

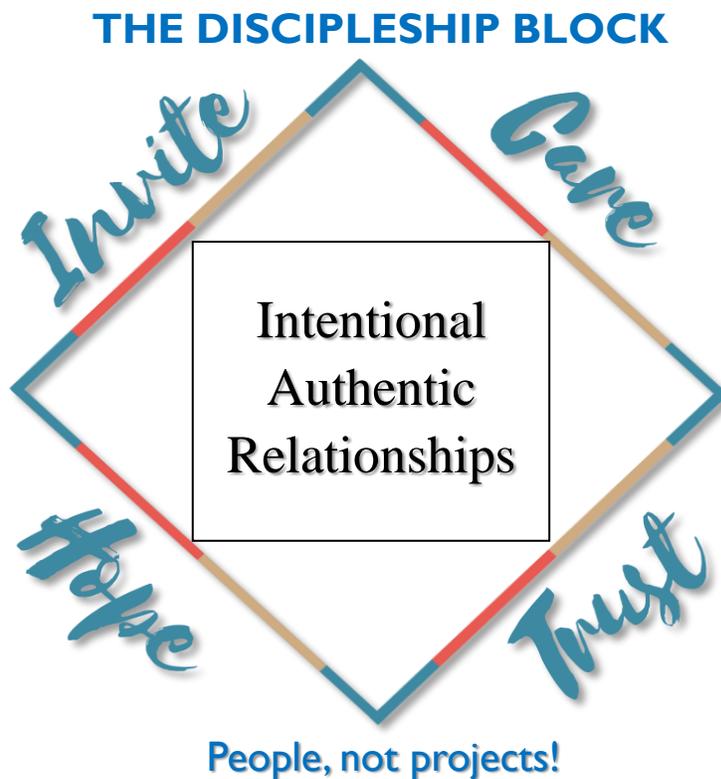
## SHARING OUR FAITH: BEYOND OUR FEARS

### Spirit-Initiated, Prayer-Driven Discipleship

- Luke 11:9-13 – “...how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”
- Ask the Holy Spirit to use you and lead you to the people he wants you to disciple
- Acts 8:29 - *Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."* (see also Acts 10:19-20, Acts 11:12)
- Learn to hear the Spirit's voice and sense the Spirit's “nudge”

### “Walk around the block”

- Every encounter is an opportunity - see life as divine appointments
- Be intentional where you go, pay attention to who God is putting in your path
- Build Authentic Relationships – People are not projects
- It may take 25 Encounters for someone to come into a relationship with Christ (Billy Graham)
  - You may be the first or last encounter
  - Be ready and know how to **walk them around the block!**



- **Invite**

- John 1: 38-39 – “*Come and See*” “*Come with me*”
  - Invest in people with whom you have a connection (or make a connection!)
  - God has put them in your path
  - Invite them into your life – make time for them
  - Invite them to do the things you like to do
  - Intentionally build a relationship

- **Care**

- John 15:12 – *“Love each other as I have loved you.”*
  - Listen to them – what are their joys, hurts, and hopes?
  - They are teachable
  - Be honest, even disagree
  - Be genuine in your care for them, but don’t build dependence
  - Allow God to love them through you

- **Trust**

- Mat 5:16 – *“let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds...”*
  - They will express doubt
  - There is something attractive about your life; they are drawn to Jesus in you
  - They will be frustrated, because this is a risk for them
  - Be honest, and even disagree; don’t fall into the trap of people pleasing
  - There will be Conflict “Can I trust you?”
  - “Am I a project or a friend?”
  - Trust is earned
  - Don't go away, even as they test you and push you away

- **Hope**

- 1 Pet 3:15 – *“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have”*
  - They see hope and life in you
  - They want what we have
  - It is a crisis for them, their belief system is being challenged, maybe changing
  - They begin to own what they believe
  - Give them a Relationship with Jesus, not apologetics
    - it is not about the right answers but a relationship
  - Reflect or accept their statements
  - Let the Holy Spirit lead

If they are not ready to take the next step in faith Invite them to Walk around the block again

- Invite them to worship
- Connect them to other believers
- Invite them to be baptized

Are you asking God to open your eyes to relationships He wants you to have?

What keeps us from making this process (that Jesus and the apostles used) the primary activity of the church?