

Live On Mission

Book 2 — Leaders Guide

*“Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20a)*



HARVEST BIBLE CHAPEL

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NOTE TO LEADERS: Each weekly study is broken down into three to four days worth of material. Ask your group members to use this material for their quiet time and to take the time to do it daily and not rush through it all at once. Additionally, encourage your group members to find something else to do on those other days and not to take a break from spending time with God.

NOTE: Throughout this study you will see references to specific chapters in the study *New Life in Christ* (Making Disciples, book 1). This book was designed for you to take a new believer through to help establish them in their faith. It is the first in a series of three books designed to help establish a new believer in their walk with Christ.

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INTRODUCTION

We trust that you've continued praying for the people in your fishing pond and had the opportunity to share Christ with some of them. Hopefully at least one of them has repented and trusted Christ, or Lord willing we hope and pray it will happen soon. Now what? This book is designed to help you with what to do after someone you've shared with comes to Christ.

Of course it's good to invite a new christian to church and to small group or to get them signed up for bible classes, but we must not forget the relational aspect of discipleship. God has given you the privilege of helping someone to find and follow Him. He's also gifted and equipped you to help them begin following Christ and developing spiritual disciplines. It is our hope that by the end of this study you will feel even more equipped, confident and ready to disciple a new christian.

If you haven't seen someone come to Jesus yet, don't get discouraged in this process. It's not up to any one of us if someone repents and trusts in Jesus. As long as you follow the steps outlined in book 1, you are successful whether someone comes to know Christ or not. All we can do is Pray, Engage, Share and Proclaim, the rest is up to God.

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers.
(1 Corinthians 3:6-9a)

Keep praying, engaging, sharing and proclaiming and you will see someone come to Jesus. It may not be who you expect or prayed for so keep your eyes open to where God is working around you. Trust in God's promises and His timing while you complete this material with your small group and become even more prepared for the moment when someone you know comes to Jesus.

TRANSFORM

DAY 1 — First Steps (Part 1)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

We're called to make disciples not just converts. We're called to teach them to obey the Lord in everything, not to just communicate the Gospel. Our job of making disciples is not done after someone prays to receive Christ, it's just beginning. **We need to help them be conformed to the image of Christ while becoming part of the body of Christ.**

Every person who becomes a Christian needs some help in his spiritual growth; he needs a spiritual parent to help him grow.

~ Gene Warr

1. Help them to make their commitment to Christ public.

READ: Luke 8:39

What did Jesus tell the man to do? _____

Who did the man tell? _____

Saying a prayer doesn't save someone, repentance and heart change do. These first steps not only help a new disciple to get established, but also help to confirm the sincerity of their decision to follow Christ. **Here are a few suggestions.**

- Have them tell 2-3 other people that they've trusted Christ.
- Encourage them to get baptized. (Discussed in Chapter 2, Baptism in *New Life in Christ*)
- Invite them take first communion on a Sunday morning with your church family.

2. Help them to connect with God's Word.

READ: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Scripture is profitable for what four things? _____

According to verse 17 what does God's Word do for us? _____

Why is it imperative to help new disciples get connected to God's Word? _____

God has chosen to speak to us through His Word. It's His story. It's how we get to know Him, His will, His promises, His plan, and so much more. If a new disciple is to change what they believe, along with changing the way they think and act, it needs to start with God's Word. As Romans 12:2 reminds us, transformation begins with the renewing of the mind. **Here are a few suggestions.**

- Buy them, or help them to buy a good Bible. We recommend the ESV Study Bible.
- Read through the Gospel of John with them.
- Start memorizing verses with them.
- Meet with them weekly to work through a chapter per week in ***New Life in Christ*** which is saturated with God's Word.
- We have listed more Discipleship resources in the **APPENDIX**. However, we highly recommend you complete the **Making Disciples** books before tackling other resources.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 2 — First Steps (Part 2)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

3. Help them to connect with God through prayer.

READ: Jeremiah 33:3

What does God tell us to do? _____

Will God answer our prayers? _____

What else does God promise to do? _____

Why is it crucial to teach a new disciple how to pray? _____

We need to help our new disciple understand that God invites us to pray, He answers our prayers, and that there is power in prayer. God is always listening and no prayer ever goes unanswered. He will answer every prayer according to His timing. **Here are some suggestions.**

