

The TFT Training Process

Training Faithful Trainers (TFT) is a method of making disciples which is designed for **new believers**. It helps to fulfil Jesus' command, "go and make disciples...baptising them...and teaching them to obey all that I commanded you" (Matt. 28.19-20).

The Three Primary Goals of TFT:

1. **To develop a lifestyle of obedience to Jesus, giving highest priority to sharing the gospel.** The purpose of TFT is not to teach information, but to train people to be obedient to Jesus by sharing the good news and making disciples.
2. **To teach believers how to be disciples and equip them to be disciple makers.** We are not training people to be leaders or followers, but to be trainers (disciple-makers) who will be able to train others to be trainers. This follows Paul's model in 2 Timothy 2.2. We use the most personal means possible, meeting in small, face-to-face groups.
3. **To learn and practice the New Testament church, preparing believers to start new churches.** New Testament churches are small and simple, and they focus on keeping people accountable to obeying Jesus. What we do in TFT training is a model of this kind of church, and if you continue meeting together you can become a new church.

How the Training Process Works:

- Trainers prepare a **People List** of everyone they know, beginning with their family, friends, and acquaintances. This helps them identify people who are far from God so they know **who** needs to hear the gospel message.
- They learn a simple way to present the gospel message and they practice it until they are confident. This way they know **what** to share. Every trainer goes out each week to share the good news with unsaved people from their list.
- TFT consists of an introduction followed by 6 basic lessons. After each lesson, trainers **practice** teaching the lesson to each other until they can teach it confidently. This prepares them to train other trainers.
- When trainers return after the first week, they **report** how they obeyed the Lord and **celebrate** the work that God has done through them. Then they learn Lesson 2 and practice teaching it. Each week, they follow this pattern.
- As people are saved, trainers immediately begin training them the same way. They need not complete their training to start training someone else. This process creates a **new generation of believers** who are equipped the same way.
- After the initial 6 lessons, trainers continue to meet together in the same pattern. They study the book of Mark to learn about Jesus. These trainers form a new church that continues reaching people and training them to do the same.

Session Structure:

- You must keep your training group **small** – 4 to 7 people is a good number. You can train even one person!
- Trainers should meet **every week**, allowing at least 90 minutes for each session. Every session should be divided into three equal parts as follows:
 - **Report & Celebrate** – let everyone share how they have obeyed Jesus (especially witnessing), discuss problems, pray for one another, give thanks to God for what He is doing
 - **Hear & Obey** – listen to God through His Word and set goals for 'following' Jesus to obey what He is teaching
 - **Practise & Pray** – practise training one another, set 'fishing' goals for witnessing and training new disciples, pray for one another for boldness, pray for lost people
- Begin every session by **casting a vision** for reaching the lost, and conclude by **commissioning** your trainers.
- Give a copy of the lesson to your trainers, but only give them **one lesson at a time**. Teach each lesson just as it was taught to you. Use your own personal stories to illustrate the points you are teaching.
- Let the people you are training have 24-hour **access** to you. Give them your contact details at the first session.
- You must work hard to **build confidence** in your trainers so they can share the gospel message boldly! If they need encouragement, send them out two-by-two, or go with them to help them share the gospel.