



CAMPUS
MINISTRY
TODAY

THE DISCIPLESHIP ROAD MAP AND **DISCIPLESHIP LADDER**

created by
Steve
Shadrach

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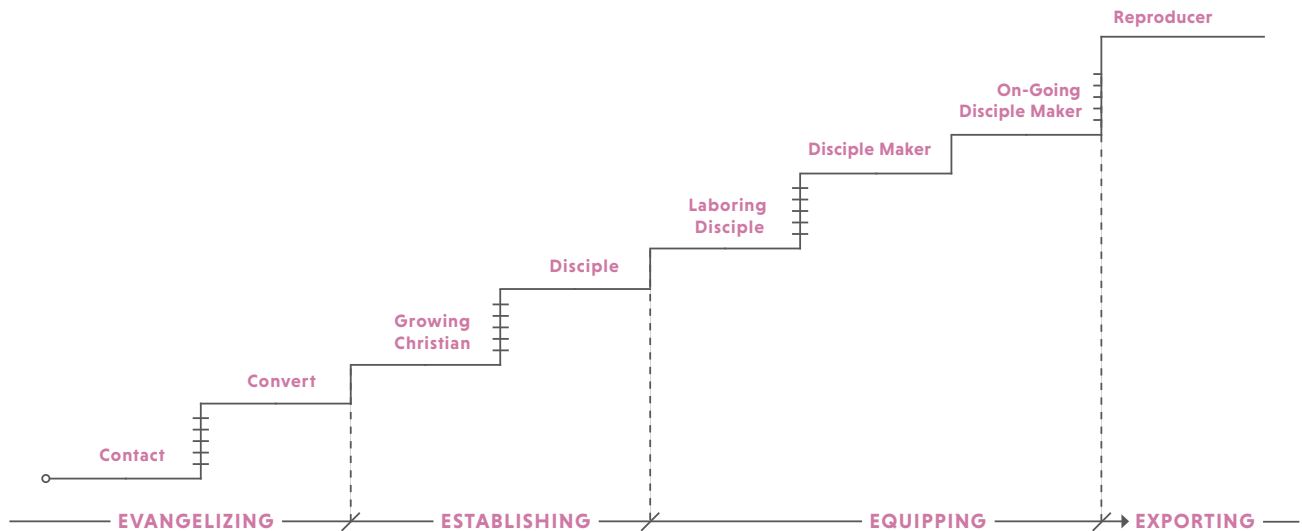
The Discipleship Road map and Discipleship Ladder are two illustrated tools to help you understand, teach, and recruit to the discipleship process. Here is an excerpt from Chapter 5 of *Fuel and the Flame: 10 Keys to Ignite Your Campus for Jesus Christ* by Steve Shadrach that describe how to use these set of tools.

“Before we actually implement our ministry, we first need to understand what our ultimate goal is. It’s fine to know the seasons and stages of ministry, but what will the students look like when we are finished with them and pass them onto their next assignment in life? God is the one who is at work in them and through them, but He has chosen us to help shepherd them during this pliable phase of their life. To give us a little direction, we’ve included some profiles, which the Navigators and others have used in the past, to help the Christian worker understand the end result we are working toward. You might want to use these profiles to guide you in your ministry and also to evaluate where each of your students are and need to go. These profiles are not taken from any particular chapter of the Bible but are simply descriptions of some of the scriptural characteristics that ought to be present at each stage of a Christian’s growth. Sprinkle them with grace, understanding that who and what we are is just as important (or more!) as what we do in the Christian life and ministry.”

Note:

The Discipleship Ladder is something you can draw out after you review the profiles on the Discipleship Road Map. The Ladder is to be used as a recruiting tool to let someone identify where they feel they are at spiritually, expose areas of need, and allow them to invite you into their life to help take them further on their spiritual journey.

DISCIPLESHIP LADDER



1. Where do you place yourself right now on this ladder?
2. Why do you place yourself there?
3. Where do you feel God is calling you to be on the ladder? Why?
4. What is it going to take to get there?
5. What things do you need to do or change or sacrifice in order to make strides towards your goal?
6. Are you willing to do these things?
7. What is your action plan to get you to the next stage in the discipleship process?