- Pray with them when you meet weekly, encouraging them to pray out loud.
- Read through Matthew 6:9-13 with them and encourage them to use it as a guide.
- Teach them to journal their prayers and keep track of answered prayer.
- Work with them through chapter 8, Prayer in ***New Life in Christ***

4. Help them to connect with God’s family.

READ: Acts 2:42-47

How regularly were believers together in the early Church? _____

What things did they do together? _____

How close were they to one another? _____

The church is a family and your new disciple was adopted by God to be part of His family. We need to help them take the first steps in being committed to a local church family. **Here are some suggestions**

- Invite them to join your small group.
- Invite them to come to your Sunday worship gathering.
- Encourage the to get involved through serving.
- Work with them through chapters 9, Church, and chapter 10, Small Group, of ***New Life in Christ***

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today’s study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 3 — New Life (Part 1)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

Growth in Christ is a life-long process and one of the greatest privileges we have, this side of heaven, is that of not only leading someone to Christ, but then helping them to follow Him and be transformed by Him over time. This will involve learning new things, while also unlearning old things.

READ: Ephesians 4:20-24

What should ever disciple put off? _____

What should ever disciple put on? _____

What is the model for a disciple's new life? _____

1. Help them draw closer to Christ through SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES.

What are some spiritual disciplines? _____

Ask them: What are you learning, what is the Lord teaching you?

Keep in mind that that goal is not just head knowledge, but transformation. Over time you want to see the way your disciple thinks, speaks, and acts transformed. They should grow in both knowledge and understanding of Biblical truths. Throughout all of this hopefully your disciple demonstrates a desire to learn and be transformed.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 4 — New Life (Part 2)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

2. Help them be more like Christ through the HOLY SPIRIT.

READ: Galatians 5:16

← **MEMORIZE**

How does one overcome the desires of the flesh? _____

What does it look like to walk by the Spirit? _____

Ask them: How are you changing, how you more like Christ? Where are you experiencing victory, new life in Christ.

Walking by the Spirit, living life in Christ leads to ongoing transformation throughout life this side of heaven. Whether it's growth in the fruit of the Spirit or putting off sin and putting on Christ, transformation should be evident and ongoing, not just for your disciple, but for every Child of God. It's important that we lead by example in this area, that our disciple sees us working to become more like Christ and actually becoming more like Christ.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 5 — New Life (Part 3)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

3. Help them be obedient to Christ through ACCOUNTABILITY.

READ: John 14:23

What does someone who loves Jesus do? _____

What is the result of keeping His word? _____

Ask them: Are you building patterns that honor Christ? Are you submitting to God's ongoing refining work in your life?

Obedience that doesn't flow from the previous steps won't last. We can change our behavior but if it doesn't flow from a heart change it won't last. However, when a disciple changes what they know, what they believe, and how they think, then their change of behavior flows from a heart change. This is where obedience needs to flow from. This is why accountability is so important, not just so that we'll see change, but to make sure the change is lasting because it flows from a changed heart. Over time with your disciple you can expect to see specific sin put off and the actions of Christ to be put on. Again, it's important that you disciple sees your obedience and transformation as well.

Jesus expected the men He was with to obey Him. They were not required to be smart, but they had to be loyal. This became the distinguishing mark by which they were known. They were called His "disciples" meaning that they were "learners" or "pupils" of the Master.

~ Robert Coleman

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- What are the obstacles in my life that I need to remove or change so I can be "On Mission" and help my disciple take their first steps towards new life?

- What resources do I need to become more familiar with in order to better help my disciple?

- Which of the "First Steps" in this chapter do I need to grow in to better model it to my disciple?

TRAIN

A key part of making disciples is helping them to learn how to use their gifts, abilities, and passions to minister to others. God has uniquely designed them to care for others, make disciples, and help build His church. Training them will involve demonstration, delegation, and supervision over time, helping your disciple to figure out how God has hard wired them for Kingdom work.

