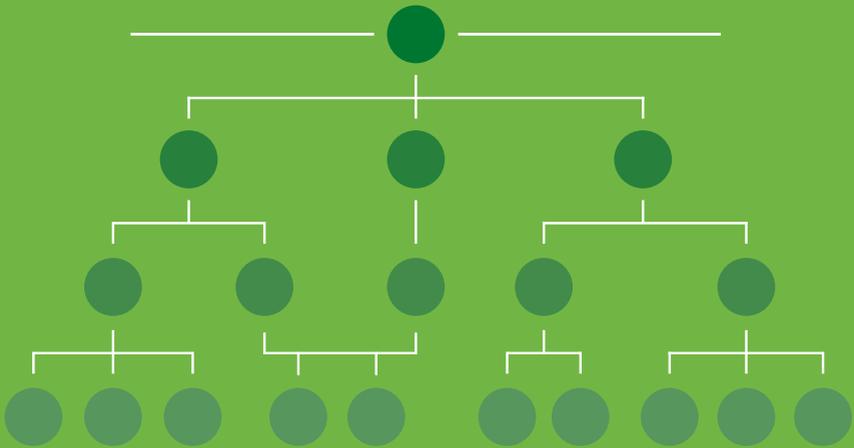


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# MAKING DISCIPLES

with



## Leader's Guide

for **P**ath **O**f **D**isciples 1, 2 and 3

# MAKING DISCIPLES

with



Understand and Live  
the Christian Life

## Leader's Guide

© Guy and Jocelyn Pembroke 2017

Members of King's Church Edinburgh where POD began

[kingschurchedinburgh.org](http://kingschurchedinburgh.org)

For training, booklets/downloadable pdfs of POD 1,2 and 3, contact:

[pod@pathofdisciples.org](mailto:pod@pathofdisciples.org) | [pathofdisciples.org](http://pathofdisciples.org)

**Edinburgh - 2021**

**V.4.0**

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## Foreword

# A vision for making disciples

Jesus wants His Church to make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). He isn't looking for people who make a one-off response to Him and then never give Him a second thought again - He wants committed followers who know and love Him, and bear his fruit in their lives (Matthew 13:1-23).

This does not happen automatically or in isolation, so we have produced Path of Disciples 1, 2 and 3 (POD). These materials have been designed to ensure that when someone starts to respond to Jesus, they can be quickly and easily connected to God, his truth, and his people.

We know that there will be much more happening in their life than can be described here, which is why forming real relationships through POD, small group [church home group], and serving teams, is so important. We hope that the foundational truths shared here will help many people become fruitful and faithful followers of Jesus.

To give an example as to how POD is used at King's Church Edinburgh where POD began, this is the typical journey we hope someone would go on after they express an interest in learning to follow Jesus:

- They are introduced to someone who has done POD themselves and can therefore go through it with them.
- They would also be encouraged to attend regularly on Sundays, and some serving opportunities in a team would be open to them (e.g. Practical, Technical, Welcome).
- We want them to join a small group sooner rather than later but if time constraints mean they are unable to do that as well as POD, we'd like them to do POD 1 and POD 2 first. They may then want to join the small group attended by the person they did POD with.
- Having done POD 1 and POD 2, they would be encouraged to be baptised in water, introduced to a small group (if that hasn't happened yet), and invited to attend the next Explore Membership course.
- Being baptised in the Holy Spirit is a work of God that we would want them to experience as soon as possible.

- When they have been baptised in water, we encourage them to do POD 3 to learn more about serving God.
- As they become part of the church and grow in Christian maturity, other serving opportunities will be open to them (e.g. children, youth, worship, prayer – as well as doing POD with other people).

**Luke Davydaitis**  
Edinburgh, April 2019

# Making disciples with

## Who is this Leader's Guide for?

Making Disciples with POD is for those who want to learn more about making disciples of Christ. Christ wants all of us who know Him to share in this work and so this training tool is intended for all Christian disciples and not only for those in formal church leadership. This three-part guide includes practical help for those who will lead POD. We recommend you read the first two sections before you begin to invite people to POD. The comments in the third section give you tips to help you prepare for each lesson as you make disciples using POD.

