

WORKSHOP: The Leader's Capacity to Make Disciples

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Spoke at youth conferences for several years and felt like it was a struggle in futility because he didn't feel there was any progress made....year after year

Decided he needed to build deep, Bible loving, on mission men and women

The greatest enemy to depth and real transformation is fast growth!!!

Matthew 28:16-20

- People usually have no problem going and baptizing, and even teaching...
- ...teaching them to obey or observe everything he commanded...
 - **THIS IS FOREIGN TO THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH** because it challenges us to make disciples

Our mentality is reach and contain rather than train and resend

How do we make disciples when nothing really seems to work?

Pros and Cons of mechanical methodology:

- If you ever signed up to go through a class...if there was a time frame on your discipleship...
- Pros:
 - There is no better way to download information and teach people Bible theology
 - It's definitely had historic success
 - There are tons of resources and curriculum available
 - It's easy to measure (ex. How many completed our 8-week study?)
 - It's easy to motivate people to join and participate
 - It lends itself to strong historic orthodox theology
- Cons:
 - It's hard to sustain (ex. The group starts big but it dies out quickly)
 - It can lead to coldness
 - It lends itself to a type of person (the mechanical/mathematical person)
 - It can create the theology police in people
 - They tend to become sacred very quickly, so that when you adjust them at all people begin to question your discipleship focus

Pros and Cons of organic methodology:

- It is relationships with each other...its being on the mission field and doing life together
- Pros:
 - It seems to produce the most authentic results
 - It built around relationships
 - It tends to appeal to a broader group of personality types
 - Most people are not intellectuals...most people today are not linear
- Cons:
 - Organically we are sinful
 - Maturity does not just happen

What if we could take the pros of both the mechanical and the organic models, put them together and somehow avoid the cons?

- How the Village is trying to do it:
 - The air your church breathes must be one that celebrates growth and maturity
 - At some point in the worship service, there will be a 3-5 minute video testimony of someone's story (they do not just highlight the 'wins')
 - They highlight someone who had gotten it and the someone who hasn't gotten it
 - If you only celebrate the ones who get it, the bulk of your people will begin to think there is no hope for them
 - Created many on ramps and off ramps
 - Sometimes they will have mechanical process (currently in a series from children to adult)
 - And then seasons where it is more organic

- Keep flexible...the end goal is sacred, but nothing else it
 - Everyone falls in love with the version of Christianity that they were converted through
- Everybody learns differently and everybody applied differently
- Village application:
- You need to be able to answer the question how? And when?
- Heavy on application...
- Do not teach youth and students about morality...
 - They teach them doctrine first and then teach them how that relates to morality...that way they do not see God as a policeman

↩ There is an arrogance to youth...

- You are not going to save evangelicalism...thank you though

↩ If you are 35 or over you tend to think the mechanical model

↩ The 20 year olds think more organically

↩ **There needs to be a relational aspect to everything, even the mechanical**

↩ **Challenge:**

- **Let there be one king and one goal...be thankful for the role he has given us**