DAY 1 — Demonstration (Part 1)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

DEMONSTRATION

READ: Philippians 4:9

What things should the Philippians practice? _____

READ: 1 Timothy 4:12 ← MEMORIZE

In what ways should we be an example to others? _____

Training disciples starts with demonstrating what it looks like to be on mission with Christ. While sharing our lives with our disciples we model what it looks like to use our gifts and abilities to minister to others. Robert Coleman said it best, that **class is always in session**. Every time we serve in our church family, help a neighbor, or share the Gospel is an opportunity to train our disciple through demonstration.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 2 — Demonstration (Part 2)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

Discipling involves transmitting the knowledge of God and his Word through every moment of life.

~ Mark Dever

What are some additional opportunities that you could invite your disciple to experience with you?

READ: Luke 8:51

Who did Jesus take with Him when He healed Jairus' daughter? _____

What we see in these two passages (and many more) is what is often called, the **principle of two**. The idea behind this being that we should never do anything alone, always have someone with you. Whether it's serving at church, visiting someone in the hospital, bringing a meal to someone, or sharing the Gospel, we should always bring our disciple with us. We see this demonstrated throughout scripture with Moses and Aaron, Barnabas & Paul in Acts 13, Paul, Silas and Timothy in Acts 15. and Paul and Luke in 1 Timothy 4. Training others begins with inviting our disciples to join us as we demonstrate how to do ministry. To put it another way, demonstration is, **I do, you watch, we talk.**

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 3 — Delegation

PRAY: Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.

DELEGATION

READ: Matthew 10:5-14

What were some of the responsibilities that Jesus entrusted to the twelve? _____

In what ways did Jesus allow them to be challenged? _____

READ: Mark 6:7

Why do you think Jesus sent them out in groups of two? _____

Together they could help one another, and when adverse circumstances greeted them as surely often would be the case, they could still find solace among themselves.

~ Robert Coleman

Making disciples is a lot like apprenticing in that one of the things you are trying to do is to train and equip someone to do what you already do, thus multiplying the amount of work that can be done. At some point our disciples need to be given responsibility. Too often we wait too long thinking all kinds of training and certification is needed. The twelve followed Jesus around for a season watching as He ministers to the crowds, and then He sent them out in pairs to do much the same thing. Jesus had moved from demonstration to delegation, or to put it another way, **You do, I watch, we talk**. A key piece to delegation is follow up, a time to sit and process your disciple's experiences, helping them to learn and grow from what they did.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 4 — Supervision

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: Luke 9:10

What did Jesus do with the twelve after they returned? _____

READ: Luke 10:17

What is the response of the 72 after their return from ministry in pairs? _____

What else might be a part of supervising your disciples? _____

Jesus didn't delegate to them responsibility, He also supervised them. He met with them to hear how things went, the good and the bad. He knew that there was more needed than just responsibility. People might falter or struggle, they might face opposition and need encouragement, or further training. Keep in mind that Jesus spent three years with these men demonstrating, delegating and supervising their efforts before He truly sent them out on their own. One of the worst things we can do is raise up and new disciple, delegate to them responsibility and then leave them on their own. A key part of training is supervision and we must live out all of these steps with our disciples.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- Why is your own humility/teachability important in training your disciple?

- What types of things might you demonstrate to your disciple?

- What's the difference between delegation and supervision?

- Why are delegation and supervision so important?

ON MISSION

DAY 1 — The Church on Mission (Part 1)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

The mission of making disciples is for every Christian, including those who recently came to know Christ. The only prerequisite for living out the great commission is knowing Christ. As you continue to work with your disciple, a key part of their growth and training will involve helping them to be on mission with Christ every day.

READ: Mark 5:18-20

How long had this man known Jesus? _____

What did this man do after Jesus left? _____

READ: John 4:28-30

What did this woman do after meeting Jesus? _____

Both the demon possessed man and the Samaritan woman had just met Christ and that same day they went about proclaiming what Christ had done for them. They didn't receive any training, they just went about and told people about Jesus and what He had done for them. Being on mission with Christ starts here, by simply telling people about what Jesus had done for you. Too often we've made it seem far more complicated, and it isn't. We see the same thing in the early church.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 2 — The Church on Mission (Part 2)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: Acts 2:42-47

According to verse 46 how often were Christians in the early church together? _____

What kinds of activities did they do together? _____

According to verse 47 how often did people get saved? _____

What does verse 47 teach us about the involvement of the lost in the activities of the early church?

