

ENGLISH TRAINING FOR MISSION



reach the unreached.

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TRAINING UNIT 22 (47.45 MINUTES)

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Make disciples of all ethnic groups III:

The setting for discipleship

How does a discipleship training meeting look like practically?

➔ *Part II: Application*

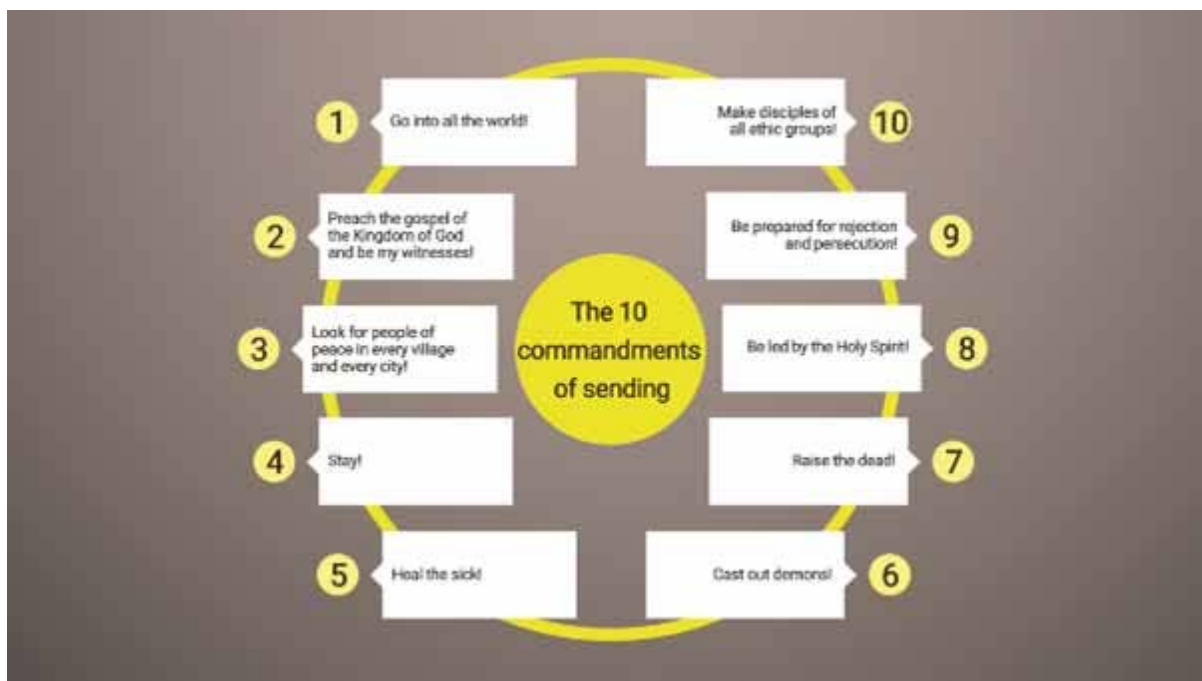
➔ *Part III: Outreach*

Training Unit 22



Make disciples of all ethnic groups III:

The setting for discipleship



Make disciples of all ethnic groups III: The setting for discipleship and the discipleship meetings – What does a discipleship training meeting look like?

The setting for a discipleship meeting

- ⇒ To **have a child** is one thing.
- ⇒ To **train** a newborn **baby** until it becomes a mature adult is something very different.
- ⇒ The **spiritual education** of a born-again person is what we call **discipleship**. Besides **loving and worshipping God**, this is the most important and most challenging task of a faith community.
- ⇒ As with educating a child, discipleship happens in

- different **life situations**
- different **environments**
- different **settings**
- different **contexts**

Where does discipleship take place?

- ⇒ The basic and **primary setting** for discipleship is **sharing one's life** with the disciples.
- ⇒ **Jesus did it** this way.
- ⇒ It is not possible to share one's life with many people, rather **with 3 to 5 disciples** or full time like Jesus, with 12 disciples.

Sharing lives means:

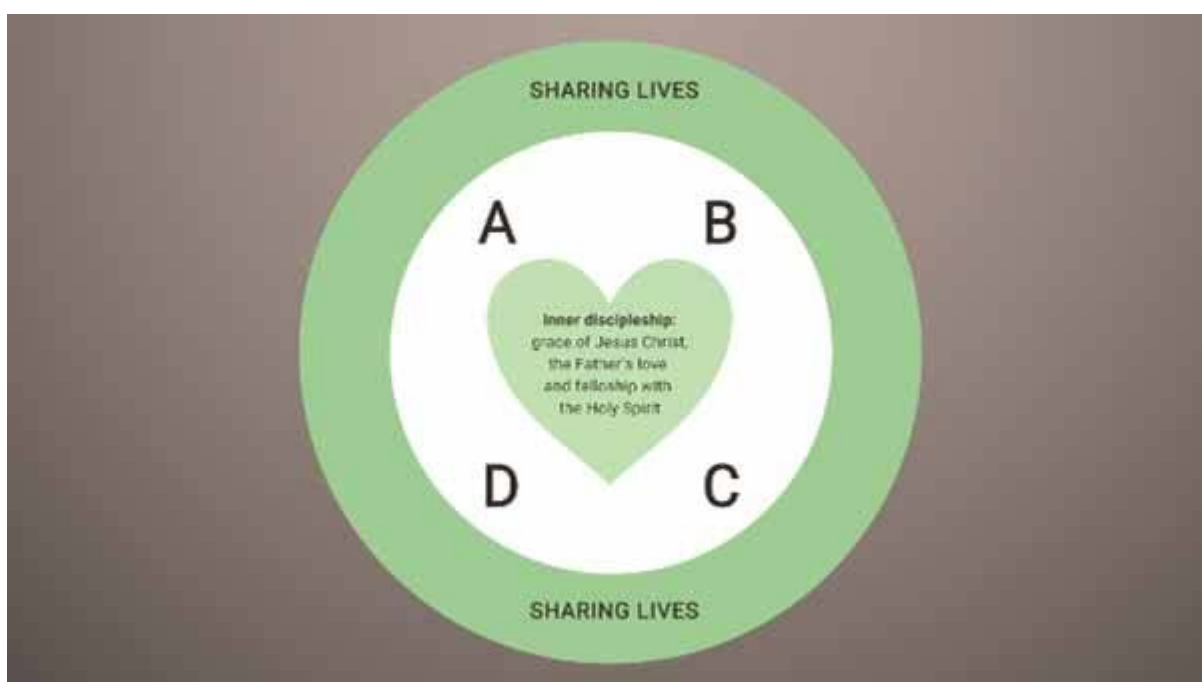
- **Sharing primarily, one's spiritual life**, doing spiritual things together. → Jesus went to the villages together with his disciples, he preached, healed, etc.
- It also means **doing very normal things together** → visiting people
- **Eating and spending time** together

