

Real Life Discipleship Podcast Ep. #11

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Show Notes

Creating a culture of accountability

You will create the culture you model – YOU will set the depth of transparency.

- A natural result of living in a sinful world is the desire to cover oneself. We want to hide our real self from others because we are afraid of rejection or condemnation. We prefer surface relationships because we feel safer that way.
- However, if we are to have the kind of relationships God has created us for we will not be shallow. We will have the kind of relationship with others that allows us to know and to really be known.
- When you walk in the light you take the dark thoughts, these lies that Satan plants in our mind and he causes to fester – you will take those out of the darkness and bring them into the light – light is the best disinfectant. (1 John 1:7)
- We can get so clouded in our own understanding, if we don't have relationship with people that know us and can catch us while we are just one degree off, we run the risk of going completely off the rails.
- We all struggle in our mind in one way or another, it might be with an addiction, it might be shame, it might be with pride – and one of the ways that God blesses us and heals us in part is the grace He gives us through other people in our life. I'm talking about really being known, and really knowing others. That is what the Holy Spirit does in us, it creates these deep relationships that we were built for but we lost because of sin.

- Hebrews 3:12-13 “Encourage one another daily” That word encourage also means to exhort or admonish. This means give feedback when you see them doing well, but you also give feedback when you see them saying or doing something that doesn’t fit with who you know they are striving to be in God.
- If you are disciple maker and are mature in Christ – you are here to bring about change. You are responsible to build a culture around you where there is honesty and transparency. When you come into a culture, whether you are at the top or the bottom, you can change that culture. You have a culture at home, you have a culture with friends, and you have a culture with coworkers. These are cultures where you get to be the light; you get to be honest and life giving. Jesus was a life-giving spirit and because we have the Holy Spirit within us we can be a life-giving spirit.
- Satan works like a military coup – he is going to cut off all communications, he is going to make you isolate, and then he is going to ambush. We see in the lives of the people that we are in relationship with. We must be willing to be courageous and start a culture around us where that accountability is welcome and then add the extra layer - which is getting those people that are familiar enough with you – a small group –that you continue to walk with and allow to speak into your life.
- We are to be raising up people that have lived in that culture of accountability, understand it, and can pass it on - so that we can help other people experience what God has for them — which is discipleship in relationship.

Questions For Discussion:

1. Does God say we need accountability with anyone other than Him? (James 5:16)
2. Who should I choose to be accountable to? Can I just pick anyone?
3. Why is it important that the people I am discipling feel safe enough to be transparent with me?
4. What are problems that could arise if someone has no accountability?
5. Do you have another believer in your life that you can be open and honest with? If no – why not?