ENTRUSTED

20 Timothy

Theme of Letter

To be devoted to the message & mission of the gospel in the face of false teaching & suffering.

Overview

Call to

SUFFER for

the Gospel

Call to ENDURE for the Gospel 3

Call to be STRENGTHENED by the Gospel 4

Call to PREACH the Gospel

Week 5: Prioritize the Mission

[1] You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, [2] and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

[3] Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. [4] No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. [5] An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. [6] It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. [7] Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

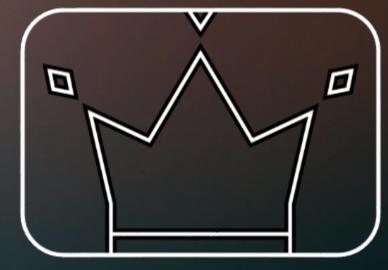




Strengthened



Strategic



Steadfast

STRENGTHENED

[1] You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, [2] and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

STRENGTHENED

- Paul turns his focus back to Timothy after giving contrasting examples
- Exhorts Timothy to be strengthened:
 - Not to be strong in himself
 - But be strong in the grace available in Christ Jesus

Ephesians 6:10-12

[10] Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. [11] Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. [12] For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Philippians 4:12-13

[12] I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. [13] I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

What does it mean to be strengthened "by the grace that is in Christ Jesus?"

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

[7] So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. [8] Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. [9] But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. [10] For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

STRENGTHENED

- Grace is for the weak...but grace doesn't make us weak. Grace empowers.
- Grace equips us for the work God calls us to do. Grace can supply what we are lacking.
 - When we face impossible circumstances (Rom. 4:19-21)
 - When we feel insufficient for the task (2 Cor. 3:4-6)
 - When we experience spiritual attacks (2 Cor. 12:7-10)

Describe a situation when you needed God's empowering grace...



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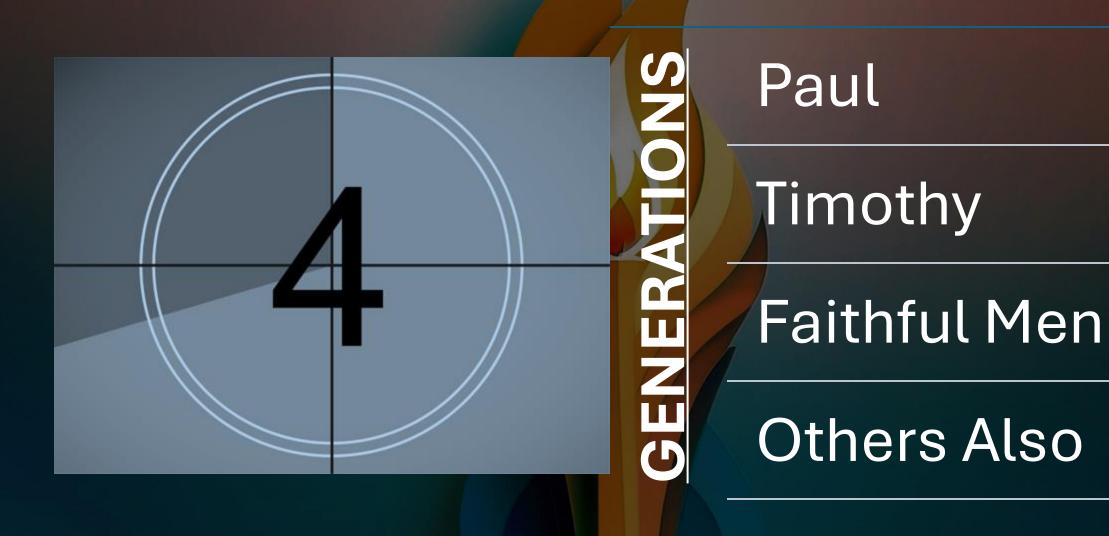
Steadfast

