

# Developing Leaders



for Discipleship

+  
**CME**  
**REGIONAL**  
**LENTEN**  
**STUDY**  
**2016**  
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# ABOUT THE PRESENTER



## **Rev. Cynthia Johnson-Oliver, JD**

■ **Current:** Associate Pastor of Adult Discipleship, Annandale UMC; Academy of Discipleship

### **Other Discipleship Experience:**

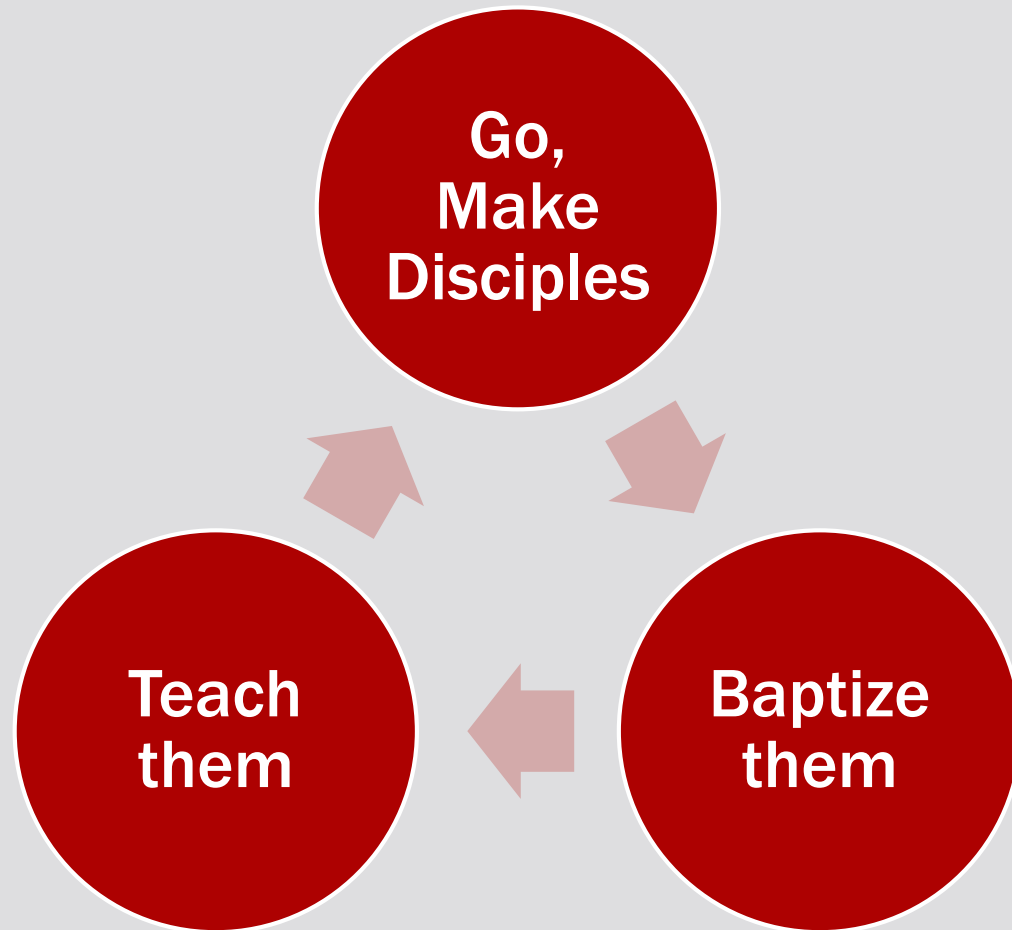
- Co-Pastor, Black Church at Yale
- National Director of Youth Ministry, CME Church
- Youth Pastor, Israel Metro CME
- Youth Minister, St. Paul AME
- **Education:** Harvard College, Harvard Divinity, Yale Law

# BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

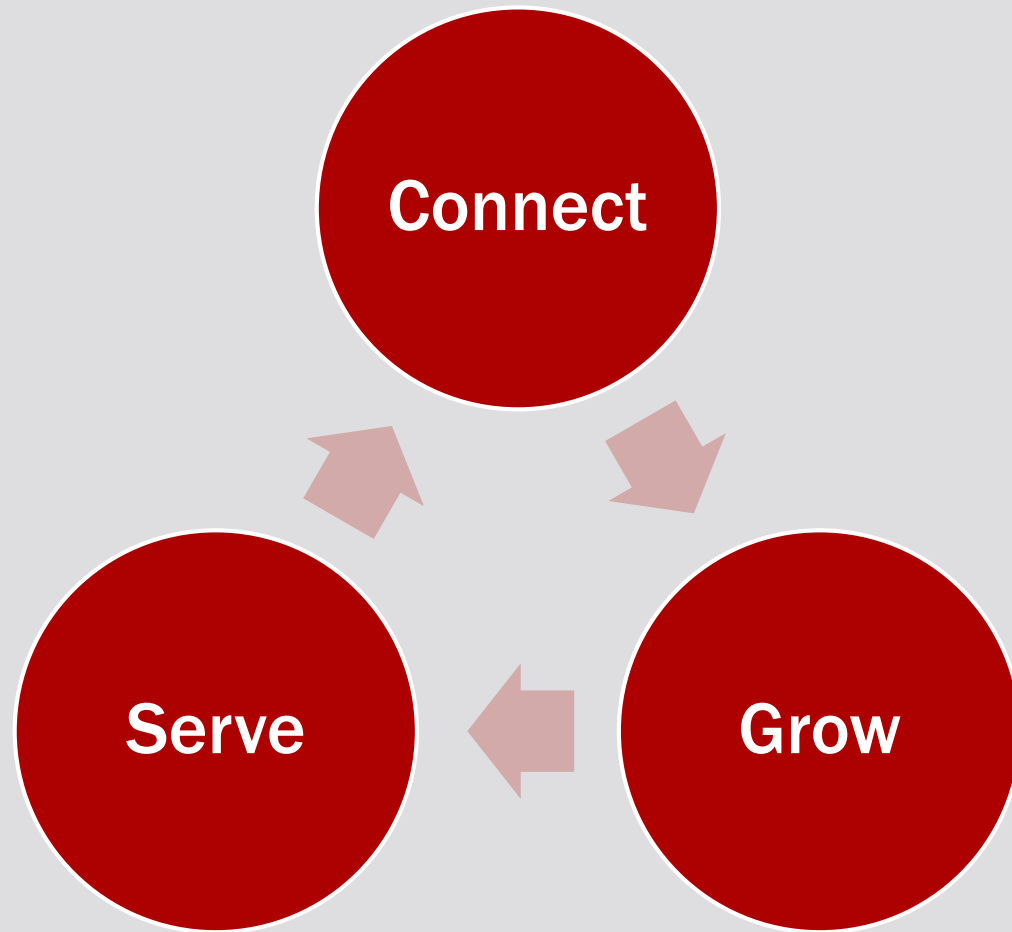
*- Matthew 28:19-20*

# EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT



# DISCIPLESHIP SYSTEM

## ACADEMY OF DISCIPLESHIP



# CME NEW YORK–WASH REGION

## WHERE WE STAND\*

- Sunday School students = 1,394
- Lay members = 19,914
- Ratio = 0.07

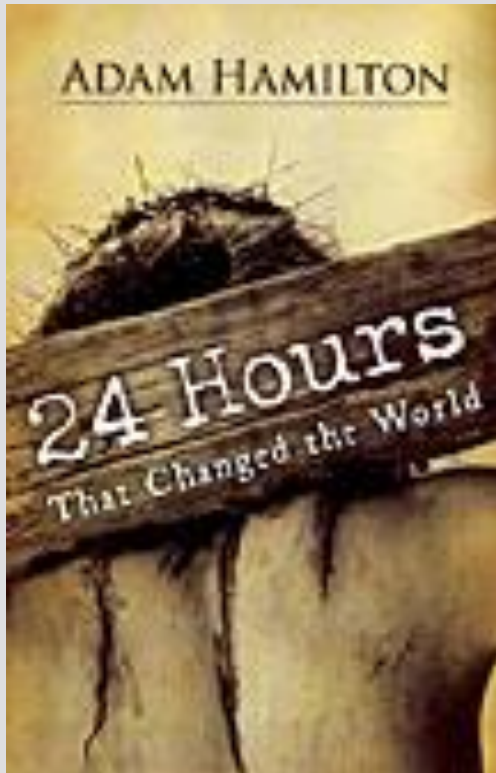
*Are we teaching them?*

*Are we devoted to apostles' teachings?*

*Are we equipping saints for ministry?*

*\*Statistical Report by Rev. Jonathan Dickey, Regional Statistician*

# CME LENTEN STUDY 2016



## Regional and Church-wide Study

- Sermon series based on a book
- Form small groups at church/in homes
- People read book, hear sermon, discuss in groups
- People are engaged and excited, invite others

