

Discipleship Process

What is the process?

Because we want to be a church that lives out the command of Jesus to 'make disciples of all nations' (Matthew 28:18-20), we have created a model for discipleship for members of Antioch Community Church. Our process insures that any person in our church who desires to become an obedient follow of Jesus receives holistic discipleship and de-mystifies the discipleship process so that more people can participate.

This process is just a guide, but we know it will be helpful to you as you lead people closer to Jesus through discipleship.

Step 1: Define the relationship

- Invite them into a discipleship relationship
- Using scripture share the biblical precedent for discipleship (Key Scripture: Matt 28:19-20)
- Share your story of being discipled
- Share the goal of reproducibility (Key Scripture: 2 Timothy 2:2)
 - The goal is that after being discipled they would disciple others
 - Example: Jesus discipled a few who each discipled a few more
- Describing the commitment you are asking of them
 - When and how often you will meet
 - Length of time (6 months, 1 year...etc)
 - Evaluate the relationship periodically
- Set expectations and explain the important dynamics of a discipleship relationship
 - Consistency and commitment
 - Vulnerability and trust
 - Follow through and accountability
 - Two-way street
 - Life on life

Step 2: Hear their story

- It is important to get to know the person's story so you can pray about how to best serve them
- Ask how they would you like to grow?

Step 3: Model and teach

- Model and teach core values
- Use discipleship guides
- Transition to next stage when they are starting to live the values

Step 4: Coach

- This stage is when we grow primarily by serving
- Coaching involves a high degree of direction, discussion, modeling and accessibility
- Help them to find areas of service
- Transition to the next stage when they are being faithful and fruitful

Step 5: Empower

- This stage still requires a high degree of discussion and access but the goal is to give less direction and teach them to find it in Jesus
- Give good feedback
- Transition to the next stage when they have been tested

Step 6: Release and mentor

- Release into area of service or to walk with someone else
- You will always have a place of influence to speak into that persons life