

Discipleship Spotlight Story: Mark Stegink and Mark DeNooyer

Mark Stegink: I've known Mark DeNooyer since 2015 as my discipleship mentor and friend. When I joined Madison church I was looking to expand my faith and knowledge of God, so I started asking for a mentor. I was directed to Mark DeNooyer since discipleship is his full time ministry. And that's how our relationship began. We began meeting one time a week to eat lunch, socialize, and go over the word of God together. Now we do that over the phone with another friend involved. After five years our relationship has prospered from a teacher to student learner to one that is like a brotherhood of brothers who love Jesus. Mark has encouraged and challenged me to get involved in discipleship for four years at The Potter's House along with doing other ministry with Madison's High School youth group. I learn from him and I hope that he learns from me so the relationship continues where we are always on a journey together. Plus in my new role as a parent and a father, I am now getting a perspective on how great God's love is for us. Mark DeNooyer has been a great friend introducing me to Bible Study Fellowship as well. I am blessed to have this man in my life.

Mark DeNooyer: Mark and I met in the summer of 2017. He called me knowing that I was doing 1:1 discipleship full time with Cru. We meet weekly in this formal way going through Bible Study. Mark and I also have done Bible Study Fellowship and small group discipleship at Potter's House Middle School for the last 3 years. So we have encouraged each other to grow in our walk with Christ in these 3 ways. I drive Mark wherever we go so we have much time to connect informally as well. We do life together and call each other if we need to talk.

I have seen Mark grow into a much more committed follower of Christ! Mark has allowed God's Word and God's Spirit transform his life. He is very in tune with his emotions and has helped me to see and experience my emotions as a man. It's been great to watch Mark transition to fatherhood in the last couple of months. He honestly shares where he is struggling and we ask God for his help! So I have seen Mark grow in commitment, humility, and dependency on the Lord.