

LEADER'S GUIDE

DISCIPLE6

A SIX-YEAR CURRICULUM FOR MAKING TEENAGE DISCIPLES

Southwestern Seminary desires to see teenagers who, for the glory of the Father and in the power of the Spirit, spend a lifetime embracing the full supremacy of the Son, responding to His kingly reign in all of life, inviting Christ to live His life through them, and joining Him in making disciples among all peoples.

To that end the seminary has prepared a gift to the kingdom, to churches, and to those teenage believers. That free gift is a comprehensive, six-year curriculum to be used with teenagers who want to be disciples of Jesus. Southwestern Seminary believes every teenager and every church deserves the best discipleship resources, regardless of economic situation.

The studies are grounded in Scripture and include the content areas of:

Apologetics

Biblical Interpretation

Biblical Relationships

Core Doctrines

Ethics

Evangelism and Missions

Servant Leadership

Spiritual Disciplines

Worldview

Teenagers share in the leadership of the sessions. They prepare to disciple believers now and for a lifetime, nearby and to the ends of the earth.

Disciple6: A Six-Year Curriculum for Making Teenage Disciples

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Disciple6 Design Team

Richard Ross, Series Editor

Richard Ross is professor of Student Ministry at Southwestern Seminary. He received his master's and PhD degrees in Student Ministry at Southwestern Seminary. He is husband to LaJuana, who has joined him in a lifetime of loving teenagers. They are parents of Clayton. Richard served as youth pastor for thirty years and now is a volunteer with teenagers and parents at Wedgwood Baptist in Fort Worth. Richard has served as a spokesperson for the international True Love Waits movement since its inception. Since coming to Southwestern in 2000, Richard has spoken in more than five hundred churches and national youth ministry and family ministry training events.

Richard has written or compiled twenty-four books for youth leaders and parents. His most recent book is *The Senior Pastor and the Reformation of Youth Ministry* (Lifeway). You can connect with Richard through RichardARoss.com, [Facebook.com/rossrichard](https://www.facebook.com/rossrichard), and Twitter @richardaross.

Johnny L. Derouen, Content Coordinator, Servant Leadership

Johnny Derouen is professor of Student Ministry at Southwestern Seminary. He became a Christian at sixteen. He has been married to his wife, Ivette, for thirty-seven years. They have two sons, Josh and Ty.

He received his master's and PhD degrees in Student Ministry at Southwestern Seminary, and he has a BS in Microbiology. Johnny served as the minister of youth at Oak Park Methodist Church of Lake Charles, Louisiana; Meadowbrook Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas; First Baptist Church of Muskogee, Oklahoma; Houston's First Baptist Church; and Travis Avenue Baptist in Fort Worth, Texas. He has a total of forty-one years of youth ministry experience.

Johnny is also a member of NAPCE, the AYME, and the Metro Youth Ministers Association (serving as chairman in 1990). He developed the Leading Edge video series for youth workers, has written articles for a number of youth ministry publications, authored the book *Christ, the Basis of Faith* (2008), and has written contributing chapters on youth ministry and teaching youth in many books including *The Teaching Ministry of the Church* (2008) and *Accelerate* (2013).

Keith Eitel, Content Coordinator, Evangelism and Missions

Keith Eitel is dean of the Roy Fish School of Evangelism and Missions at Southwestern Seminary. The Eitel family served as career missionaries in Cameroon, West Africa, for six years, and Keith has taught missions in the U.S. since 1985. He frequently engages lostness, especially in international settings. For further details, see the faculty website: <http://swbts.edu/keitel>.

Paul Gould, Content Coordinator, Apologetics

Paul M. Gould is assistant professor of Philosophy and Christian Apologetics at Southwestern Seminary. He is the author of *The Outrageous Idea of the Missional Professor* (Wipf & Stock, 2014) and editor of four books, including *Beyond the Control of God? Six Views on the Problem of God and Abstract Objects* (Bloomsbury, 2014) and *Loving God with Your Mind: Essays in Honor of J. P. Moreland* (Moody, 2014). Paul blogs at www.paul-gould.com.

Tommy Kiker, Content Coordinator, Spiritual Disciplines

Tommy Kiker is associate professor of Pastoral Theology, the James T. Draper, Jr. Chair of Pastoral Ministry, and the chair of the Pastoral Ministry Department at Southwestern Seminary. Tommy is married to Carol Ann, and they have two precious children, Karis and Caleb. They are

active members at Cana Baptist Church in Burleson, Texas. Tommy frequently is called upon for supply preaching, revivals, retreats, and other venues to preach the gospel. You can follow him on Twitter @tommykiker and keep up with his blog and speaking schedule at www.tommykiker.com.

