



Enjoy Training

A DiscipleMaker is an instructor. A trainer, getting others in spiritual shape. Your goal: get them fit, ready to enter the contest for souls, for the right. Let's enjoy the role. (Ever have a fitness instructor? A driving instructor? How is being a DiscipleMaker similar? What's to enjoy, doing it?)

Spiritual Driving Instructor

You started as a passenger in a booster seat, enjoying the view. As a kid you ignored the surrounding cars, the driving conditions. *Dad, are we there yet?* is much as you got involved.

Then something clicks. You get restless. *I want to drive, not be driven!* You study a learner's manual, take the written test. Yay, I'm a driver! Well, a wannabe with a learner's license. Now you need an instructor. Someone among your family and friends, or a professional driving instructor. Both you and your instructor are scared first time, I promise. (Can you imagine yourself as a driving instructor? How does it compare, starting to train a young Christian? It's what *life-on-life* discipling looks like. What must you know, to pass on? What would make you enjoy it?)

At some point you take the road test, showing your proficiency to parallel park and shoulder check. You crawl through the school zone. Miraculously you get a driver's license! Now you'll practice driving till your skills become second nature. (That's the goal for a new Christian, seeing them act like Jesus spiritually. You'll be so proud of them! When did this happen to you? Share it.)

Most drivers stay as drivers. They know how to gauge traffic around them. Respond to all road signs. Anticipate road conditions - ice, congestion - and adjust. They may have a dream: buy a car and drive to Vancouver (or California or Yellowstone Park or Florida). That's it for most. They never become instructors. Same with disciples. They'll stay that way, unless you stretch them to be a DiscipleMaker. (When did you stop being a Disciple and become a DiscipleMaker? Share the process with the one you're discipling, why you enjoy it. It will be helpful to them)

Only a few drivers become driving instructors. A dad teaches his son, a boyfriend his girlfriend. Very few instruct professionally. The analogy fits us. We settle for "drivers" in our churches, disciples. Jesus expects his church to produce DiscipleMakers, *spiritual driving instructors*. He calls on mature Christians to model it. (Think this way. Discover the joy of obedience.)

Most churches aren't producing spiritual driving instructors – they don't even plan to. It's Jesus' default, not theirs. If a driver does well, great! Become a spiritual driving instructor? Not even on the radar. (Is that true in your church? How can you change the culture? Start with yourself, yes)

What's to enjoy? You're obeying your Lord, making disciples. You're helping Christians *be no longer children*. (Eph. 4.14) You're preparing believers to hear the call, get in the fight, enlarge the kingdom. You're a trainer! Enjoy the journey. Delight in the added DiscipleMakers because of you!