

# IRON sharpens IRON

Iron sharpens Iron ministry is; *“one Christian taking the initiative with another individual to help them know Christ better and obey him more fully, through studying the Scriptures, prayer (for and with them) and sharing one’s life with them – and leaving the results to God.”*

•IDM•  
Intentional Disciple Making



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•IDM•  
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Central Baptist Church

## Syllabus

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another” (Proverbs 27). One of the great challenges of today is for Christian men to step up to their responsibilities in family and in church. These studies are designed to help us become men of God so that we will glorify God and influence those who follow on. Each one of us – under God – has the potential for enormous influence within our family and circle of friends.

Life today can exert great pressures and so we have tried to think of ways to work around this. But at the same time, progress in the Christian life is what one writer calls, 'dependent responsibility'<sup>1</sup>. There needs to be a desire to move on with the help of the Holy Spirit. We can work hard to give our families what they need materially – and in the end miss what they really need spiritually, loving, godly husbands/fathers. (If you don't have a family yet – you may have in the future!) Here is the deal!

1. **Stream A** – (preferred!) You will be placed with a Lead Partner who will meet with you for regular prayer and encouragement.
- 2 **Stream B** – the e-stream! Internet discipleship with a regular email duologue on the studies with a designated Lead Partner plus a monthly Pastor's Blog to interact with.

This course is part of what we are calling the IDM (Intentional Disciple Making) model. We hope to intersperse this ministry with a couple of events throughout the year. Thank you for stepping up.

Jim (Lead Pastor)

Iron Sharpens Iron is . . .<sup>1</sup>

**Intentional** – it is something we commit to.

**Purpose driven** – the goal is growth in Christ.

**Biblical** – with the Scriptures being core.

**Accountable** – there is third party support.

**Voluntary** – this will not be for everyone.

**Time limited** – minimum 12 months – maximum 18 months.

The basic agreement is as follows, to;

- Meet together on a regular basis for 30-45 minutes.
- Agree specific goals. (Where is growth needed?)
- Use the syllabus as a basis for discussion.
- Respect confidences.
- Refer if necessary to the oversight.

<sup>1</sup> Bridges, Jerry, *The Transforming Power of the Gospel*, NavPress, (Colorado Springs, CO), 2012, p16




## The Bible

Christ is our leader. Following Christ is directly related to the Bible. It is through his word (that Christ promised to bring through his apostles – John 14v26)) that we come to know him. Put very simply, the Old Testament points to Christ (Luke 24) and the New Testament explains him, and so if we want to get to know Christ and follow him it is to the word of Christ – the Bible – that we go.

### *Read 2 Timothy 3v10-17*

- 1 In Paul's message to Timothy we see that the Bible is not just to be a head-knowledge but a prompt to action (v10) – and sometimes at great cost. Discuss what it means – or what it might mean for you - to be submitted to God's word. Give examples of challenges you face/may face?
- 2 Paul talks about Scripture as being 'God-breathed'. Different writers wrote with different styles, but they had a common author, the Holy Spirit. (Sometimes because they are so closely related the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Christ.) Are there any questions about the Bible that you have?
- 3 Think of some people who have been good examples of the 'word lived out' in your life. What was it about them that made an impact on you?
- 4 Read v17 again. What are your gifts? And what steps might you need to take to be better equipped for serving Jesus?

 Return to your goals. How are you progressing?

*Pray together. (Remember – a verse of the Bible/hymn if you're nervous!)*

*(Wayne Grudem's book of Christian Doctrines is a great summary of teaching and could help you go a little deeper.)*

## *Take Notes* The Bible

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes.






















## Review Meeting

We hope you have enjoyed and benefitted from these studies. But discipleship doesn't end here. In fact – it doesn't end until we see Christ face to face! So keep on moving forward! These are the themes we have studied;

- 1 Worship.
- 2 The Bible.
- 3 Prayer.
- 4 Small groups.
- 5 Discernment.
- 6 Service.
- 7 Giving.
- 8 Witnessing.
- 9 Holiness.

 Which of the above themes have made the biggest impact?

 Which themes need further attention?

 What are your forward goals for growth in Christ?

It is a great thing to have someone come alongside us for part of the journey. But we need to remember that – although we are helped along the way by other Christians – that it is Christ we follow. Be encouraged as you read these words from Hebrews 12;

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”*

### Bibliography

Bilezekian, Gilbert, *Community 101*, (Zondervan, Grand Rapids MI, 1997).

de Witt, Sophie, *One to One, A Discipleship Handbook*, (Authentic Media, Milton Keynes, 2003).

Helm, David, *One to One Bible Reading*, (Matthias Media, Kingsford NSW, 2011).

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