# 24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

- Author: Adam Hamilton, Pastor of United Methodist Church of the Resurrection, largest and fastest growing UM church
- DVD filmed on location in the Holy Land
- Focuses on events of Holy Week/Easter
- New Testament history
- Theology, including atonement theory
- Accessible to lay readers



# WHO?

- Leaders of the Local Church
- Board of Christian Education
  - Director of Adult Ministry
- Board of Evangelism
- Youth and Young Adults
- Point person for Lenten Study
- Potential Small Group Leaders



# WHO?

## Small Group Leaders

- Exhibit spiritual leadership in small group settings
- Beyond beginner in faith
- Servant Leaders
- Beyond 80/20 rules
- Leaders in training



# WHAT?

- Lenten Study 2016
- Pilot 2-3 groups
- Provide leader training
- 6-7 week study
- Feb 7 – March 27
- After: evaluate, determine whether, how to continue



# WHAT?



- Small groups are
- 6-12 individuals
- Meet weekly
- Study Bible, other Christian teachings
- Pray together
- Fellowship together
- Learn, Grow, Care, Serve, and Expand together

# WHY?

- **Learn** by studying Bible, other Christian teachings
  - “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42)
- **Grow** spiritually, fellowship of believers
  - “Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens the wits of another.” (Proverbs 27:17)

# WHY?

- **Care** for one another through difficult times
  - “Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” (Gal. 6:2)
- **Serve** together in mission and ministry
  - “Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” (1 Peter 4:10)
- **Expand** the Kingdom of God
  - “Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...and teaching them” (Matthew 28:19)

# WHY?

## Theology of Community

- We were made to live in community.
- God models community in the Trinity.
- Jesus modeled small group community with apostles.
- Early Church expanded through small house-churches
- John Wesley encouraged small groups, or Methodist classes, for spiritual growth and accountability.
- Today, many churches utilize small groups for fellowship, discipleship, and evangelism beyond what can be achieved on Sunday morning.

# WHY?

## Do Small Churches Need Small Groups?

- “Small groups in smaller churches provide three basic necessities for...healthy spiritual growth: accountability, forward momentum, missional identity.”
- Biblical model prepares the way for group life...whether membership of 75 or 750 or 7500.”
- “For smaller churches, small groups can bring much needed spiritual momentum, growth, renewal, and rebirth.”
- [www.smallgroups.com/articles/2010/benefits-of-small-groups-in-smaller-churches.html?paging=off](http://www.smallgroups.com/articles/2010/benefits-of-small-groups-in-smaller-churches.html?paging=off)



# WHERE?

- **At church**
  - Sunday school
  - Week day/night
- **In a home**
  - Small group leader or other person can host group in home
- **At community location**
  - Library, Diner, Coffee Shop
- **Unchurched may be more likely to attend group in home or community**



# ACADEMY OF DISCIPLESHIP



- Currently AUMC has 17-20 church-based classes and groups
- For Lent, we are piloting 2-4 home-based small groups
- Based on geography
- [www.Missioninsite.com](http://www.Missioninsite.com)

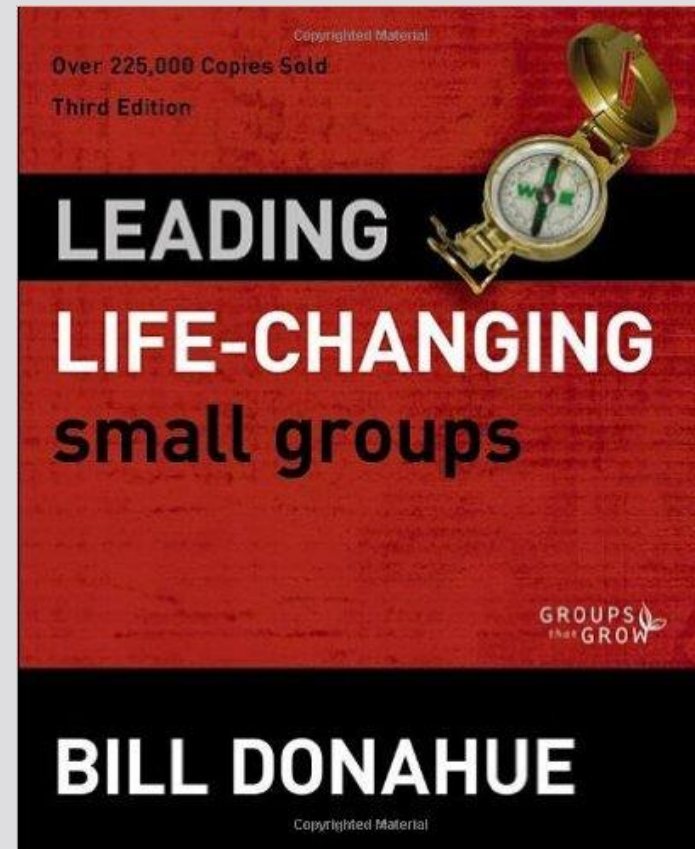
# WHEN?

