

# Disciplining in the New Era




# Foundation

Matthew 22: 37-40

Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments. (NLT)

Three fundamental areas: God, Each Other and Mission...

- 
- Growth cannot take place unless we are connected with one another...
  - There are about fifty (50) “one another” passages in the New Testament...
  - The healing power of the church is breathtaking, if we unleash it.

# Biblical Christian Relationships

Eph 4: 14-16

14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.  
(NLT)

# Johari's Window

What I see

*What others see*

What I see

*What others don't see*

What I don't see

*What others see*

What I don't see

*What others don't see*

# Johari's Window

What I see

*What others see :  
Public Face*

What I see

*What others don't  
see : Secrets*

What I don't see

*What others see :  
Blind spots*

What I don't see

*What others don't  
see : Unknown*





Introducing a discipling  
model...

Not “the” discipling model...


# Roles

<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Consultant</b>
<b>Counsellor</b>	<b>Friend</b>



## Point of view to remember:

- **Start** as a **TEACHER**
- **Usually** we are a **CONSULTANT**
- **Sometimes** a **COUNSELLOR**
- **Always** a **FRIEND**



We all start, as young disciples,  
having a **Teacher...**



# Teacher Role

# Teacher Role

Matt 28: 18-20

Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Teach** these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (NLT)

# Teacher Role

1 Timothy 4: 6

If you **explain these things** to the brothers and sisters, Timothy, you will be a worthy servant of Christ Jesus, one who is nourished by the message of faith and the good teaching you have followed. (NLT)

Colossians 3: 16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you **teach** and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. (NLT)

# Teacher Role

Colossians 1: 28

28 So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and **teaching** everyone with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ. (NLT)

Hebrews 5: 12

You have been believers so long now that you ought to be **teaching** others. Instead, you need someone to **teach** you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. (NLT)




# Teacher Role

Who should be taught in a one-on-one setting?

- Young Christians (first 2 years)
- New Family Group leader by older Family group leader
- Young staff by an older staff
- Also, older Christians who opt for this due to major life issues.

E.g. Transition times, finance mishandling, behavioural intervention, addiction...





After attaining maturity, we enter into a relationship that resembles more that of a **consultant**, our usual role with one another.



# Consultant Role

# Consultant Role

- As we grow together, people who taught us before should switch from a teacher to a consultant role... much less directive.
- This involves mutual collaboration.
- Teacher role - young Christians, young staff and young trainee in any role.
- Did not always make this transition in the past...
- Many assumed - once a teacher, always a teacher...

# Consultant Role

## Philemon as an example

- Paul was communicating with a mature disciple/leader – decades old as a disciple...
- A non –directive approach, an appeal.

# Consultant Role

Philemon 8-14

8 That is why I am boldly asking a favour of you. I could demand it in the name of Christ because it is the right thing for you to do. But because of our love, I prefer simply to ask you. Consider this as a request from me—Paul, an old man and now also a prisoner for the sake of Christ Jesus. (NLT)

13 I wanted to keep him here with me while I am in these chains for preaching the Good News, and he would have helped me on your behalf. But I didn't want to do anything without your consent. I wanted you to help because you were willing, not because you were forced. (NLT)



# Consultant Role

Philemon 17-21

17 So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it. And I won't mention that you owe me your very soul!

20 Yes, my brother, please do me this favour for the Lord's sake. Give me this encouragement in Christ. I am confident as I write this letter that you will do what I ask and even more! One more thing—please prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that God will answer your prayers and let me return to you soon.  
(NLT)



# Consultant Role

Romans 15: 14-16

Personally, I've been completely satisfied with who you are and what you are doing. You seem to me to be well-motivated and well-instructed, quite capable of guiding and advising one another (The Message)

Eph 5: 21

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. (NTL)



# Consultant Role

- Some people feel threatened about making the switch from being a teacher to a consultant...
- In the past, many stuck to the “Teacher” role...
- May cause feelings of inferiority (feel disrespected)... tension develops for some...
- Many parents operate in the same manner...
- Parents must make transition at some point.
- Raising someone to maturity and to operate in a consultative manner is a real mark of your ability to raise others...

# Consultant Role

- Especially in opinion matters
- If disciples are compromising in fundamental areas, then may need to switch back to the teaching role.

E.g. Missing church, QTs, mission, serious sin,  
fuzzy doctrine



# Counsellor Role

# Counsellor Role

Colossians 3: 16

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and **counsel** each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.

# Counsellor Role

- Counseling – a collaborative process between counsellor and counselee that uses the trust between them to explore the past in order to induce self awareness and insights about their behaviour, with the aim of making progress with life issues.
- Usually non-directive (not all), involving Socratic questioning...
- This may involve exploring the past together...
- We do not need to be trained in order to get this process started...

# Counsellor Role

Jesus helped people gain insights and self awareness. Look at the following scriptures (NLT):

Lk 11: 5-6

Then he said to them, "**Suppose** one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.'



# Counsellor Role

Lk 14:28-33

"**Suppose** one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

"Or **suppose** a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.



# Counsellor Role

Luke 15: 4, 8

4 **Suppose** one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?

8 Or **suppose** a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?

# Counsellor Role

Lk 17: 7

"**Suppose** one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'?"

In counseling (Solution Focused) we use such an approach, "Suppose this were to happen, how would you recognize it?"



But we are always a **Friend** to each other...