What does verse 47 teach us about the involvement of the Christians in their community?

The simple definition of missionary is someone who lives on mission. Too often we think of missionaries as someone who has gone to a foreign country to share the Gospel. However, just as the early believers were on mission in their local communities, so each believer today is called to live on mission in our local communities. The mission of the Church was an every day thing for early believers and it should be for us too. Every one of us is a full-time missionary where we live and there should be no distinction between personal life and church life.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 3 — The Church on Mission (Part 3)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: Jeremiah 29:7 ← MEMORIZE

What does the Lord tell the exiles to do? _____

What is the result of seeking the *welfare of the city*, where the Lord sent them? _____

What might it look like to seek the welfare of the city where you live today? _____

Just as the Israelites were foreigners in a strange land as exiles, we too live as foreigners. This is not our home. Our home is with our Father in Heaven where we will live for all eternity. This life is equivalent to a short-term missions trip, in light of eternity, and while we are here we are given the opportunity to seek *the welfare of the city* where we live.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 4 — The Church on Mission (Part 4)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: Romans 10:13-15

What is needed for someone to *be saved*? _____

What is needed for someone to *call on* the Lord? _____

What is needed for someone to *believe* in the Lord? _____

What is needed for someone to *hear* the Gospel? _____

What is needed for someone to *preach* the Gospel? _____

Where have you been *sent* to preach the Gospel? _____

We are each missionaries right where we live. We've been sent by God to the neighborhood and town that we live in to preach the Gospel that some would hear, believe, call on and be saved. We are surrounded by those who don't know Jesus, and we are given the opportunity to plant and water seeds, trusting God to make them grow. He gave us a mission to be His hands, feet and voice while engaging with our neighbors and those in our community. We get to live on mission every day this side of heaven right where we live. We're not called to make 1 disciple, but to make disciples over and over, right where we live, for as long as we live this side of heaven.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- Where are you involved in your community? If you aren't, where can you get involved in your community?

- In what ways are your lost friends and neighbors regularly involved in your life?

- How frequently do you invite lost friends and neighbors to small group or Sunday Worship?

MULTIPLICATION

DAY 1 — Following & Fishing

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

The early Church was successful because of what Jesus had done during His time on earth. Jesus multiplied himself into 12 men, 11 of whom carried on the Mission. Through them thousands came to know Christ, and so on. Just as Jesus multiplied Himself into the disciples, they each multiplied themselves into others over and over again. Every believer today has the privilege of multiplying themselves into others who don't know Christ over and over again.

READ: Proverbs 17:6

What are grandchildren? _____

This verse refers to the sweetness of having grandchildren, and how they often carry on our virtues, values and priorities. What an incredible gift this is to see and experience for a grandparent. This is physical multiplication at its finest. But what about spiritual multiplication, seeing someone you have had the pleasure of leading to Christ lead someone else to Christ, and so on. As much as grandchildren might be crown for grandparents, spiritual grandchildren are equally if not more so a crown for the spiritual grandparent.

READ: Matthew 4:19

What did Jesus tell them to do? _____

What is the result of following Jesus? _____

For the disciples Jesus' invitation to follow Him came with the expectation that they would do the same for others for the rest of their lives. The principle for us today is that **following and fishing go hand in hand**. To be a follower of Christ is to be someone who fishes for others for the rest of their life. We cannot separate being a Christian and helping others to find Christ. Spiritual multiplication an expectation for every believer just as it was for the first disciples. Jesus entrusted the Gospel to us, that we would take it to everyone in our **fishing pond**, multiplying what He's done in us over and over.

The only hope for taking Jesus' message to all people is in Christians' multiplying their labors by training disciples to continue and expand the work.¹

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 2 — Showing & Sending (Part 1)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: 2 Timothy 2:2 ← MEMORIZE

How many generations of believers are mentioned in this verse? _____

What is Timothy supposed to do with *faithful men*? _____

What are the *faithful men* supposed to do with *others*? _____

This passage paints so clearly the picture of spiritual multiplication. This is how Christ planned for His Church to grow, it's why He commands us to make disciples. Earlier we saw the difference between spiritual addition versus spiritual multiplication (making disciples). Below we see not only what 1 person might do, but what a Church of 30 or 100 might do through spiritual multiplication.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 3 — Showing & Sending (Part 2)

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

Spiritual multiplication isn't just about being followers who fish, but as we fish for others and see them come to Christ, **we need to show our disciples how to fish for others and then send them out to fish for others.** We need to help them learn how to **SHARE** their story and **PROCLAIM** the Gospel.

