisters

# Additional Examples

- [ Rom 13:1-5    Secular Authority
- [ 1 Pe 2:18-21    Harsh Masters
- [ 1 Pe 3:1-6    Non Christian Husbands
- [ 1 Tim 6:2    How much more...?

convicting idea, submit to secular authority, to harsh masters, to overbearing to non christian husbands, but not to a loving brother/disciple? that's outlandish.

# The Proper Understanding

## — [ Hebrews 13:7

- Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the **outcome** of their way of life and **imitate their faith**.

## — [ Hebrews 13:17

- Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They **keep watch** over you as men who **must give an account**. Obey them so that their **work will be a joy**, not a burden, for that would be of **no advantage to you**.

Stenazo; to groan or sigh...

Sighing takes place by reason of a condition of oppression under which man suffers and from which he longs to be free because it is not in accord with his nature, expectations, or hopes.

# The Proper Response

— [ 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12

— [12 Now we ask you, brothers, to **respect those** who work hard among you, who are **over you in the Lord** and who **admonish** you. 13 Hold them in the **highest regard in love** because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

Respect: hard work deserves our admiration and respect

Over you: there are vertical relationships in the kingdom of God, as in a family. They may grow to peerage, or change in role distinction, but they begin as vertical.

Highest Regard... imagine being difficult toward someone that you 'hold in high regard' , can you do this?

# Older Disciples POV

- [ **Discipling Someone**
  - **Begin as Teacher**
  - **Usually also Advisor**
  - **Sometimes a Counselor**
  - **Always a Friend**

evolutionary, but never 'absence' of discipling relationships in our lives.

# Younger Disciples POV

— [ Being “Disciplined” Means:

— I have a Teacher

— I need an Advisor

— Sometimes a Counselor

— Always value my Friend



# Issues that Arise

- [ “Discipling” is confined to a Single Role
  - If Older ‘Discipler’ is only comfortable in ‘Teacher’ role...
  - If ‘Discipler’ is only in the Friend role...
  - Younger disciple ‘needs’ someone ‘over’ them for security..

# Must Make Transition

- [ Like Parenting
- [ Toddler vs Teenager
  - Over Parenting Stifles Growth
  - Permissiveness Ruins Character
  - “Letting Go without Letting Up”

Too Much makes mommas boys

Too little make them angry

Holding on too long stifles growth,

Or causes rebellion when they need to make their own decisions.

Crippling the young

Letting Go, but not letting Up

# Young Disciples

- [ We need a Teacher
- [ We Need Instruction in how to live the New Life
  - **Application** of Principles Learned in Studies
  - **Implications** of Discipleship on daily Life

Don't assume they will just 'figure it out'

Need to teach them how to make godly decisions or they will make ungodly ones.

we should have sterling examples, and be worthy of imitation, they must 'hold us in regard'

# Teaching is Disciplining

- [ Teacher
- [ Matthew 28:20 “teach them to obey”
  - Not “assume the best and hope they obey”
  - Not “force them to obey”

# Teaching

- [ All of Us need Pulpit Teaching and From One Another Privately and in Groups
- [ Who Should be taught in a 'one-over-one' model?
  - New Christians (2 years and under)
  - New Leaders of Groups, by older leaders
  - New Parents, by Experienced Parents
  - New Staff, by older staff
  - As Common sense dictates...

# Teaching Older Men

- [ Consider Titus and Timothy
- [ Grown Men when receiving Paul's letters
- [ Leaders of Standing
  - “My Son” , “I Urge” , “I Desire” , “I Entrust You”
  - Specific Direction in 1 Tim 3-4 on Leadership Quals
  - “Preach the Word” , “Do not let anyone look down on you...”

He appealed, but was still directive, as the occasion required it.

There is not an issue with being directive when it is required.

# Teaching Leaders

- [ Paul Expected Church Leaders to Teach
- [ I Timothy 4:11-13 Command and teach these things. <sup>12</sup> Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. <sup>13</sup> Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

# Teaching all Christians

— [ **Colossians 1:28**

— [ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and **teaching everyone** with all wisdom, that we may present everyone **mature** in Christ.

— [ **Hebrews 5:12**

— [ 12 For though by this time **you ought to be teachers**, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food...



