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

Spiritual Growth: A Maturing Disciple

Maturing as a believer is just as the word suggests, a process. We all have our good days and our bad days, but generally speaking, we should all be progressing. As 2 Corinthians 3:18 says,

“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”

It is important to note that rather than a list of activities or actions a mature disciple must “do”, what follows is a list of things that a maturing disciple is progressing towards being. Discipleship is simply walking with another person as you both, with eyes fixed on the city that is to come, are being changed by the Holy Spirit from glory to glory into the image of Christ.

As you begin the process of investing your life into the life of another, listen to the exhortation Peter gives in his second letter in chapter 1,

“For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins.”

The following list is a tool, a guide, for you to use as you invest your life into someone else and also for yourself, as each of you “make every effort” to progress towards being:

...in love with God.
...one who loves others sacrificially.
...one who spends consistent time in the Word.
...a doer of the Word.
...one who prays passionately for the lost.
...one who moves towards the lost, the broken hearted, and the needy.
...a servant.
...one who waits for direction and provision from God.
...submissive to the Holy Spirit’s direction.
...captured by the Glory of God among the nations.
...humble, teachable, and willing to change.  
...submitted to authority.  
...submitted to one another in the fear of Christ.  
...committed to being free from sin, walking in integrity, and pure in all relationships.  
...full of vision from God for your life.  
...willing to be known, vulnerable.  
...a spiritual reproducer; a disciple-making disciple.  
...thankful.  
...faithful and diligent in responsibilities.  
...devoted to God’s kingdom with purity, sincerity, and singleness of heart.  
...able to walk in the gifts of the Spirit.  
...able to minister and love others during trying circumstances.