Discipleship takes place in **5 main settings**.

First, the inner discipleship of the heart

2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

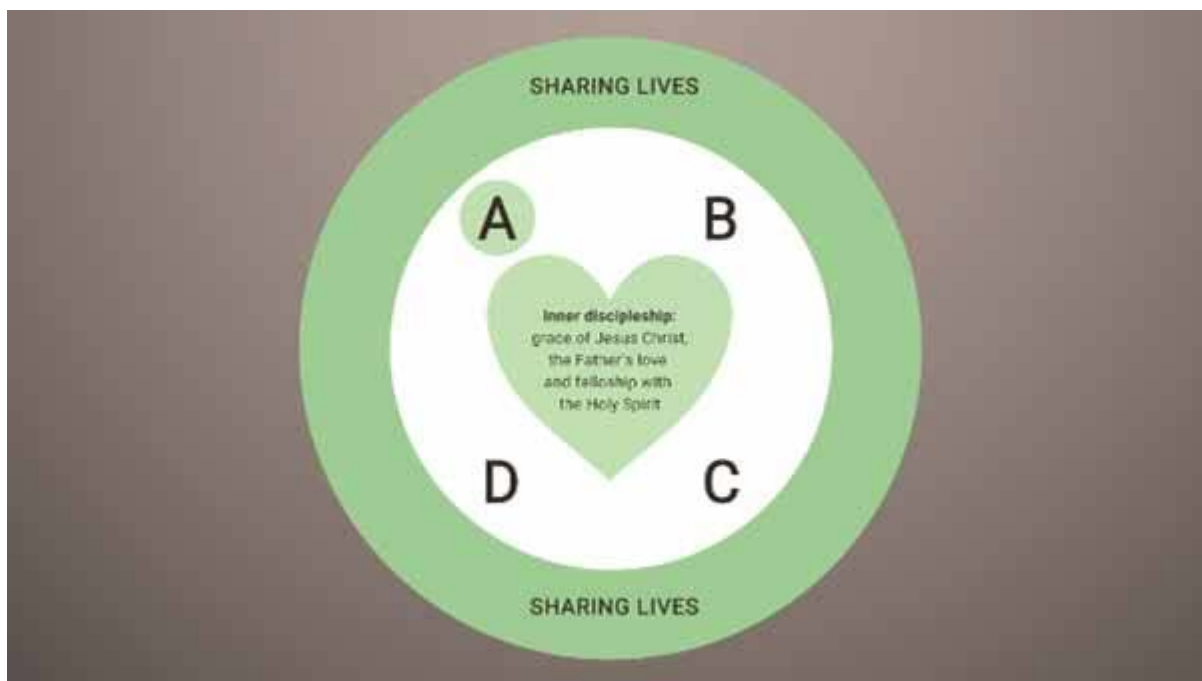


The first and most important part of discipleship is that the disciple...

- comes into a **real and tangible relationship** with the triune God
- **experiencing and living it daily**.

This inner discipleship is the foundation for the whole spiritual life of every disciple.

Besides the so-called “**inner discipleship**” happening in our heart and our personal **spiritual life**, there is an “**outer discipleship**” happening in four different **settings** of our community life.



A) One-on-one discipleship is the part of discipleship that happens in

- ⇒ **One-on-one conversations and in prayer**
- ⇒ The **one-on-one discipleship** takes place in a pastoral context with one person or in a small group that we trust.
- ⇒ This form of discipleship places a lot of emphasis on counseling and is especially important if the disciple has big problems in his character or life, for example:
 - **Occult ties** (idolatry, oppression or possession by evil spirits)
 - **Addictions** (drugs, alcohol, pornography, stealing)
 - **Character deficits** (hatred, rage, violence)
 - **Mental disease** (schizophrenia, psychoses, phobia)
 - **Relational problems** (abuse, divorce)

Paul describes one-on-one discipleship in:

