



Discipleship Across Cultures Spring
2021
Pastor Sergio Lopez
Session 4: Restorative Ministry Practices



ANLI
Bridging The Gap Leadership

Restorative Ministry: Restoration vs. Alienation

Key Scripture (Ps 51:12 ESV)

“Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”

Instructional Overview

Lesson Big Ideas

- The four restorative ministry practices form a subset of discipleship.
- Restoration promotes spiritual growth and strengthens the Kingdom.

Essential Questions

- What components must a biblical discipleship program include?

Lesson Outcomes

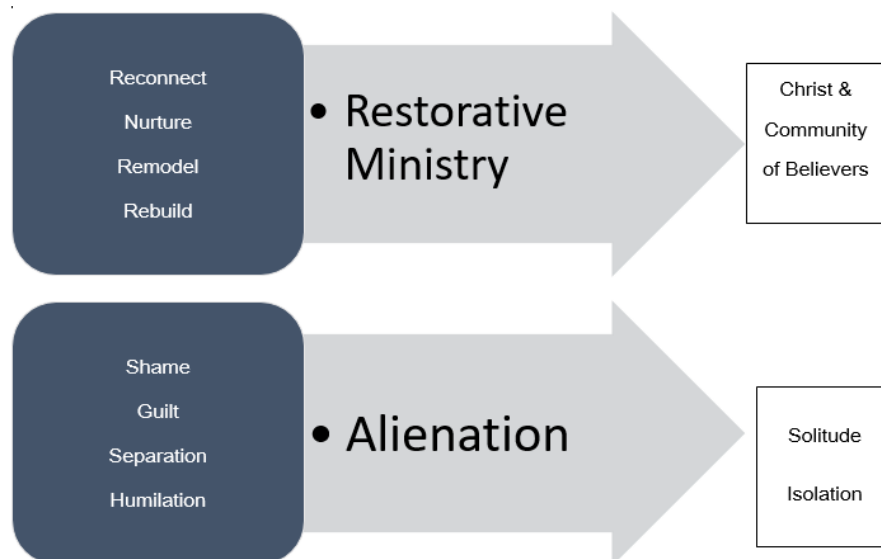
- Create a basic discipleship plan in pairs for a small group within the Ignite ministry incorporating key elements under the four areas of apostle’s doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer.

Restorative Ministry Practices

1. **Reconnect:** Means of connecting someone back to God, family, church, or ministry by repairing a broken relationship or reconciling fellowship to God and the body of believers
2. **Nurture:** Process of caring for and encouraging the spiritual growth or development of a person or group of people
3. **Remodel:** Means of changing the spiritual and emotional structure of someone through the actions of repair, rejuvenation, and rehabilitation
4. **Rebuild:** Redevelopment of a person after one has been spiritually or emotionally damaged, injured, or destroyed by strengthening, restoring, reconditioning, and reconstructing

Alienating Practices

1. **Shame:** Making a person feel like a failure because one did not live up to expectation
2. **Guilt:** Emphasizing punishment and forgiveness as ways of restoring moral order
3. **Separation:** Isolating until restored
4. **Humiliation:** Stripping away one's pride, honor, or dignity because of sin



Restorative Ministry Practices and Discipling (7:07-7:40pm)

Activity 2

Directions:

- Watch each student's video.
- Write one to two thoughts mentioned from each video you feel holds importance to restoring the fallen regarding isolation (Gen Y) or depression (Gen X).
- Connect the thought/s to the practices of restorative ministry: reconnect, nurture, remodel, or rebuild. Then, discuss how it might be adapted to your discipleship plan.
- Teacher will call on select students to share out.

Video 1 Elder Geraldine

Video 2 Elder Shelly

Directions

Students will work together on chart paper to complete assigned section. Based on the four marks of discipleship, relate each practice as a restorative activity for an individual who has fallen due to alcoholism from depression.

