

Preparing for Discipleship

Initial Steps:

1. Praying-ask God to show you 2-3 people that you should invest your time in (this is especially important in the context of OIF because of our high turnover rate).
2. Choose carefully-ideally the person is someone you know well, can connect with, and from your own small group.
3. Gender specific-brothers with brothers, sisters with sisters; only exception is maybe if you couple are helping other couples.

Initial Meeting:

1. Get to know a bit more about the background of the person, how they became a Christian, family influence, etc. Assess their current spiritual level. Does the person have a regular quiet time?
2. Share about expectations of the discipleship meetings. What does the person expect and hope to accomplish from meeting up, and what you expect from meeting up with them.
3. Set a number of times for the discipleship meetings (about 8-12 weeks). At the end of the set period, take a break, evaluate and decide whether to continue meeting or not.
 - a. This is important because it gives both you and the person being disciplined a way out if things are not going well. Sometimes the compatibility is just not there.
 - b. Both parties must be committed to the meeting (set a time and place and try to stick to it as much as possible and only change when absolutely necessary).
 - c. Find a good quiet meeting place where you cannot be interrupted easily. Starbucks and coffee houses are not good places for meetings.
 - d. Explain the expectation where both parties must be committed to being well prepared for the meetings.
4. Explain the importance of confidentiality (creating a safe environment for sharing is essential).
5. Set aside time to celebrate after finishing the initial upon agreed period of meetings.