# Teaching all Christians

— [ Paul Expected Christians to Teach

— [ Colossians 3:16

— [ 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

# Special Situations

- [ Older Christians with Exceptionally Difficult Situations, Marriage of family Crisis, Financial Mismanagement, Addictions, etc

# The Discipler as Advisor

- [ At a certain point the relationship moves from Over/Under to more of an Advisory Role
- [ Maturity Dependent not Time or Age Dependent

Staff will always be in these roles

Christians who stay immature will always 'feel' funny about discipling

# Advisor Role

- [ This role is less directive
- [ Involves the learner seeking and asking for guidance
  - Pursuit of Advice, Counsel, Help
  - Requires more Humility, Self Awareness
  - Onus is on the younger to pursue growth and help

# Advisor Role

- [ As We Grow, Maturity Should Increase
- [ Roles Should Evolve
  - Less Directive, More Collaborative
  - One-On-One or Group Settings
  - Student becomes responsible for learning

# Advisor Role

- [ History of Pauline Letters
- [ Jerusalem Church (30 AD)
- [ Caesarea; 58-60 AD
- [ Rome; 61-62 AD
  - Paul Penned Philemon, Colossians, Philippians, Ephesians in those later years
  - The same men are around Paul for years

# Paul as Advisor

- [ After Thirty Years, Still Advising/Instructing
- [ Never took things for granted or left to chance
- [ Letters have sense of “appeal” and are still ‘parental’
- [ Less Directive, but still Specific
- [ Style Changed, but Expectations remain

# Examples

**Philemon 8-14** Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I appeal to you on the basis of love. I then, as Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. I am sending him—who is my very heart—back to you. I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do will be spontaneous and not forced.

**Philemon 17-21** So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self. I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Is this Us, Can this be said of us?



# Examples

— [ **Romans 15:14-16** I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, complete in knowledge and competent to instruct one another. I have written you quite boldly on some points, as if to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit

— [ **Paul Expected Disciples to Take These Roles with One Another**

# Examples

- [ Paul Also Expected Disciples to take a humble posture and be voluntarily submissive with one another
- [ Ephesians 5:21 “submit to one-another out of reverence for Christ”

# Role Evolution

- [ Some feel threatened when changing from Teacher to Advisor roles in relationships
  - “Advice” not heeded, feel threatened or angry
  - “Advice” not heeded, feel disrespected
  - Parents may operate in similar manner
    - Dependence
    - Must let go, People must ‘sink or swim’

Moving across roles is hard for people who “need” people to need them...

# Advisory Role Model

- [ To raise someone to maturity in a Advisory Role is a real mark of your ability to raise up others
- [ Using a non-coercive but firm model to develop others to maturity is **THE MARK** of a mature, reproducing disciple-maker

# Fundamentals

## — [ Matthew 22:37-40

— Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your **God** with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love **your neighbor** as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”



- God
- One Another
- Mission

God  
One Another  
Mission

are the goals of all discipling relationships

# Fundamentals

- [ A Disciple who **Compromises in Fundamental Areas** is by definition, IMMATURE and requires additional teaching, or a Teacher/Student and or Over/Under type of relationship

# Advising in Fundamentals

— [ GALATIANS 6:1-2

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# Core Beliefs vs Acquired Convictions

- [ What issues are non negotiable fundamentals
- [ Core Beliefs and concepts vs learned or acquired convictions
- [ Baby Christian Basics (Acts 2:36-42)
  - Luke 9:23
  - Matthew 28:18-20
  - Jn 3:16



# Advising in Opinion Areas

- [ There are issues that are not black/white
- [ When advice in these areas is not taken, we are tempted to conclude that 'the person is just prideful'
- [ Who really has the issue in that situation?

Tons of these,

How to spend money, time, jobs to take, movies to watch, foods to eat, holiday options, food and diet

Preferences, how to parent (in some areas) But there are always best practices, and only a fool would not emulate things that work where their kids are concerned.

