



The Disciplemaker's Journey - Your Success Path

If you want to see movement, from one thing to another, from unbelief to belief, from static to active, from traditional to missional, from consumerism to active participation... there are five stages that all movements like this follow. And we can't afford to miss a single stage if we intend to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus who make more disciples.

In the Everyday Disciple Incubator we use these five stages as the basis for your Disciple-Maker's Journey... it's the framework for your Success Path.

These 5 Stages guide your Success Path... your Disciple-maker's Journey as we go from where you currently are, to where you want to be...

Stage 1: Expose in the Disciple-maker's Journey... maybe this sounds like you...

You're still being **exposed** to, and gathering new ideas and ways of living out and talking about faith and the Gospel in community with others in normal, everyday life.

You may be disappointed with the results of a Christianity and discipleship that focuses on head knowledge and spiritual performance.

You believe that Christian faith needs to be part of everyday life and move past primarily being a Sunday experience.

If you think this sums up where you're currently at, then you are in the right place brother... sister... You are about to be set free from a performance-based spirituality and start to experience the Good News of the gospel in more and more of your life... instead of just waiting for somewhere in heaven to experience all that Jesus promised!

Alright... maybe you've been exposed to a lot of the thinking and language connected to discipleship as a lifestyle and missional living, and you've really embraced this. ...

That's Stage 2: Embrace

After being exposed to new ways of seeing and experiencing the Christian faith, you have embraced the reality that the Gospel is truly Good News for all of life—now—not just information about how to have a nice afterlife.

You're convinced that discipleship **can** be a lifestyle that is naturally lived out 7 days a week with others in your family, church and community, and you've started to test and implement small but powerful changes in your own life and with your family.

Not everyone who hears a new idea or gets exposed to new ways of being and doing moves to actually embrace it. But if the information that you've been exposed to *has* moved from your head to your heart... you've embraced it. You've probably started to try and expose others in your life to some of what you're learning and feeling. Awesome!

Stage 3 is Engage.

You've moved well beyond testing the waters of discipleship in community and have begun to **engage** and experience the Gospel in more and more of your everyday life.

Discipleship for you has moved out of the classroom and into the rhythms of your everyday life as a family, and little by little, increasingly in your church.

Stage 4: Equip... see if this sounds like you and where you're at in the journey.

You've started to really engage discipleship and mission as a lifestyle, and because of this, you desire further equipping, tools and frameworks for discipleship.

That's because deeper engagement and advanced equipping go hand in hand as you grow in experience and mastery.

This is where it gets exciting! You see, once you've moved from being exposed to new ideas, concepts and processes, and you've embraced the desire to live in new ways, your *engagement* leads to a desire to be equipped in A LOT of how this all works and the Engage to Equip stages are really more of a loop.

You're engaging life on mission with others in new ways from the equipping you've experienced, and as new challenges come up, you realize you need further equipping... and around and around it goes as you move toward mastery and the final stage 5, which is Expand.

Ok, Stage 5...

As you have begun to experience greater spiritual freedom and relational peace, you seek to show others how to make disciples of Jesus who make more disciples. Your focus expands outward as you help people embrace, engage and be equipped in the Gospel in all of life... And the cycle begins again.

This is how disciple-making movements are born. This is how families, neighborhoods, churches are transformed to the glory of God!

If you feel like you are in Stage 5 but have never had a working framework with all the language, tools and resources you've needed, starting from Stage 1, to help others truly embrace discipleship and the fullness of the Gospel in everyday life... now you will. :-)

I want you to know that whatever stage you think you may be in right now, as you participate in the Everyday Disciple Incubator, you'll have the equipping, Milestones and Action steps you need to keep moving forward and making progress.

Here's a recap and how this will work for you...

- Stages are the major movements that someone progresses through to mastery.
- Milestones are the steps you'll make on your way to completing each Stage.
- Action Items are the tasks needed in order to complete each Milestone.

Which Stage(s) do you think you're in at this time?

Remember, as we get into this, if you feel you are at stage 2 or 3 and you think, "hey the training in this or that module is something I already know and have embraced..." you'll have Milestones and Action steps to help others in your life and ministry start to move through these 5 Stages as well. Make sense?

Just because you have heard something before, or are in intellectual agreement with it, doesn't necessarily mean you've fully *engaged* it yet or been *equipped* to the point of helping expose others to these ideas or help them to start new discipleship rhythms and practices.

Whatever Stage you believe you're in right now in the Disciple-maker's Journey, in the months ahead we'll be starting at the beginning and giving you the full framework, language, tools and process so you can in turn make more disciples and help others do the same.

And by the way... you may feel like you find yourself in multiple stages at the same time in different areas of your life and belief, as I'll describe them in the upcoming videos... that's because we are all unique and on our own unique path... discipleship is not a one-size-fits-all endeavor, but you *will* learn a framework that meets you right where you're at, and helps you help others along the journey.

I'll see you soon!

~Caesar

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