### 1. Making Disciples

#### 2. Using Path of Disciples (POD)

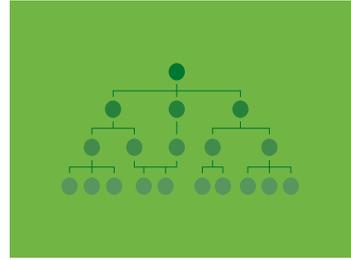
- The distinctives of POD
- POD 1, 2 and 3 - An overview
- POD - A setting for growing
- Starting POD in a Church
- How to start a POD group
- Leading a POD session
- Teaching as Jesus taught

### 3. Comments on each lesson of POD 1, 2 and 3

# Making disciples

## What an opportunity we have!

It's tremendous when someone wants to start to know God or has been stirred to commit themselves to growing in their Christian faith. You may see this in a conversation at home or at work or at church. But what are the next steps we need to take with that person?



*“The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw Him, they worshipped Him, but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said: ‘All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’ ”*

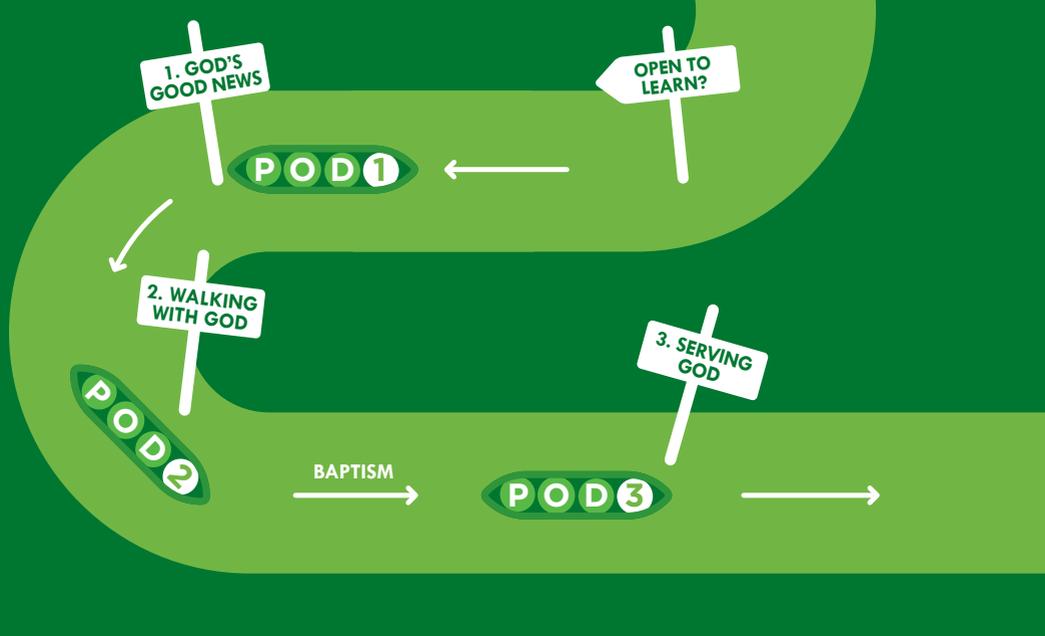
## Matthew 28:16-20

- Jesus modeled the practice of making disciples in a group. On this occasion some of the group doubted, indicating the patience we require in this task.
- The risen Lord gives authority to ordinary people to make disciples just as He had done.
- He commands us to make disciples.
- He assures us of his enabling presence in this task.
- When we disciple others, we teach them to make disciples too.

Just think of God’s design for multiplication in creation and the harvest of peas that arises from sowing just one pea that was grown in a peapod. Similarly, God grows disciples to multiply more disciples to expand his kingdom and build his church.

## How do we make disciples?

Our understanding of the word disciple is key to how we make disciples. A disciple is an apprentice, a person who learns from someone else through choosing to be with them, in order to listen to their instruction and follow the way they live. What a privilege it is to invite others to come alongside us! God wants a multiplication of healthy disciples of Jesus, people who are learning to love like Him and are equipped to make other disciples of Jesus. POD gives a clear and simple framework for this multiplication of disciples.



