Global Discipleship Initiative

YOU KNOW WHY.
WE KNOW HOW.

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

“Go and make disciples.”

Upcoming GDI Events

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 16-17
Coaching Workshop
Kingwood, TX
Contact: 281-361-2028

Tue.-Thur., Sept. 19-21
“Cutting It Straight” Conf.
Jacksonville, FL
Contact: 904-353-8829

Fri.-Sat., Sept. 22-23
Disciple Makers University
Beaumont, TX
Contact: 409-828-1103

Thur.-Fri., Nov. 9-10
Disciple Makers Forum
Nashville, TN
Sign Up: Discipleship.org

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.

GlobalDI.org

For more information, visit us online.

Contact Greg Ogden or Ralph Rittenhouse for details about each event.
Training, Coaching, Consulting

GDI trains, coaches, and inspires pastors and Christian leaders to establish indigenous, multiplying, disciplemaking 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 emerged.

Pastor Edwardo Melo from Portugal, was at the GDS in 2015, but his friends from Mozambique were unable to get visas. Now he plans to multiply what he learned and experienced by taking a team from the US (Pastor Jim Moyer, Matt Hiltibrand, Dean Amundsen and Joel Morris) in mid-October. They will conduct 2 seminars there. Please pray that the team will be used by God to encourage these disciples to intentionally make disciples in Mozambique.

Golden Batons in Washington State

New micro groups have formed since Ralph Rittenhouse deployed in 2015 to Washington state. When disciples finish Discipleship Essentials they receive “golden batons.” These batons represent handing off our faith to the next generation of disciplemakers. Three of those receiving batons are senior pastors who are now beginning their own micro groups, making disciples who make disciples.

There are now 17 micro groups there, who have begun the journey toward multiplying disciples. Pastor Rich Warriner said, “I am looking forward to my whole church becoming a disciplemaking church.” Rich is the pastor of Christ the King Church in Ferndale, Washington, and wants to accompany us on one of our global training ventures.
GRACE ABOUNDS!
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. His father initially plotted Pradeep's death and then wrote 5 letters threatening suicide because of the shame Pradeep brought on the family by rejecting Hinduism and his heritage. Since then, over the past 18 years Pradeep and Julie have loved and prayed for his parents. The hostility slowly thawed.

Through a recent series of God interventions regarding Pradeep's father's health, Pradeep's mother and father yielded their lives to the Lord. 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 disciplemaking movement in Nepal as the Nepali GDI team plants micro groups in 6 regions of Nepal and Northern India. You also might have read that there have been devastating floods during this latest monsoon season. Many of the network churches have been affected.

Dear Dr. Ogden,

I was delighted to attend the meeting arranged by Pradeep. In the meeting I shared that we have four small groups using Discipleship Essentials (DE) in Kalos Baptist Community (the church that I planted with a team since Oct 2015). And we also explored the possibility of having a disciplemaking conference in Malaysia next year or the year after next. To prepare ourselves, I suggested the need to broaden the base of those of us who are using DE in Klang Valley and Penang.

On my part, I have introduced DE to two friends of mine in two other churches. One of them is a pastor, who is keen to introduce it to his church. The other is a lay leader in his church. He has already started using it in his home group.

Just last weekend, I led our church to do a mission trip to Kuantan (East Coast). We visited two churches. After preaching on disciplemaking in one of the churches, I passed a copy of DE and introduced it to their lay leader (hoping that he will see the usefulness of the material and start using it). We also passed another copy to the leaders of the other church that we visited.

This is to let you know that I have found DE useful, and hope to introduce it to more churches in the near future.

Kent
The commitment to multiplying discipleship using Discipleship Essentials (translated into Romanian) continues to expand in Romania. There is now a nucleus of pastors who are involved, as they encourage others to adopt gender-specific MICRO GROUPS as a vehicle for taking believers to deep and transforming relationships with Jesus. We have been invited back to encourage selected leadership to develop a national strategy for GDI Romania. Pastors Gigi Dobrin and Sabin Boruga are just two who have begun extensive use of the materials. Our mobilization trip is planned for October.