## TIMELINE

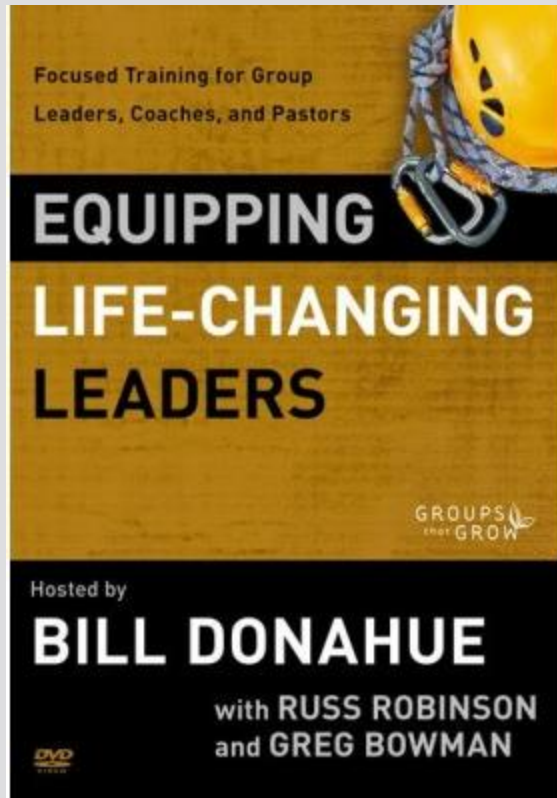
- **December, 2015 – Present Ministry; Identify Leaders**
- **January, 2016 – Small Group Leader Training**
- **February 7, 2016 – Bless/Commission in worship.**
  - **During this week, small groups will have first meeting**
- **Feb 14, 2016 – Lenten Sermon Series begins**
- **March 27, 2016 – Easter Sunday; Lenten Study concludes during Holy Week.**
- **April, 2016 – Following Easter, groups will gather to evaluate and to consider continuing**

# HOW?

- Small group leader training curriculum
- Written by Willow Creek small group director
- Books and DVD
- Apprentice Leader
- Birthing New Groups



# HOW?



- Training curriculum
- Bi-weekly conference calls
- Social media and blog posts
- Speakers on each call, including those with small group experience

# HOW MUCH?

Item	Cost
24 Hours (hardcover)	\$13(8) = \$104
24 Hours (Kindle)*	\$10(8) = \$80
Devotional (optional)	\$7(8) = \$56 or free download
DVD	\$32
Leader Guide	\$8 or free download
Total	\$112 – 200

Cost for a group of 8 people.

\*Based on Amazon.com. All other prices based on Cokesbury.com.

+Free downloads at [www.adamhamilton.org/books/24-hours](http://www.adamhamilton.org/books/24-hours).

# DEVELOPING LEADERS

How do we develop leaders for discipleship?

