

Discipleship - From Padawan to Jedi

September 13, 2020 Message Notes MATTHEW 28:19-20

The command Jesus gives in Matthew 28:19 is known as The Great Commission. The command for Christ followers to "go and make disciples." Disciple, in its simplest form, means a "learner of Christ." We're supposed to do this "as we go" in life, in our coming and going. What could it look like for you? Let's start with having a unified understanding of what discipleship means.



NOTES

EDGE stands for:

- EVANGELISM
- DISCIPLESHIP
- GENEROSITY
- EMPOWERMENT

A *Padawan* is a *Jedi* in training who is paired with a *Jedi Master* to learn from. It's a picture of discipleship.

God sees a *Jedi* in every man and every woman, but *Jedi* are not developed in a vacuum.

"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." *2 TIMOTHY 2:2*

"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." *MATTHEW 28:19-20*

If you call Jesus your Lord and Savior, then this command is for you: go and make disciples.

What if you don't know how? Gospel Conversations can help you learn how to share your faith.

DISCIPLE - a learner of Christ

DISCIPLESHIP can mean defining my own way in how I follow Jesus; how I grow into a deeper relationship with him.

To make disciples can also mean to preach the gospel so that people get saved.

"They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples." *ACTS 14:21*

DISCIPLESHIP: the whole process of conversion, baptism, and teaching the way of Jesus.

The **COMMAND** - As you are going, make disciples.

We want to help people find and follow Christ.



"Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

You don't have to act like a Christian in order to become one. We don't have to get certain things in order first.

The Gospel is: "Come just as you are."

Ask Jesus into your heart. Accept Him. Then let Him take care of your "stuff".

If you want to find your EDGE, ask Jesus into your heart.

Action Step #1: Get Baptized

It signifies the death, the burial and the resurrection of Jesus. Your old life is dead. It's gone. Your new life in Jesus has begun.

"Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" *ACTS 8:35-36*

Baptism is a symbol, a declaration. It's going public with your new life in Christ.

If you want to find your EDGE, get baptized.

Action Step #2 - Teach Them

How do I follow Jesus? It looks like *Jedi* training. It means that you go where your Master goes and you do what your Master says. You spend time with your Master, talking to him. We call that prayer. It means getting trained by your Master by spending time in the Bible so that a change can occur.

"...the renewing of your mind." *ROMANS 12:2*

Try this for 7 days:

- Spend 5 minutes PRAYING
- Spend 5 minutes READING
- Spend 5 minutes REFLECTING



Don't let the busyness of this life keep you from spending time with the person who you call your Lord and Savior. That's your time with him.

Jedi are not developed in a vacuum.

"...and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." MATTHEW 28:19-20

"Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day." ACTS 2:41

"...the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." ACTS 2:47

"...you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine." ACTS 5:28

"Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah." ACTS 5:42

- In the temple courts (large gatherings)
- From house to house (small gatherings)

"The church should grow larger and smaller at the same time." – Pastor Rick Warren.

We are called to be disciples and to make disciples, and we have found that Groups is that intentional time where discipleship can take place.

A Group can seem scary to some people at first, but then become safe and even fun.

In a Group you can experience what the Bible calls 'iron sharpening iron'.

"He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love." *EPHESIANS 4:16*

What's standing in your way? What's holding you back? You won't know what 'sharp' means until you do life with others.

Sometimes you don't understand the value of a Group until you experience it for yourself.



If you want to sharpen your EDGE, join a group.

We're not meant to do life alone. Don't isolate!

With so many things tearing us apart, shouldn't we as the church be building each other up?

"From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." *EPHESIANS 4:16*

Some of you need to join a group for the first time. Some of you need to re-up your group commitment. Some of you need to step up and lead a group.

"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." *MATTHEW 28:20*

Jesus always keeps His promises. He promises to be with you even in the midst of this life that we are living. All you have to do is call on His name. Ask Him into your heart and life, and then surround yourself with others so that they can disciple you, too.

