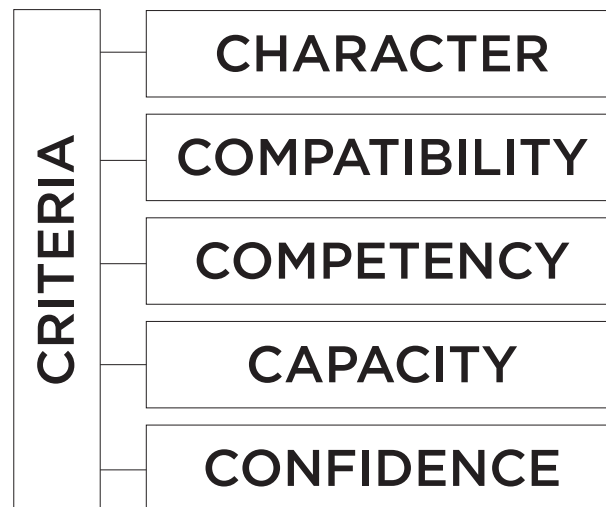


Gathering Your Discipleship Core WORKSHEET

One of the most important decisions you have to make when starting a Missional community is who to invite to be a part of your discipleship core. While selection of how will be in your discipleship core is different than discerning who is an elder (official leader in the church), it is still vital. The tool we use to discern who is in a discipleship core and who is an elder is scalable, it's the same, but there are higher demands for those serving as Elders. The right team will have its weaknesses and flaws, but history reveal some fundamental factors to consider when discerning with whom to start a Missional Community.



This worksheet is designed to help you discern who you want to bring into your discipleship core, the people who will be helping you start and multiply Missional communities.

Here is an evaluation key, which follows a 5-point scale in evaluating your potential discipleship core. Use only whole numbers 1,2,3 or half numbers 3.5, 4.5. If it is an area you have not observed, then indicate that with the letters UN, for un-observed. Space is provided throughout the evaluation for your written comments as well.

5 - Exceptionally Mature	A way of life, consistently excels in this area
4 - Commendable	A strength in this persons life
3 - Competent	Acceptable, solid, capable
2 - Growth Needed	Growth needed in this area
1 - Poor	Major growth needed
UN -Un-observed	Haven't observed this area of their life

CHARACTER EVALUATION

Area	Rating (1-5)	Description
Faithful		Fulfills promises and obligations. Demonstrates a consistency in values, skills and actions. Authentic. They have learned to trust others as well.
Servant		Downwardly mobile. Does not “lord it over others”, but serve others from the heart. Willing to do the lowly jobs and connect with those of no reputation. Is not self-willed or controlling. Others centered. Is building God’s kingdom, not their own.
Lover		Has experienced the love of God to the point that they love God fervently from the heart and love people. They love the unlovely; they love their friends as well as their enemies.
Peace Maker		Does not gossip or slander others. Realizes that conflict is natural, but unresolved conflict is not. They actively seek to resolve conflict in healthy ways. They are at peace with everyone, as much as it depends on them. Understands their forgiveness and forgives others.
Faith-filled		Maintains spiritual vitality through a rhythm of life involving spiritual practices. Confident of calling, risk taker, demonstrates courage to actively move past their fears. Trusts God to move mountains.
Humble		Demonstrates a healthy sense of self-forgetfulness. Rejoices with other people’s successes. Cooperative, team player, seeks advice, responds well to authorities. Displays healthy interdependence, don’t feel the need to prove themselves. Actively learns from others.
Hospitable		Friend to strangers, welcomes people in their home or apartment, goes out of their way to meet people they don’t know at gatherings and in life.
Generous		Has a lifestyle that demonstrates a mindset of abundance verses a scarcity mindset. Encourages a gift-oriented culture in the midst of a market economy.
Devout		Lives a morally pure life and seeks to please God in everything.
Joyful		Rejoices always and is thankful in everything. Radiates a contagious joy. Has a joy that gives them strength to persevere through all things.
Patient		Waits on God in the midst of a driven society that applauds productivity over faithfulness and fruitfulness.
Self-aware		Has a good sense of their strengths and weaknesses, gifts and calling. Emotionally intelligent and can read social dynamics. They have learned to listen to themselves and process their experiences in healthy ways.

COMPATABILITY EVALUATION

We look for compatibility with the team, theology and tactics.

