

## **LAMPLIGHTERS INTERNATIONAL – DISCIPLE-MAKER TIP #12**

### **TITLE: "LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION"**

In the real estate business, location is often the difference between success and failure. A business located in a busy commercial district with easy access and lots of traffic will have a greater chance of success than one located in a lonely poorly-lit and sparsely populated neighborhood. In baseball, a professional pitcher can often get by with a mediocre fastball if he can *locate* his pitches.

Where you meet can have a big impact on your Bible Study group. Meeting in the center of a restaurant may be a witness for Christ, but it may be noisy and some participants may not want to order breakfast or lunch just to be part of the Bible Study. Meeting in a home with small children who need attention may not be the best place either. However, meeting in a back or side room of a restaurant with the understanding (and agreement of the restaurant's management) that some group members may not be ordering may be a great place to meet. Meeting in a home that is free from distractions can be a great place to meet.

If I am discipling someone one-on-one, I like to meet in a coffee shop or restaurant in a quiet area. If I am meeting with a group, I like to meet in a lunchroom (be sensitive to employees), a conference room or a quiet restaurant. Meeting at a church building may be okay, but it can be an avoidable obstacle when inviting new people to the group.

Location, location, location. Always choose the best place to meet – one free of distractions and free of an abundance of background noise. If you don't feel your present location is working for you, ask the group members what they think. If they agree with you, ask them for suggestions, check out the location(s) personally, recommend the best one to the group, make a decision as a group and move - it is that easy. Don't wait.

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