Everyone who knows Jesus can help others who do not believe to become Christians by telling them the good news about Jesus. That is **Making disciples**, Acts 14:21. And then when people believe, every Christian can help these new believers grow to become mature followers of Jesus. As we have seen in Matthew 28:18-20, that too is part of the whole process of **Making disciples**.

Paul described to those who had come to faith in Christ through his work, how he and his team had disciplined them:

*“Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil. ... You are witnesses and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children ...”*

### 1 Thessalonians 2:7-10

**We see here that Paul made disciples following the pattern that Jesus had modelled with his disciples:**

- Paul and his team were motivated by love for those they disciplined; this made the task a delight. We want to imitate them.
- The team shared specific teaching with the new disciples - the gospel of God.

- The team also shared their lives with them. Christian discipleship is caught by example as much as by teaching.
- Beyond this, the team explained the way they had lived among them and discipled them. To equip others to make disciples, it is not enough to share the Word and share our lives with those we are discipling, we also need to explain to them this pattern of Christian service. Such openness helps those we disciple to learn well how disciples are made ... and to follow the pattern.
- The task is relational: The team cared for each one, individually.
- As Paul worked in teams, we build a team of people who can lead POD groups in and through the local church.

We choose to do PODs with no more than three or four people in a group - including the leader(s) – so as to permit sharing both our lives and teaching through open dialogue (You may have noticed the numbers of peas to reflect that!).



Some POD questions are intentionally quite direct - Paul says “we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children”. This is one reason why POD is designed to be taught in a very small group. We have seen participants are more engaged and committed to learning in a group of only three or four. POD is difficult to lead with five people and does not “work” in larger groups such as church house groups.

### **What do we need to teach someone who is getting to know God?**

*“You need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word ... You need milk, not solid food!”*

### **Hebrews 5:12**

- Through POD 1, 2 and 3, we progress from spiritual milk to solid food. You may be taken aback by the simplicity of POD 1; as milk this is intentional.

We have found it essential to ensure a solid foundation, for Christians as well as those who have not yet come to Christ, before progressing to the firm steps of POD 2 and the solid food of POD 3.

- New-born babies not only need appropriate food, they also require special attention. Normally this early stage of making disciples will imply weekly face to face (or, if necessary, online) meetings. As new parents need to adjust their lifestyle, so there needs to be a readjustment of previous priorities to care for new disciples.
- A disciple cannot teach others what they have not yet learned and applied. We recommend you complete each POD before starting to teach it to someone else. With this humble approach, you will be more effective in making disciples and be able to speak to others of how you have benefitted. You could catch the vision through accompanying someone who is discipling with these materials.

### **How do we then lead Christians to mature faith?**

*“[Christ] is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.”*

### **Colossians 1:28-29**

- In thinking of those he disciplined, Paul shows that his apostolic goal is to present **everyone** fully mature in Christ (the word “everyone” appears three times in the Greek text - see English Standard Version). We have the goal of making many mature disciples (quantity and quality as recorded in Acts 5:13-14, 9:31, 11:24, 14:21-22). This revelation of God’s vision is critical, Proverbs 29:18. Christ wants to build his church through us and empowers us in this work!
- However, a vision is worked out through an informed strategy. When the stakes are high, the situation becomes perilous when we do not plan with others, Proverbs 20:18. We want to move people on from milk towards solid food and so see the apostolic vision fulfilled. We rely on God’s wisdom as we lay the firm foundation of Christ, in our plan through POD 1. We do not then stop, somehow hoping that people will automatically grow to maturity. Such an approach overlooks God’s instruction about disciple-making. Instead, through POD 2, we continue to instruct those who trust Christ explaining what it means to walk with God. Growing disciples enjoy a family atmosphere, but they also then need to be taught to take further steps to reach Christian maturity through a combination of solid food and

personal encouragement from those ahead of them. POD 3 contributes to the wider life of the church in focussing on this stage in the path to mature faith.

