

Becoming A Disciplemaking Church

About 8 years ago, the average worship attendance at Tamaqua was **35-40**. The grassroots leaders had the **vision to grow**. They invested their savings and hired a full-time pastor. The Lord blessed their dedication and faith and after 7 ½ years, we received over 125 members making our average attendance **120**. As exciting as this may be, our great challenge is how to *connect the influx of new people to the body and disciple them to maturity*.

When I received the information concerning intentional discipling, I viewed it as another program. Considering the current busyness of our ministry, I filed it with other “junk mail”. Several months later I had the opportunity to hear Jeff Byerly give a personal testimony of how intentional discipling impacted his congregation. I invited 3 key leaders to attend the “Discipling Others Seminar” in Reedsville. We unanimously decided we **needed** to further investigate this possibility.

We invited Don Graybill to meet with our Ministry Council and potential disciplers. We had 17 people attend the meeting and 14 committed to being involved. Our Ministry Council made the decision to begin a partnership with Navigators. After 3 months, we now have 10 **triads** of people meeting weekly to share what they are hearing from God and to pray together. It is refreshing to hear these people express what God is teaching them and to see the spiritual growth in their lives. As a result, people are beginning *to connect with others and with God on a deeper level* and we are seeing more outsiders become involved in triads.

At this point, there is no telling what God may do, but **our vision** is to continue to grow a congregation of fully devoted followers of Jesus, who will invest their lives into individuals who will do the same.

Blessings!



Kevin Roberts, Pastor
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