

A Summer To Remember: Before You Lead

July 26, 2026

“If you are leading and no one is following you, you’re just taking a walk.” - John Maxwell

Leadership may influence people, but discipleship transforms people.

DISCIPLESHIP

Matthew 28:18-20 ESV “And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”

1) What Is Discipleship?

Discipleship is following Jesus and becoming more like Him.

John 8:31-32 ESV “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Discipleship is not about perfection; it’s about direction.

Luke 9:23 ESV “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

Discipleship isn’t a one-time decision; it’s a daily

relationship.

Romans 8:29 ESV “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.”

Discipleship is not just learning about Jesus; it’s learning to live like Jesus.

2) Why Does Discipleship Matter?

Salvation is the beginning of the journey, not the finish line.

Matthew 28:19-20 ESV “Go therefore and make disciples... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

Colossians 1:28 ESV “Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.”

Paul’s goal wasn’t simply attendance. It was maturity.

2 Timothy 2:2 ESV “What you have heard from me... entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.”

Discipleship matters because God loves us too much to leave us where we are.

3) Who Is Called to Be a Disciple?

Every follower of Jesus is called to be a disciple.

Matthew 4:19 ESV “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Acts 1:8 ESV “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses.”

1 Corinthians 11:1 KJV “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of

Christ.”

Discipleship is not just transferring information; it is modeling a way of life.

TAKE A NEXT STEP

Am I following Jesus?

Am I becoming more like Jesus?

Who am I helping?

What God does in us; He wants to do through us.

TODAY’S CHALLENGE

Invest in One Person