- We provide clear signposts, through both effective disciple-making and leadership encouragement, so that as many as possible can reach maturity.
- We follow the apostolic pattern, through providing instruction about Christ from start to finish.
- We help make it realistic for any disciple to lead others along this path (in large part through this Leader's Guide!).
- It takes time for people to reach maturity, but, like others, we have seen that more people come to Christ and then grow more quickly, when there's a clear path to follow.

### **Expectations when discipling**

In the parable of the sower, Jesus predicted varied results from sowing the message of the Kingdom, Matthew 13:18-23. When making disciples, we expect those same results.

We find that people in our society will almost always complete a four-lesson course. However, we recognise that not all who start to learn what it means to follow Jesus, nor all who profess faith in Him, grow to become mature disciples of Christ. Our growing to maturity in Christ depends primarily on the attitude of our heart. This means that sometimes relatively new, yet humble, disciples can overtake those who, after years of careful instruction, have become proud. Our own growth is stimulated when we engage in the humble task of making disciples.

Mature disciples are like adults who realise their responsibilities and, with God's help, are able to (spiritually) clean themselves, feed themselves, love others and reproduce and nurture their children. Not all disciples start making disciples immediately, but the mature, within their obedience to Christ and out of love for others, do this as a way of life, Matthew 28:18-20.

### **Sadly, some turn away**

While we do not want to make it hard for those who turn to God, Acts 15:19, Jesus knows each heart and - just as He experienced - some disciples who initially express a desire to learn will sadly turn away when you teach as Jesus taught, John 6:66. We cannot continue to disciple those who are no longer open to learn. This does not mean we abandon the person - we make them welcome

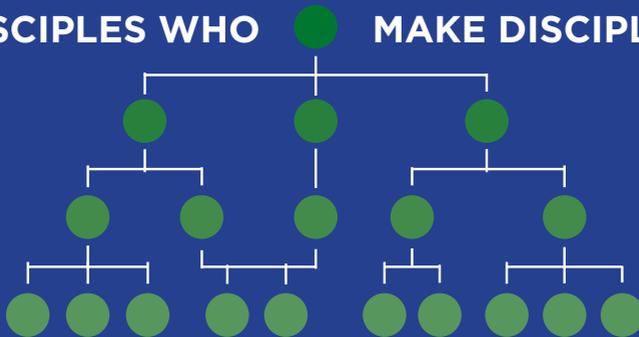
at church meetings and, as our time permits, we pray for them and care. However, Jesus spoke clearly to individuals when they were not ready to be disciples, Luke 9:57-62. When many had turned away, Jesus didn't lower his requirements of a disciple; instead he continued to teach the crowds that they needed to consider the cost of following Him, Luke 14:27, 33. We do not want to become discouraged or distracted when people turn away. Instead, as an expression of God's heart of compassion for the crowds, we keep looking for those who are open to learn to follow Jesus.

### Thankfully, others bear fruit

As the person being discipled grows in faith and love, mutual encouragement will start to occur. Disciple-makers understand the joy John wrote about: "I have no greater **joy** than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." 3 John 4. Those whom you have discipled need your ongoing support; some will become fellow workers, and some will in turn, spur you on.

Paul wrote to those with whom he had shared his life and the gospel of God: "What is our hope, our **joy**, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy." 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20.

## DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES



### Healthy boundaries

- Although the discipling friendship is important – the Holy Spirit is the primary teacher. The Spirit reveals Jesus and his way through the word of God. We make disciples of Jesus and teach others to depend on Him.
- Those who disciple others bring testimony and warmth and gifts to the discipling task but encourage others to make their own commitment to the Lord.

- Sometimes we do POD with only one person, but we find learning in a group context is usually richer, healthier and less intense. We follow Jesus' example, in that He normally made disciples in a group context.
- Each disciple is different, and will never be identical to the person(s) who disciplined them, that is God's plan!
- We demonstrate in miniature that a growing disciple of Jesus is part of a mutually supportive community - the church.
- It is helpful for one another to keep those overseeing you informed about how the course is progressing.