READ: 1 Corinthians 16:19

Where did *Aquila and Prisca's* church meet? _____

READ: Colossias 4:15

Where did *Nympha's* church meet? _____

As the early church grew and multiplied, they met in more and more homes where more and more people found and followed Christ. This is spiritual multiplication.

Year	Spiritual Multiplication		
	1 person disciples 1 person every 12 months.	Church of 30	Church of 100
1	2	60	200
2	4	120	400
3	8	240	800
4	16	480	1600
5	32	960	3200
6	64	1920	6400
7	128	3840	12,800
8	256	7680	25,600
9	512	15,360	51,200
10	1024	30,720	102,400

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- Who is my disciple working to share the Gospel with?

- What can I do to better prepare my disciple to SHARE their story and PROCLAIM the Gospel?

- Who I am I working to share the Gospel with?

- What do we both need to do to prioritize evangelism in our daily lives?

TRUST JESUS EVERY STEP

DAY 1 — Trust Him

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

We are called on to make disciples. This involves not just sharing the Gospel, but sharing our lives with others as we help them to find and follow Christ, becoming transformed by Him while also learning how to live on mission with Him. Even though this might seem overwhelming at times, we need to remember the promises of Jesus.

READ: Matthew 28:18-20

How often is Jesus with us and for how long? _____

Additionally, what kind of authority does Jesus have? _____

Christ, the King of Kings with *all authority in heaven and on earth*, not only calls on everyone of us to make disciples through the Great Commission, but He also promises to be with us every step of the way, always! As we go to make disciples we need to trust Him every step of the way.

READ: Hebrews 13:20-21

What will God equip us with? _____

What are we equipped by God for? _____

God has given us everything we need in order to do all that He asks of us. He doesn't send us out ill-equipped, He fully equips us. Christ being with us, and the Holy Spirit living in us is far more than we need, yet He gives us even more.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 2 — His Word

PRAY: Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.

READ: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Rewrite verse 17 in your own words. _____

How many *good works* are you equipped for? _____

The Bible is completely sufficient for all of life this side of heaven. It's not just enough, it's so much more than enough, equipping us *for every good work*.

What are some of the ways that Scripture will help you to make disciples? _____

READ: Psalm 19:7-11

What does the law, statutes, precepts, commands, etc., of the Lord do for us? _____

God's Word is so much more than a tool for making disciples. It's also there for us giving us wisdom, joy, encouragement, discernment and so much more. As C.H. Spurgeon once said, the Bible is "*the writing of the living God; each letter was penned with an Almighty finger; each word in it dropped from the everlasting lips; each sentence was dictated by the Holy Spirit.*" Almighty God has given us His written Word that we might know Him and make Him known to the people around us, while equipping us for all that He has for us this side of Heaven.

If we are to be disciples of Jesus Christ, leading effective and successful Christian lives, the Word of God must be a priority.

~ Greg Laurie

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 3 — His Spirit

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: Acts 1:8

What will we receive from the Holy Spirit? _____

What does the Spirit's power help us to be? _____

The power of the living God resides in us, making us witnesses for Christ! Not only that, but it's not an occasional thing. The Spirit doesn't help us to witness, He makes us witnesses so that we would proclaim the Good News of Jesus to those who don't yet know Him. You don't need a seminary degree or evangelism training before you tell others about Christ because you have the Holy Spirit empowering you to do so.

In what other ways does the Spirit help us to make disciples? _____

The Holy Spirit doesn't just work in us, He also works in those who don't yet know Christ.

READ: John 16:8

What will the Spirit convict people of? _____

In what way does this give you courage to share the Gospel with others? _____

The Holy Spirit is not some mystical force, He is a divine person, the third member of the Trinity, equal with the Father and Son, but unique in role. He lives in you, not for your glory, but for God's. He empowers, equips, and emboldens you to witness to the world, whom He will convict.

