More time spent with fewer people leads to greater lasting impact for the Kingdom of God.

BSU Christian Challenge
New Mexico State University
Study Series

121: WHY MORE TIME WITH FEWER PEOPLE?

1. Rate of General Reproduction
   - Inversely proportionate to the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple.
     - The smaller the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple, the higher the rate of reproduction.
     - A disciplemaker investing in one disciple will result in the disciple reproducing his life more rapidly.
     - The higher the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple, the slower the rate of reproduction.
       • An individual participating in a small group of 10 people with one leader probably won’t reproduce as rapidly as someone in a one to one discipling relationship.
     - Reproduction to several generations seems to be a more likely result from one to one discipling than from small group strategies.

2. Rate of Absorption
   - Inversely proportionate to the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple.
     - The smaller the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple, the higher the rate of absorption.
     - One disciple meeting with a disciplemaker will probably learn more at a faster rate than if there are more disciples meeting at the same time with the same disciplemaker.
     - An individual participating in a small group of 10 people with one leader probably will not learn as much over the same period of time as someone in a one to one discipling relationship.

3. Level of Honesty and Transparency and Trust
   - Inversely proportionate to the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple.
     - The smaller the ratio of disciplemaker to disciple, the greater the level of trust, honesty, and transparency.
     - One disciple meeting with a disciplemaker will be more likely to disclose personal areas of struggle and victory than if there are more people involved.
     - The greater the level of trust, the greater the depth of character developed in the disciple.
4. Personal Gifts and Confidence
   - Success in one to one discipling appears to be less dependent on certain spiritual gifts than in small group strategies.
     - Some gifts lend themselves more strongly to leading small groups than others.
     - Not everyone in a small group has those gifts and therefore will not likely ever lead a small group.
   - Confidence in one to one discipling can be obtained through mentoring and experience regardless of spiritual gifts.

5. Small Group Strategy
   - Ideally, a ministry would enjoy the advantages of small group community without sacrificing generational reproduction through one-to-one disciplemaking.

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