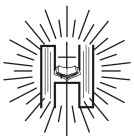


Therefore Go, and Make Disciples

“Therefore Go to all the nations, and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the son, and the Holy Spirit. Teaching to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age.” — **Matthew 28:19-20**



GivethemHeaven.org/Make-Disciples

What is Biblical Discipleship?

Using scripture as a model for relational and intentional discipleship, we see how Christ intentionally used small groups to disciple and teach. We can also observe and apply what Christ meant when he said "Therefore Go, and make disciples..." Through this we learn how to multiply God's Kingdom and share the life-changing reality of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 4:19

"And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

1 Corinthians 11:1

"Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

Matthew 6:33

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 4:4

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

Luke 9:23-24

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it."

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Philippians 2:1-5

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

John 17:4

I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.

1 Timothy 4:7-8

Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; 8 for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

"And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia."

John 14:21

"Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

John 15:5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Acts 1:8

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

2 Timothy 2:2

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

Are we growing to look more like Christ?

How do I know?

These scriptures are key in understanding God's plan for us and living out what Christ modeled for us and called us to. Over your time gathered together as a discipleship group, commit to meditating, memorizing and reciting these to each other before you end your meet-up.

Take some time and read each scripture again and self-evaluate how you are doing in each area. (Not great is a 0 and off the charts is a 10)

Spiritual Path Assessment

Who are you?

Our Identity in Christ: A forgiven son or daughter of God.

Romans 8:1-2

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.

Romans 3:23-24

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here!

My Story in Christ: "I once was, but God, and Now."

Where are you?

1. Discovering God. His Word, Character and Promises.
2. Developing Relationships with Jesus and in community
3. Deploying to share the hope you have, the life-changing reality of Jesus and making disciples in the truth of God's Word and His spirit

How can I help you take the next step?

- Leaning into God's Word and Prayer, understanding what it means to have a relationship with Christ and to submit daily to the Spirit.
- Following in Christ's steps, loving God, loving others, baptized and living in community with God and with others, serving in ministry, and growing in a small group.
- Growing in faith in all areas of life. Worship, Word, Prayer, Community, Giving, Serving and Living on Mission.
- Deploying into action for ministry impact and servant leadership as a disciple-maker, small group and ministry leader, eldership, missionary, or church planter. At home first, church, neighbor, community, nation, and world.

Go through the list of scripture in the beginning of this guide and ask God to reveal to you where you are in living out what HE called us to do and what Jesus and the disciples modeled for us. Share your self-evaluation with a friend, spouse, your mentor or disciplemaker.

Observation & Application

What can we examine and apply from examples and context of how Jesus disciplined?

- He invested in two or three people at a time. And mainly twelve over three years.
- He had a limited timeline and duration of focus.
- He focused on the Scriptures and on specific topics.
- He used questions, answers and dialogue.
- Discipleship occurred “as they were going.”
- Their minds and hearts were opened.
- He was personal and powerful.
- They experienced real life-change and went and told others.

Jesus modeled for us is a reproducible application for small group discipleship. And specifically he shows us a way to apply both knowledge and action through discipleship.

Discipleship Groups

The group will be composed of three people—one will serve as the coordinator/disciplemaker who invites and receives commitments from two or three others. Some groups have had four persons, however, the larger the group, the more complicated the coordination & communication and the longer the discussion session.

The coordinator arranges the time and place for meetings. If possible, meet in someone’s home. However, any place will work—a restaurant, someone’s office or work space.

1. **Forming Groups:** Composed of all men or all women allowing for one-on-one accountability, relationship and gathering regularly together.
2. **Duration of Two rounds of three months:** Gathering weekly or bi-weekly, starting with an initial overview and self-evaluation before multiplying the original three disciples into their own groups of three.
3. **Content:** Read through New Testament books, see reading list. In the first three months, read: 1 John, 1 Peter, James, Ephesians, Mark. In the second cycle, read Acts. Detailed reading plan is attached.

Weekly Devotional and Bible Focus Guide

As we spend time daily God's Word, He is transforming us. He does this as we *read, examine, apply* and then *pray through* the scriptures, passages or books of the Bible. Talk with Him. Ask Him to show you a great and many things, to let you see the truth.

Get the most out of your time by journaling *what stood out to you, what area of scripture is speaking directly to you, and also how might you apply it, how might this help you and others walk closely with God*, and ultimately to continue the process of learning what it means die to our old-self and look more like Christ, and ultimately to share Him with others. Remember, it's not about perfection. It's about direction.

As this becomes a daily practice you will want to share what you learned, what you are ready and what God is teaching you with others. This is a crucial practice of disciples of Jesus. Let's get started.

The first question is meant to be more subjective so the disciple maker can gauge the disciple (new believer, change in church, previous bible knowledge...etc.) spiritual maturity and pray about how to best move forward.

