

COMMANDS

THE 7 BASIC ~~SUGGESTIONS~~ OF JESUS

Right before Jesus left the earth, He commanded his followers to become disciple makers themselves. We often refer to this command as "The Great Commission".

For some Christians, this seems to come more naturally. For others, the very thought of 'making disciples' produces anxiety or confusion. Maybe this is because they don't know what discipleship looks like or understand how to do it. By exploring the scripture we can unpack more of what Jesus is inviting us all into.

READ: MATTHEW 28:19-20

Verse 19 begins with "Therefore go." When we see the word "therefore" in scripture, we should always back up a few verses to see what the "therefore" is there for. Back up and read v.18 to give context to v.19.

Under what or whose authority are we sent into the world to make disciples?

We are powerless, in and of ourselves, to transform the hearts of men. But Jesus gives us His own power for the important task of bringing others to Him.

How does this change your view on, or approach to, making disciples?

What false views on discipleship do you hold that need to shift?

Disciples are, by definition, students, learners, people who are actively growing in their faith...not just converts.

What does this tell us about the longevity and process behind bringing people to Jesus?

Did you have the opportunity to be disciplined?

Did this experience provide a foundation for you to disciple others?

What needs to be in place in your life so that you are able to commit to disciplining someone else?

What needs to be removed?

In v.20, Jesus says we are to teach new disciples to obey everything He has commanded.

Are you obeying what Jesus has commanded in such a way that others could look into your life and imitate what they see in order to be a disciple of Jesus?

Ask God to reveal your true heart and record your thoughts below.

*Is there someone in your circle of influence you feel led to invest in spiritually?
What do you identify as first steps in this process?*

As followers of Jesus, we have a very important responsibility, but as we read the end of v.20, we see that we do not walk this path alone. We have Jesus as our coworker, our guide, our protector, our power source, and our peace.

As you attempt to lead others to Jesus and help them grow, what aspect of the presence of Jesus most encourages you?

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

***Father, thank you for the promise of Jesus' presence
as we set out to love others well and lead them to You.***

***Shape us so that when others look into our lives,
they see a life lived in service to You.***

***Work in us so that, like Paul, we also may be able to say
"imitate me as I imitate Christ."***

Amen.