Beyond Sunday

everyday conversations in disciple-making

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Beyond Sunday

2008 Continuing Lay Training Denomination Wide Study

LEADER’S GUIDE

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Continuing Lay Training (Checklist)
Preparing to Teach This Study

As you read the Leader’s Guide make sure you take time to review the web resources available at www.clt.nazarene.org. There you will find free handouts and presentation materials.

The Leader’s Guide is set up to facilitate a seven-week experience. The design of the Leader’s Guide is specifically and intentionally interactive. The best results will occur as you facilitate a group experience rather than teach a course.

Expectations of Leaders

Leaders need to have a strong commitment to the local church and its leadership. It is essential for group leaders to be in support of the staff and lay leadership of their church. This is especially true if some of the participants are new to the church or are unfamiliar with Christian principles. A tremendous amount of damage can be done if group leaders compromise the leadership of the church by criticism or indifference.

Preparing to Teach

Keep the following guidelines in mind as you make preparations to lead this study:

- Read the Leader’s Guide in its entirety to get an overview of the study.
- Write down the teaching resources needed for each session as you think of them (chalkboard or dry erase board, chart paper, markers, overhead projector, laptop computer, Post-it notes, and so on).
- Go to www.clt.nazarene.org to preview the PowerPoint and print the handouts (Appendix).
- Think of people in your group who will need to be contacted ahead of time in order to request them to read passages from the text or Scripture.
- If your group will meet in homes, be sure the home is scheduled at least one week ahead of time.
- If someone will be responsible for preparing refreshments or drinks, allow persons to sign-up for the week they would like to participate. (Keep the refreshments light and simple).

- Outline each lesson plan in your own words or map it on paper to give yourself a sense of direction for each session.
- Pray for the direction of the Holy Spirit (1) in the way you prepare, (2) in what you say in class, (3) in the way you respond to comments or questions by class members, and (4) in the way you give time for the Spirit to speak to participants’ hearts as each session progresses.

Engaging the Participants

Stress the importance of reading the assigned chapter(s) ahead of time, so that everyone is prepared and the discussion flows from the material the authors have written. The sessions are geared to facilitate a transition from an informal, no-threat opener, to questions and activities that allow for the comparison of ideas and perceptions. Finally, participants are challenged to look at themselves. Options have been provided and you are free to choose the option that fits you or your group best.

Session at a Glance

- Engage Interest: ice breaker
- Working Together: group compares and discusses ideas and perceptions
- Reflection: participants apply what has been learned in the session
- Closing: reading assignment and prayer

A suggested timeline for the weekly meeting might look like:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>Welcome/Refreshments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>Engage Interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>Working Together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>Personal Reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>Closing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resources

The www.clt.nazarene.org web site has other resources that can be used to enhance or implement this Leader’s Guide. Included are handouts and a PowerPoint presentation.
CONTINUING LAY TRAINING

Registration and Reporting

Welcome to Continuing Lay Training. Before you proceed, make sure you have properly registered this class with the Continuing Lay Training (CLT) office in Kansas City. You may telephone your course registration by calling 888-243-2767 or e-mail your registration to clt@nazarene.org. Once registered, make sure you have a class report form. When the course has been completed, return the class report form to the CLT office or print off. The class report form can be downloaded from the CLT web site. Each participant will be awarded CLT credit for his or her participation.

Here is a brief checklist of instructions:

- Advertise the class and plan a special registration time.
- Register the class with the CLT office and make sure you have a class report form.
- Order textbooks directly from Nazarene Publishing House at least three weeks before the starting date. A 10 percent discount is available if you order more than five of the same book. Unused books may be returned for credit if done promptly, postage paid, and the books are in good condition.
- At the close of the class, report the class to the CLT office in Kansas City. Keep a copy for your file.

Use one of the following methods for reporting.

1. Paper—request a hardcopy of the class report form, fill it in, and return it to the CLT office.
2. Electronic version—an electronic fill-in template can be sent to you via E-mail or you may download it from the CLT web site at www.clt.nazarene.org

When reporting by paper or electronic version, the CLT office will send a notice of credit along with credit cards for each of the participants of the class. You are to fill in the name, unit number, book title, date, and name of the sponsoring group. Sign the credit cards before presenting to each participant in a public service.