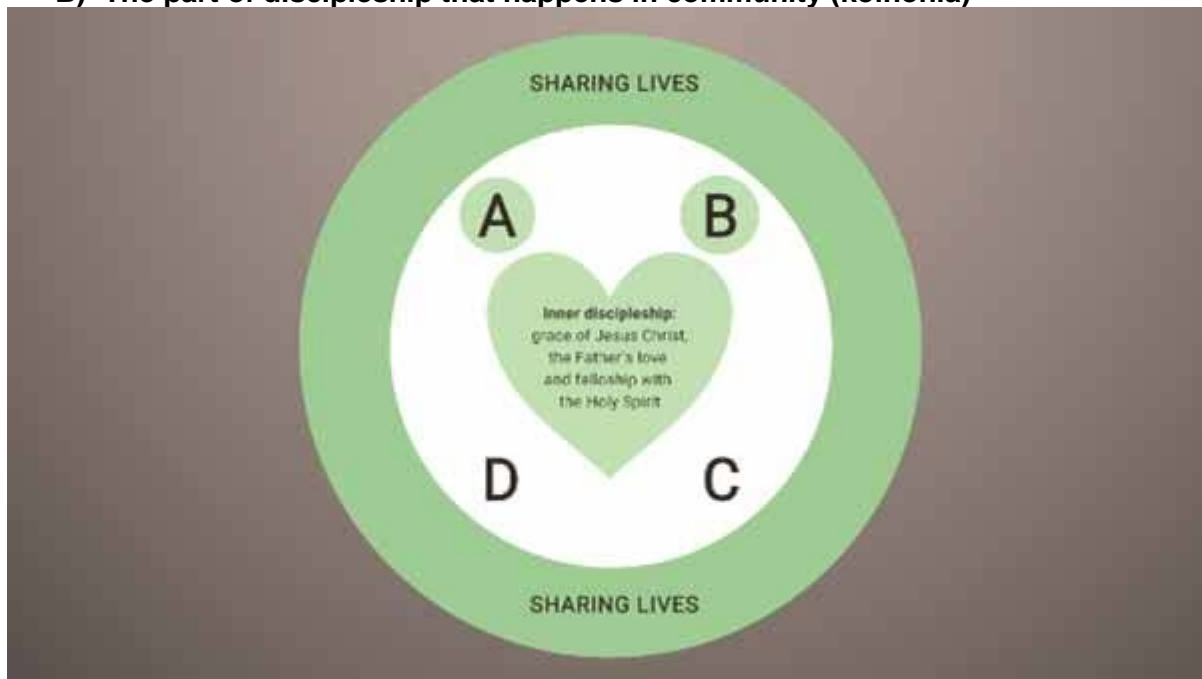
1 Thessalonians 2:11-12

For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

Acts 20:31

So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

B) The part of discipleship that happens in community (koinonia)



- ⇒ This form of discipleship **primarily forms our character**.
- ⇒ The Lord **intended fellowship** with other followers of Jesus **to form our character**.
- ⇒ This part of discipleship can **only** happen **in real** fellowship with others.
- ⇒ If such a fellowship does not exist, **this part of character forming does not take place** or only in a very limited form.
- ⇒ **Diamonds can only be cut by other diamonds**, or as the scripture says: iron sharpens iron!

Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

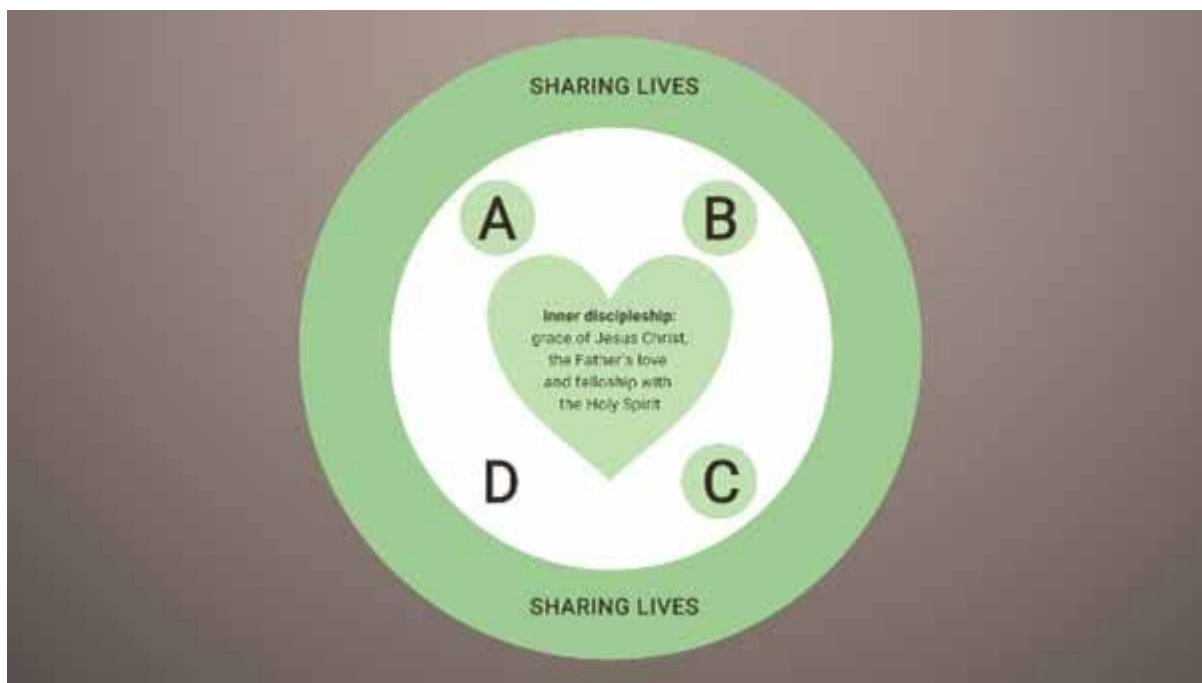
The New Testament describes this part of discipleship with “**one another**”-verses:

