



WHAT IS DISCIPLING?

evangelizing



the people:
Christians are called to evangelize to non-Christians...



the goal:
...with the goal that they will come to faith in Christ.

discipling



the people:
Christians are called to disciple other Christians...



the goal:
...with the goal that they will grow in spiritual maturity and make more disciples.

“
discipling

is deliberately
doing

spiritual good

*to someone so that
he or she will be*

**more like
Christ**

mark deaver¹

”

“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 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.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

Ephesians 4:11-16



THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLING

Spiritual Growth

“Just as a new mother needs to take care of her baby, a disciple-maker who helps a spiritually dead person come to faith needs to help that spiritual infant grow up... True disciple-makers do all we can to guide those we disciple to safety and maturity.”

Jim Putman²



Fellowship

“We need a community of fellow disciples who can help us learn to live a life transformed by the Holy Spirit... Without a community in which we can learn, practice, fail and eventually move out as agents of change, we are left without a secure foundation.”

Jeffrey Arnold³



Guidance

“...we who choose to pursue discipleship need something else: an example to follow - a living, walking, talking disciple of Jesus Christ. We must have someone to guide us along the way, someone to set some footprints in the sand of the Christian life for us to follow, someone to hold us to those footprints.”

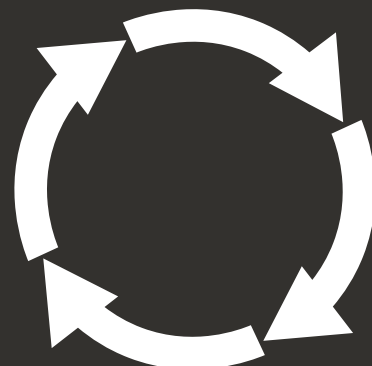
Robby Gallaty⁴



Making Disciple Makers

“The core question of effectiveness - the question that ultimately matters - is whether the people who are getting saved are being conformed to the likeness of Christ. Are we making mature disciples of Jesus who are not only able to withstand the culture but are also making disciples of Jesus themselves?”

Jim Putman and Bobby Harrington⁵





OBEYING WHAT JESUS COMMANDED

“If you love me, keep my commands.”

John 14:15

“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.”

Matthew 28:19-20

The Commands of Jesus⁶

you must be born again

John 3:3-7

repent

Matthew 4:17, 12:41; Luke 5:32, 13:3-5

come to me

Matthew 11:28; John 5:40, 6:35, 7:37, 11:43-44

believe in me

John 12:36, 14:1, 14:11, 20:27

love me

Matthew 10:37; John 8:42

listen to me

Mark 7:14; Luke 8:8, 8:18, 10:38-42

abide in me

John 8:31-32, 15:4, 15:9

take up your cross and follow me

Matthew 16:24-25; Luke 9:23

rejoice and leap for joy

Luke 6:22-23, 10:19-20

worship God in spirit and truth

John 4:23-24; Matthew 4:10

humble yourself by making war on pride

Matthew 23:12; Luke 18:13

love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength

Mark 12:29-30; Luke 11:42

fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell

Matthew 10:28

always pray and do not lose heart

Matthew 5:44, 6:6-9, 9:38; Luke 11:13, 18:1; John 14:13, 16:24

do not be anxious about the threats of man

Matthew 10:18-19, 10:24-31

do the will of my Father who is in heaven -

be transformed by trusting Jesus

Mark 3:35; Luke 11:28

do the will of my Father who is in heaven -

be justified by trusting Jesus

Matthew 7:21, 19:17

do not be anxious about the necessities of daily life

Mark 6:25, 6:34; Luke 12:32

OBEYING WHAT JESUS COMMANDED



your righteousness must exceed that of the Pharisees,
for every healthy tree bears good fruit
Matthew 5:8, 5:28-30, 7:17

love your enemies - do good to those who hate you, give to the one who asks
Matthew 5:47, 18:21-22; Luke 6:27

love your enemies - to show that you are children of God
Matthew 5:44-45; Luke 6:29-36

strive to enter through the narrow door,
for you are already in the Kingdom's power
Mark 10:15

humble yourself in childlikeness, servanthood, and brokenhearted boldness
Matthew 18:3-4; Luke 22:26

love your neighbor as yourself and as Jesus loved us
Matthew 7:12; Luke 10:29; John 13:34-35

lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven - "it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom"
Luke 12:32-34