For more information, please refer to the catalog and/or the web site, or contact the CLT office in Kansas City.

Continuing Lay Training/Lay Ministry
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SESSION 1

The Question of Discipleship

This session will include material from chapter:
• Beyond the Past: Pursing the Mission (pp. 9-16)

Session Goal
To help participants:
• accept that discipleship is for everyone
• know that God has a mission for every disciple
• realize that new discipleship principles may need to be innovative
• understand that God is calling His Church to go beyond Sunday to everyday

Prepare to Lead
• Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
• A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.
• Gather enough writing materials (i.e. paper, pens or pencils) for each person in your group.
• If you choose Option 2, arrange for someone to be prepared to read the story.

Engage Interest
Choose one of the following options.

Option 1
Say, Mission statements should sum up an organization’s reason for existence and should have measurable criteria. A successful organization is made up of individuals who internalize the mission statement.

The following are some examples of mission statements from real companies. For fun, pick some random companies and create your own mission statements for that company.
• To give ordinary folk the chance to buy the same thing as rich people. (Wal-Mart)
• To make people happy. (Walt Disney)

Say, as a disciple of Jesus Christ, God has given each of us a mission; a reason for existence.

Option 2
Read or assign someone ahead of the session to read the following story.

A newly married couple had moved across the country and would not be able to return home for the holidays. As the young woman was making preparations to bake their Christmas ham, her young husband asked, “Why are you cutting the end off of the ham?”

She responded, “My mother makes the most delicious ham and this is how she cooks hers.” He shrugged his shoulders and went about helping prepare the rest of the meal.

When the holidays came the next year, the couple was able to join their family for the annual Christmas celebration. As the meal was being prepared, once again the young man asked, “Why are you cutting the end off of the ham?”

To this his mother-in-law responded, “My mother always made the most delicious ham and this is how she cooked hers.” He shrugged his shoulders and wondered at this peculiar family tradition.

Soon the extended family arrived and all gathered to enjoy the delicious meal. Lively conversation, laughter, compliments to the cook, and “Do you remember when?” stories were as bountiful as the laden table.

During the banter, the young son-in-law turned to the elderly grandmother and said, “The ham was delicious. I was just wondering why you cut off the end?” The grandmother looked puzzled. He said, “You know. The way you women in this family cut off the end of the ham before you place it in the pan.”

Still looking confused she replied, “I cut off the end of the ham because it wouldn’t fit into the pan unless I did.”

Say, Making disciples is nothing new. Discipleship principles have always existed, but our methods may need to be innovative or adapted.
Working Together

From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.

- Why is it important for the people of a company or organization to understand the mission? **Say**, Christ wrote a mission statement for the Church (Matt. 28:18-20). Discuss how you feel your church doing in fulfilling that mission.
- **Say**, The church must be willing to adapt to the changes in our culture in order to be effective. Let's discuss some changes we have seen in our lifetime. What has changed? In our neighborhood? Homes? Church? World? Why have some of these changes been good?
- **Say**, We want to be cautious and not get stuck in the 20th century. Who has to adapt? Where do we go from here? Are there any new and innovative practices in our local church?
- Ask the group to brainstorm some innovative ways Jesus reached those around Him (i.e. eating with sinners, touching the unclean, elevating the status of women and children, touching the dead spiritually and literally, etc.).
- **Say**, The church is made up of individuals and the church's effectiveness in adapting will depend on how well her members are willing to change. Are there any attitudes in you that need to change before you can adapt to new methods? As your church adapts to a changing world what part can you play? How can you support the church?
- Describe a casual disciple. Compare and contrast a casual disciple with one that sees discipleship as a way of life.
- Discuss the following quotes from the book:
  - “In Africa, you decide who is going to live and who is going to die.” (p. 10)
  - “The needs of the world are so vast. But without individual drops, the ocean would not exist.” (p. 10)
- Consider, how can we do ministry when the need is so great?

Personal Reflection

**Say**, Your mission field is wherever God has placed you. Spend a few minutes thinking about your work place, your neighborhood, your church, your home.

- Who are the people you encounter daily?
- What if those people are God’s mission field for you?
- How can you be Jesus to those people?

