

CALLED TO VISION

WEEK 2

CALLED TO **MAKE DISCIPLES**

connect group notes



FOR THE FACILITATOR

Encourage the group to take turns reading and answering questions. It is best to ask the questions as they appear instead of waiting till the end.

TOPIC : Called to Vision - We make disciples

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TIME TO PONDER:

We as a church should never forget that if we have given our hearts to Jesus, we are His called ones.

Called out of darkness - into His light.

Called out of sin - into freedom.

Called out of apathy - into action.

Jesus has a vision for our lives and it is to follow his example and to become more and more like Him.

We are all in different phases of our faith journey. Some may be near the end of that journey, Paul was talking like that when he says:

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

Our ultimate goal is to run the race that God has called each one of us to and finish it.

Part of Outlook Church's vision - which we are a part of - is to make disciples.

In fact it is our mission statement. Our vision is Jesus and becoming more like Him.

In doing so we need to be on the same mission as Jesus and that is to make disciples.

We are called to make disciples of Jesus at every level:

We make disciple makers.

We disciple nations.

We disciple generations.

We - Make - Disciples

We make disciples with emphasis on **we** - it is a team effort.

It's not just the job of the pastors, elders and deacons - it is a job for all of us.

Make - we need to be intentional, making a disciple doesn't happen on its own, it requires our time and effort.

Disciples - it's who we are. We as believers of Christ are followers of Jesus, we are His disciples.

Question 1: What does discipleship mean to you? Have you ever had anyone disciple you? What did that look like?

TIME TO DISCUSS:

5 Truths of Discipleship

1. It's the strategy of Jesus to change the world.

Matthew 4:18-20

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Jesus invested time with twelve men who he then trusted to change the world. He lived with them, ate with them and taught them.

2. We are **all** commissioned to make disciples.

Matthew 28:18-20.

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

In order to reach the world we need to be activated and activate others to make disciples.

3. The goal of discipleship is to mould us more and more into the image of Jesus. It is not a program , it's a lifestyle. It is to bring us into maturity in Christ. We need others to help mould us.

Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

4. The process of discipleship is relational. We are friends before we function together.

Mark 3:13-15

And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach and have authority to cast out demons.

Jesus first spent time in relationship with his disciples before He sent them out.

5. The main environment of discipleship is the dining room table. It's about doing life together, sharing a meal, sharing hearts so that teaching happens both informally and formally.

Luke 19:6

And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today."

In John 13 to John 17 we see just how Jesus did this. Jesus served the disciples by washing their feet.

He taught them through day to day examples, he dealt with issues, there were times for questions and answers.

John 13:2-5

During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Our dining room tables can be sacred ministry opportunities, just like they were for Jesus as we see above.

Question 2: When last did you make your dining room table a ministry opportunity, even if it was just for your family? Are you prepared to extend your dining room table to include others that you could disciple?

TIME TO REFLECT

Why is discipleship so important?

We can get saved and just not move on because we have no connection or relationships with people who can help us on our spiritual journeys.

It is through a personal connection with someone, who can walk a journey with you, that you mature and grow more into the likeness of Jesus.

Those relationships are crucial in helping us to move on into what God has called us to do.

Different people can help us with different areas of our lives. So that we can grow and become more like Jesus.

Question 3: How are we doing in this area of discipleship? Are you going to people you know who can help disciple you?

What keeps us from making disciples?

A lack confidence.

If we don't think we are able to help others and make a difference.

Not knowing what you should be doing because you weren't disciplined well.

Thinking it is following a program and not about building relationships.

Thinking we are just here to receive - Christianity is not a spectator sport we are to get involved.

ACTION STEP

So how do we answer the call to discipleship?

We need to put discipleship back into the ecosystem of our Christianity. The ripple effect will be life. One by one, those things that have been lost will be restored.

Today we need to be assured that we have been called to be a disciple and to disciple others.

Be proactive. Get involved with a small group. Invite people to meals around your dining room table where you can grow and others can grow and come more into the fullness of life that Jesus has for you.