



DISCIPLE
Follow Me As I Follow
Part 3: Making Disciples
Sermon Small Group Notes
Speaker: Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
 1. one section of questions
 2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

INTRODUCTION

The final words of Christ before he ascended to heaven;

Matthew 28:18

*Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ **Therefore, go and make disciples** of all the nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to*

obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

I. Defining Terms

- a. **Discipleship** = intentional influence. *Discipleship is not a program, but a life of sincerely endeavoring to follow Jesus, then leveraging your time, talent and influence to help others do the same.*
- b. **Apprenticing** = selecting, modeling and coaching for the purpose of replacing yourself.

Corinthians 11:1

“Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ”

II. Jesus approach:

- a. He began with succession in mind.
- b. He handpicked those to whom he would entrust his mission. He didn't ask for volunteers
- c. He rarely did ministry alone
- d. He gave his disciples opportunities to do ministry alone then they would debrief.

Luke 9:10

When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida,

III. Myth Busters

Ephesians 4:11-13

*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² **to equip** his people for the work of the **ministry**, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and **become mature**, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

- a. The myth of mentoring: *“my pastor's job is to minister to me and meet my spiritual needs ”*
- b. The myth of ministry: *“I've got too many weakness and faults, I'm not ready to be used by God”*
- c. The myth of maturity: *“I shouldn't minister until I reach an approved level of maturity”*

IV. Remove the excuses

“but I'm not an expert, I don't know all the verses or have all the answers!”

- a. You may never feel like you are adequately prepared to disciple someone else.
- b. You will never feel like you are adequately prepared to apprentice another leader.
- c. You are not responsible for: Knowing everything there is to know about it all. Knowing more than everyone else or more than your mentors.
- d. Recognize your responsibility for passing along what you do know to somebody else.
- e. Your responsibility is to empty your cup!

V. Application

- a. Prayerfully consider who God is giving you influence with and who it is you need to disciple
- b. Intentionally invest your time and resources in the process
- c. Keep it simple, remember your “MED’s”
 1. **Model** = here’s what I do
 2. **Explain** = here’s why I do it
 3. **Demonstrate** = here’s how I do it

2 Timothy 2:1-2

You then, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things you have learned from me, in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT = Reproduce yourself!

“Success is not measured by what you accomplish. Success is measured by whether or not you leave what you’ve accomplished in capable hands”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What would you like your final words to be?
2. How would you define discipleship?
3. Can you name at least one person you are disciplining, while at work, at home, while having fun?
4. Why is it hard for us to want to see others succeed, even beyond our own accomplishments?
5. What myths are stopping you from making disciples?
6. What God given gift do you have that can be used to make disciples?

- 7. What excuses are you using to justify neglecting the great commission and making disciples?**
- 8. Who has God given you to influence and have you begun to reproduce yourself, in them?**
- 9. What can you do this week to begin a life of making disciples and how can this group hold you accountable to it?**