*If you used Option 1: Say*, Just as the mission statements of the companies we named at the first of the session were indicative of their mission, so should every Christian have a mission statement that points to our reason for existence. Distribute writing materials. Ask participants to write a personal mission statement.

*If you used Option 2: Say*, The story of the ham suggests that the reasons for doing something in the past may not be necessary or beneficial in our present situation. It is good from time to time to assess attitudes and behaviors from the past to see if it is beneficial for spiritual growth. This is true for us as individuals and corporately. Distribute writing materials. Ask participants to write down any new attitudes or behaviors God may be asking them to adopt in order for them to become a more dedicated disciple.

**Say**, You cannot change without the help of God. Ask God to help you with these new attitudes and behaviors. Ask God to make you aware and sensitive to ways you may need to adapt.

Closing

Ask the group to read the following chapters before the next session. Suggest they make notes they would like to discuss or share with the group at the next session.

- Disciple Making Through Pastoral Leadership (pp. 17-23)
- Disciple Making Through the Local Church (pp.25-29)
- In All the Nations (pp.107-111)
- Discipleship for a Lifetime(pp.123-126)

**Prayer**: Ask God to help us recognize we have been saved with a mission in mind. Help us to be sensitive to Your will as we seek to recognize the mission field You have for our lives.
This session will include material from chapters:

- Disciple Making Through Pastoral Leadership (pp. 17-23)
- Disciple Making Through the Local Church (pp. 25-29)
- In All the Nations (pp. 107-111)
- Discipleship for a Lifetime (pp. 123-126)

**Session Goal**

To help participants:

- Realize they need to share their faith and the relationship they have with Jesus to others.
- Recognize they are unique individuals with great value and God has a specific purpose for their life.
- Understand that discipleship is encouraging others to take the next step, and the next, and the next.

**Prepare to Lead**

- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.
- Gather enough writing materials (i.e. paper, pens or pencils) for each person in your group.

**Engage Interest**

Choose one of the following options.

**Option 1**

Brainstorm the names of heroes (past, present, fictional, non-fictional). Ask participants to share about a personal hero who made a significant difference in his or her life and how that hero blessed his or her life.

**Option 2**

Brainstorm: Who (i.e. family, neighbor, cashier, another driver, etc.) has come into the scope of your influence today? This week? Was the influence positive? Negative?

**Option 3**

Ask the group to share about the person or persons who discipled them and how he or she accomplished it.

**Working Together**

From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.

- **Say,** Dr. Woodie Stevens mentions a significant teachable moment came when he interrupted Brother Mowery (p. 20). Brother Mowery found opportunities to disciple when he was at work, at home, involved in leisure activities, and even when he was being interrupted. Do you think Brother Mowery would have had such a significant impact on Dr. Stevens had he simply sent him to a discipleship class or was it the genuine relationship that made the difference?

- How did the life of Brother Mowery mirror the way that Jesus interacted with his disciples?

- **Say,** for Brother Mowery discipleship was an overflow of his relationship with Christ. What needs to change in your life so you can begin to disciple others? What are some ways you can be a Christian in your job, neighborhood, the world?

- Recall some defining moments in your Christian journey and share these with the group.

- **Say,** Cheryl says she felt God told her to become a teacher (p. 26). When we think of a calling we typically think of this as it relates to pastors, missionaries, and others in full-time Christian ministry. Is it possible that God can call individuals to a specific vocation even if it is not full-time vocational ministry? Do you know of anyone where this has been true? Has this been true in your life?

- Discuss the statement: Discipleship is not a program—it is a lifestyle.
Personal Reflection

Reflection: Is God speaking to you about finding a person who would disciple you? Is God speaking to you about how you would disciple another? Ask God to place at least one person in your life you can disciple.

Distribute some writing materials to the group. Instruct them to write any thoughts they may have as they reflect on the questions below. When they have finished, allow those who feel comfortable to share their answers with the group.

Say, In order for us to be an effective discipler, we need to reflect on how others have made a positive difference in our own life and then ask ourselves some probing questions.