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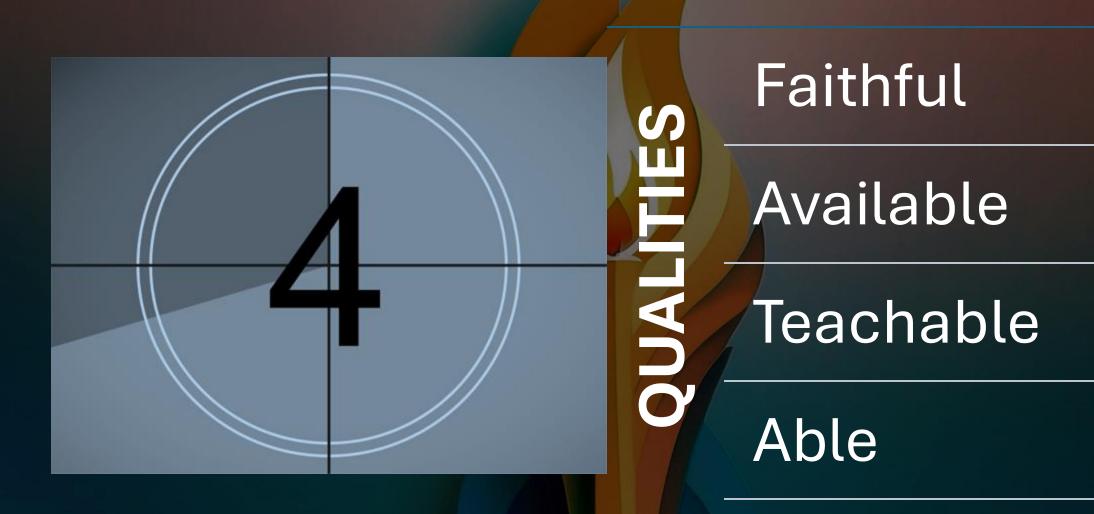
STRATEGIC

- Paul calls Timothy to be strategic in his ministry of the gospel.
- This strategy includes:
 - Remembering what Paul has taught him in the presence of many witnesses
 - Entrusting those teachings to faithful men
 - Exhorting those men to pass it on to others

STRATEGIC



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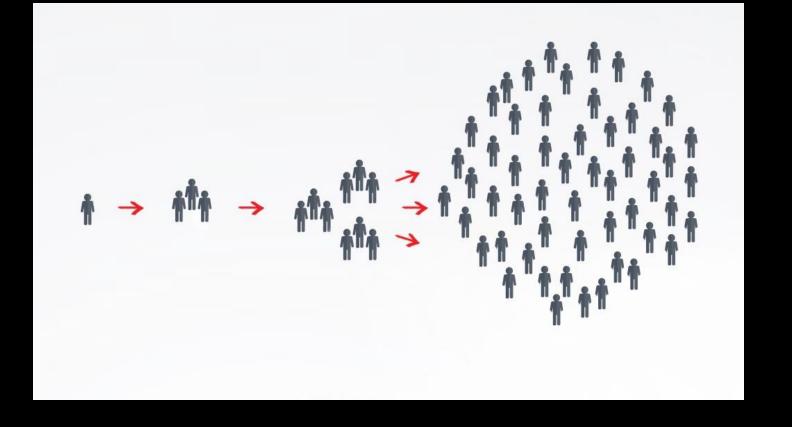
Digging Deeper

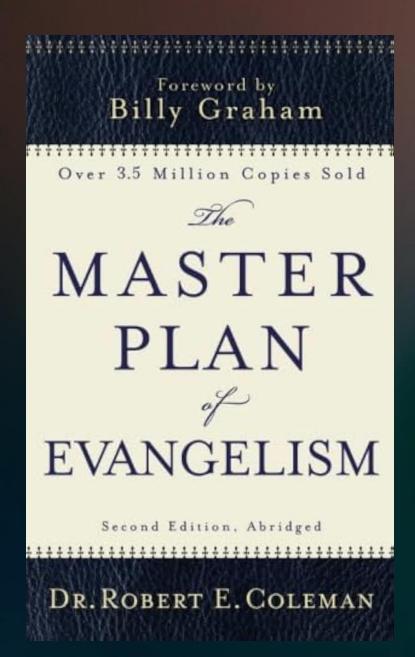
- Greek word *paratithemi* (from *pará*, "right close beside" and *títhēmi*, "to place, put")
- To set close beside (right next to); entrust; commit to in a very up-close-and-personal way (note the force of the prefix *para*).
- Other definitions: (a) I set (especially a meal) before, serve, (b) act. and mid: I deposit with, entrust to, (c) I bring forward, quote as evidence.
- 19x in NT



Why do you think Paul promotes this strategy of discipleship?

