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02-06-2024

MAKING DISCIPLES

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Make Disciples – Knowing our need for God

1 “Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” - **Matthew 5:1-3**

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. – **Matthew 6:33**

A HEART of HUMILITY attracts God’s FAVOUR

All these things my hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word. – **Isaiah 66:2**

But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” – **James 4:6**

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

– **1 Peter 5:6-7**

The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honour and life.

– **Proverbs 22:4**

Our God is FAITHFUL – grow in learning to DEPEND on Him!

Thus says the Lord: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. “Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.” – **Jeremiah 17:5-8**

I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. – **Psalms 16:8**

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.

– **2 Corinthians 12:9**

The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. – **Psalms 18:2**

Be INTENTIONAL about drawing on God’s RESOURCES each day

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. – **John 15:4-5**

Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! -**1Chronicles16:11**

The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.
– **Psalms 34:10**

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. – **2 Corinthians 4:7**

Community Group Questions

1. As followers of Jesus, we are called to a Kingdom lifestyle – why is it so important that our foundations are first correct in understanding our need for and dependence on God?
2. Why is remaining low and having a humble posture before God and others such an important characteristic? Why do you think God blesses this?
3. Share testimonies of times when you have really leant into God. What was the outcome? How do you think we can help cultivate a habit of continually trusting in God through both the good and challenging seasons of life?
4. God’s resources are infinite! Why do you think we are always guilty of trying to do things in our own strength? Practice seeking God each day.