Examples of short term discipleship curricula

Here are some examples of the subjects dealt with in short term discipleship in various T4T packages. Many of these lessons can be downloaded from the T4T website.

**T4T Classic**

Initial session: Why, Whom, How to share the gospel

1. Assurance of Salvation
2. Understanding Prayer
3. Daily Devotions
4. The Church Meeting
5. God is the Heavenly Father (protection)
6. Spreading the gospel (four calls)
7. Long-term discipleship: Participatory Bible Study

**Training Rural Trainers (TRT – oral): Topic plus story (with scripture reference)**

- **Beginning:** Share the Gospel – Testimony + C2C (Creation to Christ Story)
- **Training #1:** Baptism – *Jesus’ Baptism and Command* (Matt. 3:11, 13-17; 28:18-20)
- **Training #2:** Assurance – *The Good Shepherd* (John 10:11-18, 27-30)
- **Training #3:** Prayer – *Jesus Prays* (Mark 1:29-39; Luke 6:12-13)
- **Training #4:** God’s Word – *Build on the Rock* (Matt. 7:24–29)
- **Training #5:** Church – *Jesus Builds His Church* (Matt. 16:18, Acts 2:37-47)
- **Training #6:** Forgiveness – *The Unforgiving Servant* (Matt. 18:23-35)
- **Training #7:** The Lord’s Supper – *The Last Supper* (Matt. 26:17-30)
- **Training #8:** Love and Serve Others – *Jesus Washes Feet* (John 13:3-17)
- **Training #9:** Persevere – *Garden and the Passion* (Matt. 26:36-28:10)
- **Training #10:** The Great Commission – *Sending of the 70 and Jesus’ Commission* (Luke 10:1-12; Matt. 28:18-20)
- **Training #11:** Long term discipleship – Inductive passage-by-passage study using storying method from the first 10 lessons
Tree of Life (T4T for Hindu background believers)¹

- Level - 1 How do I become a fisher of men?
- Level - 2 How do I produce the fruit of the “Tree of Life”?
- Level - 3 How do I produce the fruit of a good testimony/witness with God and man?
- Level - 4 How do I bear the fruit of God’s Word in my life and church?
- Level - 5 What is the fruit of a healthy Body (of Christ)?
- Level - 6 How do I bear fruit through worship in Spirit and Truth?
- Level - 7 How do I reproduce Christ in myself and others?
- Level - 8 How do I keep my fruit (Testimony) from being stolen? (Spiritual Warfare)
  - Part :A Knowing The enemy
- Level – 9 How do I keep my fruit (Testimony) from being stolen? (Spiritual Warfare)
  - Part :B Doing battle with the enemy - The armor of God
- Level – 10 How do I stay on “track” to a Church Planting Movement (CPM)?

PuPP – (T4T for Muslim background believers in SE Asia)

Begin with clear gospel presentation, sometimes expanding with six sacrifice stories from the Bible. Follow a decision with a lesson on baptism and counting the cost and assurance. Then move into the following lessons.

1) Identification with the death of Isa Almasih (Jesus the Messiah)
   - a. Lord’s Supper
   - b. Persecution
2) New Birth
   - a. By Holy Spirit
   - b. Testimony
3) New Family
   - a. Head of the church – obeying Jesus
   - b. The functions of the body of Christ
4) Communication with God – Prayer
   - a. Lord’s prayer
   - b. Continual praise and intercession
5) Spiritual food – Word of God
   - a. How to study the Word
   - b. Daily devotion time
6) The clothing of the follower of Isa
   - a. Put off the old, put on the new
   - b. Spiritual characteristics
7) Stand firm – power over the dark powers
   - a. Power over trials
   - b. Spiritual preparation
8) Walk as a follower of Isa
   - a. Walk in faith
   - b. Surrender of oneself
9) Developing personal characteristics as a follower of Isa
   - a. Love
   - b. Hope

¹ George Tupper author in South Asia
Towards Maturity

a. Learn to give
b. Giving birth to a new church

Long-term discipleship Curricula

The final lesson of your short-term discipleship should be a lesson on how to move into long-term discipleship. This is effectively done by giving the group a set of inductive Bible study questions and a guide for which Bible passages to begin studying. Any group can learn to study the Bible inductively. All inductive means is that the group learns the answers together as they ask questions of the text and ask the Holy Spirit to give them understanding and application.

