

MAKING DISCIPLES



THE COMMAND

"And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-20

DEFINITION: DISCIPLE

Secular: One who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another.

Biblical: One who follows, is taught by, is in submission to, and obedient under Jesus Christ, holding firmly to such beliefs at any cost. During the early church, the term "disciple" took on an honorary form, being most frequently utilized for martyrs, signifying that they followed Jesus to the end.



ARE YOU A DISCIPLE?

Are you....

- Taking up your cross?
- Denying yourself daily?
- Pouring yourself out?
- Willing to give up everything?
- Suffering with joy?
- Living sacrificially?
- Following the King?
- Sharing the Gospel?

ARE YOU BEING FILLED?

Are you striving to live your life in a way that makes you an honorable vessel to be used by the king for His service?

Who is your "Paul?" Who is pouring into you and discipling you? Who is challenging you to live for Christ? Who is teaching you how to be a disciple?

TOOLS FOR MAKING A DISCIPLE

- **Faith:** Your faith in Jesus Christ will shine before the world in your witness. Without faith, it is impossible to please God, let alone do ministry.
- **God's Word:** The Scriptures are the ultimate source of truth, and they proclaim the only way for man to find salvation and relationship with God.
- **The Church:** The Church is the family of God on earth, and the backbone of ministry to the lost of this world.
- **Prayer:** A constant line of communication with God through which God will provide all that we need to complete the task of ministry given to us.

MATTHEW 16:24-27

"Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

THE COST OF MAKING DISCIPLES

- Passion Driven Work: The disciple-maker is driven by a passion-filled love to serve their Savior. This passion drives them to fully committed ministry.
- Messy Hands: Doing ministry involves meeting a lost and sinful world where they are at. Sharing the Gospel is "messy" work. It involves being intentional, suffering, and going beyond our comfort zone.
- Radical Obedience: Making disciples requires radical obedience to God, to His Word, and to the promptings and direction of the Holy Spirit. Radical obedience is not wild or out of control, rather it clings to God's Word in every way.
- Life-long Commitment: There is no retirement for the disciple-maker. Jesus continued to spread the message of His Kingdom until He was put to death. His disciples did the same. As long as God has give us breath, we are to follow His example.

MULTIPLICATION, NOT REPLICATION

- Believers are required to make disciples, it is not an option, it is a command. Jesus' final command to His disciples was to share the Gospel and that command applies to believers today.
- Believers must make disciples who make disciples. Evangelism must be followed-up with discipling new believers and sending them out.
- Believers must engage impossible challenges. The Holy Spirit will often call the believer to take on tasks which are impossible in human strength. Faith in the power and sovereignty of God is required to accomplish the mission.
- Believers must pray and ask the Holy Spirit to move powerfully. All ministry is the task of the Holy Spirit and falls under His control. He has been sent into the world to draw sinners to the Father, and He will move in power when believers call on Him.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP - THE DISCIPLESHIP ROAD

- Love people
- Serve those around you
- Share the Gospel
- Live worthy of your calling
- Reflect all glory to God
- Tell your story of sanctification
- Always speak truth in love
- Give glory to God in all things