• Does my life (attitude, words, actions) demonstrate the joy of the Christian life?
• Is my life attractive to those around me?
• Am I intentionally passing on my relationship with Jesus to others?
• Can I name specific people I am mentoring, coaching, teaching, and shaping?

• What gifts, talents, and training do I have to offer God?
• What spiritual gifts has God given me for the edification of His Church?

Take time this week to express your appreciation to someone who has made a difference in your life by writing a note, phoning, or email him or her.

Closing

Ask the group to read the following chapter before the next session. Suggest they make notes they would like to discuss or share with the group at the next session.

• Disciple Making Through Children’s Ministries (pp. 31-40)

Prayer: Ask God to show you some ways you can help a Christian friend draw closer to Christ.
SESSION 3

Children’s Discipleship

This session will include material from chapter:
• Disciple Making Through Children’s Ministries (pp. 31-40)

Session Goal
To help participants:
• understand their unique role as Christian parents, caregivers, leaders, teachers, and fellow church members to invest in the lives of children.
• use the opportunities available to bring the presence of Christ into the environment of children in their scope of influence.

Prepare to Lead
• Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
• A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.
• If you choose Option 1, you will need a Styrofoam cup and enough pennies for each person in the group to have one penny.
• If you choose Option 2, gather enough writing materials (i.e. paper, pens or pencils) for each person in your group.

Engage Interest

Choose one of the following options.

Option 1
Set the chairs in a circle, placing one of the chairs in the center of the circle. Get a volunteer to sit in the center of the circle and hand that person an empty Styrofoam cup. Give each of the people around the circle a penny. Go around the circle and ask each person to drop their penny in the cup. As they drop the penny in the cup, have them say something positive and encouraging to the person in the center of the circle. When you have finished going around the circle point out that the person in the center started with no pennies but now has “x” number of pennies to give away to others. Ask that person to share with the group how it felt to get the words of encouragement from others around the circle.

Say, Many of the children to whom we minister are holding empty cups emotionally and spiritually. Their cups never get filled by parents or family. We have an opportunity to invest in these children by filling their cup with unconditional love.

Option 2
Ask the group to write the name and qualities of someone in their life they really looked up to when they were a child. Ask for some to share about the person they wrote about. What made that person so special? Are there are common themes among the stories (i.e. time someone invested in them as a child, positive qualities of the person, etc.).

Say, Every child looks up to someone. The question is what kind of impact that person will have on them. Let’s be intentional about giving the children in our church and community a Christ-like example to look up to.

Working Together

From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.

• Who are the children in my life and what are some creative ways I can touch their lives? (my own, grandchildren, neighbors, extended family, Sunday School, etc.)
• What are some positive ways I can partner with my church’s Children’s Ministries program?
• Say, A quote from the text reads, “Investing in the lives of children begins from the moment of birth” (p. 32). As adults, we choose how we will view children’s ministries within our local church. We can view the time, money, and energy given to Children’s Ministries as an investment or we can choose to see it as a burden that will cost us. While the former perspective is one with a vision for the long-range impact on our church, the latter only thinks about short-term considerations. How do you feel our church views Children’s Ministries?
• **Say,** Modeling is a critical component to the discipleship process. If the church is going to effectively model Christian living to children then the church needs to have adults who are exemplary disciples. What specifically is our church doing to help our adults become solid disciples so we can have examples for our children to follow?

• Interaction and communication are important elements to discipling children. “Children want to listen to people they can trust. They want to be heard and they want to dialogue on issues that are important to them” (p. 37). What is our church doing that is building trust with children? In what ways are we letting children know we want to hear from them and communicate with them on issues important to them? Is there anything we can do differently to help this process?

**Personal Reflection**

Using the twelve-steps to prayer (p. 33), calendar one day a week for the next month that you will pray specifically for the children under your direct influence and/or the children in the Children's Ministry at your church.

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Reflect: If children were to model their lives after my own, what kind of attitudes and behaviors would they have when they become an adult? Would their attitudes and behaviors mirror the life of Christ?

Reflect: What are some areas of my life God may be inviting me to surrender to Him?

**Closing**

Ask the group to read the following chapter before the next session. Suggest they make notes they would like to discuss or share with the group at the next session.

