

Transformational Accountable Discipleship in the Global Methodist Church

One key distinctive of the Global Methodist Church (GMC) is its return to a stronger Wesleyan form of discipleship. The Wesleyan movement began, was spread by, and nurtured through small, accountable, discipleship groups. In fact, if you were not a member of a group, you could not be a member of the larger 'church.' These groups were the primary means for men and women to become more like Jesus as they met weekly to share with one another an update on their life with God. The small group leader would check in with the group members and report back to the church on the state of the member's souls. John Wesley believed that without this relational accountability, transformation would be stalled.

If you are considering joining the GMC, it is prudent – no, essential – that you first read this paragraph about the goal for discipleship and membership in the GMC:

"The goal of transformational discipleship ministry in the Global Methodist Church is to make, develop, and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ through small groups where each person is invited, challenged, supported, and held accountable in living sanctified lives that reflect the practices, character, and mission of Christ." Para. 305

If you are a member of the UMC or other denomination and plan to stay as a member of whatever church comes next, realize that while the GMC might have theological and practical congruence with you, do not vote to join if you are not at least willing to explore accountable discipleship. Are you willing to consider being a part of a small group where you are "invited, challenged, supported, and held accountable in living sanctified lives?"