### Final instructions on effective disciple-making

*"You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 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."*

#### 2 Timothy 2:1-2

- Paul encourages Timothy, whom he had disciplined, to draw strength from God's grace.
- We look to multiply ourselves through God's enabling, so that others may learn to depend on God in life and service.

*"Join with me in suffering, like a good **soldier** of Christ Jesus. No-one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. Similarly, anyone who competes as an **athlete** does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules. The hardworking **farmer** should be the first to receive a share of the crops."*

#### 2 Timothy 2:3-6

- Like a good soldier, we avoid distractions so as to focus on making disciples.
- Just as a winning athlete has to keep to the track, there are no short cuts in making disciples.
- Like a hardworking farmer, let us expect to see fruit in making disciples.

**And so we too will testify to the effectiveness of God's grace:**

*"By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect..."*

#### 1 Corinthians 15:10

# Using Path of Disciples

The remainder of this Leader's Guide offers practical help to those who have decided to use POD, or are considering its use.

## The distinctives of POD

POD is a fun and practical way to learn with others what it means to have Jesus as a firm foundation for life, to walk with God and to serve Him.

Other tools may share some common aspects with POD but this is the way we describe POD to those considering using it.

**P** **Personal** - we keep the numbers to three or four in a group - including the leader(s). Like Jesus, we take initiative to invite individuals to learn with others. We share a meal or dessert together before each lesson. That environment and size of group give plenty of time and space for people to get to know each other and ask their own questions.

**O** **Open** and highly flexible. Given the simple approach, groups can start throughout the year, at any time and any place that suits the group. We just look for people who are **Open** to learn more about Jesus.

**D** **Direct** and to the point, in that through **Discussion** we present the good news of Jesus in just four lessons (POD 1). Then there's the option to continue with four lessons on walking with God (POD 2). Finally, there are four lessons on serving God (POD 3).

We will see in an overview of POD, that as we disciple others with love and care, we also trust God to help us bring as many as possible to incremental **P**oints **O**f **D**ecision.

# POD 1, 2 and 3 – An Overview

Each POD has four lessons which build on what has gone before. We invite people to four lessons (POD 1), since although we disciple with confidence in God, progression to POD 2 and then to POD 3 depends on each person's desire and response.

## **POD 1** – Come and you will see the Lord and Saviour (John 1:39)

**POD 1** - the person needs to be open to learning to follow Jesus. We teach the good news of Jesus, laying a firm foundation - and train people so that they in turn can disciple others. We lead people through understanding God is gracious towards each of us. He calls us to Himself with open arms despite the ways we have lived. We contrast the depths of our downfall with the wonder of knowing God. We then present a full panorama of Christ the King from when He was eternally with the Father to the day He will return. We consider how God wants us to respond to his rescue plan and indeed to the King Himself and so receive assurance of salvation.

## **POD 2** – Come and walk with God (Matthew 4:19)

**POD 2** - the disciple has completed POD 1, understood the good news of Jesus and trusts Him as their Lord and Saviour. They are open to learning to walk with God and his people, the church. We lead those we are discipling to be filled with the Spirit, to learn to pray through speaking and listening to our Father, to be hungry for the word of God and to worship. We teach baptism, the command to disciple others and how to follow Christ in life and witness and deeds of power. We show the importance of the church in God's plans and the need to encourage one another under godly leadership.

## **POD 3** – Come and lose your life for Christ (Mark 8:34-35)

**POD 3** - the disciple has completed POD 1 and POD 2, has been immersed in water as a believer in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and is open to learning to serve God better. We teach that we serve God out of gratitude for his acceptance of us through the love of Jesus. We emphasize that just as we started to walk with God through faith and through the Holy Spirit's power, so we continue to serve in reliance on the Spirit. The Spirit alone produces loving Christ-like service. As we recognise that our time and money belong to God, we set the context for the healthy use of spiritual gifts.

