

MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Discipleship — 2 Timothy 2:2

What you heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful people, who will be able to teach others also. 2 Timothy 2:2

Overview: In Matthew 28:19 and 20, we read the resurrected Jesus giving his handful of devoted followers – His disciples – the following great commissioning, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

How are we going to play our part in discipling people for the advancement of the gospel of Jesus into the nations? Paul did it through discipling multiplication. The memory verse speaks of the principle of multiplication – Paul to Timothy, Timothy to faithful people, and faithful people to others. The power of multiplication – of discipleship – is seen in the following:

Year 1 You lead one person to Jesus and disciple that person (D1)

Year 2 You and D1 each lead one person to Jesus and disciple those two people (D2 and D3)

If everyone continues to do this every year...

At the end of 5 years there are 32 disciples.

At the end of 10 years there are 1,024 disciples.

At the end of 20 years there are 1,048,576 disciples.

Scripture related to being a disciple and making disciples:

Being a disciple:

- “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” Matthew 22:36 - 40
- “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34, 35
- And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.” Luke 9:23

Making disciples:

- What you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful people, who will be able to teach others also. 2 Timothy 2:2
- Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. 1 Corinthians 11:1
- What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me – practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:9
- “You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house.” Acts 20:18 – 20
- Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9:24 – 27

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQ_dVYTjLb0

Segment Questions:

The Great Commission

Read Matthew 28:19, 20

- What is God's plan for advancing the gospel of Jesus to each person throughout the world?
- What aspects of Jesus' statement stand out to you?
- What is the role of everyday followers of Jesus (as compared to pastors and full time Christian workers)?

Being a disciple

Read Matthew 22:36-40, John 13:34, 35 and Luke 9:23

- What are some highlights for you from these passages?
- What do you think, or have experienced, are some of the costs of being a disciple of Jesus?

Making disciples

Read 2 Timothy 2:2, 1 Corinthians 11:1, Philippians 4:9, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- What are some principles for making disciples that stand out to you in these passages?
- What do you think "life on life" discipleship looks like?

Action Questions:

- Do you have a "Paul"? Do you have a "Timothy"? If so, tell us about him.
- If you recognize the need to be discipled, who might you seek out as your "Paul"?
- If you hear the call of God for you to make disciples, who might God be prompting you to disciple as your "Timothy"?

Closing Personal Prayer: Father, thank you that we are part of your plan for taking the good news of Jesus to every person. May we be disciples and the disciple makers like Paul and Timothy. Amen.