

## Simple Reproducible Small Groups

### I. Obeying the First Commandment – Multiply!

- A. The first command in the Bible is to “Be fruitful and multiply.” (Genesis 1:28, NLT)
- B. What is the kingdom like? It starts small but multiplies to enormous size.
  - 1. Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32)
  - 2. Yeast (Matthew 13:33) - It has amazing growing power!
- C. There are two paradigm shifts and two levels of multiplication.
  - 1. The 2 Paradigm Shifts
    - a) Paradigm Shift 1: Moving from doing ministry to giving ministry away
      - (1) IRTDMN (Identify, Recruit, Train, Deploy, Monitor, Nurture)
    - b) Paradigm Shift 2: Moving from giving ministry away to creating systems that fuel growth
      - (1) Organic is complicated. Living organisms are not simple at all!
      - (2) Love people enough to do the hard work of putting effective, vibrant systems in place!
    - c) Wimber understood both as captured in IRTDMN and *Doing Church*.
    - d) Systems look simple to the end user, but they are usually fairly complex in terms of backend design and implementation. (Think of your own body systems or an iPhone.)
  - 2. Two dimensions to multiplication
    - a) Mindset
    - b) Methods
- D. Embrace a multiplication mindset:

The Leader Thinks...	Addition	Multiplication
<b>Growth Is Fueled by</b>	Working Harder	Working Smarter
<b>They Need to Fix</b>	People	System
<b>Organic Means</b>	Simple	Complex
<b>As Ministry Grows</b>	Workload Grows	Span of Care Remains the Same

- E. To move from Addition to Multiplication:
  - 1. Be Persistent (time and determination).
  - 2. Be Eager (to learn from whomever).
  - 3. Keep Experimenting.

### Talk About It...

Discuss with 1 or 2 other people:

- 1) What is one thing that stands out to you from what was just presented?
- 2) Which of the three principles for moving from addition to multiplication...
  - A. Be Persistent
  - B. Be Eager to Learn
  - C. Keep Experimenting... is most important for you right now?

## II. Understanding Disciple Making Movements

- A. The Disciple Making Movement (DMM) is something that God is doing around the world.
- B. There are different expressions—one of these that began in India and has spread to Africa, and North and South America—includes at the heart of its system the Discovery Group format.
- C. Key DMM Principles:
  1. Prayer is foundational.
  2. Discipleship begins before conversion.
  3. God is already drawing people, and we just need to partner with him. (John 5:19) – “Do what the Father is doing!”
  4. Simple and immediate obedience to the Bible is central.
  5. The thrust of the groups is outward into more relational networks.

## III. The Heart of the Method: “Teaching Them to Obey” Using the Discovery Group Method

- A. See the page “Discovery Group Meeting Format.”
- B. When people start their own group, you use the more intense “3-Column Format” with your group leaders.
- C. To learn more, read *Contagious Disciple-Making* by David & Paul Watson. (Available in both English and Spanish.)

### Try It!

Form groups of 4 or 5, then follow the Discovery Group format using Matthew 28:16-20, answering questions 1, 4, 5, 6, and 9.

- 1) What did you learn?
- 2) How did it go?

## Discovery Group Meeting Format

### Opening Question

- 1) What are you thankful for this week?

### Accountability

- 2) With whom did you share last week?
- 3) How did it go with your "I will's?"

### Bible Discovery

- 4) What does it say? (Retell and read the passage out loud.)
- 5) How would I say that? (Restate or retell in your own words.)
- 6) What must I do to obey what I have learned? "I will..." (Craft a sentence of how you will obey this week, trusting the Spirit to empower you.)

*(Questions 7 and 8 if you have time, if not, go to 9.)*

- 7) What did you learn about God?
- 8) What did you learn about humanity?

### Outreach

- 9) With whom will you share what you learned this week?

### Ministry to Each Other

- 10) What is one challenge you are facing this week? Is there some way our group can help?

## Three-Column Discovery Group Study

Lesson: \_\_\_\_\_

Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_

<p>What does it say? <i>(Write the text word-for-word.)</i></p>	<p>What does it mean? <i>(Write it in my own words.)</i></p>	<p>What must I do to obey? <i>(Write my "I will..." statements.)</i></p>