20 ONE-ANOTHER or EACH-OTHER verses:

1. **Love one another:** John 13:34
2. **Honor one another above yourselves:** Romans 12:10
3. **Accept one another** just as Christ accepted you: Romans 15:7
4. **Instruct one another:** Romans 15:14
5. **Have equal concern for one another:** 1 Corinthians 12:25
6. **Carry each other's burden:** Galatians 6:2
7. **Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other:** Ephesians 4:32
8. **Submit to one another:** Ephesians 5:21
9. **In humility value each other above yourselves:** Philippians 2:3
10. **Bear with each other:** Colossians 3:13
11. **Encourage one another:** 1 Thessalonians 4:18
12. **Build each other up:** 1 Thessalonians 5:11
13. **Look after one another:** Hebrews 10:24
14. **Spur one another on toward love and good deeds:** Hebrews 10:24
15. **Admonish one another** not to miss the meetings: Hebrews 10:25
16. **Confess your sins** to each other: James 5:16
17. **Pray for each other:** James 5:16
18. **Offer hospitality to one another:** 1 Peter 4:9
19. **Serve each other your gifts:** 1 Peter 4:10
20. **Have fellowship with one another:** 1 John 1:7

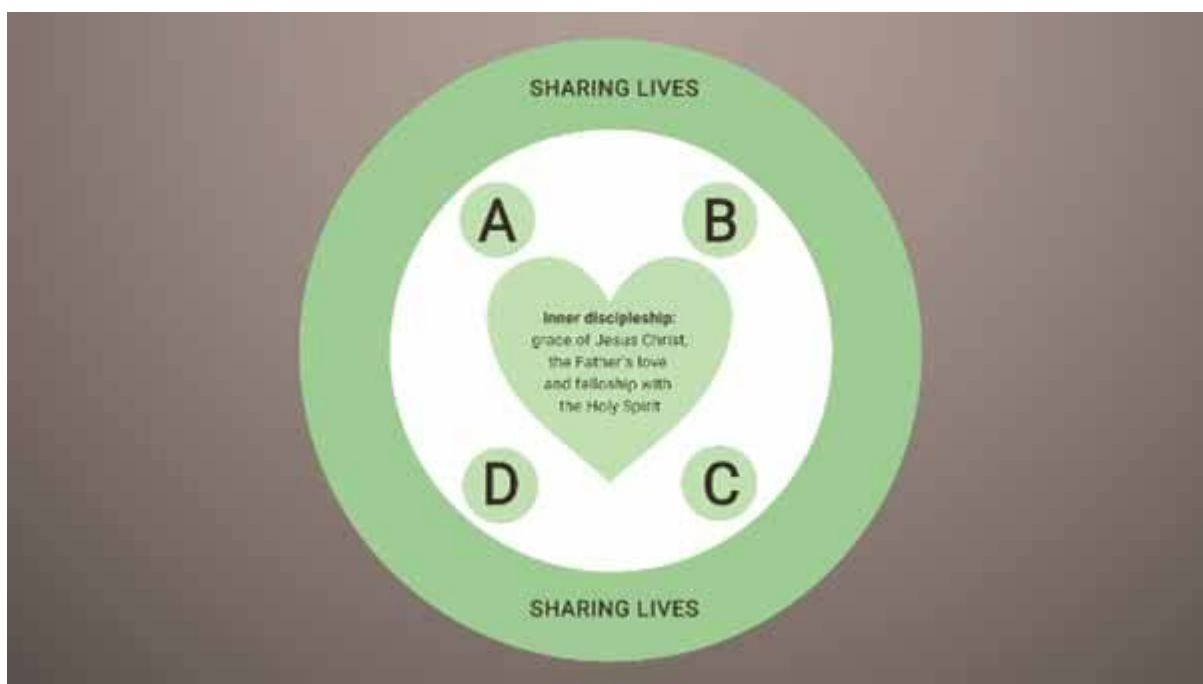
→ Discipleship groups that are actively practicing these one another verses naturally have many sources of friction. This sometimes produces squeaks during these sharpening processes.

C) The part of discipleship that is trained by demonstration and joint practice.



- ⇒ **This part also happens in community most of the time.**
- ⇒ In this discipleship part the disciples are trained to **do the “deeds of Jesus”**.
- ⇒ The deeds of a disciple include for example:
 1. **Going**
 2. **Giving testimony**
 3. **Proclaiming the gospel**
 4. **Casting out evil spirits**
 5. **Healing**
 6. **Searching for persons of peace**
 7. **Baptizing...**
- ⇒ ADDITIONALLY, it is also about **practicing the spiritual disciplines**:
 1. Praying
 2. Fasting
 3. Keeping watch
 4. Reading the Bible
 5. Hearing God’s voice
- ⇒ Trainers meet with disciples **at home** for the training of the **spiritual life**.
- ⇒ Training the **deeds of a disciple** usually takes place outside (training in the field) in order to show the disciples very practically how they can do the deeds of a disciple.
- ⇒ **This was and is the model of Jesus.**