REACT: *What is one takeaway from today's study for you? What did you learn? What will be different? What will you do?*

DAY 4 — His Family

PRAY: *Ask the Lord to meet with you and to teach you from His Word. Ask Him to conform you to Christ as you spend time with Him today.*

READ: Matthew 28:18

Who did Jesus give the Great Commission to? _____

READ: Acts 1:8

Who is Jesus talking to in this verse? _____

We are not supposed to do any of this alone. The Great Commission was given to a group, the Holy Spirit was given to a group to empower them together to go forth as witnesses and make disciples. Not only that, but there are 59 one-another passages in the New Testament that make it clear that the Christian life is not meant to be lived alone, but in intimate community working together.

READ: 1 John 3:1

What are we? _____

The moment we come to Jesus we become part of His family and we are meant to live this life together.

READ: Mark 6:7

Why do you think Jesus sent them out in groups of two? _____

Jesus knew that they would be stronger and more successful together. He knew that there would be challenges and hurdles and that we would need someone to help us get over them. God's family, the Church, is one of the best gifts we have this side of heaven. **We are stronger together.**

Disciples must be brought to maturity.

~ Robert Coleman

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- Is the Word of God the priority in my life it should be? If not, what will I do to make sure it is?

- Am I leaning on the Holy Spirit for courage and boldness in witnessing for Christ or am I making excuses for why I don't? What can I do to better trust His Spirit?

- Am I a lone ranger for Christ, or am I working to fulfill the Great Commission as an intimate member in and with my local church family? What changes do I need to make to be more intimately connected to my church family?

APPENDIX

IDEAS FOR CONNECTING WITH NEIGHBORS

- Give them your phone #, telling them to call if they ever need help with something.
- Host a barbecue or pool party
- Host a Christmas open house
- Help organize a block party
- Host “happy hour” in your driveway once a month.
- Invite them to join you on your normal weekend activities (hiking, boating, fishing, golf, etc.)
- Host a game night.
- If someone shares a struggle — offer to pray for them in that moment.
- Help them with yard work or home improvements.

IDEAS FOR GETTING INVOLVED IN TOWN

- Join a group — bridge, mahjong
- Join a club — running, disc golf, garden, golf
- Play pickle ball
- Join a golf league
- Participate in activities through Town Hall or Community Center
- Volunteer — at community center, library, schools, Boys & Girls club
- Mentor — through local school district
- Frequent certain establishments and get to know people — coffee shops, restaurants, gym
- Go for walks in the same neighborhood/park frequently on same days at same times.
- Go to the dog park frequently on same days at same times.
- Join an organization — Rotary, Kiwanis, Chamber

TRANSITION QUESTIONS

- What are some of your experiences with God/Church in the past?
- Does any of God’s story make sense to you?
- Who is Jesus to you?
- Do you think there is a heaven or a hell?
- Do you consider yourself a spiritual person? Where would you say you are in your spiritual pilgrimage?
- What kind of role, if any, does your faith/spirituality play in your work, day, marriage, relationships, perspective on life?
- Where do you go for spiritual guidance?
- What do you think makes someone a Christian?
- Has church ever played a part in your life? To what extent?
- Most people in America say they believe in God. Who/What is God to you?
- When you have no one to turn to where do/would you go?
- Do you think religion/spirituality should play a role in politics
- What do you think happens to people after they die?
- Can I tell you how God helped me in a similar situation.
- We’ve been friends for a while, can I tell you about what’s most important in my life?

SHARING THE GOSPEL

The time will come in every relationship in which we need to share God's story with our friends. It may happen in one moment, it may happen over time through a series of discussions. Therefore we need to be sure that we know God's story so we can most effectively share it with our friends.

Open your Bible and turn it toward your friend and let them read the verses.

- It gets them reading the Bible, maybe for the first time.
- After they read a verse, ask them what it means. (Luke 10:25-26)
 - If they don't understand, ask them to read it again.
 - You're not telling them what to believe, they're figuring it out on their own.
 - They can't argue with you because you haven't said anything.
 - Conviction comes from God and not something you said.
- Write the next reference upside down at top of page for you to see.

