

Discipleship (Maturity Class) at ROLIM

For the equipping of the saints for the work of service

It was an act of faith on my part when I started ROLIM's Maturity Class. I know with our busy schedule here in Canada, ROLIM members would think twice before registering and attending this class. I was quite surprised however to learn that there are many committed Christians at ROLIM who want to follow and serve God but just don't know how and where to begin. This Maturity Class or what we simply call "Discipleship Training" opened the door for them to be equipped and to be properly motivated to serve. Yes, some of our people are not effectively serving because they are not being properly equipped. The test is in the serving. If they are not serving then there is no equipping. Training equips and enables all of God's people. When properly equipped, each one can take part in effectively serving the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-13

*And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists,
and some as pastors and teachers,*

*for the equipping of the saints for the work of service,
to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of
the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.*

From an intellectual understanding of truth to a life transformed by that truth

Many have met Jesus and become believers. But the crisis of today's church is that so few have gone on to become devoted and dependable disciples of Jesus Christ. Becoming a Christian is only the start. Going on to maturity and becoming an effective disciple is all the rest. We have the vision as a church to take believers on from whatever stage they have reached and grow them into mature and effective disciples of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship is an intentional development of people into Christian disciples through accountability, loving relationships and practical application of God's Word. To break out of this world's "mold" requires that we spend time with those on the same pathway to God. It is necessary therefore to meet together as a group to attain our objectives for discipleship because spiritual growth is dynamic. It is a growing, progressive relationship in 5 areas: *in relationship with God, in relationship with self, in relationship with others, in relationship with the Body of Christ, and in relationship with the work of Christ in the world.*

With our current plan to have the ISOM (International School of Ministry) at ROLIM, the Maturity Class of ROLIM will press forward with the Ministry Class using this curriculum.