Global Discipleship Initiative

YOU KNOW WHY. WE KNOW HOW.

Transforming disciples who make disciples through MICRO GROUPS (3-4 people)

“Go and make disciples.”

The Vision of GDI

Matthew 28:18-20

Compelled by Jesus’ Great Commission, we want to multiply transformed disciples through MICRO GROUPS in every country in the world by 2026.

Make disciples the way Jesus made disciples.

“There’s no doubt that the church has the largest reserve of unemployed disciple makers. We just need to get them trained and mobilized.”

- Ralph Rittenhouse

GlobalDI.org

For more information, visit us online.
Contact Greg Ogden or Ralph Rittenhouse for details about each event.

Upcoming GDI Events

Thur.-Fri. Disciple Makers Forum
Nov. 9-10 Nashville, TN
Speaker’s Track #15

Fri. EPC Presbytery of Pacific SW
Feb. 2 Sacramento, CA
Contact: Mark Eshoff
916.761.7954

Sat.-Mon. C.S. Lewis Institute
Feb. 9-12 Eastern Ohio
Contact: Daniel Osborne
330.207.8196

Sat.-Mon. Effective Discipleship
Mar. 3-5 Del Ray, FL
Contact: Douglas Hood
561.276.6338

All Week National GDI Workshop
Apr. 18-22 Manila, Phillipines
Contact: Dr. Leah Gustilo

Global DI.org
Training, Coaching, Consulting

GDI trains, coaches, and inspires pastors and Christian leaders to establish indigenous, multiplying, disciple making movements, both nationally and internationally.

Over 7 years ago Ralph Rittenhouse (then a senior pastor, now GDI President), challenged his local church to take their story of discipleship, and the discipling methods Jesus used in MICRO GROUPS to the world.

Camarillo Community Church had begun with 4 groups of 15 in 2010, and these had grown to over 100 groups with nearly 500 people by 2015. We invited an international group of 52 pastors and leaders from 16 different countries to hear our story of people growing spiritually.

Dr. Greg Ogden coached them as they practiced making disciples in micro groups of 3 or 4. Some, for the first time, even as church leaders and pastors, experienced an intentionally open and transparent relationship.

They saw how the process of transformation worked using the tool Discipleship Essentials. Cultural expectations and Biblical examples were examined in the 5-day workshop. Since the Global Discipleship Summit (GDS) in 2015, more new opportunities are emerging each month.

It’s a lie to say that salvation is essential and discipleship is optional.

Romanian Disciple Making Initiative

A few weeks ago in October 2017, Greg and Ralph spent a refreshing time with pastors in Romania. All of these pastors attended the Discipleship Summit in Camarillo in 2015 and will be serving on the GDI National Romanian Team. Together we reviewed and confirmed the GDI mission, vision and values of GDI disciple making so that they develop a strategy for their own national disciple making initiative.

Their responsibilities will be to encourage and assist churches in their assigned regions to develop effective reproducing discipleship ministries. Dr. Dobrin gladly accepted our invitation to become the first National Director of GDI Romania. Dr. Dobrin, along with pastoring in Medias, is a professor at Emmanuel University and Seminary in Oradea. Pastor Sabin Boruga will be the Assistant Director to help with organization, administration and communication.
NEPAL

There are times when we can almost hear the rejoicing in heaven when one sinner repents (Luke 15:7). Pradeep is our first national director for GDI in Nepal. At the age of 18 the Lord Jesus dramatically appeared to him in the midst of suicidal depression and called him to Himself.

Coming from a Brahmin family (the highest caste), he was rejected by his father and driven from his village. The church Pradeep pastors recently gathered in great joy as Pradeep himself was able to baptize his own father and mother. Please pray for them in their newfound faith, because they, too, are now facing the same rejection from those in their village that Pradeep experienced.

In addition, pray for the growth of the disciple making movement in Nepal as the Nepali GDI team, led by Pradeep, plants micro groups in 6 regions of Nepal and Northern India.

MOZAMBIQUE

Pastor Eduardo Melo from Portugal, was at the GDS in 2015, but his friends from Mozambique were unable to get visas. In Africa last week, he multiplied what he learned and experienced with a team from the US (Pastor Jim Moyer, Matt Hiltibran, Dean Amundsen and Joel Morris). Matt and Joel discussed the importance of being an intentional leader in a relational environment with a road map to follow. Jim followed up with the dynamics of micro groups of 3-4 asking, “Why does transformation happens quicker in that kind of environment?” Then Dean explained why a curriculum is essential to growing in Christ.

Eduardo, as the Portuguese translator, is committed to providing material in Portuguese from Discipleship Essentials, one chapter at a time. We again broke into micro groups and gave them some questions to discuss and answer. What a joy to be there seeing the smiles on their faces as during worship, talking about the Scriptures in the community of brothers and sisters in Christ! The poverty is overwhelming, but these people of God transcend any possible circumstance that they have been asked to endure. Remember He chose us, not the other way around (Eph. 1:4; John 15:16).

The ability of micro groups that are gender-specific speaks into our lives in a relational environment of trust, support, accountability and transparency that pastors and church leaders need in every culture around the globe.
Invitation from the Franciscan University of Steubenville

“We want to be able to offer our conference participants a process for discipleship that they can implement when they go home after they experienced the conference. Your process and book is the best we have come across in the past 8 months of research! Our initial goal was to find out what is working. It appears that your process is a tried and true method that really works at not just forming disciples to follow Christ, but forms disciples to keep forming other disciples.”

- October, 18, 2017 email from Kristi Scheerbaum

The Global Discipleship Initiative
Disciples Making Disciples