

the Nall Call

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WHAT I'VE LEARNED ABOUT DISCIPLING OTHERS:

Testimony by Angie Funderburk



God has taught me how crucial it is to pray for His intervention. I can't change people's hearts and minds by my words or by willing it to happen. I am a do-it-yourself type person but not a lot of good comes from doing it my way when trying to win people for Christ. I have learned God is always at work, even when I can't see it.

I have learned God has His own time table. I like things done quickly and efficiently, and He doesn't always take the fast road or the easy route to win souls. He's about the process of changing them and us to resemble more of His characteristics.

I have also learned the importance of asking good questions and building a relationship with the person and letting them talk.

I have learned that building relationships will take time away from family and regular schedule. But I have had a supportive husband and kids. My kids see the importance of it. As we had people in our house, we would pray with our kids for the people's hearts to

be perceptive to the gospel. The kids would see us reading the Bible together and questions being asked. It would start conversations later with them. I was teaching my kids too what is important to the heart of God.

I also saw that I needed to be more real and transparent with people. That can be hard for me. I like to try to keep it all together and not show the mess that is going on within my own heart. But it's refreshing to the other person to see, oh yay, I am not the only one who loses their cool or gets frustrated with children, etc. So I'm learning to share the areas that God is at work on me when it is fitting to the conversation and not to portray a perfect life.

I also saw the importance of fasting and praying for people and that God honors that. I had to ask myself what I am willing to go without for someone's soul. This is for eternity. If He could go to the cross for me, I can go without a few meals for this person. He is always faithful to change our mindsets.

I am still learning and am a work in progress. But I can't express how exciting it is to get the text from someone that says, "I am ready to give my life to God," and to actually get to pray with them to receive His gift and ask for His forgiveness. It's so worth all the waiting and work and time. God does the work; we get to watch it take place.

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WE WANT TO MAKE DISCIPLES, BUT HOW? (PART 2 OF 2)

by Joe Funderburk, Senior Pastor



Last month I wrote about the four church models discussed in the book *Discipleshift*. If you haven't already, please read that article before continuing (you can find it at www.nallave.org/news). In it, I summarize the approach of each model listed below.

As a follow-up, I want to explain why each model is insufficient and incomplete for the church to make disciples.

To be clear: These four approaches have some positives and might certainly include aspects of discipleship, and each possesses pockets of effectiveness. That said, we are not seeing intentional, sustained disciple-making as a result.

understand the Bible for themselves. Though discussion is encouraged in classes, many people rely on the teachers having prepared the lesson, and few people do any preparations themselves during the week. Preaching, although important for public worship, leaves no possibility for exchange, questions, and discussion of real-life application. Researchers routinely see the Educational model's lack of effectiveness in transformational learning. We have known for a long time information does not equal transformation in daily lives.

1) Educational: In this model, teaching is king. Bible teaching is very important in disciple-making, but in this model, people often become reliant on teachers/pastors rather than learning how to

2) Attractional: An old ministry adage says you lose people the way you gained them. In an Attractional model, this is especially true. If they came from another church because they were attracted to the preaching, music, children's program, or other ministry, then in a few years you are just as likely to see them leave when they find something better. By trying to attract people to Christ through services and programs, we end up making consumers out of people and not disciples. It is good to pursue quality and excellence in what we do, but it is foolish to think we help people mature spiritually by appealing to their consumer mentality.

3) Missional: While this approach has much to commend, leaders often discover that when the church's mission is centered around service to the marginalized, the bulk of investment flows outward and very little is invested back in. This approach lacks the building up of believers who are constantly serving outward. A missional church will accomplish good things and might even grow, but there is an extremely high burnout rate and lack of balance. In many missional churches today, the emphasis on service also comes at the expense of or in place of clearly communicating the gospel.

4) Organic: A focus on fellowship and doing life together can result in increased community, but this can also lead to a great imbalance. The group might build lasting friendships, but there is often little fruit expanding beyond the circle because the goal of fellowship is already being met.

So what is the solution to these limitations?

Let me quote *Discipleshift*: "If the purpose of the church is not primarily to transfer information, to attract other people to the building, to serve hurting people, or just encourage fellowship, then why does the church exist? The solution emerges when a church shifts its focus to biblical discipleship using the methodology of relational environments." This is the methodology Jesus used in his three-year ministry with the disciples.

Are we willing to leave these common models, which touch on different parts of discipleship, to engage a model that makes transforming discipleship the primary goal?

