

Me and We: Patterns of Discipleship in a Late Modern Context

Late modern European culture is all about self-realization and individualism. This is a thought that is challenged by the invitation to obedience to Christ, as well as the collective way of life offered by Bible-based churches. However, there are ways to address late modern Europeans and create a win-win pattern of discipleship that leads to life transformation. In this session I will share some proven strategies.

Øystein Gjerme is founding and lead pastor of Salt Bergen City Church in Norway. The church is a multisite church, currently meeting in three congregations, and in the process of planting two more. In addition to the local church involvement, he is the Chairman of the Board of the Norwegian School for Leadership and Theology. He travels extensively and is involved in teaching, preaching and training in both organizational and church settings. He lives in Bergen, is married and has three children.

Introduction

The local church that holds a New Testament standard will be a disciple-making church. It is of vital importance that the Church understands its core practices if it is going to be producing disciples.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

I Understanding our context

Late modern individualism represents some unique challenges, but also some unique opportunities.

II The call to discipleship

How do you define “disciple”?

How do you grow a disciple?

III Challenge on all levels

In church planting there is a variety of different maturity levels. In order to disciple in well, you must understand your circles of influence, and tailor the disciple-making process to fit different groups of people

A. Leaders

B. Participants

C. Prospects

III The role of the Small group in disciple making

The small group is the optimal form of gathering to nurture the basic Christian community, and facilitate meaningful disciple making relationships.

IV Person on Person: Relationships, growth plans and life together

Bibliography

Coleman, Robert. E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids: Fleming H. Revell, 1963.
Ferguson Dave & Jon Ferguson, *Exponential: How You and Your Friends Can Start A Missional Church Movement*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010.
Hull, Bill, *The Disciple Making Pastor: Leading Others on the Journey of Faith*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2007.
Kinnaman, David: *You Lost Me: Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church and Rethinking Faith*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011.
Pope, Randy, *InSourcing: Bringing Discipleship Back to the Local Church*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.
Putman, Jim & Harrington, Bobby, *Discipleshift*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.