

## **Building the Church by Making Disciples**

This session will consider how the development of discipleship is a key contributor in the area of Church Revitalisation. In order to enable a church to reach wider, it is necessary to lead people deeper. Through this talk we will consider some key shifts that can be made to help develop a discipleship culture in the heart of your church.

**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. Intro**

#### A. Building the Church vs Making Disciples

1. Don't build the church and lose discipleship, but focus on discipleship and that will build the church.

#### B. The Trellis and the Vine

1. Use the podium diagram.
2. Personally and corporately: Where do you invest the majority of your energy?

### **II. Key Shifts**

- A. From optional to essential (Not just for super-Christians, viewing every activity in church life as disciple-making opportunities, rather than optional extras)
- B. From the crowd to the few (1-3-12-72-5000)
- C. From distance to proximity (getting closer to those we are discipling)
- D. From accidental to intentional (clear pathways takes clear planning)

- E. From pew to participation (equipping God's people for works of service beyond the church and to follow Jesus in all of life)

*Reflect on these*

### **III. The Jog and the Sprint**

- A. How can you get some people started right away?
  
- B. How can you go slow with the rest?