SNAPSHOT OF THE MONTH



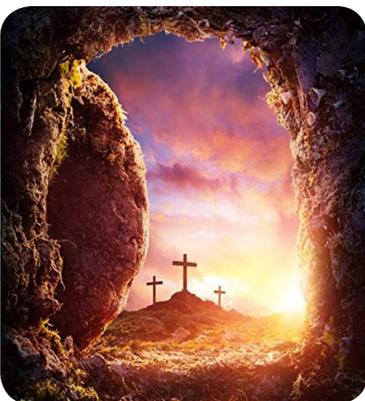
Isaac Perkins, 9-year-old son of Kevin and Samantha Perkins, moments before his baptism on Sunday, March 24, during the 10:45 AM service. A picture worth a thousand words.

LEWIS JONES TO BE ORDAINED



Lewis Jones will be ordained in the 10:45 AM service on April 7. Lewis has been working in ministry for nine years and finished his seminary training in 2017. The Bible instructs the church to set men apart for service through questioning and laying on of hands. An ordination council met to question Lewis on Sunday, March 24, and have voted to approve moving forward with ordination. Lewis will give testimony of his calling into ministry, and ordained men will lay hands on him and pray over him to commission him for the work of the gospel.

EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE



Easter Sunday will feature a normal Sunday schedule, with identical services at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM, and Core Group Bible studies at 9:30 AM.

Children's programming will be available during the 9:30 AM studies and 10:45 AM service only.

For more information on how Nall will celebrate Easter, see Page 4.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Breakfast, April 1

6:30 AM, Santa Fe Cafe, 87th St., Overland Park. No RSVP needed.

Lewis Jones' Ordination, April 7

10:45 AM service.

Build a Basket Luncheon, April 7

NOON, CLC/Gym. See Page 4.

JOY Seniors Luncheon, April 11

11:30 AM, CLC/Gym. Hear the account of the 1804 Lewis and Clark expedition, told by Jim Two Crows Wallen. Bring potluck dish or \$4.

"Christ in the Passover" Model

Seder, Thursday, April 18, 6:30 PM. See Page 4.

"Walk with Jesus" Children's

Easter Experience, Saturday, April 20. See Page 4.

Easter Sunday, April 21,

See details on this page.

Moms in Prayer, April 24

6:45 PM. All moms of school-age children invited. Homeschooling moms and grandmothers also welcome. Meet in Foyer.

COMING UP

Last Wednesday Night Dinner, Awana and Studies for spring, May 1

Graduation Sunday, May 5

Full list of events and activities:
www.nallave.org/events.

BUILD A BASKET EASTER SERVICE PROJECT

The fourth annual Build a Basket Easter Service Project kicks off with a luncheon at Noon on Sunday, April 7, in the CLC/Gym. Participants will enjoy a provided lunch and fill Easter baskets with treats. They will then deliver these baskets to designated Nall family members who are no longer able to attend church for health or other reasons. Families are welcome to participate together.

To sign up to build a basket, contact Mary Hale, maryhale1@gmail.com or 913-620-3920.



JESUS IN THE PASSOVER: A MODEL SEDER

On Thursday, April 18 (Maundy Thursday), Nall will host a model seder at 6:30 PM, in the CLC/Gym. Special guest Irina Volodarska from Jews for Jesus will lead participants in experiencing the elements of the Jewish Passover. She will weave in the ties between the Exodus story with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Please note: This is a presentation rather than a meal. Participants should eat before they come.

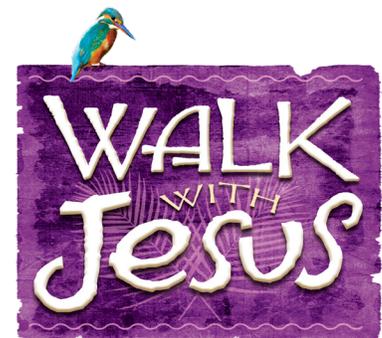
Registration is required. Register at www.nallave.org/easter. Child care is provided with registration only.



“WALK WITH JESUS” EASTER EXPERIENCE

Walk with Jesus is a free, interactive, family-focused presentation of Jesus' last days on Earth. See, feel, taste and touch what He experienced. The tour includes multiple stops along the way. Travel to Jerusalem for Palm Sunday, sit down for the Last Supper, discover the sacrifice of Good Friday, and celebrate freedom from sin at the empty tomb that first Easter morning.

The event takes place Saturday, April 20, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, with tours departing every 15 minutes. Reservations are required. Sign up for a spot at www.nallave.org/easter.



About Nall Call

Nall Call is the work of many hands.

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