Evan Lenow, Content Coordinator, Ethics

Evan Lenow is assistant professor of Ethics at Southwestern Seminary. He also serves as director of the Land Center for Cultural Engagement and the Center for Biblical Stewardship. He is the author of *Biblically Correct: Engaging Culture with Truth* and *Biblically Sound: Embracing Doctrine for Life*. You can follow him on Twitter @evanlenow and read his blog at www.evanlenow.com.

Matt Queen, Content Coordinator, Evangelism and Missions

Matt Queen is the L. R. Scarborough Chair of Evangelism ("The Chair of Fire"), associate professor of Evangelism, and associate dean for Doctoral Programs in the Roy Fish School of Evangelism and Missions at Southwestern Seminary. He is married to Hope and has two daughters, Madison and Matia. Matt and his family are members of Cana Baptist Church in Burleson, Texas. You can follow him on Twitter at @DrMattQueen.

Jim Wicker, Content Coordinator, Biblical Interpretation

Jim Wicker is professor of New Testament and director of Web-Based Education at Southwestern Seminary. He came to Southwestern after spending nineteen years as a senior pastor in three different Texas Baptist churches. He and his wife, Dana, have three grown children. Jim and Dana are active members of First Baptist Church of Dallas, where Jim teaches Sunday school and Discipleship University. He is also one of the Bible study teachers for Wednesday prayer meeting. He has written numerous book reviews and articles and presented eight scholarly papers on Bible-related issues as well as on using technology in teaching.

Jim enjoys presenting gospel and comedy illusion shows at churches, fire-eating, juggling, unicycle riding, and performing comedy nunchucks. He annually leads tour groups to Israel or other Bible-related lands in Europe and the Middle East. Contact him at jwicker@swbts.edu.

Michael Wilkinson, Content Coordinator, Worldview

Michael Wilkinson is dean of The College at Southwestern where he teaches theology and biblical studies. Before coming to teach at Southwestern, Michael served for over twenty years in local churches in Texas and Arkansas. He served most of those years as a single adult pastor and a missions pastor. His research interests include all areas of systematic theology and several periods of historical theology, especially the sixteenth-century Reformation and the early Anabaptists. He is the author of a work on one of these early sixteenth-century Anabaptist reformers, *A Necessary Smelting: Leonhard Schiemer's Theology of Suffering*.

In addition to theology, Dr. Wilkinson loves baseball and keeps a baseball glove in his office for any student who wants to come by and toss a ball around.

Doug Wood, Content Coordinator, Biblical Relationships

Douglas Wood is associate professor of Christian Education and Worship at Southwestern Seminary's Havard School of Theological Studies in Houston, Texas. For over seventeen years he has taught at Christian colleges and seminaries. He served as student minister at some of the largest Southern Baptist churches, including First Baptist Church of Dallas, Champion Forest Baptist of Houston, and First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City. He leads conferences, writes, and is a Christian comedian/speaker, presenting at events across the country. His website is www.dougwood.com. The father of four, he is a proud grandfather to two beautiful girls and a grandson.

Malcolm Yarnell, Content Coordinator, Core Doctrines

Malcolm B. Yarnell III is director of the Center for Theological Research and professor of Systematic Theology at Southwestern Seminary. Malcolm loves to learn theology with his students. He is the author of *The Formation of Christian Doctrine* (B&H, 2007), *Royal Priesthood in the English Reformation* (OUP, 2014), and *God the Trinity: Biblical Portraits* (B&H, 2016). He has edited numerous books and journal volumes.

Malcolm is better known to young people as the father of such strong young men as Truett, Matthew, and Graham, or of such gracious young girls as Kathryn and Elizabeth, but he is best identified through the lovely presence of his wife, Karen.

