

# 1 & 2 TIMOTHY

BE A DISCIPLE | MAKE DISCIPLES

## Deacons

### PASSAGES

1 Timothy 3:8-13, Acts 6-7

### PREPARE (MC LEADER)

1. Before leading your group into studying the passage, take some time to study and pray through the passages yourself.
2. Consider these questions as you engage with the passages that you will discuss with your MC.
  - What do these passages tell me about discipleship?
  - What do these passages tell me about how I am to respond?
  - What do these passages confront in my thinking in regards to discipleship?
  - How might I better accept and entrust my mind, will, and emotions to these principles?

### DISCUSS (GROUP)

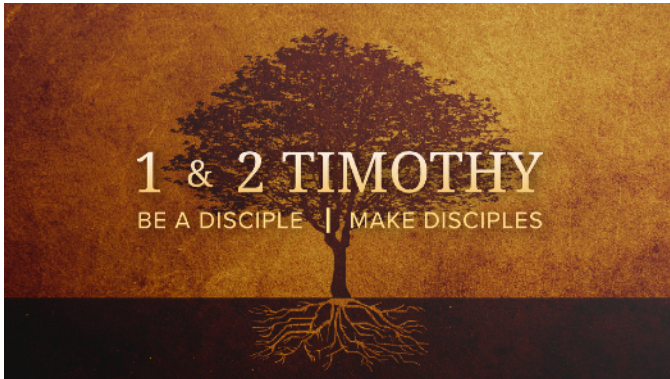
1. Review the main principle from the central teaching. (Support with a few key verses)
2. Open up for discussion, questions, or comments about the central teaching.
3. Consider these discussion leading questions to help your MC engage with the main principles presented in the central teaching.
  - When evaluating your own life motivations, is humble service to the mission of the family of God your primary aim?
  - What aspirations in your life need to be reevaluated in light of this higher calling?
  - What steps do you need to take in order to more fully pursue the high calling of serving the family of God as a deacon or elder?
  - How might your missional community prioritize and better equip you to pursue this calling?

### APPLY (GROUP)

1. Share your own personal reflections/convictions related to accepting these propositions about being and making disciples.

2. Lead others in recognizing their personal struggles with considering and accepting what God is saying in regards to being and making disciples. The point here is to spur on some thinking/discussion that will allow the Holy Spirit to bring about some conviction.
3. Discuss action steps that might need to be taken as individuals and as an MC. Be as practical as possible and consider ways to both encourage each other (pray, text, call, etc) and also hold each other accountable to the actions steps (next week follow-up, etc).

## PRESENTATION SLIDES



**PRINCIPLE 1**

An effective discipleship community has leaders that protect the community from any challenge to the pure gospel.

**PRINCIPLE 2**

An effective discipleship community has leaders who model faithfulness in the charge of reproducing gospel living in others

**PRINCIPLE 3**

An effective discipleship community has a culture of prayer that is boldly led by men and supportively engaged in by women

**PRINCIPLE 4**

An effective discipleship community is led by faithful, mature men who are able to lead others into maturity

**1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13**

<sup>8</sup>Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup>They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup>And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. <sup>11</sup>Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup>Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. <sup>13</sup>For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

### 1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13

<sup>8</sup> Deacons likewise must be ...

#### *diakonos*

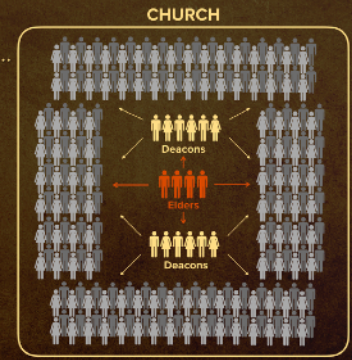
servant, minister, attendant

#### Philippians 1:1

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

### 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7

<sup>8</sup> Deacons likewise must be...



### 1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

Sober minded  
 Self controlled  
 Not a drunkard  
 Not a lover of money  
 Able to teach  
 Not be a recent convert  
 Above reproach  
 Faithful husband  
 Manage his own household well  
 Well thought of by outsiders

### 1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13

Dignified  
 Not double tongued  
 Not addicted to much wine  
 Not greedy for dishonest gain  
 Hold the mystery of the faith  
 Be tested first  
 Blameless  
 Faithful husband  
 Manage their household well  
 Good standing for themselves

### Acts 6:1-5

<sup>1</sup> Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup> And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup> But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

### Acts 6:1-5

<sup>5</sup> And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.

### Acts 6:1-5

<sup>5</sup> And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose **Stephen**, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.

#### Acts 6:8, 10, 15

<sup>8</sup> And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.

<sup>10</sup> But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.

<sup>15</sup> ...all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

### Acts 6:1-5

<sup>5</sup> And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and **Philip**, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.

#### Acts 8:5

<sup>5</sup> Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.

#### Acts 21:8

<sup>8</sup> On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.

## DISCIPLESHIP APPLICATION

*the marks of faithful gospel living must be the aim of all believers*

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**1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13**

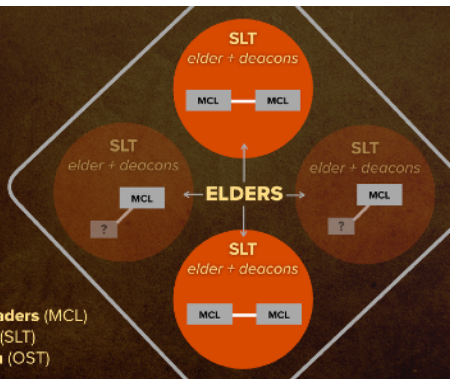
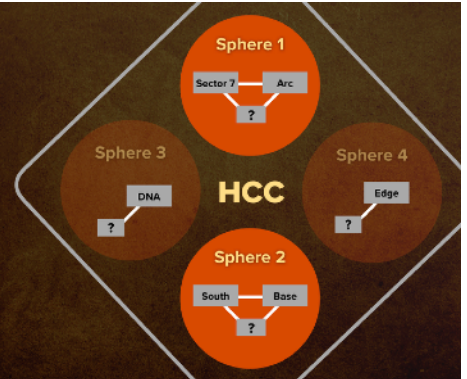
...Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things...

**gynaikas**  
women, wives

**Romans 16:1**  
<sup>1</sup> I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant (*diakonos* = deaconess) of the church at Cenchræe...

**PRINCIPLE 4**

An effective discipleship community needs faithful, mature men and women who are able and willing to assist the elders in leading the church toward gospel living.



**DISCIPLESHIP APPLICATION**

*a sacrificial, selfless, and humble attitude is what propels the family of God into His mission*

1. When evaluating your own life motivations, is humble service to the mission of the family of God your primary aim?
2. What aspirations in your life need to be reevaluated in light of this higher calling?
3. What steps do you need to take in order to more fully pursue the high calling of serving the family of God as a deacon or elder?