# Remember...Growing Involves

- [ **Choosing** To Expose Hidden Areas to the Light of Christ (Confession)
- [ **Valuing** Help in Identifying Blind Spots (Correction)
- [ **Desiring** to Know God and be Known (Openness)
- [ \*\* Will Value and Pursue Good Discipling Relationships

# A Weak Christian

- [ **Hides** Weakness and Fears Being Exposed (Deceit)
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Resistance in these areas produces resentment,

Feelings of being controlled or “Found Out”

Thinks of Discipling only as “Control” Because their heart does not want to grow.

Discipling feels like coercion.

# When We Don't Grow

- [ Older Christians are not necessarily Mature Disciples
- [ May Chafe under Discipling in Over/Under Model even if they still require it
- [ May resist 'parent-child' paradigm but be unable to function without it

# The Role of Counselor

- [ We do not mean Therapist, but Trusted Advisor
- [ Fine tuned Questions and Solution Focused Dialog
- [ Is a skill developed by use and constant training (Instincts)
  - major career decisions, parenting challenges, major financial or relational challenges, end of life issues etc.

Few of us will play this role in one another lives on a regular basis

We call this ministry instinct, but it can and must be attained by many in our congregations

It requires patience, asking good questions, withholding assessment until the picture is clear and above all, helping others to think for themselves in Biblical framework

# The Word Group/Concept

- [ Noutheo: To Instruct, Admonish, Warn
- [ To alter ones 'noema' or mind
- [ To communicate so the mind or thinking is **changed**
- [ The idea assumes moving from one mindset to another (more godly)

# Some Biblical Uses of Noutheteo

— [Acts 20:31] I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped **warning** each of you night and day with tears.

— [2 Thessalonians 3:15] If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of him. Do not associate with him, in order that he may feel ashamed. Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but **warn** him as a brother.

— [Colossians 1:28] We proclaim him, **admonishing** and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.

— [1 Thessalonians 5:12] Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who **admonish** you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other.

Notice the Nature of all of these:

To Protect, To Perfect, to Respect

# BIBLICAL COUNSELING

- [ Romans 15:14
- [ Is Not Therapeutic
- [ The word 'counsel' is noutheo; A New 'noia'
  - noeo = to understand
  - metanoeo = repent
  - katanoeo = to consider

Not aimed a pain relief, at least not in the short term

Is designed to bring a person to a godly view of themselves and their situation

We are Not therapists, and pain relief is not the goal. Godliness is the Goal

not to deal with feelings, but with attitudes and behaviors. Feelings are irrelevant in the change of a heart, feelings lead away from godly sorrow, actions lead to a change of heart.

Change of feelings do not lead to change of heart, once feelings change there is no felt need to do anything more. We all have feelings, but our obedience is not dependent upon a good heart, but rather a decision.

how does one develop a 'good heart'? By mental gymnastics until I 'feel' better? is that a better heart? A good heart is trained by obedience to gods word, adn does not, indeed must not wait for a feeling.



# Biblical "Counseling"

- [ Brings **Biblical Reality** to Situations
- [ May or may not '**feel good**' (at the moment)
- [ Is **both** Corrective and Encouraging
- [ Has **Change not Awareness** as its goal
- [ Prov 20:5 The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters,
- [ but a man of understanding draws them out.

We are not to engage in therapeutic counseling, not trained, not our role, not way the biblical text is asking of us as members of Gods family

# “You Sunk My Battleship”

- [ The “Hunt and Peck” Discipling Time
- [ You Probe and Prod, They Bob and Weave
- [ One word answers to questions just means you are not asking the right questions
- [ Often, a person in sin, or who is young spiritually needs help to understand how they are thinking, and to assess the validity of the thought process

Mature Discipling understands the hearts deceptiveness and the need to probe and examine.

# Techniques

# Suppose...

- [ Helping One Another CONSIDER and SUPPOSE an outcome of a choice or decision
- [ nomizo = suppose, consider, think
- [ Jesus often introduces a thought process/parable with this idea
  - Luke 15:4 "suppose one of you loses a sheep..."
  - Luke 15:8 "or suppose one of you loses a coin..."
  - Luke 14:31 "suppose a King is about to go to war..."
- [ Socratic Questioning, Supposition, Help us THINK FORWARD and ASSESS
- [ Creates a Solution Focused or Preventative View
- [ Creates an ADVISORY CULTURE as opposed to a CORRECTIVE CULTURE

this requires a level of maturity on both sides

We must ask question and not assume

The younger disciples must feel safe and not interrogated

This also means that we must not assume the worst, or rush to judgement

We must also not be cowards and avoid a question that will lead to the kind of exposure the individual may fear or be trying to avoid

# Suppose...

- [ Suppose you Actually.....then what?
- [ What would it look like for you to....?
- [ If you decide to take that action, what is the best outcome you can envision?
- [ If you decide against \_\_\_\_\_, what might occur?