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The Goal of the Disciple6 Process

- Teenagers who love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- Teenagers who love others more than they love themselves.
- Teenagers who know their identity is in Christ and their purpose is to know, enjoy, and share the glory of God.
- Teenagers who grasp more and more of the grandeur and majesty of the Son, enthroned at the right hand of the Father.
- Teenagers who worship with awe intertwined with intimacy.
- Teenagers who abide in Christ as branches infused by the vine.
- Teenagers who embrace the spiritual disciplines and who pray in running conversations with Jesus throughout the day.
- Teenagers who invite the Holy Spirit to fill their lives.
- Teenagers who increasingly die to self and invite Christ to live through them.
- Teenagers who know they exist to reflect Christ's sovereign rule and to join Him in bringing His kingdom on the earth.
- Teenagers who joyfully serve out of gratitude for the gospel and Christ's completed work—who love Him because He first loved them.
- Teenagers who feel no need to earn what already is theirs.
- Teenagers who so love Jesus that they introduce others to Him.
- Teenagers who increasingly become like Christ, thinking His thoughts, sharing His worldview, and demonstrating His sacrificial compassion.
- Teenagers who make disciples who make disciples.
- Teenagers who risk everything—comfort, possessions, security, family, and their very lives—to be abandoned to Jesus and to make the gospel known among all peoples.
- Teenagers who have an allegiance to their King that far transcends their allegiance to the culture.
- Teenagers who know how to search and interpret the Scriptures to discover more of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.
- Teenagers who can articulate, defend, and live out the faith that is in them for a lifetime.
- Teenagers who look forward to adoring and reigning with King Jesus forever and ever.

Preparing to Launch Disciple6

The development of a comprehensive, six-year youth discipleship curriculum is historic. Church leaders and parents will be excited to learn that teenage Christ followers can be so thoroughly equipped for a lifetime.

Some churches may express their excitement by wanting to begin teaching the curriculum in the winter of 2016. That may not be the best plan. Because of the potential the curriculum carries, leaders may be better served to plan carefully for its implementation.

Potential Downsides to Beginning the Study Too Soon

1. Beginning too soon may mean teenagers have not had time to make a commitment to the process.

The Disciple6 curriculum is not designed for Sunday school. The curriculum is not designed for a weekly youth rally or any other gathering of teenagers who have not made a concrete, long-term commitment to the process of discipleship.

Most churches will need the full spring and summer to create in teenagers a hunger for deep discipleship and an understanding of the covenant they are making.

2. Beginning too soon may mean group sizes are too large.

The Disciple6 curriculum will best lead to transformation in groups made up of one or two adults and about three teenagers. This discipling model mirrors the intensive investment Jesus made in Peter, James, and John. What one-on-three disciplers are doing is biblical and effective, growing disciples through relationships while sharing life.

For almost every church, planning toward discipleship groups of that size will require enlisting many new leaders. Senior pastors, youth leaders, and parents probably will need the full spring to call out sufficient leaders.

3. Beginning too soon may mean adult volunteers have not been trained and disciplined.

Churches today sometimes place adults who never have been intentionally disciplined in leadership roles with teenagers. Leaders ask adults to create a transformative, small-group experience when the adult never has been part of a group that did more than listen to “the lesson.” Spiritual lethargy does not generate transformation, and adults cannot create what they never have seen. Most churches will need the late spring to disciple and train the adults who will lead Disciple6 groups.

4. Beginning too soon may mean parents have not become strong advocates for the process.

Few parents have ever seen a six-year plan for discipling their teenagers. Parents who love Jesus could become strong advocates for Disciple6. Such parents can encourage and pray with their teenagers about joining the process. And parents can make the weekly meetings a high priority in family schedules once fall arrives. Church leaders can use the spring to assemble parents and bring them on board as strong advocates.

Possible Preparation Process for 2016

Winter

The senior pastor preaches sermons designed to:

1. Awaken the hearts of adults to the glory of Christ.
2. Turn adult hearts toward the next generation, including teenagers.
3. Awaken the hearts of teenagers to the glory of Christ.
4. Turn teenage hearts in the direction of discipleship through Disciple6 groups.

Spring

1. Youth leaders and parents continue to lead teenagers toward a Christ awakening and toward joining a Disciple6 group for discipleship.
2. Church leaders prayerfully enlist adults who experience the Spirit's leadership to guide a Disciple6 group.
3. Church leaders gather future leaders for Disciple6 groups for discipleship and for training in group leadership.

Summer

1. Youth leaders use assemblies, camps, retreats, mission trips, and evangelistic outreaches to prepare teenagers for Disciple6 group discipleship.
2. Toward the end of summer, teenagers make concrete decisions to enter the discipleship process and make a covenant with the other students in their respective groups.

