

THE KING IS COMING

Creating Discipleship Materials

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Develop Effective, Reproducible Curriculum for Maximum Ministry Impact

[Hero Section with creative design elements]

Complete Blueprint for Creating High-Quality Discipleship Materials

"When you create your own discipleship materials, they align with your specific community, reflect your church's theology, address your people's real issues, and become reproducible and sustainable."

Why Create Your Own Materials

Pre-packaged curriculum is convenient. But custom materials are powerful.

When You Create Your Own:

- ✓ Aligned with your specific community
- ✓ Reflect your church's theology
- ✓ Address your people's real issues
- ✓ Reproducible and sustainable
- ✓ Become part of your culture
- ✓ Can be adapted and improved over time

The Power of Reproducible Curriculum

Reproducibility Matters Because:

1. Leaders Multiply Naturally Most new leaders reproduce what they've seen, not what they create from scratch. Reproducible materials enable multiplication.

2. Quality Consistency Reproducible curriculum ensures every small group gets core content, not just what individual leaders create.

3. Sustainable Growth As your ministry grows, reproducible materials scale better than leaders having to develop everything.

4. Theological Consistency Reproducible materials protect your theological integrity across all groups.

5. Efficiency Leaders focus on people, not curriculum development.

Understanding Effective Discipleship

What Makes Discipleship Stick

It's Relational Discipleship isn't just information transfer. It's relationship. Materials should facilitate connection, not replace it.

It's Applicable Truth must connect to real life. "How does this apply to my marriage?" "How does this apply to my work?"

It's Progressively Challenging Start simple, gradually increase challenge. Avoid overwhelming; avoid boring.

It's Consistent Discipleship happens over time, with regular rhythms and repetition.

It Activates Agency Disciples shouldn't just consume. They should participate, discuss, apply, create.

It Integrates Scripture God's Word is the foundation, not just a proof-text.

Core Elements of Good Materials

Good discipleship materials include:

- ✓ Clear Learning Outcomes (What should disciples know/be/do?)
 - ✓ Scripture Foundation (Grounded in God's Word)
 - ✓ Discussion Questions (Creating dialogue)
 - ✓ Personal Application (How does this apply to me?)
 - ✓ Life Integration (Connecting faith to real situations)
 - ✓ Leader Support (Guides for facilitators)
 - ✓ Progressive Difficulty (Appropriate challenge level)
 - ✓ Accessibility (Understandable to your audience)
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Step 1: Define Your Designer Disciple

Before designing materials, define what you're designing toward.

The Process

- 1. Gather Your Dream Team** 3-10 people who represent your community and discipleship leadership
- 2. Pray** Spend serious time in prayer about God's vision for disciplined people
- 3. Study Scripture** What character traits and skills does Jesus develop in His followers?
- 4. Brain Dump** List all the qualities a mature disciple should have
- 5. Organize and Synthesize** Combine lists, identify themes, create integrated list
- 6. Get Specific** "Loves others" becomes "Demonstrates Christ's love through acts of service"

Sample Designer Disciple

The mature disciple:

- ☐ Has vibrant relationship with Jesus (prayer, Scripture, worship)
 - ☐ Lives with integrity in all settings
 - ☐ Loves others sacrificially (family, church, community)
 - ☐ Manages money generously
 - ☐ Serves faithfully
 - ☐ Shares faith naturally
 - ☐ Handles conflict with grace
 - ☐ Pursues ongoing spiritual growth
 - ☐ Invests in developing others
 - ☐ Lives missionally
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Step 2: Create Scope and Sequence

Scope: What will you cover? **Sequence:** In what order?

Sample Framework

Year 1: Foundation

- Relationship with Jesus
- Identity in Christ
- Basic disciplines (prayer, Bible, community)
- Basics of faith

Year 2: Growth

- Character development
- Relationships and love
- Conflict and forgiveness
- Managing resources

Year 3: Multiplication

- Serving others
 - Sharing faith
 - Mentoring
 - Leadership development
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Step 3: Design Learning Outcomes

For each unit, define outcomes:

Knowledge: What should people know? **Skills:** What should people be able to do? **Character:** How should people be transformed? **Community:** How should they relate to others?