# POD is a setting for growing (think peas!)

POD applies the principles for making disciples as follows:

- POD is also a **Path** with clear signposts showing the way forward. In this way POD imitates Christ's approach to making disciples (for example, notice the increasing cost in John 1:38-39; 4:32-34; 6:53, 60, 66-69).
- We help people by leading them to **Points Of Decision**. After someone completes a POD, it may just be they do not want - or are not able - to continue to learn with you through POD. However, if someone does not want to accept Christ as Lord and Saviour at the end of POD 1, or does not want to be baptised at the end of POD 2, normally we do not continue to the next POD.
- Christ **chose** his disciples and we also **prayerfully** look for those who are **open to learn**.
- POD is a Path Of Disciples. It is not just about teaching the Bible (though we treasure the Word); nor is POD just sharing life (though we may enjoy the choice of **Pudding Or Dessert!**). POD is for **discipling** so each session includes both aspects - Biblical teaching and sharing life.
- POD helps others develop understanding primarily from what the **Word** says rather than from what the POD writer or POD leader says.
- POD is taught by leaders who listen to the **Holy Spirit** who alone opens and changes hearts.
- POD is **church-based**, produced under the authority of church leadership with the purpose of contributing to the church's growth.
- POD is **simple** in format. There is sufficient in this **leader's guide** for a busy leader to run with.
- POD is therefore inherently **reproducible**; when someone has participated in a POD, and responded in heartfelt obedience, they are equipped to lead others in that POD.
- There are **teaching methods** modelled by Jesus, wired within the lessons (see page 17).

# Starting POD in a Church

We are happy to discuss how you might start to use POD in your church. Strategically, a church's senior leadership, through their teaching and example, publicly cast vision for making disciples. Through planning and encouraging, they keep the vision before the church that making disciples is not an activity restricted to leadership. Regardless of how many in the church are currently making disciples, we rely on God to bring about widespread ownership of the vision, since as Kenneth Strachan stated: "The expansion of any movement is in direct proportion to its success in mobilizing its total membership in continuous propagation of its beliefs." Acts 8:4 is a snapshot of one time of fulfilment of this aspect of God's plan.

We encourage you to invite people - whether tentative enquirers or mature church members - to start with POD 1. We do not normally offer POD 2 to those who have not done POD 1 nor POD 3 to those who have not completed POD 1 and POD 2. Why not? ... We are not only teaching the Bible, but also sharing our lives and instruction on how to make disciples. We recommend that you begin with the expectation that on finishing POD 1, some of those in the first POD groups will begin to make disciples in other POD groups. We suggest you include some guests or those in the early stage of knowing God, as well as one or two who desire to be equipped to make disciples, trusting God for initial fruit. This gradual approach can be developed until, by the work of the Spirit, many are involved in making disciples and one generation effectively passes the baton to the next.

As more people become involved, church leaders will find it helpful, as part of their pastoral care, to keep a record of who has done which POD(s), and who are available to teach POD to others. These administrative steps help us to be ready to respond promptly to those who are open to learn, while avoiding overloading some of the teachers.

The following notes will be of particular help to those who want to lead a POD group.

# How to start a POD group

God is the primary initiator in drawing people by his Spirit to follow Jesus. He normally does this by connecting two types of people:

## 1. Those who are open to learning more about Jesus

People can indicate in any number of ways that they are open to learn to follow Jesus. They will benefit from a clear pathway like POD.

## 2. Those who make disciples

Whereas websites and announcements in church meetings are useful to let people know of a path, we follow Jesus' example and invite people personally to be with us and to learn. Although this may seem obvious, there is a need to take practical steps. We pray, then mention in conversation what POD is like, who POD is for and that it consists of four sessions. Then we ask the person if they are interested. To form a POD group, when we find someone who wants to start, we often ask if they know someone else who might be interested too. Sometimes we also invite someone to join the group who wants to be trained in making disciples using POD. God values your time and so, where possible, bring two or three people together to disciple more than one person at a time. Two people can also come together to lead a POD group and in this way, like the early disciples fishing with a net, they can be more effective serving together, as fishers of people, than alone.