Fall

1. Disciple6 groups begin meeting weekly. Except for holiday weekends, the groups will meet weekly for thirty-five weeks.

Note: For a much more thorough discussion concerning the preparations for Disciple6 group discipleship, see *The Senior Pastor and the Reformation of Youth Ministry*, www.RichardARoss.com.

Disciple6 Groups

The Disciple6 curriculum is *not* designed for use in Sunday morning Bible study (Sunday school, etc.).

Some refer to Sunday morning Bible study groups as “open groups.” Such groups are open to all, including new Christians and those who have not yet met Christ as Savior. Open groups are valuable. They present the gospel to the lost, provide foundational teaching to new Christians, and provide a place of belonging for all the teenagers of the church.

Disciple6 curriculum is *not* designed for a youth worship service. *In fact, it is not designed for any group teenagers attend by open invitation.* Churches that use Disciple6 curriculum with open groups are almost certain to experience disappointment.

The Disciple6 curriculum is intended for a specific hour of discipleship. Since making disciples is the central command of the Great Commission, churches cannot be “too busy” to disciple. If calendars are crowded, less vital activities may need to be replaced by focused discipleship.

The Disciple6 process is “covenant group” discipleship.

- Rather than open and fluid participation in open groups, teenage believers join a Disciple6 group only by making a covenant with the others being disciplined for a specific period of time (1 Thessalonians 2:8). Disciple6 group members have all made a firm decision to follow Jesus and to be His disciples.
- Rather than the foundational discipleship of open groups, Disciple6 groups are built around deeper concepts (Hebrews 5:12).
- Rather than most study being done during the meeting times of open groups, believers in covenant groups are accountable for preparation and spiritual disciplines outside of meeting times.

Disciple6 groups continually seek to add believers to their membership. Group members are humble and so enthralled with Jesus that spiritual babes are drawn into their group. Adult leaders equip adult apprentices who begin new Disciple6 groups as the need arises. Beginning new groups allows Disciple6 groups to draw in new ones but still remain small.

Every teenage believer should feel welcome to join a Disciple6 group. *But every teenager who joins* a group should do so only after

- Making a firm decision to be a disciple of Jesus (shared with a church leader).
- Making a covenant with the existing group members (shared with group members).

Teenagers and leaders in a Disciple6 group covenant with each other to

- Attend every meeting unless a biblically sound conflict should arise.
- Be open and transparent in accountability and hold in confidence all conversations.
- Come to every meeting with homework assignments completed.
- Share life together outside of meeting times.

The Final Thirty Minutes of Group Sessions

The Disciple6 curriculum is designed for one-hour sessions. This allows a half hour to study the Scriptures and a half hour to move those biblical truths into life and kingdom activity. The following five sections describe how those final thirty minutes are used.

Leaving out one of the sections below may limit life transformation and kingdom impact.

Heart and Hands

8 minutes

Read again the **Real-Life Scenario** near the beginning of the lesson. Consider whether your answers have changed during the session.

Be silent for two or three minutes. Thank Jesus for His sacrifice and for the gospel. Adore Him for His glorious reign on the throne of heaven.

Then ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you:

1. A way the Scriptures you studied today will change your heart (the real you) for the glory of Christ.
2. Or a way those Scriptures will lead you to stop doing something in your life for the glory of Christ.
3. Or a way those Scriptures will lead you to do something for the glory of Christ.

Write what the Spirit says to you below, and then be ready to share what you have written with the group.

Since Last Week

5 minutes

Give the group this update: "In our last session I made a commitment to . . . I want to let you know how that turned out. On that same issue I think the Holy Spirit now is leading me to . . ."

Grace-Filled Accountability

5 minutes

Disciples can agree on a way to hold one another accountable. Confessing faults with other disciples allows them to offer grace, insights, and encouragement. Even more important is confession to Christ, the source of true forgiveness and cleansing.

Planning for Evangelism, Missions, and Service

5 minutes

Groups of disciples always are making preparations for evangelism, missions, and service. Use these minutes to work on the next plan.

Prayer

7 minutes

Every disciple will pray aloud, offering praise to King Jesus, thanking Him specifically for His gracious acts, making heartfelt confession, committing to actions flowing from the Bible study, praying toward evangelism locally and globally, and interceding for others as prompted by the Holy Spirit.

Disciple6 and the Home

The home always will be God's ideal as the primary place of discipleship. Disciple6 lessons begin and end in the home.