• **Disciple Making Through Youth Ministries** (pp. 41-46)

Prayer: Ask God to help us view children like Jesus did and not like the disciples who saw them as a distraction. Ask God to show us creative ways we can welcome children into our church and personal life.
SESSION 4

Youth Discipleship

This session will include material from chapter:
- Disciple Making Through Youth Ministries (pp. 41-46)

Session Goal
To help participants:
- Understand that Christian discipleship needs to be an attractive and inviting journey that draws others in as they catch a vision of someone they can emulate.

Prepare to Lead
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.
- If you choose Option 2, arrange ahead of time for someone in the group to begin the session by sharing about themselves.
- Invite your youth pastor or another adult who works with the youth to this session.
- Prepare a copy of the ‘Five I’s” survey for each person in your group. (See Appendix or go to www.clt.nazarene.org)

Engage Interest

Choose one of the following options.

Option 1
Share the following quote: “I saw the angel in the marble (stone and carved until I set him free.” (Michelangelo)

Say, Just as Michelangelo saw the beauty hidden in a piece of marble, we have the opportunity and responsibility to participate with God in the creation of something beautiful in the youth God has entrusted to us.

Option 2
Ask a volunteer to stand and begin to share facts about themselves (i.e. give their name, physical attributes, hobbies, place of work, number of kids, etc.). As they share something that is in common with someone in the group, have that person come and lock arms with the one sharing. Have the person keep sharing until everyone is standing in front with locked arms.

Say, Sometimes we think we don’t have anything in common with the teens in the church, family, or community. However, if we take time to get to know them we may find we have more in common than we realize. Let’s examine how we can make a difference in the youth of our church and community.

Working Together
From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.

Discuss the following five areas of discipleship for youth as presented in the text (pp. 42-46).
- **Integral**—What are the dangers of remaining a “new” Christian? Is discipleship an integral part of our youth ministry? Why or why not?
- **Inviting**—People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care. Agree? Disagree? How does our youth ministry tangibly demonstrate how much we care?
- **Intentionality**—What is the danger of doing youth ministry “to and for” instead of “through and with”? How are we doing ministry “through and with” the youth of our church so they can “pack their own spiritual bags”? Is there anything we can begin doing that will help this process?
- **Incarnational**—What does it mean to “earn the right to be heard”? How are we being intentional about breaking down any walls of skepticism and distrust?
- **Intergenerational**—What is the danger of discovering truth among their [youth] peers?

Ask the group to rank how he or she feels your church is doing the Five I’s with the teens of your church by considering the following survey.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Integral</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doing Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Doing Well</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Invite your youth pastor or another adult who works with the youth to this session. Give them permission to be candid and open as they rank your church on the Five I’s.

Ask your guest to share ideas and ways your church, small group, and/or individuals can partner in the Youth Ministry program of your church.

Personal Reflection

Complete the “Five I’s” survey based on how effective you feel you are in your discipleship responsibilities to the youth of your church. Ask God to reveal the areas of your life where you need to improve your relationship with the teens in your life and church.

Closing

Ask the group to read the following chapter before the next session. Suggest they make notes they would like to discuss or share with the group at the next session.

- Disciple Making Through Family Ministries (pp. 47-57)

Prayer: Ask God to help you connect with the youth in your church and community. Allow God to stretch you as you find those areas of commonality. Ask God to give you opportunities to use those commonalities as a spring board for bridge building.
SESSION 5

Adult Discipleship

This session will include material from chapter:
• Disciple Making Through Family Ministries (pp. 47-57)

Session Goal
To help participants:
• Understand that relationships developed and shaped within our family of origin profoundly shape the culture
• Strengthening family relationships will strengthen the home, church, and community
• Healthy, relational skills learned in the family of origin need to translate into other relationships
• Discipleship is a lifelong journey

Prepare to Lead
• Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
• A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.
• Assign someone ahead of the session to read the story of Rev. Eugene Rivers (p. 48)
• Make copies of Essentials of Discipleship for each person in your group. (See Appendix or go to www.clt.nazarene.org)

Engage Interest
Read aloud the story of Rev. Eugene Rivers (p. 49). Have the group discuss/react to the statement: “I’m there, you’re not!”