your righteousness must exceed that of the Pharisees,
for it was hypocritical and ugly
Matthew 5:8, 5:20, 7:21-23, 23:27-28

love your enemies - lead them to the truth
Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:27-34; John 17:17

do not be angry - trust God's providence
Matthew 5:21-22

strive to enter through the narrow door,
for Jesus fulfills the New Covenant
Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 22:20

love your neighbor as yourself,
for this is the Law and the Prophets
Matthew 7:12, 22:36-40

lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven - by giving sacrificially and generously
Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 16:10-12

do not take an oath - cherish the truth and speak it simply
Matthew 5:33-37

your righteousness must exceed that of the Pharisees,
clean the inside of the cup
Matthew 16:6, 23:4, 23:24-26

love your enemies - pray for those who abuse you
Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28, 23:34

do not be angry - embrace mercy and forgiveness
Matthew 7:5, 18:21-22

strive to enter through the narrow door,
for all of life is war
Luke 13:23-24

love your neighbor with the same commitment you have to your own well-being
Matthew 22:39

lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven - and increase your joy in Jesus
Luke 16:10-12, 18:24-25

do not take an oath - let what you say be simply "yes" or "no"
Matthew 5:36-37, 26:63-64



OBEYING WHAT JESUS COMMANDED

what God has joined together let no man separate -
for marriage mirrors God's covenant with us
Matthew 19:4-6; Isaiah 54:5

what God has joined together let no man separate -
for whoever divorces and marries another commits adultery
Mark 10:11-12; Luke 16:18

what God has joined together let no man separate -
one man, one woman, by grace, till death
Matthew 19:10-12

render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's -
and to God the things that are God's
Matthew 22:15-21

render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's -
as an act of rendering to God what is God's
Matthew 22:15-21

do this in remembrance of me -
for I will build my church
Matthew 16:15-18, 28:19; Luke 24:49

do this in remembrance of me -
baptize disciples and eat the Lord's Supper
Matthew 18:15-17; Luke 22:15-20

let your light shine before others -
that they may glorify your Father who is in heaven
Matthew 5:13-16; Mark 9:50

let your light shine before others -
the joyful sacrifice of love in suffering
Matthew 5:11-16

make disciples of all nations -
for all authority belongs to Jesus
Matthew 9:37-38, 28:18-20; John 20:21

make disciples of all nations -
for the mission cannot fail
Matthew 8:11-12; Luke 21:12-13, 21:24

“

Dave Earley⁷

...true disciples obey ALL of Jesus' commands,
even the hard ones.

”



CREATING DISCIPLE MAKERS

“ 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**. ”

“**me**” - discipler

“**you**” - disciple

“**reliable people**” - disciple’s disciples

“**others**” - disciple’s disciples’ disciples

2 Timothy 2:2

The Stages of Disciple Makers

1

Unbeliever

At this stage, hopefully an unbeliever’s friend(s) are sharing the gospel with them and praying for their salvation.

2

Christian

Once an unbeliever trusts in Jesus for salvation and repents of their sinful lifestyle, they are saved from their sin.

3

Disciple

Even though this person is now saved from their sin, they do not know much about following Jesus. They need to be mentored by a more experienced Christian and taught to obey the commands of Jesus.

4

Disciple-Maker

As they are being disciplined by this more spiritually mature follower of Jesus, they will come to a point where they are equipped to disciple or mentor other recent converts.

“I find that if you fail to consistently remind your faithful disciples of the big picture of multiplying their lives into faithful disciples, they will lose focus and get sidetracked. It is not enough to get them to minister effectively. The task is not completed until they are multiplying by making disciples who are making disciples.”

Dave Earley⁸



ADDITION VS MULTIPLICATION

Rather than making “Christians” we are called to make “disciples” (Matthew 28:19). Many Christians lead someone to Christ and then abandon them, leaving this new believer to figure out how to follow Jesus by themselves. The example that Jesus gave us is much different. Jesus made disciples, not converts. Jesus taught, lived alongside of, and developed His followers to become spiritually mature. Ultimately, these followers of Jesus were trained to go make disciples who would go make disciples and so on. Jesus’ model of discipleship creates exponential growth: the more disciples are trained, the more people are spreading the gospel. Rather than being satisfied with converts, we should strive to make disciples who are making disciples.

**evangelism leads people to Christ,
discipleship equips others to lead people to Christ**

