

Title: [Disciples, Make Disciples Who Are Obedient!](#)

Matthew 28:18–20 (NLT) The Great Commission¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Therefore, **go and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰Teach 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.”

We, by being true disciples (followers), are to make disciples of all people, and make disciples that obey all Jesus' commands!

Disciple - A disciple is a devoted **follower**, learner, or student who adheres to and helps spread the teachings of a leader. (Disciple of Jesus - A **follower** of Jesus Christ, who adheres to his teachings and imitates his life.)

Some problems related to making disciples:

a) **We don't individually become a disciple, or become obedient to all the commands.**

(to become a true follower we must surrender our life in obedience)

Matthew 16:24–26 (NLT) ²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my **follower**, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. ²⁵If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁶**And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?**”

Matthew 10:37–39 (NLT) ³⁷“If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. ³⁸If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. ³⁹If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

Luke 9:23–25 (NLT) ²³Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁵And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but are yourself lost or destroyed?”

John 12:24–25 (NLT) ²⁴I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives. ²⁵Those who love their life in this world will lose it. **Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity.**

Romans 12:1 (NASB95). Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your **bodies a living and holy sacrifice**, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Luke 14:27 (NLT) ²⁷And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple.

b) **We don't individually know we have the primary purpose to make disciples.**

c) **We (the church as a group) don't put much attention on making disciples.**

- d) We don't go to all nationalities, or go to the least.
- e) We don't understand we each have a part to play in going, even if we are not actually the one to go.

1. Make Disciples of All Nations!

(Nations – means people, nationalities or people groups)

Mark 16:15–18 (NLT) ¹⁵ And then he told them, **“Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.”** ¹⁶ Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. ¹⁸ They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.”

Luke 24:45–49 (NLT) ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ And he said, “Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. ⁴⁷ **It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: ‘There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.’** ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of all these things.

⁴⁹ “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”

Acts 1:4–8 (NLT) ⁴ Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. ⁵ John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” ⁶ So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?” ⁷ He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. **And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

Romans 10:14–15 (NLT) ¹⁴ But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? **And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?** ¹⁵ And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, **“How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!”**

Matthew 4:18–20 (NLT) *The First Disciples*

¹⁸ One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁹ Jesus called out to them, **“Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!”** ²⁰ And they left their nets at once and followed him.

2 Peter 3:9 (NLT) ⁹ The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. **He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.**

How Do You Make Disciples Of All Nations?:

- a) You can go or support the go from the moment of salvation, but there is more for you to develop. More development is more effective.
- b) Become a true disciple
- c) Develop your minister (under authority) – start small and build within your church
- d) Surrender to Godly mentoring
- e) Develop your giftings

Motivational, spiritual, and ministry gifts are divine enabling abilities given to believers for building up the church and service, often categorized by their function in Romans 12 (motivational), 1 Corinthians 12 (manifestation), and Ephesians 4 (ministry).

Motivational Gifts (Romans 12:6–8)

These gifts define how a person naturally views and reacts to the world, often seen as the driving force behind their personality and service.

- **Prophecy:** Proclaiming God's truth with power, often focused on edification and comfort.
- **Serving/Helps:** Joyfully meeting practical needs to help others.
- **Teaching:** Effectively communicating and analyzing biblical truths.
- **Exhortation/Encouragement:** Motivating and challenging believers toward spiritual maturity.
- **Giving:** Contributing resources generously and with simplicity.
- **Leadership/Administration:** Organizing and guiding others to accomplish tasks.
- **Mercy:** Sensitive, compassionate care for the hurting.

Spiritual/Manifestation Gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7–11)

These are supernatural manifestations of the Spirit given for the common good.

- **Message of Wisdom:** Discerning God's perspective on situations.
- **Message of Knowledge:** Understanding divine truths.
- **Faith:** Exceptional trust in God for extraordinary results.
- **Healing:** Acting as an instrument for physical or emotional healing.
- **Miraculous Powers:** Enabling events that defy natural laws.
- **Prophecy:** Receiving and communicating a direct message from God.
- **Discernment of Spirits:** Discerning whether a message or act is from God, human, or evil.
- **Tongues & Interpretation:** Speaking in an unlearned language and explaining it.

Ministry/Equipping Gifts (Ephesians 4:11)

Known as the "five-fold ministry," these are roles tasked with equipping the church for ministry.

- **Apostles:** Pioneers who establish churches and oversee spiritual foundations.
- **Prophets:** Communicators of God's immediate word for encouragement and correction.
- **Evangelists:** Empowered to share the gospel and win souls.
- **Pastors:** Shepherds who protect and care for the church body.
- **Teachers:** Those who instruct, grounding believers in scripture.

- f) Go or support those who go

2. Obey All The Commands I Have Given You!

John 8:31–32 (NLT) ³¹ Jesus said to the people who believed in him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings.” ³² And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Luke 6:46 (NLT) ⁴⁶ “So why do you keep calling me ‘Lord, Lord!’ when you don’t do what I say?”

1 John 2:3–6 (NLT) ³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. ⁴ If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in

the truth. ⁵ But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

Point #2 Summary of Point #2:

- The ministry of the church is to make disciples that follow all of the commands, not just get people to pray the sinner's prayer.
- The church people are to all be obedient followers of all of Jesus' commands.

3. Be A Disciple (True Follower)

To understand the biblical connection between being "saved" and being a "disciple," it is helpful to look at how the New Testament defines both terms. In the early church, these were not two separate categories of believers; rather, **being saved was the beginning of a life of discipleship.**

In the New Testament, there is no category for a "convert" who is not a "disciple."

- **To be saved** is to be reconciled to God through Christ.
- **To be a disciple** is to live in that reconciliation by following Him.

As stated in **Acts 2:41–42**, those who received the word (were saved) were immediately added to the community of those **who devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching (discipleship).**

Luke 14:27 (NLT) ²⁷ **And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple**

John 15:8 (NLT) ⁸ **When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.**

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NLT) ^{11:1} **And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.**

John 15:16 (NLT) ¹⁶ **You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.**

2 Timothy 2:2 (NLT) ² **You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.**

Prayer Questions:

A. Are You a Disciple (Follower)?

If you became a Christian, but are not on the journey to follow all of the commands, you are not really fully on the discipleship journey, which is in big part why we do what we do together when we gather, learn, and grow together.

The motivation to want to make disciples usually comes by being a disciple, because we have seen God's goodness and life in operation.

B. Are You Following All of His Commands?

C. What's Your Part of Making Disciples and Going?

D. Have You Welcomed The Holy Spirit?

Acts 1:8 (NLT) ⁸ **But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."**

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