Restorative Ministry Strategies for Discipleship		
Scripture	Practices	Activity for either Apostle's Doctrine, Fellowship, Prayer, or Breaking of Bread
<p>Example 1 John 4:1-42</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus broke the "rules" 2. He met her where she was comfortable (Reconnect) 3. He spoke the truth in love (Nurture) 4. He gave her hope despite her past (Remodel) 5. Offered her a "gift" – Living Water (Remodel) 6. Jesus spent time with the Samaritans (Rebuild, giving credence to what the woman said about Jesus) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Met the person at his/her job at lunch for Bible Study (Reconnect, AD) 2. Created a goal plan with the person going through restoration (Nurture, Fellowship/Prayer) 3. Discussed personal topics over coffee at a place (Remodel, Fellowship) 4. Speak life and lay hands (Remodel, Prayer) 5. Witnessed over coffee; lay hands in the parking lot (Remodel, Fellowship) 6. Invite the person to your home for a game night with friends, including time for evangelizing (Rebuild, Fellowship)
<p>Example 2 Luke 22:54-62</p>	<p>Peter felt convicted, realized he betrayed Jesus, and wept (Peter remembered the word of the Lord; v. 61)</p>	<p>Meet in a private place of the person being disciplined to bring conviction of sin and repentance through the Holy Ghost (Reconnect, Fellowship, Pray)</p>
<p>John 21:15-17</p>		
<p>John 21:18-19</p>		
<p>Acts 1:15</p>		

Group Discipleship Plan

Directions:

- Work together as a team to create a discipleship plan for a group of three female members of Ignite who just have returned to the Lord. Laura was abused by her boyfriend after a series of bad relationships; Maria lost her parents in a car accident and sought relief in drugs; and Keisha, very independent minded, got mixed up in the wrong crowd. All have a college education and jobs. Each person lives in a different area of the Chicago metro region: (Laura: South Loop; Maria: Chicago Ridge; Keisha: bed-to-bed at various friends' apartments).
- Include both group and individual activities to tailor discipleship to the needs of the members.
- You should embed practices of restorative ministry (reconnect, nurture, remodel, and rebuild) within the four marks of discipleship.
- After the activity name, write the restorative practice and supporting scriptures.
- Then, write the activity and how you specifically will accomplish it (Include the who, what, when, where, why, and how).
- Finally, tell how each activity supports koinonia.
- The teacher will work together with the students.

Notes:

Sample Discipleship Plan

Ministry Name: ANCHOR

APOSTLE'S DOCTRINE

Teaching, studying and preaching

Teaching, preaching, witnessing, defending, reasoning, and proclaiming the gospel as the saving work of Jesus Christ; fulfillment of prophecy; and death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, etc.

Activity One

Bible study on Facebook Live (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Tim 2:15; Nurture)

Specifics of Activity

- Once per year
- ANCHOR Ministry Team will meet to discuss concerns specifically toward the Millennial generation demographic (ages 30-38) such as a common incorrect cultural worldview, a prevalent issue this age group seems to have in career or life in general, and restoration.
- ANCHOR Ministry Team will choose a topic to biblically address via a Facebook Live Bible study.
- Two designated ANCHOR Ministry Team members will conduct the Facebook Live Bible study every Tuesday evening from 7-8pm for 4 weeks.
- Questions would be addressed as they come up on the Facebook Live session.
- Based on current ANCHOR worldview, I would suggest conducting the first Facebook Live Bible Study on the Oneness of God.
- Leading up to the month when the Bible study would take place, an event would be created on Facebook and all

ANCHOR demographic (both Gen X and Millennials) would be sent a Facebook invitation to attend the event, as well as announcements made during church, and paper reminders handed out.

- This will teach members biblical principles and life application to participants.

How does the activity support koinonia?

Sharing and Participation: The ministry came together dialoging about Bible study.