1. The first page of each lesson contains **Assignments** which teenagers complete at home. Parents can provide gentle reminders that assignments need to be completed before group meetings.
2. The final page of each lesson has the title **At Home: Nail It Down**. This section is designed for use at home the week following group meetings. The section guides teenagers to review and remember the primary content of the previous group meeting. Parents can guide teenagers to make that page a regular part of their personal devotional time.
3. The bottom of the final page always includes a **Parent Question**. This question is designed for parents to ask their teenager during the week following a group meeting. This step provides an additional way to reinforce learning. Church leaders can show parents how to find this question at www.disciple6.com, or they can e-mail the question to parents weekly.

When parents are not believers, Disciple6 leaders can help fill the gap. They can call, e-mail, or message before and after group meetings to perform the roles above. Because group leaders need to fill in for some parents, this is another reason groups should be small.

The Disciple6 Curriculum Is Not a Magic Bullet

The Disciple6 curriculum is historic. Across the decades few teenagers have had the opportunity to be so thoroughly equipped across their six years as teenagers. But no curriculum alone brings about spiritual transformation and kingdom readiness.

The Disciple6 group experience is just one element of a teenager's spiritual journey. The home always will be God's ideal as the primary place of discipleship. All the ministries of the church and the youth group make important contributions as well.

The Power of God

Teenagers in Disciple6 groups increasingly know, love, and adore King Jesus—in the power of the Holy Spirit—for the glory of God. God alone is the source of all transformation.

The Power of the Word

Teenagers using the Disciple6 curriculum are saturated in the Word of God. They increasingly know the Word, understand the Word, and embrace the Word in their hearts. Disciples use their copies of the Bible as they work through passages together. The Bible, not curriculum, has the power to change lives. Heart transformation precedes all outward change.

Faith in Action

Teenagers link arms with their Disciple6 groups to practice and do the Word. Groups are stagnant if biblical truth runs into groups but never flows out in evangelism, missions, compassion, and service. Disciples are conduits that take whatever they learn and invest that in kingdom activity for the glory of God. *Groups that only study a curriculum and never do the Word will experience little transformation.*

Influence of Leaders

Teenagers follow Disciple6 group leaders who themselves are following Christ. They learn the Word from leaders who embody and live out that Word. They learn how to follow Christ in kingdom activity by watching leaders whose own kingdom activity flows from their adoration of King Jesus. Teenagers live holy lives because they are watching adults whose righteousness reflects the aroma of Christ.

Discipleship takes place in the context of life-on-life relationships. Consistent with the policies of the church and with the blessings of parents, adults and teenagers share life inside and outside group meetings. Disciple6 groups are small so that busy disciples have time to share life together.

Shared Leadership

Teenagers and adults share in the leadership of Disciple6 groups. Teenagers lead and contribute as they prepare to make disciples the rest of their lives. Groups are small so that *every* teenager is actively involved in every discussion and period of prayer.

Out of all of this, the goal is teenagers who increasingly are conformed to the image of Christ and whose faces are set like flint to follow Christ to complete the Great Commission for the glory of God.

The Order in Which Lessons Should Be Taught

Churches may teach the 210 lessons in any order. Specific lessons were not written for, say, seventh graders or for twelfth graders. Half the churches in the U.S. have fewer than seven teenagers, which might mean three or four want to be discipled. Many of those churches need to disciple teenagers from seventh to twelfth grades in one group. Other churches may have one group for middle school and one group for high school, or some other combination of grades.

Consequently, grade-specific lessons are not practical.

Similarly, some churches will begin the curriculum in 2016 while others will discover it in later years. Thus, churches will move through the lessons on different schedules. Also, some churches will see a year of lessons that seems to meet an immediate need, and they will move to that year. This may especially be true when older high school students will have only a year or two of the studies.

Consequently, a strict schedule for moving through the lessons is not practical.

Church leaders may choose their unique way of moving through the Blue Year, Brown Year, Green Year, Purple Year, Red Year, and Yellow Year. Having made that choice, leaders can continue that rotation so that future twelve-year-olds can experience all 210 lessons before high school graduation.

Disciple6 on Paper, Phones, and Tablets

When Disciple6 lessons will be distributed on paper, leaders need to give careful thought to this question: What will be our plan to make it likely that our teenagers will carry all 210 lessons into young adulthood? Students in college or the military will face people who attack their faith, and they will confront people representing many world religions. For a host of reasons, the Disciple6 curriculum—with all handwritten notes and answers—will be valuable to young adults.

