

Things to Do This Week / Three Practical Steps:

- Write out your own barriers and excuses and submit them to the light of Scripture.
- Think through your schedule and think about how you can prioritize discipling more in your life.
- Take some teaching from today (the core seminar, the morning sermon or the evening sermon) and pass it on to someone this week.

Next Week? **Holiness – the goal of discipling**

Core Seminars—Discipling Class 3: Overcoming Excuses & Barriers



Introduction

What are some reasons that a person might give for not engaging in discipling relationships?

Excuse #1: I don't want to be in a position of "authority."

- Our culture struggles with the idea of authority being good.
- Jesus' teaching on authority and servanthood.
 - John 13:14 – washing disciples feet
 - Matt. 20:25-28 – not served, but to serve

Excuse #2: Intentional discipling relationships turn friends into projects.

- John 15 and Jesus' definition of "friendship" and "love"
- Ephesians 5:1-2 – Christ's intentional sacrifice as model of love

Excuse #3: I just don't feel like it and I don't have the time.

- We love others because God first loved us.
- To challenge them to live their life with Christ at the center is the most loving thing you can ever do for them.
- Is the problem really time, or prioritization of time?
- Static expectation for our relationships—we don't have the time to do *all* the things that might help, so we don't bother doing *anything* to help.
- Using the teaching ministry of CHBC as a time multiplier
 - Attend Core Seminars together and discuss
 - Meet occasionally to discuss the Sunday sermon

Excuse #4: I don't have anything I can "teach."

- The Gospel is great discipling content (Titus 3: 1-8)
- You *always* have something you can teach

Excuse #5: I'm just not gifted to disciple others.

- We all have different gifts we can pass on.
- You don't have to do this on your own. Get them to join a church!

Overcoming Fears of Discipling

- Discipling is serious...some fear is good.
 - (Matt. 18:6, 2 Peter 2:1)

Dealing with General Fears

- God has a plan to work through his people (1 Cor. 16: 10-11, 1 Cor. 1:25-27, 2 Tim. 1:7, 1 Tim. 4:12)
- Our humanity should not surprise them

Conclusion

- Despite our fears, discipling is rewarding!
- God chooses us to do this good work!
- Ultimately this all accomplished through the power of God's Word!