TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND SHAPING THE PASSION OF THE HEART: A CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR HEART DISCIPLESHIP

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Abstract

Many in the Christian community have concern for the next generation in regard to whether or not it will passionately follow Christ. In response to alarming statistics that have fed the concern, those who disciple have initiated efforts to equip upcoming disciples. These efforts tend to be mostly concerned with the mind and the behavior of the individual. Many experts, however, have argued that cognitive and behavioral approaches for discipleship are not only too heady but insufficient. These experts have presented evidence and arguments that the focus must be on the heart first, which encourages cognitive and behavioral growth. As will be seen in the research compiled in this dissertation, the most effective way for approaching heart discipleship is through effective relationship. Recommendations for effective relationship were researched and compiled into a conceptual prescriptive model.