

#9 – Discipleship and the Church

CAN YOU BE A FAITHFUL, OBEDIENT DISCIPLE AND NEGLECT CHURCH?



...more than a buzzword

22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church

23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. Ephesians 1:22–23 ESV

Q: What have been the joys and the challenges of making local church involvement a priority for those you disciple?

Video main points:

Church involvement and discipleship

- Q: What was your experience of church as you were growing up? What impact has the church had on your life?
- Q: How important is church involvement to a growing Christian. Why? How have you encouraged those you disciple toward involvement and participation in church? How is this a growing edge for you?

A few suggestions:

1. **For a mature believer, life in the local Church should become much more than spectator religion.**
 - Q: How do students and churches sometimes see church as more of a show or as a passive obligation.
 - Q: How do we help students see the church as an essential investment and encourage churches to help students be the leaders of the church? What are some of the obstacles to this ideal?
2. **Campus based young adult ministry and Church based ministry should complement and balance one another.**
 - Q: What examples do you have of churches and campus ministries having a strong balance in students' lives? How have you seen dysfunctionality in this area?
3. **Campus based collegiate ministry and church based young adult ministry should have as its goal the refinement of a more mature follower of Christ.**
 - Q: In what ways can the church actively support young adults in their daily spiritual disciplines and growth in faith? What resources, programs, or mentorship opportunities can be offered to facilitate their discipleship journey? How have you helped to train or encourage local churches in their outreach and involvement of college aged young adults?
4. **The local church should be a place of true belonging for college aged young adults.**
The church is created to be a home and a family.
 - Q: What defines home, family, belonging?

Final observations...

The church unites age groups and perspectives.

- **Q:** How does campus based ministry and local church ministry complement one another?

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

The church provides a mission and ministry base for a lifetime.

- **Q:** How so?
- **Q:** How do students struggle with this idea? How can we, as disciple makers, encourage and support students to maintain their love for Christ even when they experience disappointments or unmet expectations within the church?
- How have you seen students grow cynical or sarcastic about the relevance of the church and the wisdom of older Christians? How can we foster a culture of respect and appreciation for cross-generational ministry?
- How do we help students discover their place in the church and find a sense of belonging and purpose that extends beyond their college years?
- Share personal experiences where you've seen young adults embrace the church as an integral part of their lives. What factors contributed to this positive transformation, and how can we replicate these experiences in our disciple-making efforts? What are some practical ways we can help college aged young adults discover their unique roles and contributions to the church's mission?

Want more info? Want to join a cohort? <https://forms.gle/FZ9XMeHpmXivCSAV9>

Video-  **DISCIPLESHIP TOOLKIT #9 The Church** Jerry Johnson

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