FELLOWSHIP

Mentoring, support, uplifting gatherings

Actions of unity by standing as one in Christ through joint participation or sharing something in common: the Holy Spirit (Phil 2:1); Christ's sufferings (Phil 3:10; 1 Pet 4:13); experiences in ministry (Gal 2:9); and financial resources for the needs of the saints (Rom 12:13)—Can be worship

Activity One

Testimony Night (Rev 12:11; Luke 8:39; Ps 71:15-18; Ps 150; Reconnect; Nurture)

Specifics of Activity

- A ministry event that allows ANCHOR members to share experiences God has brought them through in their personal lives, relationships, and careers with the Ignite Ministry members.
- The testimonies will be three minutes and given by ANCHOR members.
- The testimonies would be approved by Pastor Ricardo Johnson and Elder Dorith Johnson.
- Testimonies would cover a variety of experiences in many areas of life and encourage the Millennial generation in overcoming failure through the power of God.

- Ignite Ministry leads the praise and worship at the event, allowing them to express their creativity.
- The combined event creates a dynamic fellowship through the opportunity to mentor a demographic (Ignite Ministry) that will eventually land in the ANCHOR Ministry, while learning the likes and dislikes, and what keeps the attention of that age group in order to create new fellowship and mentoring ideas.
- Childcare would be provided for children ages 3-10 years old.
- This would be an annual combined event, yet the subject may change.
- This event would be held at Venue 127 at the Lighthouse Church of All Nations on a Friday night from 7pm-9:30pm.

How does the activity support koinonia?

Sharing and Participation: The group members shared personal experiences of God’s grace working in their lives.

Intimacy: The two ministries would not only come together in worship, but also sharing grace in relationship.

PRAYER

Intercession of all types

Believers came together in all aspects of prayer. Upon the inception of the Church, Jewish believers continued praying multiple times in the temple. However, they also prayed in small groups, individual house churches, and collective house churches.

Activity One

Facebook Prayer Thread (Matt 21:22; Reconnect, Nurture)

Specifics of Activity

- One of the ANCHOR Ministry Facebook admin members begins a prayer thread on the ANCHOR Facebook page where ministry members can submit their prayer request.
- Prayer requests are prayed for by all members of the ministry and comments are made on the thread to show they are being covered in prayer.
- Answered prayers are encouraged to be submitted on the thread to show the power of God and how He answers prayers.
- ANCHOR Ministry team members should be tagged in the post so that the prayer request will get at least responded to by the leaders.
- Post should be done at least once per month.

How does the activity support koinonia?

Contribution: The members come together to intercede for one another

Intimacy: Members share personal requests that member keep confidential, supporting them through prayer

BREAKING OF BREAD

Table fellowship, communion

The practices of observing Communion or the Lord's Table (Acts 2:42); eating a meal (27:35); or sharing a meal together as in Acts 20:7, 11, 26; partaking in intimate fellowship

Activity One

Joy-filled Gathering (1 Cor 11:24; Reconnect; Nurture)

Specifics of Activity

- One Friday every other month.
- ANCHOR members would meet at restaurants in different communities from 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Members would start in prayer and thanksgiving to God.
- Each attendee will express at least one thing that brought them joy that week.
- Date of event will be advertised on Facebook and a portion of the meeting will be broadcast on the ANCHOR Facebook to attract those who did not attend to make the next one.
- Attendees are welcome to bring their children.
- This is a time to connect with other members and celebrate the joy that God has given us.

How does the activity support koinonia?

Close-Out Question

- Explain one key restorative ministry practices you can take into your own ministry?

Discipleship Across Culture — Homework, Session 4

Due April 22, 2021

Part A. Readings

- Review your scriptures from past homework assignments

Part C. Sermon (80 Points)

Present a 20-minute, illustrated sermon on overcoming isolation or depression as assigned to Gen Y or Z

Accompanying your sermon, you will (1) submit a typed list of the preaching strategies across cultures appropriate to your targeted audience (with copies for the class), and (2) final typed sermon copy. Come dressed for preaching appropriate to your audience.

*Note: The sermon copy must show what you will say WORD-FOR-WORD in a narrative format, include your illustration/s, (power point do not count as an illustration), power point slides, and reflect preaching strategies across cultures appropriate to your audience.