Leaders need an intentional plan so that lessons are retained and not tossed into the trash after sessions. Notebooks may be one possibility. The curriculum for one school year is 175 pages.

Teenagers also may download and study the Disciple6 curriculum on a smartphone or tablet. This might allow students to have all 210 lessons at their fingertips as they move into young adulthood.

Keyboarding on a Device

Most of the lessons call for students to write their answers and thoughts. With the paper version of the curriculum, space is provided for students to write. That same space is provided in the electronic version. But students who do not follow the following procedure will find they cannot keyboard in those spaces.

To be able to keyboard answers in the lessons, students must first install a free app.

Apple's App Store: Adobe Acrobat Reader

Google's Marketplace: Adobe Acrobat Reader

Students can surf to the disciple6.com website, download a lesson, open the lesson in Adobe Acrobat Reader, and then begin keyboarding their answers to questions in that lesson.

Saving Lessons

All the keyboarding a student has done in a lesson will be lost unless the following procedure is followed. Using the Adobe Acrobat Reader app, students need to open a free account for the Adobe Document Cloud. Then, at the close of study sessions, teenagers can put a lesson in that cloud account, and all their keyboarding will be saved. Students can make decisions about how to organize lessons on the cloud. Some may want folders by years while others may want folders by topics (Core Doctrine, Apologetics, etc.).

Note: On a few devices, once a lesson has been saved to the cloud, the lesson will become read-only, and no additional keyboarding will be possible. That means those students cannot save lessons to the cloud before they come to group meetings. For those students the order must always be: download the lesson from disciple6.com, open the lesson in Adobe Acrobat Reader, keyboard answers, and then save to the cloud.

Tech Party

The first meeting of a Disciple6 group should be deeply meaningful. Regardless of the curriculum year, the first lesson will focus on the greatness of King Jesus. He deserves all sixty minutes of meeting time. But that cannot happen if it takes half an hour for students to download the Acrobat app, learn how to download the lessons, and set up their cloud accounts. Wise leaders will plan a gathering ahead of that first meeting. In addition to enjoying relationships, that gathering can provide time to resolve all technical issues.

The Size and Makeup of Disciple6 Groups

In Disciple6 groups adults disciple teenagers of their gender. Discipling is different from teaching a class. Disciplers need to engage in accountability discussions that might touch on sexual issues. Disciplers may need to provide transportation for teenagers, meet them for coffee, connect at school activities, or visit in their homes. This degree of closeness between an adult and teenagers calls for same-gender relationships.

The Disciple6 model focuses on one adult and around three teenagers in a discipling relationship lasting at least one school year. This discipling model mirrors the intensive investment Jesus made in Peter, James, and John.

What one-on-three disciplers are doing is biblical and effective, growing disciples through relationships while sharing life. They are following the example of Paul, who reported, "So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us" (1 Thessalonians 2:8, ESV).

Pastor and discipling pioneer Robby Gallaty reports: "So what is the ideal size of a [discipleship group]? In my experience, four total, as displayed by Jesus, is the number of choice. Any more than five, including you, is too large, and any less than three is too small" (*Growing Up*, 47). Veteran discipler Greg Ogden would agree: "My conviction is that the primary way people grow into self-initiating, reproducing, fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ is by being involved in highly accountable, relational, multiplying discipleship units of three or four" (*Transforming Discipleship*, 54).

An adult discipler who goes into the world of a teenager shows that teenager he or she is valuable as a person, not just a church statistic. But going to a sporting event or band concert takes time. Deep conversations with lots of listening take time. Walking together, life on life, takes time. Adults who have their own jobs and their own families cannot make that kind of investment in more than three or four.

In a typical Bible class of six to fifteen, teenagers tend to share at a superficial level. Why? They have not built strong enough heart connections with the teacher or the teenagers to give them courage to share at a deep level. The teenager may have grown up with those in the classroom, but that does not necessarily mean heart connections and trust are deep.

Over time a godly adult and about three teenagers can find that level of trust. They can make commitments of confidentiality. They can offer one another grace-filled accountability. When teenagers begin to talk about their real thoughts, their real doubts, and their real lives, then the door is open for true discipling and lifetime transformation.

Teenagers often live lives marked by chaos and pain. They benefit from having a time and place to express what presently is making life hard. When they express those challenges, they need to hear from a compassionate leader and from compassionate peers who know them well. And they need prayer from those close by.