If this is what you truly want to do, I would be willing to help you get there.

DISCIPLESHIP ROAD MAP



TRUE CONVERT (ACTS 2:37–38)

- Change of attitude toward Jesus Christ — now favorable (John 8:42)
- Change of attitude toward sin — now unfavorable (1 Corinthians 5:17)
- Desire to grow spiritually (1 Peter 2:2)
- Publicly professed commitment to Christ (Romans 10:9–10)

GROWING CHRISTIAN (JAMES 1:19–25)

- Meets the profile of a convert
- Engaged in developing a relationship with God through the Word, prayer, etc. (Colossians 2:6–7)
- Observable changes taking place in regard to attitude and actions as a result of application of the Word and/or conviction of the Holy Spirit (John 14:21)

DISCIPLE (MARK 8:34–36)

- Consistent growth in the basics of Christian life for at least six months
- Lordship, the word, prayer, fellowship, and witnessing
- Has developed a heart for God
- Has a deepening intimacy with the Lord, where love and gratitude for Jesus Christ is the motive for their attitude and actions (2 Corinthians 5:14)
- Willing to make any sacrifices to personally grow, even change their schedule
- Demonstrates a willingness to change priorities and time commitments in order to develop their relationship with God and make themselves available for training (2 Kings 2:1–6)

DISCIPLE-MAKER (MATTHEW 28:18–20)

- Continues on as a disciple, but has also made a disciple through a group and/or one-on-one mentoring (i.e. was the major influence in taking a person from a new or growing Christian to a disciple;
- Matthew 28:18–20)
- Has developed a heart for people (1 Thessalonians 2:8; Philipians 2:17)
- Is willing to give up their rights and interests in order to meet the needs of others and make disciples from a heart motivated by love
- Is willing to make any sacrifice to help another grow, even change their schedule (1 Corinthians 9:19–23)
- Is starting to make life decisions (vocation, location, relationships, etc.) based upon how they can most effectively fulfill the Great Commission

REPRODUCER (2 TIMOTHY 2:2)

- Continues on as a disciple-maker
- Has been the major influence in helping at least one of their disciples become a disciple-maker (has produced a strong third generation)
- Has been trained and equipped with the knowledge, skill, character, and vision to go to another location to see this whole process begun and repeated (Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 1:8).

1. Where do you place yourself right now on this Discipleship Road Map?
2. Why do you place yourself there?
3. Where do you feel God is calling you to be on the road map? Why?
4. What is it going to take to get there?
5. What things do you need to do or change or sacrifice in order to make strides towards your goal?
6. Are you willing to do these things? Are you sure?
7. What is your action plan to get you to the next stage in the discipleship process?
8. If this is what you truly want to do, I would be willing to help you get there.

A DISCIPLE

1. Has a heart for *God*
2. Makes any sacrifice to *personally* grow

A DISCIPLE-MAKER

1. Has a heart for *people*
2. Makes any sacrifice to help *others* grow

Beware of the Ditches

Use these profiles as a way to measure how you and the students you are reaching are doing in the overall discipleship growth process. They are to be utilized as something to shoot for in your lives and ministry, but don't take them to an extreme. One ditch is to take these profiles and make legalistic standards out of them, forcing everyone to conform to these in order to measure up to your brand of spirituality. And some will definitely view these profiles as just a "performance trap" and swerve toward the other extreme, the "free spirit" ditch. This is the lazy man's version of Christian ministry where there's no need to plan, organize, develop materials, or even pray specifically. Some of these folks live in an easy-come, easy-go fog that says, "We're just going to trust God, be available, encourage everyone to become like Jesus and see what happens!" I'm certainly all for that, but God did give us a brain, an eternal GPS in the Scriptures, and awesome ministry role models like Jesus and Paul. So stay balanced. Stay on the road. Listen to the aged apostle as he tells us to have a strategy like a good soldier in Christ Jesus, to do the work of an evangelist, pour out our lives like a drink offering, and even suffer hardship."