Let's not be too concerned with how many people are open to learn, rather let us learn how to disciple well those whom the Father gives us. In this way, our Father will see we can be trusted and will send us more. Little by little, more and more people in the church will gain confidence that they too can make disciples and will know what to do when they meet someone who is open to learn.

To make disciples, you need to take initiative and then persevere, avoiding procrastination and laziness, timidity and disorganisation. This approach to Christian service is implicit in the examples we have seen that Paul gave to Timothy of the good soldier, disciplined athlete and hard-working farmer, 2 Timothy 2:3-6. Earlier in his letter, Paul taught that the Spirit gives the love, power and self-discipline required to serve Christ, 2 Timothy 1:7. We have been given the same Spirit.

# Leading a POD session

We hope you will find the following notes helpful to equip you to make the most of a POD session.

## Preparing for the meeting:

- Give a copy of POD 1 to each person either before or at the start of the first lesson. You can either give them a Bible and/or show them a version of the Bible that they will understand on the free YouVersion app.
- Now that God has opened the door for you, pray for boldness and clarity, Ephesians 6:19-20; Colossians 4:3-4. Pray that those you are discipling would have open hearts.
- **Prepare** for each lesson by praying for yourself and the participants, taking time to read through the lesson and Bible verses. You can jot down in your own copy of POD 1 some of the comments we have made on each lesson in this leader's guide, as well as what the Spirit highlights to you as you prepare. This approach will serve as an example for those you are discipling.



## Share a meal or dessert:

- This time is key to build the kind of relationships which facilitate making disciples.
- For many, chatting over a meal or dessert is relaxing. It can help to ask in an appropriate way, how their week has been; how their work/studies are going ... generally show an interest in what concerns them, for example, their home life. Also take the opportunity to share how you are and what you have been doing as you are modelling the life of a Christian disciple.

## Starting the lesson:

- As leader, pray briefly before reading aloud the opening paragraph of the lesson.
- If you use paper copies of the Bible, use the same Bible version, if possible. Then refer to the page numbers to help the participants find the verses. Before you ask someone to read aloud, make sure they are at ease to do so (around 20% of people will not be).
- Each lesson then continues with a Biblical narrative followed by an intentionally very open question. It is helpful to ask this question to each

person by name, not only to encourage all to participate, but also, as you listen to the responses, you will often hear ways in which the Spirit is connecting each one with distinct aspects of the truth. Understanding the word of God is important, but we also pray that people will engage with the truth in their hearts.

- Discussion of the narrative helps to set the basis and the spiritual tone for the other questions; there is no need to rush on to the other questions.

### **Working through the lesson:**

- Read aloud the sections in green which are designed as a bridge between the verses. We also follow this simple pattern to show that making disciples does not require mysterious expertise!
- You may have additional comments or want to read other verses, but, as far as possible, we recommend you humbly model the simplicity of making disciples. Incidentally, in our desire to demonstrate that every disciple can make disciples, we have not added many additional verses in the leader's Comments on each lesson. God intends that as you disciple others, you will keep learning yourself, and so you can ask a mature Christian friend - between lessons - for help from the Scriptures to answer questions that will inevitably arise.
- Still, each POD lesson is intended to be flexible as each POD group is different. Don't feel limited to the questions in the lessons.
- Growing disciples need to feel free to ask their own questions. We encourage a Berean attitude as described in Acts 17:11. If you do not know how to answer a question, say so, and offer to find out. It can be useful to make additional notes during the discussion to follow up on ideas the participants raise.
- Through POD, we model the confidence that Jesus had in the Scriptures. When necessary, those who disciple others need to gently help them to distinguish between their own thoughts and what the word of God says. Sometimes those with a church background will give a biblically correct answer, but one not based on the verses you have just read together. Affirm their answer and ask 'How do you understand what this passage says?' You are thus teaching people to learn directly from the text they are reading.
- Avoid arguing, speculation and obscure doctrinal controversies as they do not help people to understand and live the Christian life.
- If you are in a group of three or four, asking another person to contribute their perspective after someone has given an unlikely or unhelpful contribution can move the discussion in a more positive direction.