Example: "Loving Others" Unit

Knowledge: Understanding Jesus' command to love others and what that looks like biblically

Skills: Ability to demonstrate sacrificial love, manage conflict, serve others

Character: Heart transformation toward genuine love, humility, servant mentality

Community: Stronger relationships, deeper community, others feeling loved

Step 4: Content Creation

Types of Discipleship Content

1. Bible Study

- Purpose: Understanding Scripture
- Format: Verse-by-verse or topical
- Length: 20-40 minutes
- Frequency: Weekly

2. Discussion Guide

- Purpose: Processing truth communally
- Format: Questions leading discussion
- Length: 30-45 minutes
- Frequency: Weekly meeting

3. Personal Reflection

- Purpose: Individual spiritual formation
- Format: Journaling, reflection questions
- Length: 10-20 minutes daily
- Frequency: Daily

4. Application Guide

- Purpose: Implementing truth
- Format: Steps, challenges, action plans
- Length: Variable
- Frequency: As needed

5. Leader Notes

- Purpose: Equipping leaders
 - Format: Background, tips, discussion paths
 - Length: As needed
 - Frequency: Per lesson
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Creating Great Bible Studies

The Process

Step 1: Choose Your Passage

- Select Scripture to study
- Determine scope (verse, chapter, section)
- Consider context

Step 2: Study Deeply

- Read multiple translations
- Use commentary
- Look up word studies
- Understand historical context

Step 3: Create Study Questions

Observation Questions: What does it say?

- "What is happening in this passage?"
- "Who is speaking?"

Interpretation Questions: What does it mean?

- "What does this word mean?"
- "Why does the writer include this detail?"

Application Questions: How should this change me?

- "What does this teach about God?"
- "How should this affect my life?"

Step 4: Design Discussion Path

- Opening question (low barrier)
 - Deep questions (progressive difficulty)
 - Closing question (application focused)
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Discussion Questions Framework

Good Discussion Questions Are:

- ✓ Open-ended (not yes/no)
- ✓ Have multiple good answers
- ✓ Progress in difficulty (easy → challenging)
- ✓ Connect personally (about their experience)
- ✓ Invite diverse perspectives
- ✓ Require thinking (not just opinion)

Question Progression Formula

Level 1: What does the passage say? **Level 2:** What does it mean? **Level 3:** Why does it matter? **Level 4:** How does it apply? **Level 5:** What will you do?

Design Templates

Lesson Plan Template

LESSON TITLE: _____

LENGTH: _____ minutes

LEARNING OUTCOMES: _____

OPENING (5-10 minutes)

Activity: _____

Purpose: _____

MAIN CONTENT (20-25 minutes)

Content focus: _____

Key Scripture: _____

Teaching method: _____

DISCUSSION (15-20 minutes)

Opening question: _____

Discussion questions: _____

PERSONAL APPLICATION (10 minutes)

Challenge: _____

Practice: _____

CLOSING (5 minutes)

Prayer focus: _____

Preview next session: _____

Bible Study Template

BIBLE STUDY: _____

PASSAGE: _____

BACKGROUND

Historical context: _____

Who wrote it: _____

Why was it written: _____

VERSE-BY-VERSE STUDY

What it says: _____

What it means: _____

Key words/concepts: _____

What it means for me: _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

PERSONAL APPLICATION

What will you do this week?

The OAS Method

Outcomes-Activity-Summary Framework

O - OUTCOMES

- Purpose: Clarity on goals
- Questions: What do we want people to know, do, be?

A - ACTIVITY

- Purpose: Design for engagement
- Questions: How will we help them achieve outcomes?