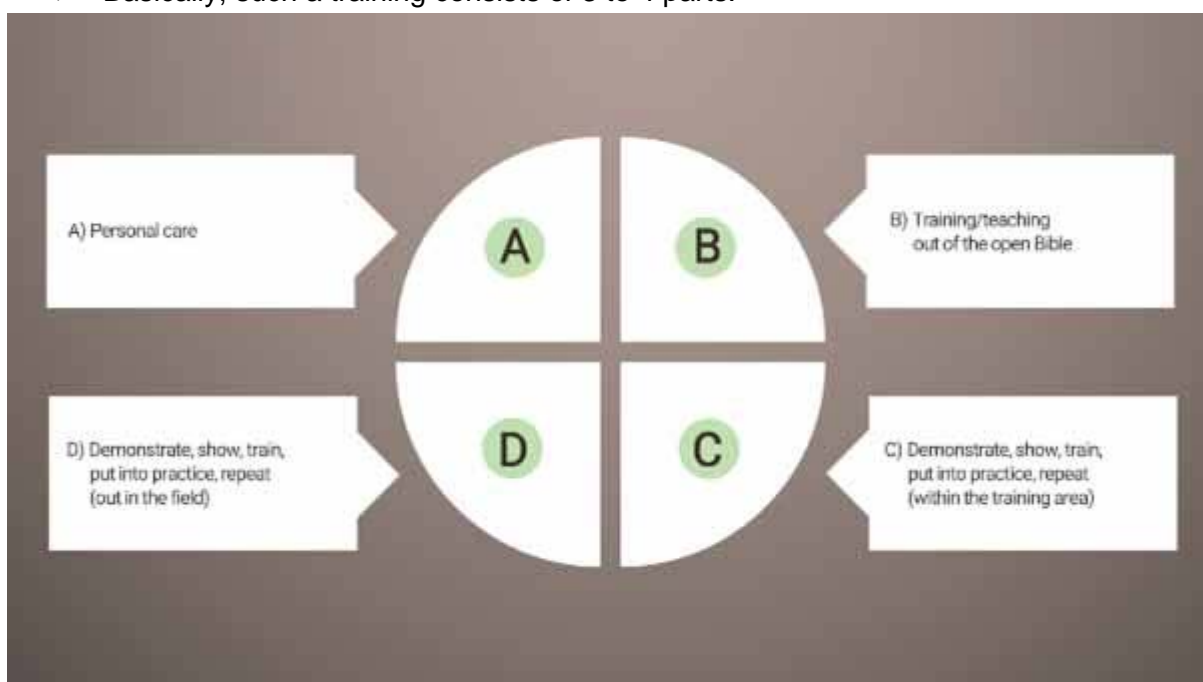
D) The part of discipleship that happens through everyday life



- ⇒ This part of **discipleship** can take place **in a group or alone**.
- ⇒ In his grace our Heavenly Father continues to use:
 - Situations, **experiences and everyday events**, to train us as disciples.
 - This can include things like: reading a book, hearing sermons, having conversations, visiting conferences, etc.

How does a discipleship training meeting look like practically?

- Specifically training **single disciples or, even better, groups of disciples** requires a **strong commitment**.
- Basically, such a training consists of 3 to 4 parts:



A) Personal care

B) Training/teaching from the open Bible

C) Demonstrate, show, train, put into practice, repeat – Implementation in the training room

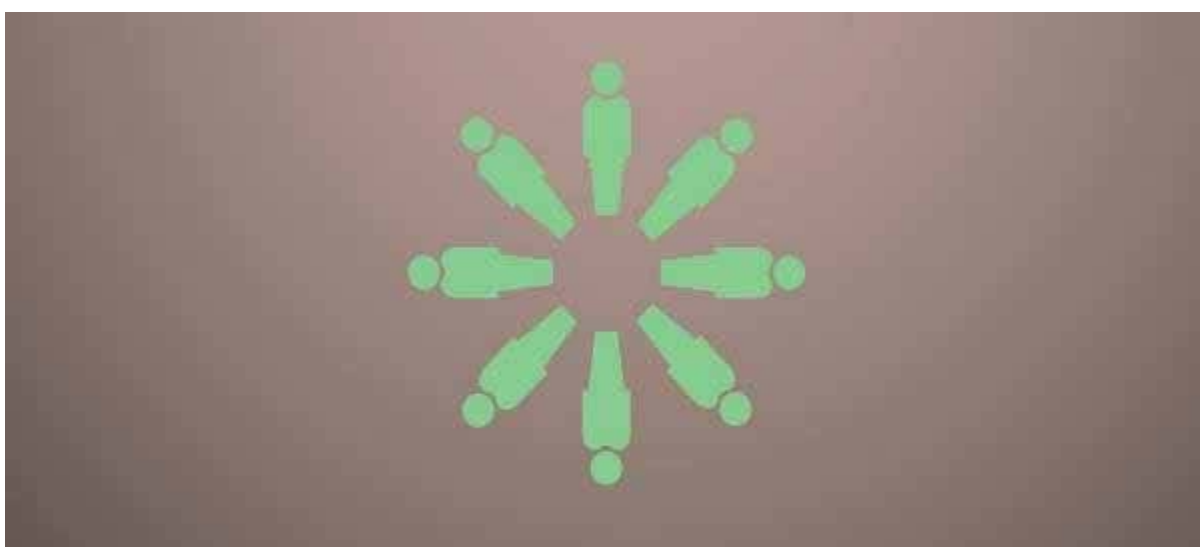
D) Demonstrate, show, train, put into practice, repeat – Implementation in the field

In discipleship, it is very important to put a strong focus on the third and fourth part: put into practice.

- Note: There may be so-called “**self-starters**” at discipleship trainings.
- These are disciples that are able to immediately start **practicing things they have heard, without the help of a discipleship maker.**
- However, this **does not correspond to the model of Jesus** and should therefore not be seen as normal but as an exception.