The Key Points of God's story.

GOD'S LOVE — God loves you and wants you to experience peace and life eternal. The Bible says...

- Romans 5:1 = "*We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*"
- John 3:16 = "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."
- John 10:10 = "*I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*"

Why don't most people have this peace and abundant life that God planned for us to have?

MAN'S PROBLEM — God created us in His own image to have an abundant life. He did not make us as robots to automatically love and obey Him. God gave us a will and a freedom of choice. We chose to disobey God and go our own willful way. We still make this choice today. **This results in separation from God.** The Bible says...

- Romans 3:23 = "*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*"
- Isaiah 59:2 = "*but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.*"
- Romans 6:23 = "*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"

People have tried many ways to bridge this gap between themselves and God.

The Bible says...

- Proverbs 14:12 = "*There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.*"
- Isaiah 59:2 = "But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear."

No bridge reaches God...except one.

GOD'S REMEDY — Jesus Christ died on **the Cross** and rose from the grave. He paid the penalty for our sin and bridged the gap between God and people. The Bible says...

- 1 Timothy 2:5 = *“For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”*
- 1 Peter 3:18 = *“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God.”*
- Romans 5:8 = *“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*
- John 14:6 = *“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

God has provided the only way. Each person must make a choice.

MAN'S RESPONSE — We must trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and **receive Him** in repentance and by faith. The Bible says...

- John 1:12 = *“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”*
- Romans 10:9 = *“Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”*

Give them a chance to respond!

- What do you think about this?
- Do you see any need for Christ in your life?
- Will you receive Jesus Christ right now?

Here is how you can receive Christ:

1. Admit you are a sinner.
2. Believe Jesus died to pay for your sin.
3. Confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
4. Through prayer, receive Jesus Christ into your life as Lord and Savior.

Sample Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for creating me and for loving me as much as you do. I realize now that I am a sinner and I'm sorry. Please forgive me. I believe and I know that Jesus suffered, died and rose again so I could be forgiven. I now trust Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I want to know you as well as you know me, so please come in to my life Jesus and show me how to live the way you want me to. Amen

TIPS FOR SHARING YOUR STORY

Plan to Share Your Story

1. Write out your story.
2. Begin practicing your story. Be prepared to share it in 3 minutes or less.
3. Be ready to share at any moment when someone might ask you, or God might open the door for you to step through.
4. Don't just wait, be proactive and schedule times to share your story with your friends on your prayer list in chapter 2.
 - A good transition might be... *We've been friends for a while now; may I tell you about the most important thing in my life?*

Additional Tips for Sharing Your Story

1. Be real
 - Don't make things sound worse or better than they are
 - Tell the truth but edit out the gory details
 - Tell your story and don't make excuses
 - Admit what you still struggle with and that you haven't arrived yet
2. Talk about Jesus
 - Most people believe in "God" but not Jesus; it's important that they hear about Him
3. Remember that no one can argue with your story
 - It's your story, they can't argue about it, they can't disagree with it
4. Remember that no one's story is boring!
 - Even if you came to Christ as a child, you've lived life with Him and overcome struggles, avoided pitfalls, and been changed by the power of the Spirit. You have a great story to tell!

DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES

Available in the Harvest office.

- Spending Time With God
- What's the Significance of Baptism?

MAKING DISCIPLES

- **D1** — New Life in Christ
- **D2** — Following Christ
- **D3** — Transformed by Christ
- **D4** — On Mission With Christ

APPS/WEBSITES

- Albert Mohler — podcast and blog
- Bible Gateway — Bible study
- Bible Hub — Bible study
- Blue Letter Bible (BLB) — Bible study
- e-Sword — Bible study
- ESV Bible
- Fighter Verse — verse memorization
- Grace to You — John MacArthur sermons
- Logos — Bible study
- Reading Plan — bible reading schedule
- Prayer Mate — prayer scheduling and reminders
- Ref Net — reformed preaching
- Solid Joys — daily devotional
- The Gospel Coalition — articles

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Making Disciples by Gene Warr
The Master Plan of Evangelism by Robert Coleman
The Training of the Twelve by A.B. Bruce

¹ IVP New Testament Commentary, Matthew 9.