- 1. What has God been speaking to you from this text?**
- 2. What is the main message or big picture to this scripture?**
- 3. What did you hear it say about God?**
What does it teach us about God?
- 4. What does this scripture say about man?**
- 5. What does it say you need to obey?**

Discipleship Group Goals

1. The objective is *not* to have a Bible study as such. **Our goal is to read the Bible in order to hear the voice of God as He guides each of us in being conformed into the image of Jesus.** The discipleship sessions allow us to grow in gathering, encouragement in the Word and prayer and living out what it means to be a follower of Christ; reading and applying Scripture, praying for one another, serving God in ministry together, and also to share the life-changing reality of Jesus Christ with those who do not yet know Him and also to share our story “I Once was. But God. And Now.”
2. **Discipleship groups will commit to meeting for approximately six months. Recommended two rounds of three months. At the conclusion of the first three months, each disciple will begin to pray for two-three other people that they can guide through the same reading plan they have just completed.** The original group will continue meeting and begin reading Romans and Philippians and will discuss the progress of their discipleship groups in what is effectively a coaching session.
3. **At the conclusion of the final month, the original group multiplies so each individual can pick up their own team to walk through the process.** The reason for this is that each person will be involved in two reading cycles at the same time. Our objective is to be multiplying disciples and not merely a small huddle of friends but to intentionally invest in a movement of multiplying God’s Kingdom.
4. **The primary focus is developing the consistent practice of Christian discipline, allowing God to transform our lives into the image of Jesus.** The initial teaching domain is the affective domain—feelings, attitudes, and values. If we can work together to get through this process it will help others fall in love with God, they will seek the other dimensions of knowing God, His Scripture, the doctrines of the faith, etc. They will seek to introduce others to the Lord and engage them in the discipling process.

Before the 3 or 4 commit, have each person pray about what the end goal is, to train and equip for the goal of disciple making, that at the end of the six months they will be ready to go and begin discipling 3 people each. To be *sent* on mission for Christ.

Sample Starter Scripture Plan

(Note: other Biblical discipleship content can be used here. The key focus is scripture and modeling what Christ taught as well as the Apostle Paul and early church discipleship.)

Each person reads the assigned scriptures multiple times daily during the week. Then, once a week, the group will meet to discuss the text and the assigned person will share.

This process will take 12 weeks to work through four key New Testament letters and the Gospel of Mark. Each week, read through the scripture multiple times and write down in a journal or notebook about how God may be using the passage to lead you through a problem area of your life or what the scripture is saying to you.

Week 1: 1 John 1:1-3:10

Week 2: 1 John 3:11-5:21

Week 3: 1 Peter 1-3

Week 4: 1 Peter 4-5

Week 5: James 1-2

Week 6: James 3-5

Week 7: Ephesians 1-3

Week 8: Ephesians 4-6

Week 9: Mark 1:1-4:41

Week 10: Mark 5:1-8:38

Week 11: Mark 9:1-12:44

Week 12: Mark 13:1-16:8

A model of a scripture layout follows at the link below. The layout is designed to allow participants to note observations and questions in the space provided beside each column. Read the section each day as specified, concluding with prayer and praise.

We will meet each week to discuss our findings and observations regarding the text we have just completed and pray for and with one another.

Group Meeting Outline - Example

Check-in & Pray Together

- 10-15 minutes
 - One word check-in, "How are you doing today?" must be honest.
 - Then one thing you are thankful for.
- Pray: for one another, for the progress in this discipleship, for those on your fishing list, and those for potential discipleship as you progress.

Weekly Scripture Reading & Applied Observation

One person each week will share from Scripture learnings about 10 minutes in length. Disciplemaker leader models this for the first three meetings, then each disciple takes a turn to share each week.

- Apply scripture and learnings & set goals:
- Discern action items and next steps:
 - Today I will apply this: (This is where Spiritual Maturity topics and questions happen) Take time to dig into God's Word or specific material and pray through what the Bible provides.
 - Next week I will focus on growing in _____, Next month I'd like to be here _____.
 - Cast Vision for God's plan for us to stay the course in following Christ's model to make disciples, to share our story and the life-changing reality of Jesus with those who do not yet know Him.
- Commit each week to the goal of making us/them fishers of men. Check fishing list.
- Commission each week with prayer in the power of the Holy Spirit to be bold, intentional and obedient to spend time with God, in the Word and sharing your faith in Christ.

Core Discipleship Scripture Sharing

- Bible & Scripture Memory Focus
 - Provided core Biblical Discipleship scripture
- Memorize and recite key disciple pathway scripture that ties into the week reading. One each week.

Encouragement & Accountability

- How did you see God working through your obedience this week?
- Celebrate their obedience, or STOP and pray for the lack of effort.