Say, Having a personal presence is more than being physically present. Having personal presence implies an emotional and spiritual investment is imperative. Let’s look at what this means.

Working Together
From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.
• What is the risk and responsibility in someone (family members) being close to you day after day? (see story on p. 49). If you never spoke a word to those closest to us, what would your actions teach them?
• Why is holding someone accountable, or being held accountable and growing from it a sign of love? If we hold someone accountable is it important for us to hold ourselves to the same standard?
• How do accountability and forgiveness partner to address offense and need? (Chi Chi’s p. 52)
• What role does prayer play in discipleship?
• On pp. 55-56 Jordan reveals the gratitude he has for his grandpa. How did the actions of Jordan’s grandpa mirror the actions of Christ toward us? (Christ selflessly left a place of comfort and inconvenienced and came to where we were and lived with us).
• Discuss: “above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins” (1 Pet. 4:8).

Personal Reflection
Say, God ordained the family to be the basic foundation of any healthy, life-producing society. Let’s take a moment to reflect on how we can contribute to our immediate families as well as our church family.
Distribute copies of Essentials of Discipleship.
Spend some quiet time evaluating the essentials of discipleship as presented in this session.
• How do you rank yourself in each of these essential areas?
• How would your family members rank you (you may even need to ask them for their feedback)?
• If these two do not coincide, how can you reconcile the differences?
• What is the role each essential plays in your own life and family?
• What are some positive steps I can take to strengthen these essentials?
✓ Presence
✓ Accountability
✓ Forgiveness
✓ Prayer
✓ Unconditional Love
Ask God to guide as you make the necessary adjustments of time and energy needed to create a God honoring home.

Closing

Ask the group to read the following chapters before the next session. Suggest they make notes they would like to discuss or share with the group at the next session.

- Beyond Casual: Becoming a Christlike Disciple (pp. 69-72)
- Beyond Membership to Discipleship (pp. 73-78)
- Beyond Self to Learning Christlikeness (pp. 77-85)

Prayer: Thank God for the loving, forgiving, and merciful ways He has interacted with you. Ask God to reveal His character to you in new and fresh ways. As God reveals His character to you, ask Him to help you reflect His character. Now, thank God for the circumstances and people in your life that God is using to shape you into Christ-likeness.
SESSION 6

Discipleship and the Inner Life

This session will include material from chapters:
- Beyond Casual: Becoming a Christlike Disciple (pp. 69-72)
- Beyond Membership to Discipleship (pp. 73-76)
- Beyond Self to Learning Christlikeness (pp. 77-85)

Session Goal
To help participants:
- Realize that to produce Christlike followers, we must be Christlike followers.
- Know the difference between being a church member and being a discipler.

Prepare to Lead
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.

Engage Interest
Choose one of the following options.

Option 1
Say, Name ways you are like your mother, father, or other family members. Next, ask the group to name ways they are like Jesus.

Option 2
Ask the group to describe a “good” church member.

Ask, “How can a person be a good church member and still not be a discipler?”

Say, Because the Christian life does not happen by accident, it is essential for us to give adequate thought to how we are influenced by those around us and how we can participate in the spiritual development of others.

Working Together
From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.

- React to the statement, “There is no such thing as an independent Christian.” (p. 70)
- Name specific ways your church or small group would be spiritually void without the influence of your brothers and sisters (name them specifically) in Christ.
- Look at the three scripture references on p. 71. What does it mean for a disciple to deny himself and take up his cross daily? Is it possible to do this and be a casual disciple?
- How did Jesus make disciples?
- React to the statement: “Many followers of Jesus have filled their lives with so much that there is no room for a close discipling relationship with anyone.”
- Does the way we spend our time reflect our priorities? Why or why not?
- What would it look like to be in a discipling relationship? Be specific. What kind of conversations would you have? What small step can you make to begin a discipling relationship?
- If you could be discipled by someone, who would that person be? What is it about that person that attracts you to them?
- Discuss how discipling someone may take the role of a teacher, mentor, or coach. (p. 75).
- In Romans 8:29 God calls for us to “be conformed to the likeness his Son.” Describe Christlike qualities.
- React to the statement: “We teach what we know, but we reproduce what we are.” How can we expect to produce Christlike disciples if we are not Christlike?
- React to the statement: “I cannot [become a Christlike disciple] by going to seminars, conferences, Bible studies, or worship services.”
- React to the statement: “We are so busy trying to do Jesus’ job—building the church—that we don’t have time to do our job—discipling.”
Say, discipleship begins with a desire to be more like Christ. Once we have that desire it is necessary for us to consider how we can restructure our life to make room for discipleship. This means some things may need to be removed from our life and some things may need to be added in.

