



Disciple-Maker FAQs

Answers to the most commonly asked disciple-maker questions

1. When should I call my disciple?

Right away! The disciple-maker should seek to contact the disciple within 24 hours of accepting the assignment. You should contact the person who met your new disciple, and with whom your disciple shared an interest for follow-up. They have agreed to stay in touch with your disciple until a match has been established. We cannot delay because Jesus taught that Satan moves against the disciple immediately and can be successful "if they do not understand" what they have heard (Matthew 13:19).

2. What should I say when I call?

On your first call to the disciple, mention the person they initially encountered through the outreach. You may even want to have the "hand-off" rule person speak to your disciple explaining that you will be contacting them. (This is a crucial step in establishing a good starting relationship.) Your goal is to clearly explain that you'd like to encourage them in their relationship with Christ and to **set up an opportunity to get together somewhere as soon as possible to establish a friendship**. Choose a neutral place at first, for both you and your disciple's protection and integrity. Do not ask to meet at a home, or a church, as both can be intimidating and cause unnecessary worry. Just speak really simply and from your heart, and do not make the disciple feel like you are stalking them by making excessive calls. Use discernment. **Time to Revive** recommends calling/texting the disciple 2-3 times the first week, and once a week for a few weeks after.

3. What happens if the disciple doesn't answer on the first try?

Hopefully, if the contact information was properly recorded, you will have at least one phone number, an email address and a physical address. Leave a clear message of who you are and your purpose in wanting to talk to them (here is where having the "hand-off" rule person involved helps the process). Give them your call back information and try again later that same day. After reaching out for a few weeks, follow the instructions above, but if you remain unsuccessful, pray and ask the Lord if it is time to look for a new disciple.

4. What happens if they don't want to be discipled?

Lack of response can mean many things. They may be busy – they may be afraid – they may have family or friends who are pressuring them to stay as they were, etc. If they tell you they don't want to be discipled, we obviously don't want to be forceful, but because eternity is in the balance, you may ask if you could just meet for coffee and get to know one another. If the answer remains "no," then I would tell them why discipleship is important and ask if it would be okay for you to call them in several weeks in case they change their mind. Satan works hard so we must work hard to resist the Enemy. You may start the process of praying for another disciple.

5. How often should I meet with my disciple?

That is a question the Holy Spirit will answer, but often it is beneficial to meet once a week if possible. You should maintain regular contact so they can ask questions and keep you updated on how they are doing. You also need to understand that making disciples means being available when they need you. You should share phone numbers and email addresses and simply respond when they contact you. This relationship must be two-way not one-way. Remember this: it is more than a “Bible study,” it is doing life with one another.

6. How does the *Project 52* curriculum fit in?

Project 52 is a long-term curriculum which will take a disciple through the whole Bible in 52 weeks to give them the foundation they need. Be careful not to overwhelm your disciple by introducing Project 52 as a year-long Bible study. Obviously, the Holy Spirit may direct you to also use other materials, but Time To Revive wants to give you materials right away that focus solely on the Scripture. *Project 52 is not discipleship, but a tool to get you and your disciple into the Word together.* We recommend that you do not take the Project 52 material along on the first meeting, unless your disciple has clearly stated otherwise. Get to know each other first, and then, when you both feel ready, start with Replicate, a study that mirrors the “orange tab.” This is found in the beginning of Project 52, before the actual 52 lessons.

7. What is a “Timothy”?

Your pastor has delegated a “Timothy” from your congregation to encourage and help you through the process of discipling. If you sign up as a disciple-maker, Time to Revive will assign you to a Timothy, who will reach out to you on a regular basis. The Timothy is someone you will be able to contact with issues that might arise.

8. What do I do if they ask me for money?

As a standard instruction, we ask that you not give money but rather direct them to a place where their needs can be fulfilled well (ex. Church, local ministry, counseling center, etc. We have a list of local resources available upon request). If you absolutely feel led by the Spirit and have a go-ahead from wise counsel, invite them for a meal and take them somewhere they feel comfortable. Seek to love and listen by asking about how they arrived in the circumstances in which they find themselves. Pray for discernment to see the truth of what they need and be prepared to respond as God directs. Money usually does not fix financial issues. There may be a deeper issue. Perhaps they simply need someone to show them how to biblically handle their finances.

9. What do I do if they have questions I can't answer?

The fact that your disciple is asking questions should encourage you that God is at work in their lives. Never dodge a question and never pretend to know the answer. Be honest with them. Seek from the Lord together, and pray for direction. If you need help, contact your Timothy or your Pastor, or you can feel free to contact Time to Revive to get help.

10. How do I keep them/me from getting discouraged and quitting?

There are no perfect plans or processes with discipleship. Jesus himself spent around three years with a group who eventually abandoned him when things got messy. This is not meant to discourage you, but to remind you that every relationship has highs and lows. It might get discouraging, but know that God is always with you. Keep this Proverb in mind, and always listen for the Holy Spirit. *“A person's insight gives him patience, and his virtue is to overlook an offense.” Proverbs 19:11*