

Revitalization and a Disciple-Making Movement

There are important discussions around our synod and churches on the topic of “revitalization.” Besides the basic definition to “*make something alive again*,” when is a church considered “revitalized?” North American Mission considers a church revitalized when it has at least one of its ministries specifically directed to its community; when each of its elders/leaders are engaged in making disciples of at least one other person who is also making disciples; when there has been at least 2% numerical growth in worship attendance from the previous year; and when the church is financially stable.

What does a disciple-making relationship look like? I would suggest the following:

1. Commit to **pray daily** for 30 days over the salvation of one person you know who needs to know Jesus. If you don't know anyone who fits this description then begin praying the Lord would bring this person into your life.
2. Consider **inviting this person to coffee or over to your home for dessert**. Resist the urge to ‘preach’ or teach at this stage; rather focus on learning and listening... learn their story, listen for their hopes, fears, and dreams.
3. If the Holy Spirit opens the door, invite them to consider **sharing time together in God's Word**... perhaps reading through the Gospel of Mark, just a chapter or two each week. You don't have to have all the answers! If something stumps you... promise them to research and talk about it at your next get-together.
4. After meeting a few times together around God's Word, **invite your friend to JOIN YOU for worship**... with an offer to give them a ride! Your hospitality will help put them at ease and answer any questions they might have about the worship service throughout the morning. Make a point to introduce them to other friends at church. Consider inviting for these friends to join you after church for lunch... again, with the focus on building relationships.
5. As they receive God's gift of faith and salvation **immediately help them connect with someone they can disciple as you also begin a new discipling relationship**. This is one way a disciple making movement grows!

Shared with a grateful heart,



Phil Heiser
Pacific Regional Pastor

Updates & Prayer Requests from around the Pacific Region...

- Update on **RP Phil & Wendy's move Arizona**. We have sold and moved out of our Everett, WA, home and currently staying with Wendy's parents in their home on Whidbey Island until we move into our new home in **Queen Creek, AZ** on September 20. We would appreciate your continued prayers during our relocation.
- Pray for the **seminarians from the Pacific Region**: Ben Breslin (Rancho Cucamonga, CA), Isaiah Bai (Eugene, OR), Chris Nab (Buda, TX), and Russ Krause (Marysville, serving as a licensed seminarian in Mount Vernon, WA).
- **Women's Retreat** at Black Lake Bible Camp in Olympia, WA. October 19-21. “Encouragers for Life” - speakers: Andrea Bernard and Karen Stenberg. More information and registration: <http://www.wmclb.com/pacific-north.html>
- **Men's Retreat** at Black Lake Bible Camp in Olympia, WA. November 2-3. “Three Wise Men” - speaker: Pastor Jerry Unruh (Portland). More information and registration: <https://lbpacific.org/regional-ministries/mens-retreat>

• **2019 LEAD Retreat** - March 1-3, 2019. Join us at Cannon Beach Conference Center as Dr. Daniel Berge shares on the topic of discipleship. More info at: www.leadretreat.org

• **2019 Pacific Regional Biennial Convention** - May 31 - June 2, 2019. Hosted by Peace Lutheran Brethren Church in Olympia, WA.

