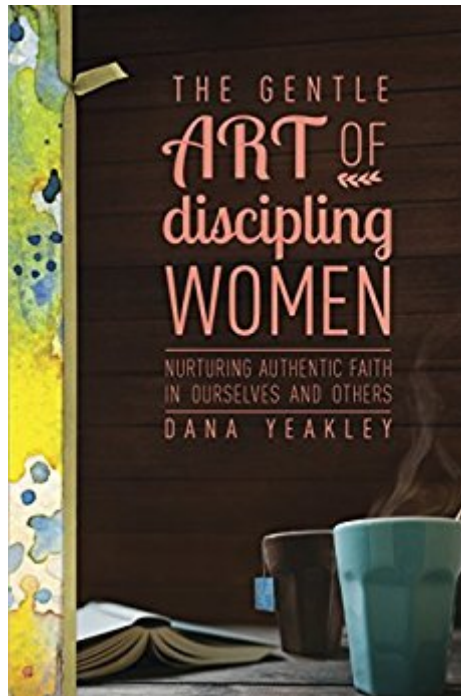


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The Gentle Art Of Discipling Women: Nurturing Authentic Faith In Ourselves And Others



Synopsis

Discipleship is a responsibility of every believer, yet many of us avoid doing it because we don't know where to start. The Gentle Art of Discipling Women provides a framework for discipleship from the mentoring voice of a seasoned discipler. Dana Yeakley walks with you through the foundational principles of who you are in Christ and how you are uniquely equipped to pass along what He has taught you. The book is divided into two parts: Be a Disciple: Four foundational truths (We Are Becoming; We Are Forgiven; We Have Access; We Are Safe) strengthen our confidence so that we can pass along our faith. Make a Disciple: Four questions (How Do We Create the Right Atmosphere? Who Do We Help? What Do We Share? How Does Discipling One-on-One Actually Work?) help us nurture a discipleship relationship. The Gentle Art of Discipling Women will help each woman discover her unique gifting in discipleship through her relationship with God, her personality, and her story.

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Customer Reviews

In *The Gentle Art of Discipling Women*, Dana Yeakley shares a system of discipling women that she has developed through years of experience. While reading this book I learned the difference between mentoring and discipling, ways to connect with women with the purpose of making them disciples of Christ, and helpful tips on how to structure our time together in order to build relationships as well as help the woman grow in her maturity as a Christian. What I found somewhat interesting was the literary structure the author chose. Instead of jumping into why, who, and when of disciple making, she spent the first 4 chapters reviewing foundational truths - our forgiveness by grace, the guarantee of eternity for those who believe, access to God through prayer, and our ongoing sanctification. For women who are buying the book with the intention of discipling a woman who is younger in the faith, it was a strange way to begin. In my opinion, these chapters belong in an appendix titled "Ideas for Your First Meetings" or "Laying the Groundwork." In Chapter 2 and then later in the book, a couple of personal stories felt disconnected from the point the author was trying to make. For example, as she recounts her experience during the Colorado Springs wildfires, it began to sound like she was guaranteeing the physical safety of believers when she stated, "Assurance of our safety is ours if we have entrusted our lives to Christ." Thankfully, she recovered in the following paragraphs by emphasizing ours is an eternal security. Once I began the second section, my interest level rose and I began to see the merits of the book. Chapters 6 & 7 were the most beneficial to me personally.

There are two parts to this book and the first part is important to understand if you are going to disciple others and it is also great for someone to read who is new to understanding who they are in Christ. We are forgiven~redeemed! We are safe in Christ, He will give us peace and joy! We have access to God through prayer, His Word and the Holy Spirit is living inside of us believers. Most important to understand, we are "becoming" all that God desires us to be, we are on a journey with Him to grow in our faith. This is what we need to understand in our own spiritual health, as we walk with Him. Part 2 of the book provides advice on being a mentor and again, scripture to walk you deeper, so you feel empowered and encouraged to understand why we are called to disciple others. Making disciples was God's idea, you see it through the way Jesus walked on earth with his disciples and after His resurrection He appointed them to "go and make disciples" (Matthew 28:19). Our role of a mentor is to point them to Jesus. We are co-laborers with God in the process. The author explains our primary purpose is to come along the side of the one we are mentoring/discipling and share life, prayer, His Word and hope the one we disciple will also disciple someone else. Let me tell you ladies you do not need to be a senior lady to be a mentor, you just

need to be a step ahead of another woman in her walk with Christ. I loved how she describe what discipleship is..."Disciple-making is an art, we need the proper tools and to develop the skills of our craft." She shares how to create a life-giving atmosphere, whom do we help/called to help, what do we share, and how does one on one disciplining work.

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