**Personal Reflection**

Read over the eight priorities for Christlike discipleship presented on pages 71-72.
- Which of the priorities most closely represents your current growth toward Christlikeness?
- Which priorities need attention?

Consider the kind of life adjustments it would require to be discipled or to disciple someone like Jesus did His twelve apostles. Ask yourself, “Am I willing to make that kind of investment?”

Write down the name of someone you would like to disciple you. Plan to have a conversation with that person and ask them if they would be willing to help you grow as a Christian. This will require your willingness to enter into a trusting relationship with accountability.

**Closing**

Ask the group to read the following chapters before the next session. Suggest they make notes they would like to discuss or share with the group at the next session.
- Disciple Making Through Systems (pp. 59-68)
- Being, Before Making (pp. 87-92)
- Beyond Church Growth (pp. 93-95)
- Five Core Components (pp. 97-106)
- Three Streams of Discipleship Thought (pp. 113-118)
- Disciples Discipling Disciples (pp. 119-122)

**Prayer:** Ask God to give you an insatiable desire for discipleship that will drive you to Christ and to others.
SESSION 7

Discipleship Issues and Models

This session will include material from chapters:
- Disciple Making Through Systems (pp. 59-68)
- Being, Before Making (pp. 87-92)
- Beyond Church Growth (pp. 93-95)
- Five Core Components (pp. 97-106)
- Three Streams of Discipleship Thought (pp. 113-118)
- Disciples Discipling Disciples (pp. 119-122)

Session Goal
To help participants:
- Realize to make Christlike disciples in the nations may require we build new ways of thinking and acting
- Acknowledge it is ultimately the Holy Spirit (not ourselves) who shapes and forms us into a Christlike disciple
- Recognize that God also works through multiple people and circumstances to form us into a Christlike disciple
- Move beyond programs to discipling relationships
- Understand that Christian discipleship must go beyond curriculum

Prepare to Lead
- Prepare coffee, water, and light refreshments.
- A whiteboard, poster paper, or computer to record responses of the group.

Engage Interest

Choose one of the following options.

Option 1
Discuss what it takes to travel the “road to becoming an Olympian”. Compare the “road to becoming a Christlike disciple” and the “road to becoming an Olympian”. How are they similar? How are they different?
Say, Every Olympian uses a proven-system that enables him or her to become a champion. Let’s consider how we can utilize effective systems to help us make disciples.

Option 2
Ask participants to agree or disagree with the statement: “Americans are rich in earthly goods, but poor in relationships.”
Say, Discipleship is relational and it is important for us to learn ways to effectively interact with those around us who share a common desire to be more like Christ.

Working Together

From the following questions, choose the ones that best fit the needs of your participants and your time frame.