## Preparing for the next lessons:

- As disciples grow, many start to benefit from preparing each lesson beforehand. This process helps disciples to absorb the teaching.
- From the second lesson onwards, we begin each lesson with **recap** questions to reinforce what we have previously learned.
- It can be helpful to agree dates for the remaining three sessions at the end of the first session.

## Teaching as Jesus taught



- Jesus used both story and concepts since people vary in how they learn. (Each POD lesson starts with story and then leads to concepts).
- He pitched his teaching at a level which his disciples could understand and were ready to accept.
- He asked open questions which promoted a dialogue through which his disciples were nurtured.
- He understood his disciples' context and needs.
- He addressed their deepest needs, challenging assumptions.
- He spoke of his own practice of hearing his Father.
- He was ready to teach in the moment.
- He looked for both heart - and head - obedience, often expressed in community. (This includes, but is richer than Bible comprehension).
- His teaching frequently had immediate relevance.
- When teaching, Jesus built in accountable practice, sending his disciples out and then listening to their reports on their return.
- The Word became flesh. He was an accessible, exemplar and vulnerable teacher.

**You may want to pray each of these points into your discipling practise.**



## Some comments on POD 1

*“No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”*

**1 Corinthians 3:11**

*“I want to remind you of the Gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand... what I received I passed on to you as of first importance.”*

**1 Corinthians 15:1-3**

The Gospel of Jesus is foundational and central to all we do. These four lessons present the good news in a clear and accessible way:

- For those who are not yet Christians so that they might know Him and be saved.
- For Christians so that they might better understand the good news and have assurance of salvation and of being “in Christ”.
- To equip Christians to share the good news effectively.

### POD 1.1 (POD 1 lesson 1)

**Aim of Lesson 1:** The person understands grace.

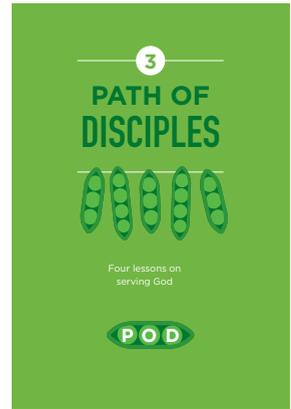
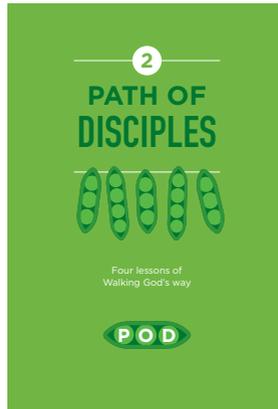
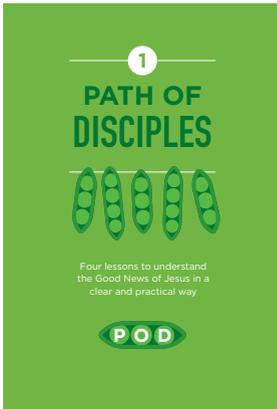
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**For the rest of this Leader's Guide**  
**please see [pathofdisciples.org/resources/](http://pathofdisciples.org/resources/)**



# Resources

## POD 1,2 and 3 – The participant's booklets for this course



## for Small Group Leading

Trainee's guide: Four training sessions for leading a small group.

## Training Small Group Leading with

Trainer's Guide for teaching **POD for Small Group Leading** with a view to multiplying Christian leaders.



## Share Life

Four lessons to learn how to tell people about Jesus and equip others in this. This resource has seven five-minute videos that complement the booklet.

## Training others with **Share Life**

Trainer's notes to help you equip others, using **Share Life**.

Further information is available at [pathofdisciples.org](http://pathofdisciples.org) including downloads. We are happy to arrange an Introduction to POD, including how to start using POD. To discuss POD or for ordering POD materials, please contact:

[POD@pathofdisciples.org](mailto:POD@pathofdisciples.org)



**OPEN  
TO  
LEARN?**

**1. GOD'S  
GOOD NEWS**



**2. WALKING  
WITH GOD**



**3. SERVING  
GOD**



**DISCIPLES: LEARNING TO FOLLOW JESUS**