This does not rule out the role of preaching or teaching. Rather, it is simply a default the group uses to help themselves become self-feeders. It enables them to serve as priests of God. Otherwise, they tend to not study the Word unless there is a qualified Bible teacher or preacher visiting their group.

Inductive Questions / Pattern

Learning inductively is not easy at first. The group must be taught a pattern that they will use over and over until it becomes second nature. Inductive study does not mean that a group leader does not prepare or share insights. But it takes the pressure off him to be an eloquent teacher in the beginning. He will still share insights and guide learning, but allow the group to dig out much of the truth themselves. It also enables multiple people to lead the group through the Bible study time.

You can use any set of accountability questions as long as they are 1) memorable, 2) effective for uncovering the basic meaning and 3) emphasize application and obedience. Here are some examples:

The most commonly used questions in T4T are “SOS”:

- **Say**: What is this passage saying?
- **Obey**: What should we obey from this passage?
- **Share**: Who is someone we can share this message with?

Here is another set of questions:

- What is this passage saying? (And, what do you like?)
- What do you not understand?
- What does it teach us about God?
- What does it tell us to do?
- What can we share with someone else?

Where to start

Once you have a basic set of questions to use, then point the group toward a set of biblical materials to start studying. In most cases, you will use a book of the Bible like Mark. Find something that guides the group through basic understanding of the Bible, Jesus and discipleship – something that will give them a basic overview of how to follow Jesus.
Here are some examples:

**T4T Classic - Mark Study**

These are the basic passages Ying uses in inductive study or “participatory Bible study” starting with lesson 7 (long term discipleship). The group goes through one section each week – just enough to obey. It takes them about 1 ½ years to work through Mark. After that, they often do an epistle like Ephesians.

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TRT – Long-Term Discipleship

TRT uses a basic 40+ Bible story set from Creation to Christ for long-term discipleship that is an expansion of the original C2C story. After that, it recommends Mark then Acts.

40+ Bible Stories

1) Introduction – Bible
2) Creation
3) Humans
4) Fall
5) Murder
6) Flood
7) Babel
8) Abraham
9) Isaac
10) Joseph
11) Egypt
12) Moses
13) Passover
14) Law
15) Tabernacle
16) Canaan
17) Judges
18) Elijah
19) Daniel
20) Prophecy
21) Angels
22) Birth
23) John the Baptist
24) Approval
25) Nicodemus
26) Well
27) Storm
28) Demoniac
29) Feeding 5000
30) Lazarus
31) Temple Cleansing
32) Last Supper
33) Spirit Promised
34) Trial
35) Death
36) Resurrection
37) Appearances
38) Ascension
39) Church
40) Witnesses
After completing lessons based on the above story set, you may want to consider a passage by passage study through a book of the Bible. We suggest you begin with the book of Mark. The following is a suggested breakdown of the passages in Mark. After completing this, we suggest the same thing with Acts.

1) Mark 1:1 - 20
2) Mark 1:21 - 45
3) Mark 2:1 – 12
4) Mark 2:13 – 28
5) Mark 3:1 – 12
6) Mark 3:13 – 35
7) Mark 4:1 – 20
8) Mark 4:21 – 34
9) Mark 4:35 – 5:20
10) Mark 5:21 – 43
11) Mark 6:1 – 13
12) Mark 6:14 – 29
13) Mark 6:30 – 56
14) Mark 7:1 – 23
15) Mark 7:24 – 37
16) Mark 8:1 – 21
17) Mark 8:22 – 30
18) Mark 8:31 – 9:13
19) Mark 9:14 – 29
20) Mark 9:30 – 50
21) Mark 10:1 – 16
22) Mark 10:17 – 34
23) Mark 10:35 – 52
24) Mark 11:1 – 14
25) Mark 11:15 – 33
26) Mark 12:1 – 12
27) Mark 12:13 – 34
28) Mark 12:35 – 44
29) Mark 13:1 – 37
30) Mark 14:1 – 9
31) Mark 14:10 – 31
32) Mark 14:32 – 42
33) Mark 14:43 – 72
34) Mark 15:1 – 20
35) Mark 15:21 – 47
36) Mark 16:1 – 8
37) Mark 16:9 – 20 (optional)