# Friend Role



# Friend Role

John 15: 13-15

“There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn’t confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me.” (NLT)



# Friend Role

John 13: 34-35

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” (NLT)



## Friend Role

- This role never changes, regardless of whether we are in a teacher role, consultant or counsellor role,
- Should get better with time...



# Roles

<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Consultant</b>
<b>Counsellor</b>	<b>Friend</b>

# Practicals of Singapore Model

Discipling takes place in groups *and* with one another:

- After mid-week...no rushing back...fathers and mothers take turns. Children is not an issue then.
- After Sunday church: lunch-time with non Christian friends or group if possible
- Aim for twice a month. Perhaps more often if single.

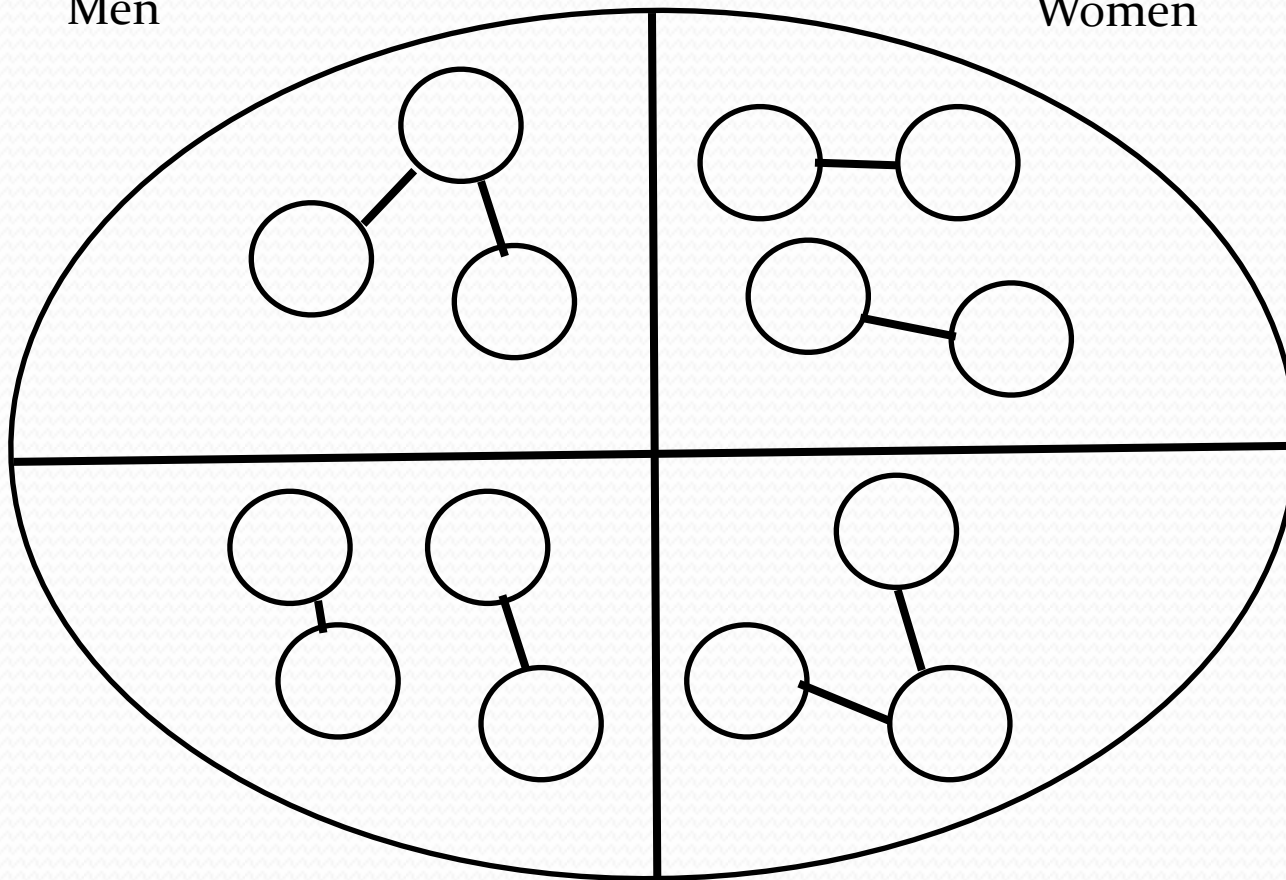
# Practicals

- All disciples in groups – gender based.
- Pairing or triad done within groups mostly.
- Both leader and people should **state their preferences**. Both sides need to respect each other. (Not mandated)
- Cross-group discipling possible, but take into account of geography
- If leaders have a difficult time accepting you, get some awareness...not counterattack.
- Each group develop their own “ground rules”.

# Example of a small groups

Men

Women



## Three unhealthy coping styles:

1. Counter attacking – “If you put me down, I’ll put you down”
2. Avoidance – “I hate conflict”
3. Surrender – “It’s all my fault”

- Through discipling we will make progress and become more healthy.
- Healthy mode - practice **vulnerability**

# Vulnerability

- Sharing your **WEAKNESS**
- Sharing your **FEELINGS**
- Sharing your **NEED**



## Point of view to remember:

- Start as a **TEACHER**
- Usually we are a **CONSULTANT**
- Sometimes a **COUNSELLOR**
- Always a **FRIEND**

# Roles

<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Consultant</b>
<b>Counsellor</b>	<b>Friend</b>



**The End**