



May 8, 2007

EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP COMMISSION

GROWING DEEPER WITH GOD

THROUGH
INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

*Call to Me and I will answer you and show you great things...
you do not know...things that are going to happen. (Jer. 33:3 – NLT & AB).*

Dear Pastors and Church Leaders,

As leaders are we praying for a desire to grow deeper with God?

During the past year, the EC Evangelism and Discipleship Commission has been asking God to reveal the great things He desires to do in our churches. The Commission senses unanimously that God wants us as pastors and leaders to give greater attention to the ministry of making transformed disciples who can impact our culture for Christ – *one of those great things that is not only going to happen, but, to God's honor and praise, is happening in some of our churches.* Spiritual transformation begins when each of us as leaders personally seeks to *grow deeper with God* and it continues in the context of intentional relationships by helping others *to go deeper into a life with God through Christ.*

In honoring God's desire to make disciples, we might ask:

***How do we begin to change the DNA of our churches
in becoming intentional about making disciples?***

Please take a moment to read the enclosed testimonies of two church leaders: Deb Shank (Willow St. Community Church) and Doug Zerbe (Akron Grace Church), and you will see the beginnings of a grass roots movement God is using in developing disciple-making churches.

**How exciting to see in the testimonies we have read beginning in our January letter the following similarities of God's work in making disciples through intentional relationships:
answered prayer, Word-focused, passion-driven leaders, and transformed lives.**

***Is God calling you and your leaders to set the sails of your church
in the direction of a greater focus on making disciples?***

God has already provided the resources:
financial assistance, networks of prayer support, and Navigators coaching.

On behalf of the Evangelism and Discipleship Commission, may I encourage you to seek God's wisdom regarding discipleship for your church, and invite you and your lay delegate to participate in the inspiring prayer sessions at the National Conference.

Growing deeper with God together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Boussum".

Carolyn Boussum, EC Disciple Associate

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Note: Our next discipleship communication will again give honor and praise to Jesus as we learn of God's movement in cultivating the ministry of intentional disciple making in the Clarion Riverhill EC Church with Pastor Terry Jacobs.