- Describe a discipler.
- Discuss the statement (p. 62): “We are well schooled in Wesleyan theology but almost bankrupt in our understanding of Wesleyan disciple making systems.”
- In 1 Corinthians 9:24-25, Paul teaches there is no instant Christlikeness. What is the critical distinction between a person trying to do something and a person training to do something?
- What are some of the means of grace through which the Holy Spirit works to transform and mature the believer?
- Read the quote by Dr. Charles Lake (pp. 64-65). How is our church doing in providing a disciple-making system that does not rely on chance?
- Charles Wesley was willing to shelve his preferences for music so the mission of their Methodist disciple making movement (p. 63). Is it possible for us to allow our preferences to distract us from our mission? Why is it important for us to be willing to be flexible for the sake of the mission?
- Discuss why it is never enough to simply lead someone to trust Christ as Savior.
- Do you agree or disagree with the statement: “Even more important than numeric growth is the critical issue of the quality of the fruit we produce.” Discuss your answer.
• Assess your church’s outreach (p. 89) and inreach (p. 89). What is working well?
• Is it possible our mission is beyond church growth? Why? Why not?
• Discuss: Church growth programs come and go, but the disciple’s mission remains the same: “make disciples”.
• Jesus was discipled by the Father (John 5:19). What did that look like?
• Do disciples need to be discipled in an ongoing manner? Why? Why not?
• Is it possible to be discipled by Jesus like the original 12 disciples were? How would that process look?
• Discuss the author’s description of classic discipleship (p. 113). Why is it essential? What does the author caution us about concerning it?
• Our contemporary world is obsessed with “spirituality” from Oprah to Eastern mysticism to Yoga. Discuss what Christian spiritual formation (p. 114) should look like.
• Why is it impossible to be an independent Christian? What role does community discipleship (p. 115) play in the life of a Christian?
• How do we know when we have reached spiritual maturity?
• How is our church doing with these three streams of discipleship? What can we do to incorporate these three streams?
• Examine the Cali, Colombia, model. Compare and contrast the following principles to the model of Jesus’ ministry.
  ✓ Prayer and fasting
  ✓ Authority of the Word
  ✓ Anointing of the Holy Spirit
  ✓ Accountability
  ✓ Relational multiplication

Personal Reflection

Say, An effective discipler is someone who has been discipled. Let’s consider how we can become more effective.

Ask yourself, “Who is discipling me?” (i.e. Sunday School teacher, pastor, mentor, friend, family member). Ask yourself: “Who am I discipling?”

Consider: Have I become comfortable and satisfied? Is it possible God has prepared a person on the perimeter of my life who desperately needs the good news? Ask God to bring the person He wants to hear the story of grace to your mind.

Contemplate: Do I believe I have been born to reproduce?

Ask God to reveal to you any hindrances that are keeping you from doing discipleship like Jesus did.

Take some time and write down the name of one or two individuals you can intentionally partner with for the purpose of reaching someone for Christ. Prayerfully ask the people on your list to join you as you disciple one another and reach out to others.

Closing

Prayer: Ask God to show our church what He is doing in the lives of those in our congregation and how we can be more effective in participating in that work.
## The Five I’s

**Rank how you feel your church is doing the Five I’s with your teens.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integral</th>
<th>□ Doing Well</th>
<th>□ Needs improvement</th>
<th>□ Not Doing Well</th>
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**Rank how you feel you are doing the Five I’s with the teens of your church.**

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*CLT 2008 Denomination-Wide Study*

*Beyond Sunday*

*Handout 1, Session 4*
Essentials of Discipleship

Spend quiet time evaluating the essentials of discipleship presented in this session.

» Presence

» Accountability

» Forgiveness

» Prayer

» Unconditional Love

• How would I rank myself in each of these essential areas?

• How would my family rank me (you may need to ask them for their feedback)?

• If these two opinions do not coincide, how can I reconcile the differences?

• What is the role each essential plays in my own life and family?

• What are some positive steps I can take to strengthen these essentials?
Thank you for participating in this CLT class study. Please review the checklist below. We hope you will continue to study and train for ministry in your local church by using Continuing Lay Training (CLT) materials.

**Checklist**
- Advertise the class and plan a special registration time.
- Register the class with the CLT and make sure you have a class report form.
- Order textbooks directly from Nazarene Publishing House at least three weeks before the starting date. A 10 percent discount is available if you order more than five of the same book. Unused books may be returned for credit if done promptly, postage paid, and the books are in good condition.
- At the close of the class, report the class to the CLT office in Kansas City. Keep a copy for your file. Use one of the following methods for reporting.
  1. Paper—request a hardcopy of the class report form, fill it in, and return it to the CLT office.
  2. Electronic version—an electronic fill-in template can be sent to you via E-mail or you may download it from the CLT web site at www.clt.nazarene.org.

When reporting by the paper or electronic version, the CLT office will send a notice of credit along with credit cards for each of the participants of the class. You are to fill in the name, unit number, book title, date, and name of the sponsoring group. Sign the credit cards before presenting to each participant in a public service.

When reporting on-line, you will be given the option to print out credit cards for each of the participants. The class presenter can then sign the cards and present them to each participant in a public service.

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