These kinds of questions allow the individual to think through the implications of possible choices and open the door to allow you to understand how they are thinking.

This allows for a much more targeted conversation and less “battle ship discipling”



# Common Misunderstandings

# The Friend

- [ **John 15:13-15** Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.
- [ **Jesus Chose Friends**
- [ **Jesus Trusted his Friends**

# What is a Friend?

- [ This Role Never Changes or Evolves
- [ TEACHER, ADVISOR, COUNSELOR = FRIEND
- [ Most of us Feel Great about 'Discipling' when we like and trust our "Discipler"



# Practicals; Unhealthy Styles

## — [ **Avoiding Conflict**

- "I hate conflict"
- "I'm tired of challenging this guy"

## — [ **Surrendering**

- "It's all my fault"
- Over owning to avoid conflict

## — [ **Counter-Attacking**

- "You challenge me, I challenge you"
- Loss Prevention Strategies

Any many other unhealthy dynamics

# Falsehood

Fear not the Enemy who attacks you  
Fear instead the Friend who only hugs you

obsession with feeling good, not 'hurting' one another  
what is our definition of hurting

hurting vs harming...Paul hurt, he did it on purpose,

My letter hurt you, but you were not harmed..

# What is Friend?

- [ Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth
- [ What is a biblical Friend?
- [ What a Friend Does?
- [ What a Friend is for?
- [ Gods purpose for 'friendship'
- [ Biblical Basis for friendship

- [ Friendship with the world is hatred toward God
- [ There are unholy friendships and attachments
- [ Can a 'christian' friend be unhealthy or wrong?
- [ What about a friend who only multiplies kisses?
  - E tu Brute, then fall Caesar
  - The unkindest cut of all?

# Hurting or Harming

- [ 2 Cor 7:9 vs Php 3:8!
- [ Paul was happy to “lose” all things for Jesus
- [ He did not consider that “harm” “set at a disadvantage” for the sake of Jesus
- [ We are supposed to welcome this kind of ‘loss’ and ‘disadvantage’ for Jesus, not resist it or be ‘hurt’ by it

3076.λυπέω lupeō; from 3077; to distress, to grieve:—cause ... sorrow(1), caused ... sorrow(2), caused sorrow(2), distressed(1), grieve(3), grieved(7), grieving(2), hurt(1), made sorrowful(5), sorrow(1), sorrowful(1).0

We grieve the wrong things, we grieve over our wounded egos, over our ‘hurt emotions’ but who grieves for Jesus? Who among us willingly ‘is hurt’ to be more like Jesus, we are commanded and supposed to be willing to do this of our own accord, not moan when it is ‘done to us’ by some big bad leader...

57.69 ζημίομα; ζημία, ας f: to suffer the loss of something which one has previously possessed, with the implication that the loss involves considerable hardship or suffering—‘to suffer loss, to forfeit.’

ζημίομα: δι ὃν τὰ πάντα ἐζημιώθην ‘for the sake of whom I have suffered the loss of all things’ Php 3:8; ἔὰν τὸν κόσμον ὅλον κερδήσῃ τὴν δὲ ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ζημιωθῆ ‘if he gains the whole world and loses his life’ Mt 16:26.

ζημία: πολλῆς ζημίας οὐ μόνον τοῦ φορτίου καὶ τοῦ πλοίου ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν ‘great loss not only of the cargo and the ship but also of our lives’ Ac 27:10.220

# What we Value is what we'll have

- [ Do we value biblical friendship?
- [ Do we prefer worldly friendships?

