

# COMMISSIONED

THE ART OF LIVING OUT THE  
WORDS, WAYS, & MISSION OF JESUS

## 10.1 Go and Make Disciples

### Creating a Discipleship Plan

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Wow— what an incredible journey together. We are coming up to our final week together— we’ve unpacked the Words of Jesus, we’ve studied how to imitate His ways, and we’ve learned to better partner in the Mission of Jesus— so what’s next?

Let’s talk about a growth plan. How can we create this ongoing plan of formation that is rooted in the Words, Ways, and Mission of Jesus?

It can be a lot to take in - no doubt— but out of all of it, I hope you hear that this is less about adding more to your plate, and more about integrating into your lifestyle. It’s not about doing more but rather being mindful, intentional, and strategic with what you are already doing. It’s about further integrating into your daily decisions.

Think of it like a discipline or purposeful practices, if you will. How Paul talks about the diligence of the farmer, the athlete, or the training for a race. It’s how we orient our lives... leading a life with purpose and intention not by happenstance. I love how Praxis, which is a creative engine for redemptive entrepreneurs, outlines a Rule of Life: “At its best, a rule of life is an expression of community, undertaken in the belief that we need help from one another to live the lives God meant for us. It also expresses humility, recognizing that we are prone to specific pitfalls that require us to take extra care with our practices. From the outside, a rule of life can look limiting. But it is more like musical, athletic or military training: a set of disciplines that, carried out as ‘a long obedience in the same direction,’ give us creative capacities and a creative community that we would not have on our own.”

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That's the beauty of the Body. Working towards growing in the words, ways, and mission of Jesus— collectively. Creating purposeful practices to grow closer with God and each other.

So, let's break it down together.

I'd love for you to journal as you are listening to this – jot down what is coming to mind and make it practical. To start, here's a few pieces of advice:

- If you're like me, there are so many new things you want to implement because you had a great Commissioned experience. The temptation will be to tackle every single thing all at once...don't. Instead, spread it out. Absorb it. Let it marinate. Put it in the crock pot if you need to, but don't let it sit there for too long.
- Take a single step in each category: Words, Ways, and Mission— where are you feeling a tug the most?
- Make a plan for the next 3 months and stick to that as closely as you can so that it becomes a habit

- 1) What is your plan for the WORDS of Jesus— maybe it is figuring out a plan for how you are going to commit to reading and truly studying the text— to dissect it and learn the world of Jesus? Maybe it is geared towards how you will meditate and work towards memorizing the Text?
- 2) What is your plan for the WAYS of Jesus? Maybe it is about how you will continue to pursue wholeness? To regularly engage in spiritual disciplines to the point it stretches you? What is the next step you are going to take that uses your gifts that you can further give your time, talent, and treasure?
- 3) What is your plan for partnering in the MISSION of Jesus? In what ways, do you feel empowered to bring about innovative and creative solutions to the problems in our communities? Where are you sensing the Lord is inviting you to participate in the renewal and restorative work that God is already doing all around us amidst the brokenness? In what ways are you investing in communities seeking their flourishing? What is the story God is writing in your life and with whom do you need to share it?

Lastly, as I said from day 1— we are all disciples and disciple makers— discipleship has been entrusted to you— you have been commissioned and are anointed to pass along onto someone else. I just want you to take a moment to hear the words of a few Scripture passages— so just sit back and listen as I read:

Matthew 22: 36-40— The Great Commandment

Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest

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commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.'

Matthew 28:19-20– The Great Commission

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

2 Timothy 2:2– **Paul says we have a responsibility to pass on what has been entrusted to us.**

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

1 Thessalonians 2:8– Sharing our lives with one another– living out the words, ways, and mission of Jesus in the context of community...

"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."

Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
Because the Lord has anointed *and* commissioned me  
To bring good news to the humble *and* afflicted;  
He has sent me to bind up [the wounds of] the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim release [from confinement and condemnation] to the [physical and spiritual] captives  
And freedom to prisoners,

Verse 6 goes on to say,

"But you shall be called the priests of the Lord;  
People will speak of you as the ministers of our God."

You are called- you are commissioned- you are anointed– as the ministers of our God– Uber priests- teacher priests- olympic athlete priests- waitress priests–

So, as you spend time reflecting on your discipleship experience– would you consider, stepping into this space next semester and leading a commissioned group? Or maybe you're not quite sure yet, and you'd love to explore some other options you can engage with like Beloved Community 101- made in the image of God, The Story– where we explore the Text from cover to cover; etc.

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There are so many different opportunities here to jump in at NCC to grow in discipleship. My encouragement to you is to go back to the plan you are creating- reflect, pray into it, and then partner with others as we continue to study the Words of Jesus, imitate His ways, and partner in the Mission of Jesus together.