A) First part of the meeting: personal care

We can have this part of discipleship **at home or in a training room.**



Personal care includes the following areas:

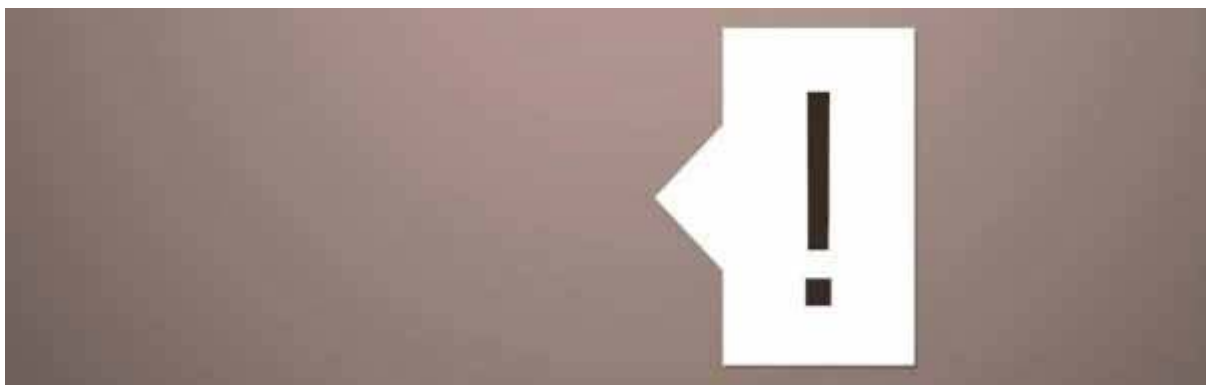
1. Questions about personal condition

- How are you?
- What did you learn from God this week?
- How is your relationship with God?
- How does your prayer life look like?
- What are your needs?

2. Accountability questions on following Jesus and the fishing of men

- How are you obeying the word of God?
- How did you put the last training lesson(s) into practice?
- What is God doing in your life right now?

- Are you a witness for Jesus?
- With whom did you share what you learned?
- Do they believe?
- Are they training others?
- Is there something I can help you with?
- How many new groups were started?
- Retell the contents of the last lesson!



→ Do not give a task without asking about it the next time!

Hebrews 10:24

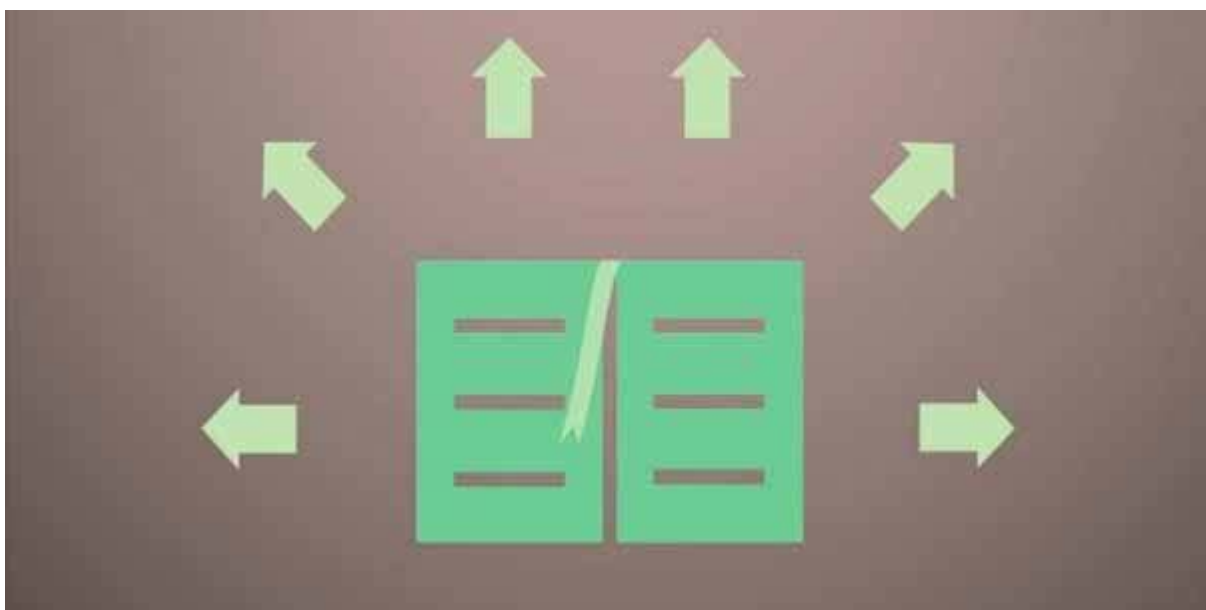
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

3. Praying together and for each other

→ We plan 30 minutes for this first part (A) of the meeting

B) Second part of the meeting: training and teaching from the open Bible

Even this discipleship part can take place at home or in the training room.



- The three topics of inner discipleship
 - 1. The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ
 - 2. The **love** of the Father
 - 3. The **fellowship** of the Holy Spirit
- And the 3x5 discipleship areas
 - **5** about the **spiritual life** of a disciple
 - **5** about the **character** of a disciple
 - **5** about the **deeds** of a disciple
- **These lessons should be reproducible basic discipleship units.**
- This means that the disciple **not only learns them for himself** but that he is also able to **pass them on to his disciples.**
- All units are taught from an open Bible.
- The disciple should discover the truths about a topic himself from the word of God (=Discovery Bible Study DBS = inductive Bible study).
- We need **about a year** for these 3+15 training units. → **About 3 weeks for one topic = 3x18 = 54 weeks.**
- Afterwards we can continue to train **further discipleship areas** with our disciples.
- However, **at the same time** disciples can discover further truths or discipleship lessons themselves and in **mutual transparency** through **DBS/inductive Bible study** and **put them into practice through obedience.**

Training/teaching from the open Bible means:

- **Core text:** There are one or more core texts from the Bible about every discipleship topic.
- **The disciples read them at least twice** and then summarize in their own words.
- The disciple **searches the texts for key elements and notes them down** or memorizes them.
- If the text includes a **suitable verse for memorizing**, the disciple learns it by heart.

