

Factory or Field?

Disciple making isn't so much about a programme or a product, but instead is a deliberate process that often happens gradually and cumulatively over time. This seminar will unpack this picture of discipleship and explore how we walk with people through the ups and downs of life. Through looking at the model of Jesus' example, we will also touch on the need to include both consistent relationship and constant challenge within our leadership.

Rick Hill works for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in the area of discipleship development, majoring on the delivery of disciple-making training and the development of discipleship resources. Prior to this, Rick comes from a background in youth ministry with both Scripture Union and in a local church. He now serves as an Elder in Carnmoney Church while also being involved in a fresh church plant from that church into the city centre of Belfast. Rick lives near Belfast in Northern Ireland with his wife Sarah and 2 young sons, and in his spare time he enjoys running.

I. Disciple-Making as a Field: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9

- A. Not a formula: unpredictable, frustrating, messy
- B. Takes time: slow growth, patience, trust
- C. Reliance and responsibility: involves both
- D. Scars and struggles: dealing with disappointment

II. Disciple-Making as Apprenticeship: 1 Corinthians 4:14-17

- A. The Corinthian context of pedagogues and parents
- B. Information and imitation; caught and taught
- C. 1 Cor. 4: Spiritual parenting, not guardians but parents

D. The importance of relationship and proximity

E. 1 Thess. 2:5-8: Whole-life discipleship

III. Differentiated Discipleship

A. From being happy they are there to being intentional about helping them grow

B. Considering different scenarios together

Suggested Readings:

Proximity: Seasons of Life
www.presbyterianireland.org/proximity