

Title: How to Make Disciples

Series: Make Disciples

Main Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20

Intro

We are in our final week of our series called Make Disciples. This series is purposed to enlighten, equip and empower you for the work Jesus commanded His church to continue – the work of disciple making.

Week one, Pastor Rick laid down an overall glance at what discipleship is – what this call to make disciples is all about. He put emphasis on the fact the we must learn to be a good follower as we strive to be a good leader. Really a great message. If you missed it, I recommend you go back and watch it on the app. And if you don't have our app, you should download it today.

Week 2, Luke's gave a dynamic message about Paul and Timothy.

>>That week, about 5 different Paul/Timothy relationships were formed after Luke's message. That's awesome!!

Week 3, Pastor Rick really showed us that discipleship is not a cute cakewalk but it is messy. And he gave key principles for discipleship.

>>We've covered a lot over the last few weeks about discipleship.

But today, we want to tackle the question, "HOW?". How do I make disciples?

So, I've creatively entitled this sermon: **Title: How to Make Disciples**

My objective is to leave you with a clear picture of how Jesus approached disciples-making and how we can immediately begin to apply His method and pattern to our lives as we approach disciple-making.

There's a lot to cover, so let's pray and jump right in.

Transition

God has a master plan for reaching and transforming this lost world. His vision is clear – that His kingdom would come on earth as it is in Heaven. And plan to fulfil His vision is to make disciples of all nations - to **disciple nations**.

Now, this task may seem overwhelming. But the method Jesus took demonstrates how attainable this is and it presents patterns we must follow to effectively continue His great work.

[Matthew 28:18-20 AMP](#)

¹⁸ Jesus came up and said to them, "All authority (all power of absolute rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and **MAKE DISCIPLES** of all the

nations [help the people to learn of Me, believe in Me, and obey My words], baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always [remaining with you perpetually—regardless of circumstance, and on every occasion], even to the end of the age.”

This word ‘make’ is loaded!

>>Make - to form (something) by putting parts together or combining substances; construct; create. >>to construct, to build, to assemble, to put together

>>To cause (something) to exist or come about.

His command is to MAKE DISCIPLES: to build disciples, to construct disciples, to cause disciples to exist.

Now, this job is very important, very serious and perhaps even scary.

Transition

>>Kind of like leaving the hospital for the first time with your first newborn. I don’t know about the other parents in the room, but I was terrified when we left the hospital with Matthew. Things were great until they said it’s time to go home.

Then reality set in - because we knew that it was our responsibility to keep this human being alive and ensure that he grows.

Ref: 1 Peter 2:2 - Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.

It the job of the disciple to make sure new believers are growing up in their salvation.

If we don’t, then reproduction stops. >>Discipleship = Reproduction.

Transition

The good news is, Jesus left us with steps and patterns we can use to guide us in this process of disciple making.

His pattern was quite simple – **select, disciple and equip** a **small group of ordinary men** to select, disciple and equip a **small group of ordinary men** to select, disciple and equip others to repeat this cycle.

>>**This is by far the most effective way to reach the nations.**

Illustration:

Here’s the effect of this approach:

-Preaching to 100,000 people per day for 16 years with 4% conversion rate would yield 23,360,000 *converts*.

-Taking 1 convert for 6 months and making him a disciple that can **reproduce**, then those 2 get someone else, then those 4 and so on and so on...in 16 years, you would have 4 Billion *disciples*.

Transition

You may say, Maurice that's nice. That's good to know but I'm not fit to disciple anybody. I'm not equipped to show anybody how to follow Jesus.

I mess up daily.

I don't read my bible "like I should"; Don't go to church "like I should" etc.

>>Don't complicate it.

Discipleship is simple: Follow Jesus & show someone else how to follow Jesus.

Now let's look at His pattern more closely: Select, Disciple, Equip

Step 1. Select

First, you want to select a small group of F.A.T people.

>>Jesus chose 12. But I want to highlight the selection process for 5 of them.

Matthew 4:18-22 NIV

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²² and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Observation 1: Jesus was easy to follow.

>>People wanted to follow Him.

>>Breakdown 'to follow' -- to take heed; to pay attention; to obey to listen;

Q: Why was Jesus this easy to obey?

A: The answer is influence. It had everything to do with His example. They saw something in Him that they craved and were willing to drop everything they were doing to follow in His steps. You gain influence, by your example.

You gain influence when your life provides steps that lead people to where they want to be.

Matthew 9:9-10 NIV

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

¹⁰ **While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples.**

Observation 2: He made Himself available to those he selected.

>>True discipleship takes place in the context of relationship.

Step 2. Disciple

>>This step concentrates on input – what you put into those you disciple.

Matthew 28:20 AMP

²⁰ **teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you;**

Observe – to keep, to obey, to abide

Note: discipleship is not only a teacher/follower relationship, it's a follower/follower relationship as well – you must teach by example. **Ref:** Follow me as I follow.

This is how Jesus describes a true disciple:

John 8:31 AMP

³¹ So Jesus was saying to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you abide in My word [**continually obeying My teachings and living in accordance with them, then**] you are truly My disciples.

Step 3. Equip

>>This step concentrates on output – equipping prepares the disciple to begin the process with someone else. **Ref.** **The Five Levels of Leadership by John Maxwell**

You do it. (competence)

You do it while someone is with you. (demonstration)

They do it while you are with them. (coaching)

They do it. (empowerment)

They do it while someone else is with them. (reproduction)

And that's how you MAKE a disciple.

Transition

For some of us, our growth is depending on us stepping out to help someone else grow. **There's a certain gear we can shift into when someone else's growth is at stake.** And this can change your life. >>>Share my story