S - SUMMARY

- Purpose: Reinforce learning
 - Questions: What did they learn? How will they apply it?
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Visual Design and Branding

Consistent Branding Elements

Color Palette: 3-4 primary colors

- Primary color: Your main color
- Secondary color: Supporting color
- Accent color: Highlights
- Neutral colors: Typography background

Typography: 1-2 primary fonts

- Headline font: Distinctive, readable
- Body font: Clear, legible in small sizes

Logo: Your ministry's visual mark

- Consistent sizing
 - Clear space around it
 - Works in color and black/white
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Production Workflow

The Complete Process

Phase 1: Planning (2-4 weeks)

- Define scope and outcomes
- Assemble team

- Create outline
- Set timeline

Phase 2: Writing (4-8 weeks)

- First draft completion
- Internal review
- Revision
- Finalization

Phase 3: Design (2-4 weeks)

- Visual layout
- Graphic creation
- Formatting
- Final design review

Phase 4: Testing (1-2 weeks)

- User testing with small group
- Feedback collection
- Revision

Phase 5: Production (1-2 weeks)

- Final proofing
- Print/digital preparation
- Quality assurance

Phase 6: Launch (1 week)

- Leader training
- Distribution
- Feedback collection

Quality Assurance

Checklist

Theology Review:

- ✓ Scripture interpretation is sound
- ✓ Aligns with church theology
- ✓ No doctrinal errors
- ✓ Jesus/Gospel central

Accessibility Check:

- ✓ Readable font size
- ✓ Sufficient color contrast
- ✓ Multiple formats available
- ✓ Inclusive language

User Testing:

- ✓ Clarity (Do they understand?)
 - ✓ Engagement (Do they stay engaged?)
 - ✓ Applicability (Do they see how to apply?)
 - ✓ Pacing (Is it appropriate?)
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Distribution Strategies

Print Distribution

Advantages:

- Tangible, memorable
- No technology required
- Works for all ages

Options:

- Workbook format (spiral-bound, write-in)
 - Handout format (single sheet)
 - Study guide (stapled pages)
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Digital Distribution

Advantages:

- Easy to update

- Lower cost
- Global reach
- Easy sharing

Options:

- PDF (universal, printable)
 - Word (editable, customizable)
 - Google Docs (cloud-based)
 - Web pages (interactive)
 - Mobile app (dedicated platform)
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Scaling Your Materials

From Single Study to Series

Series Architecture:

- Beginner series (entry level)
- Intermediate series (deeper dive)
- Advanced series (specialized topics)
- Topical series (focused themes)

Building a Library

Year 1: 4-6 studies **Year 2:** Add 4-6 more, refine originals **Year 3:** Fill gaps, expand popular areas **Year 5:** Comprehensive library

Team Management

Building Your Content Team

Essential Roles:

- **Content Lead:** Oversees all production
- **Writers:** Create content
- **Editor:** Quality and consistency

- **Designer:** Visual creation
- **Project Manager:** Timeline and process
- **Theologian Reviewer:** Doctrine check

Workflow Management Tools

- **Asana/Monday:** Project management
 - **Google Drive:** Document collaboration
 - **Slack:** Communication
 - **Trello:** Visual workflow
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Your Next Steps

This Month: ✓ Define your Designer Disciple ✓ Create Scope and Sequence outline ✓ Assemble your content team ✓ Choose first study topic

This Quarter: ✓ Write first study (4-8 weeks) ✓ Design and format ✓ Test with pilot group ✓ Revise and launch

This Year: ✓ Create 4-6 complete studies ✓ Establish production workflow ✓ Build your content library ✓ See disciples multiply

Final Encouragement

"Creating discipleship materials is an investment in eternal impact. Your materials will disciple your community, multiply through reproducibility, build your church's culture, extend your influence, and create lasting legacy."

Start today. Start small. But start.

2 Timothy 2:2

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

 [Download All Templates and Checklists](#)

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