Spiritual Multiplication





"It all started by Jesus calling a few men to follow him. This revealed immediately the direction his evangelistic strategy would take. His concern was not with programs to reach the multitudes, but with men whom the multitudes would follow... We must decide where we want our ministry to count—in the momentary applause of popular recognition or in the reproduction of our lives in a few chosen people who will carry on our work after we have gone. Really it is a question of which generation we are living for."

(Robert E. Coleman, *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, p. 21, 37)



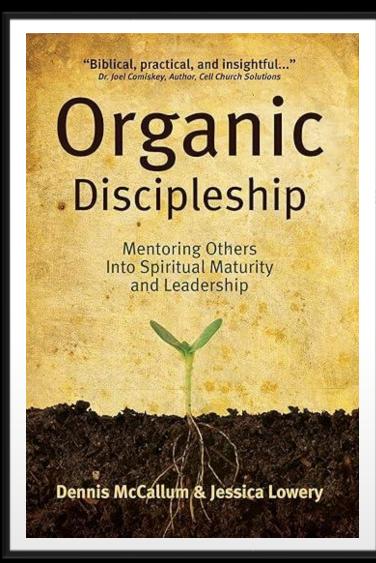
A Roadmap for Personal Discipleship

Once we are convinced that Discipleship should be personal as Jesus, Paul, and others modeled, we may be asking: how do we get started? It can be helpful to have an overview or "Roadmap" about the personal discipleship process. Here is a simple overview of the 4 major phases of personal discipleship: (1) Recruit, (2) Plan, (3)

Robby Gallaty + Chris Swain

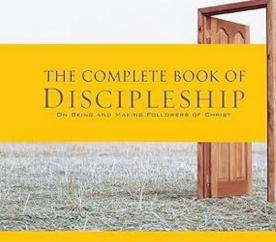
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How to Create a Culture of Disciple-Making Right Where You Are



THE NAVIGATORS REFERENCE LIBRARY





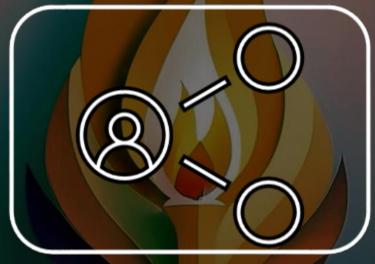
WHY MAKING DISCIPLES IS THE VERY HEART OF CIGO'S WORK
HE STABES AND STEPS OF SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT: PERSONAL SHALL ORGUL
AND GONGREGATIONAL APPROACHES TO GISCIPLE-MAKING
DISCIPLEMENT—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

BILL HULL

What are examples of threats to the gospel in our culture?



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What do soldiers, athletes, & farmers have in common?

STEADFAST

- Work hard
- Use tools to accomplish work
- Often work with others
- Follow rules
- Committed to a goal or mission
- Focused
- Disciplined

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What is the motivation for us to be steadfast in our mission?

STEADFAST

- Pleasing the Lord more than others or ourselves
- Recognizing our calling (enlisted)
- Eternal reward(s)
- Spiritual fruit that will last
- Making our life count for what matters most

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What are the potential obstacles to our mission based on these analogies?

STEADFAST

- Not wanting to suffer or experience persecution
- Distractions & temptations of this world
- Being entrenched in our own sins
- Not following the Lord's instructions for our ministries
- Laziness
- Difficulty of working with people

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How do these analogies help us understand our mission?



Key Takeaways

- You can't give what you don't have so feed your soul with God's truth & grace (v.1)
- ➤ You should seek to give what you do have so find a few people to pour into (v.2)
- ➤ You should expect the mission to be difficult but worth it so perspective is crucial (v.3-7)

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