# Thicker than Water

- [ “Blood is thicker than water”
- [ Then the Blood of Jesus is thicker than Family
- [ Where is our loyalty?
- [ Who Bought us? Family?
- [ In most cases family is the reason we are so messed up

family keeps secrets to protect the family name

Disciples have no secrets because Jesus has written our names in heaven and there is nothing to protect

# To Tell or Not to Tell

- [ To Tell the Truth
- [ Clip from Old Show
- [ What “Version” we tell?
- [ What about ‘Privacy’?
  - who is deciding what is private
  - what is the reason for the secrecy
  - reputation protection may often destroy us spiritually
  - Proverbs 26:2! What does this Mean



# What about my Reputation?

- [ **Proverbs 26: 2**; Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting swallow, an undeserved curse does not come to rest.
- [ **Proverbs 26:17** ; Like one who seizes a dog by the ears is a passer-by who meddles in a quarrel not his own.

Minding our own business

No Gossip

Not being interested in others business, if I am teacher, or advisor or involved in the issue, then I need to know. If not, then I don't need to know

# Gossip or Help?

— [ What is Gossip?

— [ Content vs Intent

Why I am sharing this information

To Whom am I sharing this information?

# Encouragement or Flattery

- [ Encouragement:
- [ Flattery:
- [ Intent; Outcome;
- [ Flattery; make me feel good now, builds me up without a basis, puffs me up, is designed to manipulate me or the situation. Flattery obscures the real issues and prevents dealing with them
- [ Cowardice: Deciding not to bring things up because of how it will make us feel or what it might do to the short term friendship
- [ Making the friendship more valuable than the relationship

What is the difference? Biblically the difference is in input and outcome

# What is Flattery?

- [ Biblical Definition
- [ Dangers of
- [ Examples of

# Proverbs

- [ Prov 26:28 A lying tongue hates those it hurts, and a **flattering** mouth works ruin.
  - “quality of objects that have been moistened, lubricated and coated to **move easily without friction**”
  - Flattery is used to make situations easy, to reduce pain or discomfort, but will not heal or help!
  - Works Ruin, it seems to be ‘working’ but in fact is slipping all over the place

What is flattery:

670b חָלָק (ḥālāq) smooth.

670c חֶלְקָא (ḥelqâ) smoothness, flattery.

670d חָלָק (ḥallūq) smooth. Occurs only once, in the plural construct (I Sam 17:40).

670e חֲלָקָא (ḥālāqqâ) smoothness, fine promises. Occurs only as plural abstract (Dan 11:32).

670f חֲלָקָאִים (ḥālāqāqôm) smoothness, slipperiness, flattery, fine promises.

670g מַחְלָקוֹת (maḥlăqôt) smoothness.

The verb refers once to the literal process of smoothing metal to make an idol by hitting it on an anvil with a forge hammer (Isa 41:7). Its principal use (Qal and Hiphil) is of smooth speech or flattery, i.e. words which were smoother than butter and like oil (Ps 55:21 [H 22]). This use of the tongue is always condemned (Ps 5:9 [H 10]) and ends in the speaker being himself entrapped (Prov 29:5). It is characteristic of the seductive woman who is to be avoided (Prov 2:16; 7:5). The enigmatic man who “flatters himself in his own eyes” (Ps 36:2 [H 3]) may possibly be better translated, “His God will destroy him with a glance when he uncovers his impious slander” (cf. Dahood, M. “Psalms” I, AB, p. 271), taking this from ḥālāq III “perish.” Ugaritic hlq “perish” is parallel

# What is Encouragement?

- [ Biblical Definition
- [ Examples of
- [ Purpose of

# What is a Rebuke?

- [ Prov 27:55 Better is open rebuke than hidden love.
- [ Biblical Definition
- [ Purpose of
- [ Examples of

# When to Rebuke



# What is a Correction?

# When to Correct

# What is Admonishment?

# When to Admonish

# Other Ideas

- { True vs false Friends
  - biblical or worldly
  - happy or holy
  - encouragement or flattery
  - Advice vs Command
    - how to differentiate
    - Is it sin? Is it rebellion? Is it ignorance? Is it Weakness or rebellion?
    - Is it deliberate or accidental (notice that no provision is made for willful in OT)

- { Discretion vs Cowardice
  - To Tell or Not to tell
  - Why keep it private?
  - What is risked

- { Private vs Public
  - What Scripture Says about
  - What and When are Sins Public?
  - How to Distinguish Between

