



# Principles of Biblical Discipleship

A Life-on-Life, Christ-Centered Approach

Matthew 28:18–20

# *The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18–20)*

- “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, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”
- “teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

# *What Is Biblical Discipleship?*

- One person intentionally impacting another toward Christlikeness
- Not merely information, but transformation
- Not just for leaders (2 Timothy 2:2)

# *Biblical Discipleship Is...*

- Intentional – purposeful and relational
- Impactful – changes values, beliefs, and lifestyle
- Personal – life-on-life involvement
- Christlike – modeling Jesus, not personalities

# *Principle 1: Incarnational (Life in the Flesh)*

- God revealed Himself through incarnation
- Jesus modeled discipleship through presence
- Discipleship requires shared life, not distance

# *Incarnational Discipleship – Scripture*

- John 1:14 — “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...”
- 1 John 1:1 — “That which we have heard, which we have seen... and touched with our hands...”
- 1 Thessalonians 2:7–8 — Sharing not only the gospel, but our lives

## *Principle 2: Reproductive*

- Biblical discipleship aims at multiplication
- Focus on people becoming like Christ
- Character over position or productivity

# *Reproductive Discipleship – Scripture*

- Matthew 28:19 — “Go therefore and make disciples...”
- 1 Thessalonians 1:6–8 — Faith sounding forth through example
- A lifestyle that produces spiritual descendants

## *Principle 3: Personal Discovery*

- Truth must be discovered personally
- Discipleship invites thinking, wrestling, faith
- Jesus taught beyond surface understanding

# *Personal Discovery – Examples from Jesus*

- Born again (John 3)
- Living water (John 4)
- Eating His flesh and drinking His blood (John 6)

## *Principle 4: Reasoning & Evidence*

- Biblical discipleship engages the mind
- Faith is reasonable and grounded in truth
- Scripture is explained and proven

# *Reasoning & Evidence – Scripture*

- Isaiah 1:18 — “Come now, let us reason together...”
- Acts 17:2–4 — Paul reasoned and proved Christ from Scripture
- Acts 18:4 — Persuading Jews and Greeks

## *Principle 5: Counting the Cost*

- Discipleship requires sacrifice
- Jesus calls for deliberate commitment
- Following Christ above all else

## *Counting the Cost – Scripture*

- Luke 14:26–28 — Sit down and count the cost
- Matthew 10:39 — Losing life to find it
- True discipleship is costly but worth it

## *Principle 6: Giving*

- Discipleship is extravagant love
- Giving time, life, and resources
- Love gives without expecting return

# *Giving – Scripture*

- John 15:13 — Greater love lays down its life
- John 3:16 — God so loved that He gave
- Ephesians 5:25 — Christ gave Himself for the church

## *Principle 7: Eternal Perspective*

- Jesus lived fully focused on the Father
- Discipleship looks beyond the present moment
- Living now in light of eternity

# *Eternal Perspective – Scripture*

- John 5:19 — Doing only what the Father does
- John 5:30 — Seeking the Father's will
- 1 Corinthians 11:1 — Imitate me as I imitate Christ

## *Reflection & Application*

- Who is disciplining me?
- Who am I intentionally disciplining?
- Which principle do I need to grow in most?
- What is one next step I will take?