

# **Discipleship Training: Why God Allows Trials**

*Rick Warren*

## I. Introduction.

## II. General suggestions for discipleship relationships.

A. Meet in a relaxed setting like a restaurant.

1. The decisive test of discipleship is what one is doing with an individual that could not be done in a group.

2. It is good to have a table for the use of visual aids.

B. Make whatever you share transferable.

C. Take your time.

D. Do not use too many Scriptures.

E. Ask questions and wait for answers.

F. Do Bible studies on convictions you want to get across. These convictions must grip you.

G. Review and repeat key points.

H. Always check up on an assignment.

I. Create a thirst in your Timothy.

J. Teach them how to defend the Bible as you teach them the Bible.

K. Always ask a person why he did not complete his work.

L. Get excited about the right things.

M. To get to know someone, take him on a retreat.

N. Be aware of changes in your relationship.

## III. Phases in teaching a person to witness.

A. Do it alone having the man watch.

B. Do it with another man.

C. Have the other man do it with the person in the background.

D. Have the person do this alone.

E. This process applies to anything such as a quiet time.

IV. There is value in doing one's own Bible study.

A. Fit the material to the man, not the man to the material.

B. There is no such thing as ten steps to a Bible study. Filling in a booklet does not produce maturity.

C. Discipleship is life centered not material centered.

D. Personalized curriculum allows one to be flexible.

E. It allows you to take advantage of teachable moments.

F. It allows the person who prepared the study to be more excited about it.

G. It allows a person to show how to do the study for himself.

H. Areas to cover in a Bible study.

1. Knowledge of the Word.

2. Perspective.

3. Basic convictions.

4. Character.

5. Skills.

**Application questions:**

1. Select three general convictions about discipleship that you find most important. Why do you find these critical to discipleship?

---

---

2. How would you apply phases to teaching someone to do a "quiet time?"

---

---

3. What are some Bible studies you would like to do in preparation of teaching others? Set some attainable goals for your personal Bible study.

---

---