

Discipling Students and Colleagues in an Academic Context

As Christian academicians, we seek opportunities to tell other teachers and students about Christ and to disciple new believers. What are ways we can build trusting relationships with our faculty colleagues and students? How do we tell others about Jesus? How do we explain the Gospel? What do we say? How do we then disciple new believers in the academy to help them become grounded in Scripture and grow in their faith? This session will provide practical guidance on telling the story of how we met Jesus and how He changed our lives. We will look at biblical principles for discipling and describe the steps of discipling a new believer. We will discuss best practices as well as things to avoid in the discipleship process.

Charles White is Professor of Christian Thought and History at Spring Arbor University in Michigan, USA. Harvard, Cambridge, and Boston universities have contributed to his education. In the 1970s he was minister to students at Boston's Park Street Church. He has written two books and a score of academic articles. Bible translation is one of his passions, and he has worked on twenty-five of the twenty-seven New Testament books in seven different languages. He has taught environmentalists in Michigan, physicians in Mexico, pastors in Canada, university students in England, Bible college students in Australia, Muslims in Nigeria, evangelists in India, missionaries in the Philippines and Rwanda, church planters in Iraq, ministers in Jordan, and disciplers in Ethiopia. He is the father of four grown children and has run more than 86,000 kilometers since he turned 40.

- I. Winning Their Trust
 - A. A Heart of Truth
 - B. A Lifestyle of Service
 - C. A Listening Ear
 - D. A Responsive Heart
- II. Telling Your Story
 - A. I Am Like You
 - B. What Drew Me to Jesus
 - C. The Difference Jesus Makes Now
- III. Sharing the Gospel
 - A. The Gospel is True

- B. The Gospel is Good
- C. You Can Follow Jesus
- D. Following Jesus Will Cost You
- E. Following Jesus Has Rewards in This Life
- F. Following Jesus Has Rewards in the Next Life
- G. The Cost of Not Following Jesus is Eternal

IV. Making Them Disciples

- A. From Death to Life
- B. A Baby Christian
- C. A Childish Christian
- D. A Serving Christian
- E. A Reproducing Christian
- F. The Disciplines of the Christian Life
 - 1. Scripture
 - 2. Prayer
 - 3. Fellowship
 - 4. Evangelism
 - 5. Service

G. The Mind of Christ

1. Knowledge
2. Attitude
3. Behavior
4. Habit

Suggested Readings:

Ralph Neighbour, *The Arrival Guide*

Ralph Neighbour, *The Survival Guide*