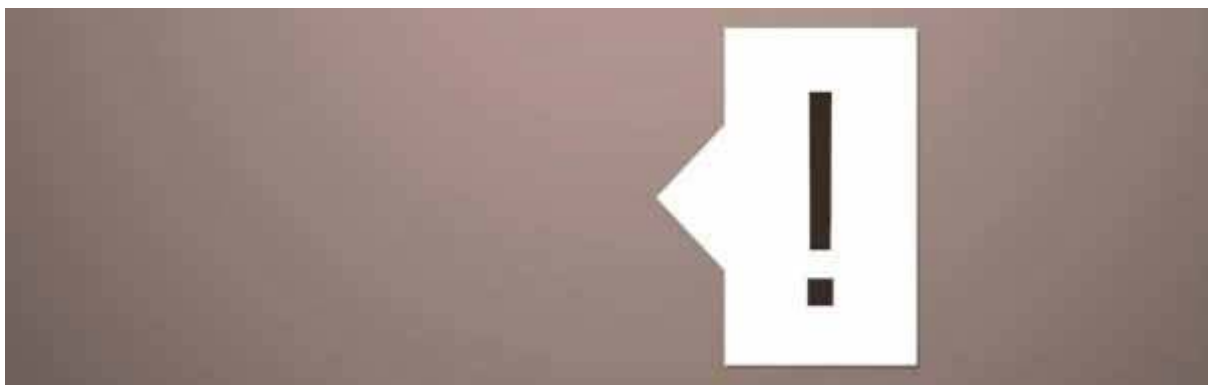
→ We use about 45 minutes for the second part of this meeting.



C) Third part of the meeting: demonstrate, show, train, put into practice, repeat – in the training room

This discipleship part takes place **at home or in the training room**.

- Demonstrating, training, practicing and repeating **in the training room and in the field** is very important.
- If this part is **neglected** or comes short, the **ability to replicate it suffers**.
- The goal of this third step in a training unit is to **transform disciples from hearers to doers of the Word**.
- We place much emphasis on **obedience-oriented discipleship**. This is discipleship that is oriented on obedience, implementation and practice.



- Only by doing the word of God are we **true disciples of Jesus!**
- Only by **doing the word of God** can we become good trainers for others!

→ **Matthew 28:20: ... teaching them to OBEY everything that I commanded you.**

This part of discipleship (demonstrating, showing, training, practicing, repeating) **includes the following elements:**

- The **disciples retell** the lesson of today's training/teaching.
- As disciple makers we **speak** about our practice.
- As disciple makers we **demonstrate** the learned things in a role-play.
- The discipleship group is **divided into several smaller groups of 2 to 3 persons** to make another role-play together.
- **Goal setting:** the disciples define what they want to share with someone during the next week.
- The **disciple is encouraged to share the lesson** with his own spiritual family.
- **Prayer:**
 - The trainees are encouraged to **pray** expectantly in the name of Jesus for the **needs of the people they want to share their testimony with**.
 - They are also encouraged to **pray for those** (list names) God tells them to **share the training units with**.
 - The trainees should hear in prayer, **which goals they should reach until the next meeting**.
 - **Prayer** for every trainee and for the **commission to put into practice what they have heard from God**.

➔ **We use 45 minutes for this third part of the meeting.**

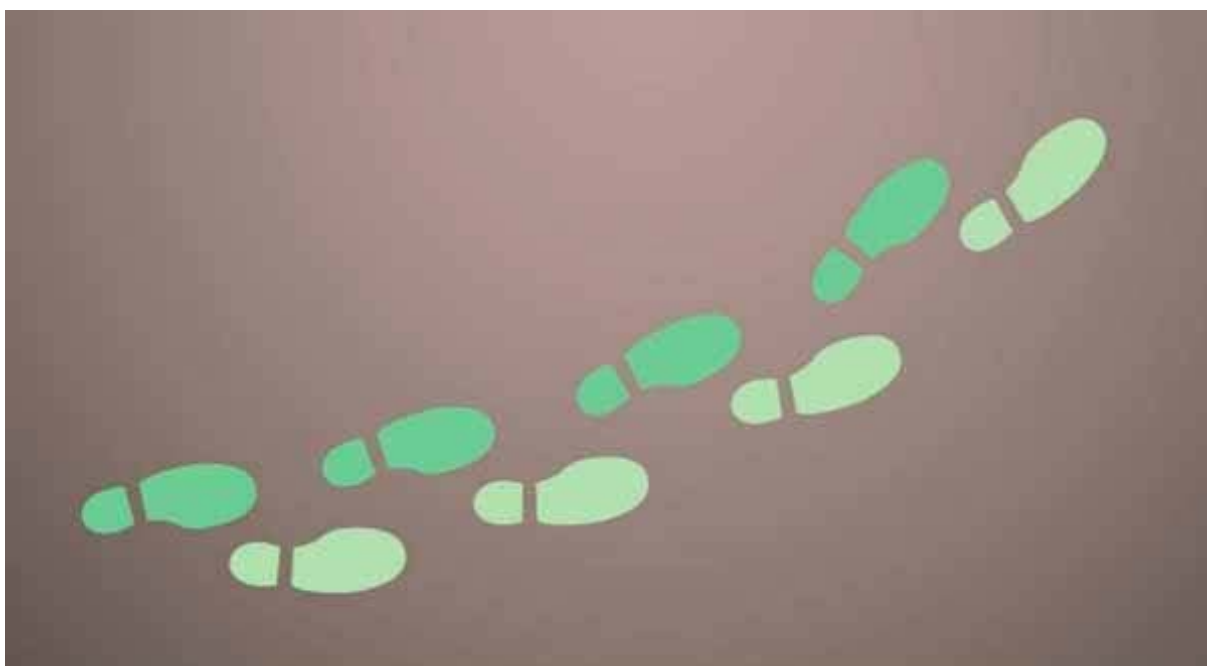
Such a discipleship training meeting can last up to 2 hours until it is time to go outside to practice.

