

The Message Gathering

Destined To Disciple

Session 1: Introduction To Discipleship

Discipleship Is Not **A** Program In The Church - It Is **The** Program Of The Church.

Disciple Defined:

Strong's Concordance: *a learner, a student, a pupil*

Discipleship Defined:

Merriam Webster: *one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another.*

Discipleship Is . . .

God's Divine Directive For Every Believer, To Expand His Kingdom.

The Doctrine of Discipleship

The Declaration

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The Direction

Luke 24:45-49 (NIV)

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

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."

Then Paul The Apostle Tells Us In . . .

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (NIV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

The Dependence

John 15:4-5,8,16a (NIV)

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. . . .⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. . . .¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last.

99% Of All Believers Believe That We Are Individually Called To Make Disciples.

95% Of All Believers Never Actually Make Another Disciple In Their Entire Lifetime.

There Is Only One Simple Step To Divine Discipleship:

When You Get Saved, You Recognize That Jesus Christ
Is Not Only Your SAVIOR, But He Is Your LORD!

Three Realities In The Life Of Every True Believer:

1. You Continually Surrender Your Will
2. You Will Faithfully Serve His Purpose
3. You Willingly Suffer For The Good Of Others

Discipleship Is Not A Program Of The Church - It Is THE Program Of The Church!

Today's Statement Of Truth . . .

Every Single Soul Saved By The Sacrifice And Grace
Of Jesus Christ Is Destined To Disciple Others In His Name.

Discussion Questions:

- Today, What One Truth Or Statement Impacted You Most?
- Of The Doctrine Of Discipleship - The Declaration, The Direction, Or The Dependence, Which One Are You Doing Best At, And Which One Needs The Most Work?
- As A Group Discuss The Difference Between Jesus Being Your Savior Vs Jesus Being Your Lord And The Repercussions Of This Truth.
- Of The Three Realities Of Every True Believer, Living Surrendered, Living As A Servant, or Living Willing To Suffer, Which One Are You Best At And Which One Needs The Most Work - And Why?
- How Many People Have You Personally Discipled From Unsaved To Saved,
- And Then Helped Them To Disciple Someone Else From Unsaved To Saved?
- From Today's Gathering, What Is The Most Important Take Away For You Personally?