Selection

Avoid committing to a discipleship relationship with someone you should just be shepherding. Don't say "yes" just because someone asks you to disciple them. Instead, shepherd them in love and *prayerfully* watch their lives. Without being perfectionistic, consider the following questions:

Go through example of selection criteria for a disciple:

Good		Bad	
Asks questions	Not necessarily good. Could be unwilling to act on what they know. Smokescreen	Complainer	Not necessarily bad
Reads books	*Good sign*	*Man-pleaser*	*Bad sign*
Evangelism	*Good Sign*	Goes home quickly	Not necessarily bad
Obedient	Could be a man pleaser…	*Liar – regarding sin and in other areas*	*Bad sign*
Enthusiastic	Warning: not necessarily a sign of a disciple.	Passive	Not necessarily bad
Humble	False humility	Self-centered	Not necessarily bad, could be redirected
Attender	Maybe for the wrong reason	*Will not Evangelize*	*Bad sign*
Volunteers sharing	May want to be the center of attention	Divisive	Not necessarily bad, could be redirected
Availability	*Probably a good sign. Available to do ministry, follow-up, serving others in the BOC*	Arguer	Not necessarily bad
Honest about their sin	*Good sign, also must be willing to be corrected*	*Will not respond to good discipline*	*Bad sign, point out they are divisive, self-centered whatever…*
"Doer", delivers	*Good sign, we can depend on them to get the job done*	*Poor attendance*	*Bad sign*
Initiative	*Good sign – see availability*	*Chronic complainer*	*Bad sign*

- *Do they ask spiritual questions and respond to good answers?* Or do they only seem want to spend time with you without expressing real interest in spiritual things?

- *Do they take initiative in ministering to others?* Or do they always have to be asked to serve? Are they interested in people, forming relationships with people in the group, etc.?
- *Do they respond properly to God's discipline (through others and directly from God)?* Or do they always have to be corrected by people, agree but don't act, etc.?
- *Do they take challenging steps of faith* (EXAMPLES: financial giving; confessing sin; witnessing; confronting)? Or do they usually stay in their comfort zone?
- *Do they have/make the time to commit to the group?* Or are they chronically preoccupied with other matters (see 2 Tim. 2:4).

Picking the right person is more important than leadership ability.

We should be interested in what people do, not in what they say. Many things that are apparently bad/good just throw us off and do not really determine a good discipleship candidate/attitude.

We will not find someone is all good or all bad, there will be a mix. Be skeptical, but not overly negative on people. Remember it is God who is at work Phil. 2:13; 1 Cor. 3:7