- Develop leaders in small groups
- Individuals learn God's word
- Become confident in their spiritual knowledge
- Hear God's calling on their lives
- Mentored by other believers
- Small group ministry is leadership development ministry



# BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

*“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,*

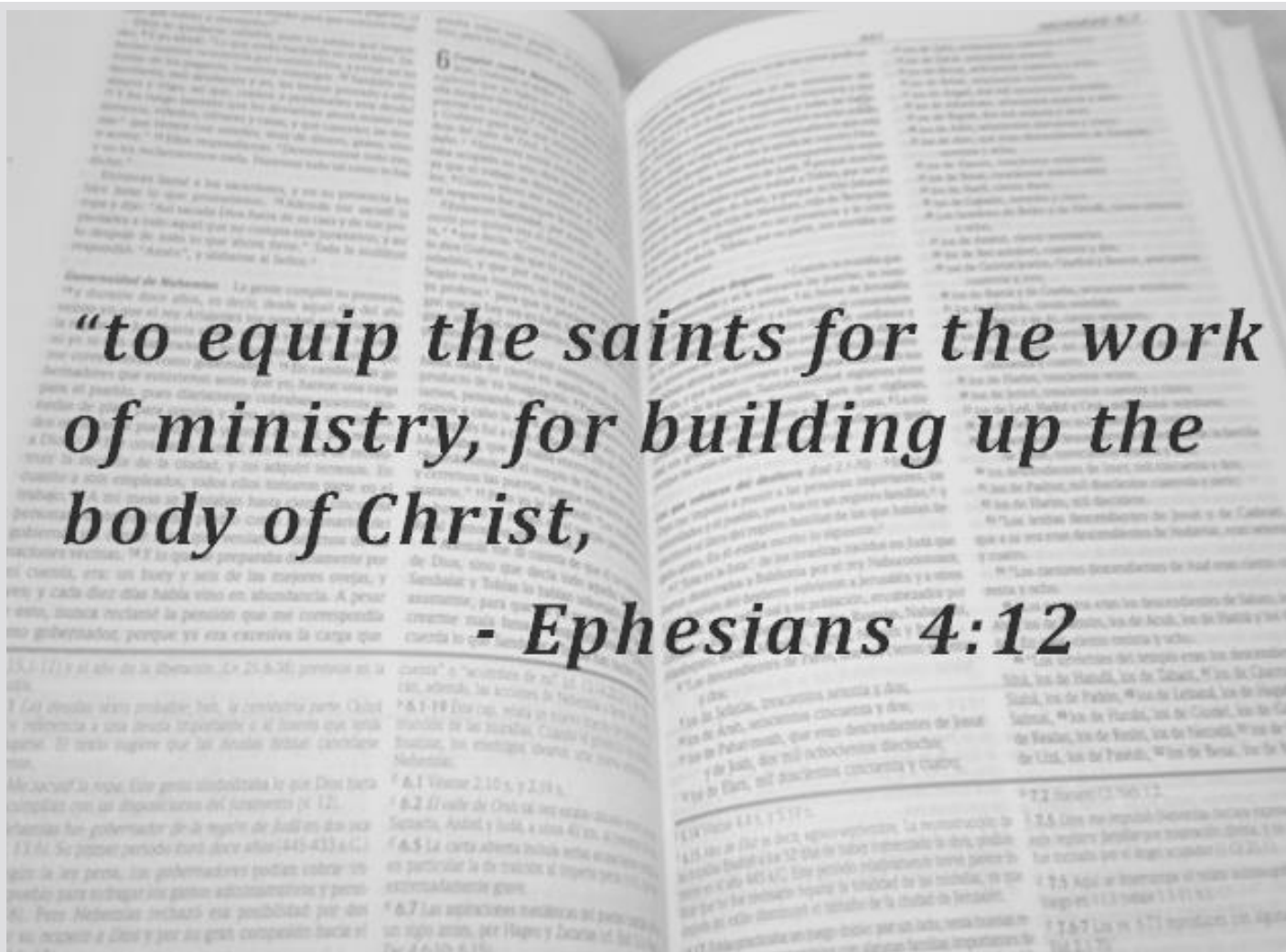
*- Ephesians 4:11*



# BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

*“to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,*

*- Ephesians 4:12*



# BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

*“until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.*

*- Ephesians 4:13*

# RESOURCES FOR LENTEN STUDY 2016

**Seventh Episcopal District Facebook Page**

[www.facebook.com/seventhdistrictcmec](http://www.facebook.com/seventhdistrictcmec)

**Presentations, Blog Posts**

[www.cynthiajohnsonoliver.com](http://www.cynthiajohnsonoliver.com)

***24 Hours that Changed the World***

[www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com)

**Free Downloads, Posters, Resources**

[www.adamhamilton.org/books/24-hours](http://www.adamhamilton.org/books/24-hours)