Cross-Cultural Preaching General Strategies

1. Recognize that cross-cultural preaching addresses the communication preferences, spiritual and emotional needs, and understanding based on the perspective of the listener.
2. Know your goals in preaching to a particular group of listeners.
3. Reflect on your style of preaching, and then pinpoint what you need to change to reach your audience of listeners in an effective manner. You want to *preach to every pew*, so to speak. Commonly, a person preaches to one's own preference.

4. Culturally map your listeners. Mark the boundaries of commonalities, dissimilarities, and patterns of surface and hidden cultures.
5. Analyze language characteristics among the listeners such as vocabulary level, denominational differences, geographical phrasing, slang, biblical understanding, average sentence lengths, humor, and stories, etc.
6. Determine a common language having familiarity for the listener in terms of the person's cultural background: insider vs. outsider to the church/Church, household particulars, social world, place of residence, and covenant status (In covenant with God or out of covenant. If you use the biblical term *neighbor*, for example, reflect on what this word means to people. The New Testament builds relationship into the meaning of neighbor. Knowing this, how would an incarcerated adult perceive the meaning of neighbor as opposed to someone from a stable home and community life?
7. Communicate your verbal and physical illustrations both biblically and culturally according to the dynamics of the audience.
8. Adjust sermon length to the audience. Remember we live in a sound byte society.
9. Consider the maturity level of the audience.—Find out the audience make up and make adjustments accordingly. Are the listeners churched, unchurched, saints, aint's, nones, and dones? Research shows the so-called *none* and *done* populations have risen over the last decade.
10. Choose a method of engaging and drawing listeners into your sermon appropriate to the audience (i.e., call and response, gestures, eye contact, sermon highs and lows, silence, proximity, etc.).
11. Think about the appropriateness of the stories you might use in your sermon. What works with one group of listeners does not work with another.

Part C. Self-reflection (20 points—About 150 to 200 words)

- Explain how you can use two restorative practices in your own ministry.

Restoring the Fallen Believer—Example (Incomplete)

Reconnect

EXTERNAL PRACTICE

Help the fallen acknowledge one's own sin and bring the person to repentance and confession through prayer (2 Sam 12:1-11; Ps 51:1-3; Jas 5:16).

SCRIPTURE

"Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the Lord, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. (2 Sam 12:9).

APPLICATION

Sin separates us from God, placing one in darkness. Nevertheless, our loving God with His grace and mercy wants all His children to be intimate with Him and walk in His light. Repentance reconnects one into relationship with God through His faithfulness to forgive sin and cleanse unrighteousness by breaking Satan's grip on the heart (Matt 26:74-75; 1 John 1:9; Jas 5:16; Rev 2:4-5).

Nurture

EXTERNAL PRACTICE

Encourage and build up the fallen through fellowship to watch and be sober as children of the light to serve the Lord (1 Thess 5:11, cf. Matt 26:74-75).

SCRIPTURE

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing" (1 Thess 5:11).

APPLICATION

Christ's freedom sets us free to stand firm and not submit to the yoke of slavery (Gal 5:1). Weak discipline, fear, and social influence, however, can rob the fallen of their will to stand in Christ and the pathway to restoration. Twin actions of encouragement and edification through continual fellowship supports one's resolve not to betray Christ again (1 Thess 5:11).

Remodel

EXTERNAL PRACTICE

Help the fallen believer forgive oneself and others (Col 3:13; cf. Matt 18:35, Luke 17:3-4)

SCRIPTURE

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (Col 3:13).

APPLICATION

Sometimes the fallen cannot forgive him or herself over the actions done, even though Christ has. The person has sinned, as every believer has as well. Help the fallen remodel one's Christian life and testimony. Strengthen the foundation and reconstruct the ruins beginning with self-forgiveness.

Rebuild

EXTERNAL PRACTICE

Provide multiple and wise counsel to support the person to be an overcomer and victorious (Prov 11:14, 15:22; 2 Tim 3:16-17).

SCRIPTURE

“For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers” (Prov 11:14).

APPLICATION

The fallen believer may need Christian counseling to move the person forward in the restoration process. Additional supports aids in overcoming sin, emotional trauma, and/or grief to rebuild a life based on the biblical pattern of living Supportive counsel can come from more than one person.