



FLOURISH COMMUNITIES

Disciple-making

Spiritual disciplines provide meaningful ways for you to abide in God and be transformed by Him.

Making disciples is a natural and normal outflow of a vibrant life in Christ.

In fact, the Lord directed his followers like us to make disciples, teaching them to obey everything we learn from Him. As we obey and follow Jesus, we invite others to go with us. Disciple-making can take many forms in a variety of contexts. Making disciples is an intentional way of life empowered by the Holy Spirit. We experience a fulfilling life in Christ when we engage in intentional disciple-making relationships and see these relationships multiply.

How can you develop disciple-making into a regular practice you enjoy?

Disciple-making²

1. When we are in disciple-making relationships we spend a lot of time listening to one another – to our stories, our present experiences, and our future dreams. We help each other hear the voice of the Father and obey Him. We do this through interacting with Him and with each another in community. The disciple-maker keeps the relationship intentional and purposeful – to help a nonbeliever, new believer or growing believer take their next steps toward Jesus. To meet Him, accept Him, grow up into Him and become a disciple-maker herself.
2. A disciple-maker helps people respond to God with greater freedom, including the freedom to change by the power of the Holy Spirit. A disciple-maker believes in the capacity of a pair, triad, or small group of disciples to deeply impact and encourage one-another to live and love like Jesus.
3. A disciple-maker practices spiritual disciplines with the people she is influencing. Being a person a little further ahead on the journey allows a disciple-maker to share the practices she has learned while she encourages the growing believer to explore new practices around how she wants to do life with Jesus.
4. A disciple-maker loves and prays for the people she disciples and helps those people grow from nonbeliever, seeker, infant, adolescent, to mature believer, to reproducer.

Pray and ask the Lord to show you three people in your spheres of influence He would like you to pray for and look for ways to BLESS. Write their names below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

continued...

Think about It¹

Disciple-making means living in personal obedience to the great commission given by Jesus, which entails being a follower and making other followers of Christ. Jesus said, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." **Our response is to be ready, willing, and able!**

1. *Engaging in relationships with those who are not yet followers of Jesus*

Key questions: Which three people in your life is the Holy Spirit inviting you to intentionally pray for and spend time with? A simple experiment: Can you pray for these three people three minutes a day for three weeks? Notice what the Holy Spirit is doing.

2. *Demonstrating and explaining the good news and the way of Jesus*

Key questions: How would you demonstrate and explain the good news of Jesus to these three friends in simple acts of love and language? How can you BLESS them with no strings attached? Jot down a specific intention for each of your friends.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

1. *Establishing seekers and new believers in a growth process*

Key question: What steps might you take to spend time in spiritual conversation with these friends as they are interested, or invite them into a Flourish Community in order to walk with them as they journey with Jesus?

Create your intentions¹

- In light of this, **what is God asking you to do next?**
- How will you do this?
- When will you do this?
- Who can help you?

Ideas taken from *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices That Transform Us*, by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun, *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*, by Marjorie J. Thompson², and *Disciplemaking Guide* by Robert E. Logan and Charles R. Ridley¹