The senior pastor can take the lead in calling out unusual numbers of adults to lead Disciple6 groups. Spiritually awakened adults have new motivation to invest in other believers. For a full discussion concerning calling out an adequate number of new leaders, see *The Senior Pastor and the Reformation of Youth Ministry*, www.RichardARoss.com.

Weekly Gathering of Adult Disciplers

As a best practice the youth pastor (or someone he equips) should meet once a week with teachers and disciplers after they begin meeting with teenagers. The spiritual depth and vitality of the disciplers will be a key variable impacting the transformation of the teenagers.

Disciplers should come to see this time as their primary discipleship experience through the church. They should see this time not as a meeting but as the gathering of a community that is valuable to them. They should believe serving in this ministry and attending such gatherings has added value to their lives.

The meetings themselves should allow new leaders to experience a rich group gathering. Some never have seen a good one. What they observe and experience can shape the gatherings they plan for teenagers.

A session with the disciplers might include:

1. Celebration of spiritual victories.
2. Problem-solving related to issues or crises arising in the groups.
3. Examination of future teaching content.
4. Continuing training in how to build relationships and to teach and disciple.
5. Experiencing spiritual disciplines and accountability.
6. Intercessory prayer for disciplers and teenagers.

Both open-group (Sunday school, etc.) leaders and Disciple6 leaders can be included in the meeting. They have the same need for spiritual growth and accountability. They have the same need to receive spiritual leadership from the youth pastor. Disciple6 leaders and open-group leaders can meet together for spiritual growth and then separate to focus on their unique curricula and meeting plans.

The youth pastor (or the person he prepares) also can use gatherings as a time to build community among the leaders. As an expression of the body of Christ, this is a time for adults to enjoy one another, to laugh and cry together, to care for one another, and to gently nudge one another toward growth.

Spiritually alive and growing adults produce spiritually alive and growing teenagers.

For a full discussion concerning the training that Disciple6 leaders need to receive, see *The Senior Pastor and the Reformation of Youth Ministry*, www.RichardARoss.com.

Missions and Evangelism

Disciple6 groups can and should take primary responsibility for evangelism and missions in youth ministry. Disciple6 group members have the transformation necessary to embrace kingdom activity. Disciple6-group teenagers respect their leader and enjoy following the leader's example.

Leaders can view Disciple6 groups as building blocks related to evangelism, performing service in the name of Christ, and taking the gospel to other places. For example, only one group might share their faith at a community event. Or all the Disciple6 groups with high school guys might combine to shingle a house. Or the middle school guys and girls groups might combine to lead a neighborhood party.

In most churches open groups study the Bible, period. Then the youth pastor comes up with ways for the youth group to do evangelism and missions. Thus it falls on him to talk the teenagers into attending, to make all preparations, and to find sponsors. Mobilizing Disciple6 groups for evangelism and missions may be more strategic and far more time efficient. In addition, experiencing kingdom victories together simply propels groups toward richer discipling sessions down the road.

For Disciple6 group members to do ministry, missions, and evangelism, they first must be trained. Similar to the dynamics above, training within groups may be more strategic and more time effective than the youth pastor's having to create some kind of training program outside regular meeting times. That even applies to the training teenagers need before a major mission trip.

If teenagers are not carefully and intentionally trained to do missions, evangelism, and ministry, they will join that large group of adults on Sunday morning who only are spectators. Or, without the challenge of making an impact for the kingdom, they may simply leave the church in young adulthood.

A youth pastor trying to teach thirty teenagers how to share their faith may or may not have success. He likely will get little feedback. He will not be able to gauge whether each heart carries a burden for the lost. He will not have time to listen to each one practice.

On the other hand, Disciple 6 group leaders can do all those things. They can massage truth into hearts until those hearts are full of compassion. With only three or four students, they have the time to practice until teenagers are fluent with the gospel, understand how to do missions, and are prepared to offer servant leadership.

Making Disciplemakers

When leaders picture a teenager being disciplined by an adult, leaders usually picture the teenager in a receiving posture. But that is not the ultimate goal. As quickly as possible, a teenager needs to learn to take the initiative for his or her own spiritual growth. Today many adults in the church never have begun to do that. Leaders cannot be content to produce even more adults in that condition.

