

Six Best Practices for Leading a Discipleship Group

Leading a discipleship group can be a very intimidating task and many resort to using techniques from the secular world. Further study of the great works of Robert Coleman's *Master Plan of Evangelism*, Roberta Hestenes' *Using the Bible in Groups*, and *Following The Master* by Michael Wilkins shows that there is a common thread of best practices in facilitating a successful Discipleship Group. This workshop will expose participants to six 'best practices' and elaborate on two in more detail.

Bill Lohnes was raised in the Lutheran Church in the Midwestern area of the United States. In 1972, he married Paula, his college sweetheart, and they began a 40-year career in the Financial Services industry. In 1998, a series of events, including their daughter Holly's witness to them at the foot of their bed, led Bill and Paula to attend a home Bible study. Four years later, after being faithfully mentored by a Christian discipler, John Musselman, Bill surrendered to Jesus as Savior and Lord. In 2002, Bill founded his own investment firm, Wise Path, which is now a part of the Kalos Private Wealth Group. In 2004, the way was forged for their ministry, Narrow Gate EFL, which is dedicated to *Investing in Disciples and Equipping Disciple-Makers*.

John Musselman is the President of the Jackson Institute, a leadership development organization whose mission is to contribute to the cultural, intellectual, and spiritual formation of individuals who are on a passionate quest to be welcomed, received, and acknowledged by God. He studied at the University of Alabama (Honors BS in Mathematics), Reformed Theological Seminary (MDiv), and Fuller Theological Seminary (DMin). After serving on the staffs of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and Perimeter Church in Atlanta, he founded the Jackson Institute in 1991. John's passion is reflected in the vision of the Jackson Institute: "to permeate the kingdom of God with reproducing leaders." He has authored *Classic Discipleship*, a manual for equipping leaders in Christian discipleship, and *The Holy Spirit and His Gifts*. In addition, he has edited John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress*, A.B. Bruce's classic work, *The Training of the Twelve*, and Thomas Watson's *Man's Chief End: God's Glory*. He and his wife, Colleen, live in Atlanta, Georgia.

I. Impartation

A. Knowledge

B. Skill

C. Character

II. Best Practices

A. Faith Journey

B. Five Key Behaviors

C. Personal worship

D. Four Spiritual Laws

E. Four calls of Christ

1. Salvation

2. Lordship

3. Discipleship

4. Purpose

F. T.E.A.M.S.

1. Truth
2. Equipping
3. Accountability
4. Missions
5. Supplication

III. Conclusion