Interview

Chad Reynolds

It is my goal to be able to become a discipleshipt pastor and lead others to Christ. I chose to interview my disicpleship pastor Pastor Abdiel Fuentes. Throughout our time together he has mentored me on the role of becoming a discipleship pastor. During our time we have talked at length about how to speak to others about Christ and how to uphold the command given to us in Matthew 28: 19-20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28 NASB1995 - - Bible Gateway) While speaking with Pastor Abdiel we spoke a lot about discipleship and how we approach others to teach them about Christ.

Speaking with Pastor Abdiel about how he counsels others in his ministry demonstrated the importance of this class to me. He stated that being a discipleship pastor means more then just bringing people in, but knowing how to care for and teach them the ways of Christ and His expectations of us takes a lot of people skills. Not everyone that comes into the church is 100% okay and healthy. People come to church a lot of the times seeking help and inorder to disciple them and speak into them we also need to know how to help them with their needs as well.

When I spoke with Pastor Abdiel I asked him what he thinks is the most important thing you can do what speaking with someone you are ministering to. He stated that when you speak to someone about Christ they aren’t looking for a vague answer to their question, but most of the time want a straightforward one. We need to speak to others with grace and love to demonstrate the love and grace that God has for us all.

During our conversation we spoke at length about the different types of people and some of the questions they may have for a discipleship pastor.Some of the questions that most people ask is “how do I know God is real?”, “what is the difference between Christianity and the other religions out there?”. Just these two questions alone are ones that if not answered truthfully and sincerely can cause people to turn away. Pastor Abdiel has taught me to never give a 50% truth answer, but to be clear and truthful with them. If they ask these questions or any other question and you can’t give them a clear answer you need to be straight forward with them. Let them know that you will need to speak with someone else to get a better answer. It’s always a good idea also to keep reference books close by to. Not only will this help you find the answers, but it shows the person that you care enough and are prepared if they have any futher questions.

I have been being mentored by Pastor Abdiel for almost a year and a half now so I have learned more then what can be covered in this interview, but I feel the most important thing that I will always remember from him is how to use God and the calling to plant the seeds in others to grow God’s kingdom. Discipleship is a process that can take a while and doesn’t end just at baptism, but endures throughout a persons life. Someones Christian journey begins at baptism and matures throughout their journey.

What I have been doing to ensure I can successfully accomplish this task to keep active whether by reading book after book about discipleship and what it takes to grow the kingdom or another thing I have been doing is writing and leading bible studies. Another thing I can do to better prepare myself for this ministry is studying and getting better at reciting scripture. The ability to recall scripture passages is something that Pastor Abdiel is very good at doing and I find that is key to being able to answer a lot of questions that others may come to ask. If you ask Pastor Abdiel what I need to do he would most likely answer with, “You need to read all of Jack Cottrell’s books starting with The Faith Once for All.”

Works Cited

“Matthew 28 NASB1995 - - Bible Gateway.” *Www.biblegateway.com*, www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2028&version=NASB1995.