The goal of discipleship is not just making disciples. The goal is making disciples so enthralled with Jesus, so full of His aroma, and so expressive of His life that they make disciples. They become high school graduates who are motivated and equipped to discipline others in college, trade school, the military, the workplace, or the home.

The discipler's goal is to serve as a multiplier, preparing the hearts of the teenagers they discipline to reproduce themselves. Disciple6 group members increasingly should take responsibility for leadership within the group.

- In middle-school groups the adult may take primary leadership while the teenagers support.
- In younger high-school groups the adult and teenagers may share leadership.
- In older high-school groups the teenagers may do most of the leading while the adult supports.

Disciple6 groups tend to produce disciplemakers and a related byproduct. Such teenagers also tend to take more ownership for the overall youth ministry. Disciple6 groups provide the motivation, discipline, and training that ministry ownership requires. Teenagers who become leaders make a positive impact on peers, and they impact the spiritual temperature of the entire group. Teenage leaders also tend to stay engaged all the way through high school, during the years that some become bored and leave the church.

Scripture Memory

Max Barnett

One of the greatest blessings of my life has been memorizing Scripture. I would not take a million dollars for the verses I have hidden in my heart.

By hiding God's Word in your heart, you give the Holy Spirit an opportunity to use His Word in your life or the life of anyone around you anytime He chooses. A few minutes a day spent in memorizing and reviewing Scripture will pay tremendous dividends. I doubt you will ever find a better way to use your time.

The great thing about Scripture memory is that you can do it in odd moments using time you normally waste. You can doubly use your time while walking to memorize or review. It does not take a great deal of your time from other important areas in life such as studying, working, or time with family and friends.

This discipline will greatly enrich your life and help you be available as a tool in the hand of God. By having verses memorized, you can pray and meditate over the Word of God anytime you choose. This gives you great opportunities to apply the Word of God to your life.

The best way I know to memorize and review verses is to use the card system. Write the verse or passage you want to memorize on a small card with the reference on one side and the verse on the other. Or you may prefer to use an online Scripture memory plan or app on your phone or tablet.

Go over and over the verse until you can quote it word perfectly. Once you can do that, say it another thirty-five times that day. Try to review a verse every day for two months. After the two months you should know the verse well, and if you review it once a week for a while, then once every two weeks, and eventually once a month, you should have the verse for life.

Memorize the Disciple6 Memory Verse Each Week

At the end of a year, you would know thirty-five verses. If you did that for ten years, you would know 350 verses. Can you imagine what a tremendous knowledge of the Scriptures you would have? Can you imagine what God could do in your life and ministry through that knowledge?

Date Your Verses

Add a date to indicate when you begin memorizing the verse and a second date for two months later, when you complete reviewing the verse daily.

Back Review

After two months of daily review, you can review the memorized verse once a week and put it aside. You can make tabbed dividers out of 3 x 5-inch index cards for each day of the week for filing your completed verses. Once you have about twenty-eight memorized verses, you put four behind each day of the week to review. Eventually, you can break them down to review with your small group once a month. You can file your verses and review them by books or by topics.

You can accomplish this same thing by creating folders and subfolders on your phone or tablet or by following the review suggestions of an online Scripture memory site or app.

Verse Packs

One side is designed for verses you are currently memorizing (no more than eight if you are working on one verse per week). The other side is for your “back review” (those you have worked on for two months or more and are now reviewing less often). The plastic window is for your current verse. Keep an “id” card in your pack so it can be returned if misplaced.

Future Memory Page

Keep a page in your notebook or device listing verses you intend to memorize.

The secret for retaining Scripture is REVIEW, REVIEW, REVIEW. The best way to build a habit is by following these four steps.

1. Start.
2. Start now.
3. Start enthusiastically.
4. Make no exceptions.

No system works; you have to work it. Ask God to help you and get after it!

Max Barnett, maxbarnett@gmail.com.

College Scholarship

Students who complete one to six years of the Disciple6 curriculum can receive a first-semester scholarship to the College of Southwestern.

1 year of study	10% Tuition Discount
2 years of study	25% Tuition Discount
3 years of study	50% Tuition Discount
4–5 years of study	75% Tuition Discount
6 years of study	100% Tuition Discount

In late 2016, pastors, youth pastors, and key youth leaders will be able to download official transcript forms. Those same leaders will sign the transcript forms as students complete their years of study. Students will submit the signed forms when they apply to the College at Southwestern in order to receive their scholarship.

For information about the College at Southwestern, go to <http://college.swbts.edu>.