

## Introduction To Phase IV: Developing New Leaders

WDA is committed to intentional, progressive discipleship. We offer a flexible, transferable approach that is based on the ministry and methods of Jesus, the Master Disciple Builder. By studying Jesus' ministry, WDA discovered five phases of Christian growth. As you begin to use WDA's Phase IV materials, it may be useful to refer to *Disciple Building: A Biblical Framework* or *Maturity Matters* for a summary of this phase. The following is a synopsis.

When a believer progresses to this phase, he is ready to take responsibility for the spiritual development and well-being of others. During this period, Jesus taught His disciples how to live in His Kingdom. In addition, He appointed The Twelve to be apostles, sending them out on their own to preach the Kingdom of God and to minister to people's needs. Mark 3:14-15 summarizes what Jesus did during this phase: "He appointed twelve [designating them apostles] that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons."

This phase actually had two parts. The first involved appointing and instructing His new leaders in Kingdom principles (Phase IV-A: Appointing New Leaders). The second involved Christ creating a series of situations that forced His leaders to reevaluate their expectations of what it meant to follow Him (Phase IV-B: Focusing On Eternal Things). Both then and now, this reevaluation crisis is pivotal. It centers on leaders choosing either the eternal benefits of following Christ or leadership roles that grant them temporal power and success. (*Maturity Matters*, pages 67-68)

For the leader who is part of the development of a new (Phase IV) leader, WDA recommends forming a discipleship group made up of people who have already completed Equipping For Ministry (Phase III). These disciples would have already been able to experience and observe what it means to be "discipled" by a leader, been part of a community of Christians, and have seen and participated in ministry activities. As a result of doing ministry, these disciples will begin to identify people they wish to disciple. The discipleship leader can at this point invite the Phase IV disciples into a group where they will learn and be trained while they begin to take responsibility for the spiritual development and wellbeing of others.

WDA has divided Phase IV: Developing New Leaders into two parts, Phase IV-A: Appointing New Leaders and Phase IV-B: Focusing On Eternal Things. The content for each part is listed below. Some of the books are combined together into separate but related studies. In most cases, you can teach the studies following the book order (1-12).

The Phase IV-A: Appointing New Leaders training consists of *Living For Christ* (which includes *The Sermon On The Mount* and *Growing In Faith*), *Disciple Building: A Biblical Framework with Guided Discussions*, *A Small Groups Manual with Guided Discussions*, *Disciple Building: Life Coaching with Guided Discussions*, *Team Building* (which includes *Spiritual Gifts*), *Spiritual Warfare-II*, *How Emotional Problems Develop with Guided Discussions*, and *Kingdom Growth* which includes *Parables* and *Practical Outreach* (Evangelism-II). There are also Bible Readings for the disciple to use in personal devotions. Phase IV-A is made up of 47 lessons. WDA suggests completing the books in the order listed above. However, you may choose what works best for you in your ministry.

For Phase IV-B: Focusing On Eternal Things, *Disciple Building: A Biblical Framework with Guided Discussions* is used again with three additional Guided Discussions focused on leading a Phase III (Equipping For Ministry) group. The other books in Phase IV-B are *Spiritual Tensions* (which includes *Living In The Tensions* and *Tensions Within Christianity*), *The Role Of Suffering* and *Ministry Principles And Practice* (which includes *Developing A Guided Discussion* and *Ministry Principles-II*), *Living By Faith*. There are also Bible Readings for the disciple to use in personal devotions. Phase IV-B is comprised of 50 lessons. WDA encourages leaders to participate in Restoring Your Heart's *Processing Pain* group experience prior to or during Phase IV-B. The *Processing Pain* experience is 14 lessons in length.

WDA suggests teaching the Phase IV-B studies in the following order. However, you may choose what works best for you in your ministry.

1. Leading a Phase III (Equipping For Ministry) group using *Disciple Building: A Biblical Framework*
2. *Spiritual Tensions*
3. *The Role Of Suffering*
4. *Developing A Guided Discussion*
- 5 *Living By Faith*
6. *Ministry Principles-II*
7. *Processing Pain* (to be completed sometime before or during this phase)

In addition to understanding content, the practical application of learning to become a Life Coach is very important at this phase. A Phase IV-A disciple should form a Phase II (Laying Foundations) group and lead the group through WDA's Cornerstone resources. The Phase IV-B disciple should form a Phase III (Equipping For Ministry) group and lead the group through WDA's Phase III resources.

Online training for Developing New Leaders is available at [WDALeadershipInstitute.com](http://WDALeadershipInstitute.com). For more information about training leaders using an online cohort model, participating in an online group, or understanding more about the Leadership Institute pathway, reach us at [institute@disciplebuilding.org](mailto:institute@disciplebuilding.org).