➤ 1 st part: Personal care	30`
➤ 2 nd part: Teaching from the open Bible	45`
➤ <u>3rd part: Role-play (dry run) in the training room</u>	<u>45`</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>120`</u>

D) Fourth part of the meeting: Demonstrating, training, practicing, repeating – in the field

During this discipleship part we do not stay in the training room but **go OUT**:

- To people (unbelievers) to practice the discipleship units “in the field”.
- Or **we go to the disciples** with whom we want to train these discipleship parts.



- As mentioned, the goal of this phase is that **the trainees DO and practice the discipleship topics.**
- AND that they would gain the **competence and confidence to train other groups.** Here some practical examples:

➔ **It is about an “in the field” training.**



- This is **one of the most important parts of discipleship**:
- As **disciple makers** we take our disciples along **and go** with them, if possible, **to the harvest field**.
- In that way we **TRAIN** our disciples by **demonstrating, showing, practicing and repeating** the training unit.

The JESUS MODEL:

1. **Jesus demonstrated something** and his disciples watched and learned.
 2. The **disciples practiced** and Jesus watched (and corrected them if necessary).
 3. The **disciples demonstrated something** and their disciples watched...
- It may be that **in some areas** we often have to repeat certain things with our disciples **(10, 20, 50 times), demonstrating, showing, training, practicing, repeating** until the disciple has the courage **to do it himself**.
 - **The principle and goal is clear**: we **continue to demonstrate, show, train, practice and repeat** the individual parts of discipleship as long and as often, **until the disciple** can practice this part **clearly, without hesitating and without doubting**.
 - For the practical discipleship training **it is very important** and helpful **to continually affirm and show appreciation** to the disciple.



- Here we come to an **absolute important aspect** of discipleship.
- **We must practice the discipleship lessons we want to teach our disciples together with them as long as needed until they can do them themselves.**
- This means practically that we **go out with our disciples like Jesus did and demonstrate and practice the deeds** (going, preaching, giving testimony, healing, casting out demons, etc.).
- We also do this regarding the **spiritual life** (praying, reading the Bible, listening...).
- **We go to the disciples and practice it together until they practice it themselves.**

The discipleship scorecard to memorize

A) Personal care

Personal condition

- How are you?
- What did you learn from God this week?
- How is your relationship with God?
- How does your prayer life look like?
- What are your needs?

Prayer

Giving an account of following Jesus and the fishing of men

- How are you obeying the word of God?
- How did you put the last training unit into practice?
- What is God doing in your life?
- Have you been a witness for Jesus?
- With whom did you share what you learned?
- Do they believe? Do they train others?
- Is there something I can help you with?
- How many new groups were started?
- Retell the story of the last unit.

B) Teaching from the open Bible

- Topic
- Reading core texts twice
- Summarizing core texts with own words
- Finding the key elements & learning points in the texts
- Learning the memory verse by heart

C) Doing and practicing

In the training room

As disciple makers we tell of our own experiences

- As disciple makers we demonstrate things in role-play
- Divide the discipleship group into smaller groups of 2 or 3 persons and do role-play again
- Retelling the training/teaching
- Goal Setting: what they want to share with someone in the course of the next week...
- Encouraging to share the unit with their own spiritual family

Prayer

- For the needs of the people you want to share your testimony with or with whom you want to share the training unit
- Listening in prayer which goals to aim for until the next meeting
- Prayer for every trainee and commission

D) Demonstrating, showing, experimenting, repeating, training

In the field

Teaching from the open Bible

- We go and demonstrate – the disciple comes along, watches and learns
- The disciples practice and we watch (and correct if necessary)
- The disciples demonstrate and their disciples watch...
- It may be that we need to demonstrate some things often (10, 20, 50 times). Read the core texts twice.
- Summarize the core texts with own words.
- Find the key elements in the texts

- Learn memory verse by heart

Part II: Application

- a) Someone from the group summarizes this teaching in his own words. If anything is missing, the others can add to the summary.

b) Group discussion

c) Write down personal insights from the teaching

d) Every group explains what they have learned and presents their goals of application (outreach).

Part III: Outreach

Regular prayer walks (4 to 6 hours/week) and going and preaching (6 to 9 hours/week).
Practicing...

1. PRAYER: prayer walks with the team and a partner ☐
2. GO: to the unreached you have a heart for ☐
3. Look for persons of peace ☐
4. PREACH: the Gospel of the Kingdom of God ☐
5. EXPLAINING: the way of salvation ☐
6. Evangelistic Bible studies with interested people ☐
7. Share your personal testimony with others ☐
8. Call to repentance and to follow Jesus ☐
9. FAITH, REPENTANCE, BAPTISM AND RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT ☐
10. Pray for sick people during an outreach ☐
11. Raise a dead person if you are led so ☐
12. Seek to hear God's voice and the guidance of the Holy Spirit
 - Go on 1 to 2 treasure hunts ☐
13. Pray for the 200 million persecuted Christians in the world, pray for your
"persecutors" and bless those who are cursing you. ☐
14. Pray intensely that the Lord would show you which persons you can call into
discipleship. Naturally, it is best when you can disciple the same person of peace
you found and baptized (in water and in the Spirit). ☐
15. Call this person into discipleship. ☐

BEsent is a training - without practice it is almost useless!