

## **Toolbox: Family Group Leader Training**

### **Winning Souls as a Family Group**

(Each of these points can be a different family group with the action items being assigned each week)

#### **Developing an Oikos – Luke 5:29-32,**

Oikos is a Greek word meaning your sphere of influence through your relationships. As disciples we must have people that are not disciples that we have made friends with that we are trying to move towards becoming disciples. The more people that we are friends with the greater chance we have to help them become disciples. We can meet these people from cold contact evangelism or from meeting the neighbors on your block. The point is that each of us has a group of people that we are working with. As a family group we are responsible for helping the Disciples in your group develop their Oikos as well as making sure that they are doing a good job moving them towards baptism.

#### ***Action***

- Ask each of the people in your group who they already know from their neighbors, friends, co-workers, family, and people that they have already shared with and have their phone numbers. Keep track of this list to help the Disciples in your group follow up.
- Brain storm with your group as to ways you can add to your Oikos

#### **Getting involved – 1 Thes 2:8, John 1:38-39**

We must find a way to share our lives with the people in our Oikos. This is where the other members of our Family Group come in. Having a family devotional with another disciple family and a family that is a part of your Oikos is a powerful way to show them your love, the power of Christian relationships, great parenting and the power of the Bible. Sports, hospitality, and running errands together are just a few of the ways we can open our lives to the people that are a part of our Oikos. As they see our lives and our love they will begin to be more and more open about what is really going on in their lives. Think about what really drew you to God and His kingdom.

#### **Meeting needs – John 9:6-7, 35-38**

Jesus met people's physical needs. He used this as a way to eventually save their souls. The felt need of the man in John 9 was to see. However after Jesus met that need, He brought Him to faith. Jesus fed people and cured people, but these acts were not ends in of themselves. Jesus ultimately wanted to save their souls. People have perceived needs and real needs. Every person's real need is to be saved from there sins and be reunited with God. However few people feel this need very acutely. Once people see that we are willing to help them meet their perceived need they are more open to us helping them with their real need. Troubled marriages, out of control teenagers, grief over a family death, needing help with a home project, needing a babysitter, moving furniture, the list is endless. As a family group team we can help each other meet the needs of people in our Oikos and open their hearts to the gospel.

#### ***Action***

- Have each disciple identify someone they can get involved with and talk through what they will do.

### **Sharing your faith – Mark 5:19-20**

Often Jesus would tell people to share what God had done for them. Thinking through why we love God so much, why we love His Kingdom so much, and what God has done for us will help us develop our testimony. Our personal testimony is one of the most powerful tools we have in converting our friends. As people from our Oikos open up to us, we can open up to them about how God has changed our lives so completely and why he means so much to us. It is important to let people know right away about your involvement in God's Kingdom for two reasons. First, this will help you figure out if a person is completely not open so that we are able to invest our time into the most open people. Second, it is important in every way to be transparent about our motives and hearts. Helping people from your Oikos become disciples is a group activity. If we try to win souls alone, we will be very frustrated and fruitless. Bringing people to the family group will help all the disciples get involved with them. Getting as many people involved on as many levels as possible will help your visitor become a disciple.

#### ***Action***

- Have each disciple share their testimony at Bible talk and the others share what inspired them about their testimony.

### **Your Routine – Acts 17:2, Acts 5:42**

We see that the apostles had certain routines that made them effective. Whatever we do routinely will tell us who we will become and what we will accomplish. Each family group needs an evangelistic routine. Consistent sharing times, reserving nights of the week for hospitality. Neighborhood parties on a rotating basis. A routine will insure a consistent flow of new people to work with and make sure that your group is always outward focused.

#### ***Action***

- Brainstorm with your group what they would like to do evangelistically as a group on a consistent basis.

## **Small group Training: Developing an Evangelistic Plan**

### **Inspiration – Judges 7:9-14**

Inspiring people to want to do the work, and to have faith that they will be successful is half the battle. God used an inspirational story, or dream to give Gideon confidence. Giving your people the vision of what will happen after they do the work is inspirational. Telling the people stories of others that have done what they are doing and been successful is inspirational. A story of someone that shares their same weakness that has overcome is inspirational. Getting your people to pray with faith is inspirational. Rallying your people around a promise of God is inspirational. Without inspiration your people's motivation will dry up quickly. However with inspiration you won't be able to stop them. As leaders we must provide a constant source of inspiration and encouragement to our people.

### **Specific Direction – Matt 10:1-8**

It is important to let your people know exactly what you expect of them. If the expectations are too high you will discourage them if they are too low you won't get the job done, and your people won't be inspired. These expectations should come after a discussion of their specific situation, and it is best if they set their own. Then after you have nailed down exactly what they will be doing, pray about it together.

### **Leading the way – Judges 7:17-21, Judges 5:2**

The leaders must lead, not just coach. You must be the most determined. When you fail you must rebound quickly. There must be stories of your exploits and your weaknesses and how you overcame. This inspires the people to keep going.

### **Accountability – Mark 6:30, 1 Sam 15:13-19**

Finding out how people are doing with the task they have been assigned, and redirecting them is critical. Without accountability you have no idea if your plan is working or not. However accountability must always be done in a spirit of love, gentleness, encouragement and concern for the lost and for your people. Accountability motivated by love will produce happy productive disciples.

### **Evaluation- 1 Corin 3:10-15**

After a set time you must evaluate if my plan producing what I expected. If it is you may want to change it to be more effective. If it is not you must ask why not, and make the necessary changes. Nothing is more discouraging to your people than a leader who keeps doing the same thing over and over again if it is not working. Nothing is more encouraging than for your people to see you humbly admit your mistakes, fix your mistakes, and then become successful because of it.

### **HELP!!!! - Luke 10:1**

Often when we are just getting our feet wet in our evangelistic efforts we need the encouragement of another disciple. Going out together to share is so encouraging and fun. Once we have been emboldened by sharing with a brother or sister will we be ready to go it alone.