Area	Rating (1-5)	Description
Team Mutual Enjoyment		There is mutual enjoyment when we hang out with each other.
Team Life-giving		This is a life-giving person for the rest of the discipleship core and for myself.
Team Trusts God		Does this person have faith that God through the Spirit can help us start a Missional community that reaches non-Christians?
Team Variety		Does this person bring diversity to our team?
Theology Holistic Gospel		Has a holistic understanding of the good news, that it is good news for the poor and the poor in spirit, for the present and the future. The good news is focused on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
Theology Kingdom		Understands, teaches and lives out the teachings of Jesus and the kingdom, that the kingdom is here and coming, that we are called to pray and participate in seeing God's kingdom become a greater reality on earth through his Spirit.
Theology Narrative		Understands, shares and abides in the basic narrative of Creation, Fall, Israel, Jesus, Church, New Creation.
Theology Encouragement		Is able to encourage, exhort and comfort others with the Scripture.
Theology Interpretation		Takes into account the scripture, the Holy Spirit, the local church, the current context, theological history, reason, and experience when it comes to seeking understanding of the sacred text.
Theology Critical Openness		Allows people room to freely explore the truth under a vast umbrella of God's grace, not naively, but with intelligence, wisdom and love. Critical openness allows us to fully listen to another's perspective without pre-judging them or their viewpoint. It's about having mutual respect as we converse over revelation and reality. As we grow in Christ, our understanding should expand incrementally, which means our understanding will continually be evolving.
Tactics Critical Openness		Understands and agrees that our co-mission to make disciples of Jesus is vital to live into the church as movement.
Tactics Critical Openness		Understands and agrees that discipleship must be linked to forming communities on mission and that the multiplication of social space is the most movemental way of being the church.
Tactics Rule & Rhythm of Life		Understands and agrees that in order to be more like Jesus, we must all engage in grace-filled practices through a communal and scattered rule and rhythm of life.

COMPETENCY EVALUATION

The new disciple doesn't need all of these competencies, just a desire to grow and learn.

Area	Rating (1-5)	Description
Movement Intelligence		Desires to learn what it means to be the church as movement, understands the anatomy of movement and the five-fold approach to leadership that is needed to start and sustain movement.
Polycentric Leadership		Desires to grow in understanding the benefits of a relational approach to leadership, a communal approach to spiritual formation and an incarnational and distributed approach to being on mission.
Being Disciple		Is excited to learn what it means to develop an inner life that can withstand the pressure and temptations common to leaders, as well as how to cultivate scared companions for the Missional journey.
Making Disciples		Has a passion to explore the various dynamics of the discipleship relationship, the stages of discipleship, how to discern who you call to be a part of their discipleship core and was to detect the work of the Spirit.
Missional Theology		Has a hunger to grow in understanding how the social and sending nature of God shapes our approach to mission. They want to understand the nature of the kingdom of God, how to share a holistic gospel and learn the importance of baptism and communion.
Ecclesial Architecture		Understands that the church is Jesus' bride and has a thirst to understand the nature and essential functions of what it means to be the church that has a rule and rhythm of life that is rooted in the local neighborhood.
Community Formation		Desires to learn how to develop a common life together that reflects Jesus' vision of community, the difficult and messy work of learning to share a table together, cultivate a missional community and build lasting relationships.
Incarnational Practices		Has a zeal to live into God's mission in the way of Jesus, incarnationally. Just like God became flesh and blood in Jesus and moved into the neighborhood, we need to engage in practices that help us get rooted in our neighborhood, fall in love with our neighbors, be and share the good news, as we work for the common good.

CAPACITY EVALUATION

Area	Rating (1-5)	Description
Schedule		While the typical person involved in the missional community may devote 2-4 hours a week, someone involved in the discipleship core will likely need 4-6 hours a week available. Rate their current availability, or time they can carve out of the schedule.
Stress		Someone who participates in discipleship core will be helping to start the Missional community, which means there will be added emotional and spiritual hits, how likely is this person going to be able to withstand these pressures?

CONFIDENCE EVALUATION

Area	Rating (1-5)	Description
Calling		Is this person compelled by God to be a part of this discipleship core and participate in building a Missional community?

Comments

How would you summarize the readiness of this person to participate in the discipleship core and help build a Missional community with you?

Final Question

In light of the 5 C's, and after taking some time to pray, what is your final thoughts in regard to this person becoming part of your discipleship core?

1. This person is extremely ready to participate in the discipleship core.
2. This person is ready to participate in the discipleship core.
3. This person needs more time before joining the discipleship core.

Action

If the person needs more time, it would be important to help them know what they would need to do to participate. If the person is ready, give them the Discipleship Core Covenant (found in the supplements section of this website) and ask them to prayerfully consider being a part and making a commitment to God and the community.