

During the time His disciples spent with Jesus He modeled and taught them to do the things He did to usher in God's Kingdom. As Jesus returned to heaven, He charged them to be disciples who make disciples.

What are some of the things that Jesus had taught and commanded His disciples to do over their years they spent with Him? If those who became followers of Jesus were taught to do all of these things too, and if they became disciples who made disciples as well, then that calling has been handed down to us. Did you know we are called to do all that they were called to do?

WRAP-UP

Jesus' disciples are on mission with Him to usher in the Kingdom of God in our homes, our churches and our communities. Jesus modeled that for them, taught them and called them to do the things He did. That same calling and the authority to fulfill that mission has been handed down to us, because He calls us to be His disciples.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 28:18-20 NLT - 18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 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."

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life.

Challenge- There may be someone in your life who needs to hear the Good News. Watch for opportunities this week to bring the Kingdom of God into your world.

"Glimpses of the Kingdom"

Made For More #5

INTRODUCTION

Wherever Jesus went he ushered in the Kingdom of God. We are called to be His disciples, to be followers of Jesus. So, if we are following Jesus our end goal is also to usher in the Kingdom. For us to do that we need to catch a glimpse of the Kingdom, to see what it looks like when Jesus rules and reigns.

Ice Breaker

Have you ever been an apprentice or protégé to someone in order to learn a particular skill?

Key Passage

Matthew 9:35-38 NLT - 35 Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. 38 So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What is a Disciple?

Matthew 4:18-20 NLT - 18 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers--Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew--throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. 19 Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" 20 And they left their nets at once and followed him.

A disciple is one who is guided, supported, protected, and trained by someone older or more experienced than they are. Matthew gives us

the “bullet-point” version of how Jesus called His first disciples. He tells us Jesus said, “follow me, I’ll make you fishers of men” and the disciples followed. We find a little more detailed version in Luke 5:1-11. Jesus had been teaching to a crowd as Peter and Andrew were cleaning their nets. He borrowed their boat to teach where people could hear Him better, then Jesus told them to go back out and try fishing again, in the way He would tell them, not in the way they were used to. Here was the object lesson- Could a carpenter teach fishermen how to fish? Would they become His disciples?

First, Peter and Andrew had heard what Jesus was teaching, and then they were asked to do something inconvenient. This was their point of decision to believe what Jesus taught and follow Him, even if it didn’t seem to make sense. They had to go back out after catching nothing, and fish where Jesus told them to. When they decided to trust Jesus and take a step of faith to follow His instructions, they began their journey as disciples.

Disciples of Jesus are asked to do things His way, even when its costly. Has Jesus asked you to do something inconvenient or costly that might not seem to make sense? If so, how have you responded?

2. What Does a Disciple Do?

Matthew 9:35-38 NLT - 35 Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 He said to his disciples, "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. 38 So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields."

If you are a disciple, you’re looking to follow Jesus’ lead. What do we see Jesus doing in this passage that we should emulate? How does Matthew describe the crowds and Jesus’ reaction to them? What are some of the other things that Jesus did in the Gospels that you think we should be doing too?

In this instance Jesus didn’t say, “you go and take care of these people”. He did that later when feeding the 5,000. Instead, here He

encouraged His disciples to seek God for more workers. Spoiler alert-God might just use those disciples to make more disciples who would be sent out to the harvest later.

Have you ever prayed for God to provide a solution only to feel that He is calling you to be the solution? Do you see the relationship between our compassion for the needs of others and our willingness to be used of God to meet those needs?

A missionary is someone sent by God into the world to join in the Kingdom work of Jesus of Nazareth. And the Good News of the Kingdom is that Jesus has come to set up heaven on earth. He is here to rule. The missionaries God sent out got to announce the Good News of the Kingdom and tell people to repent.

Do you know or support anyone doing missionary work in a foreign country? If so, share their story with your group. Have you considered yourself God’s missionary? What would you consider your missionary field?

Matthew 10:5-8 NLT - 5 Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions: "Don't go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans, 6 but only to the people of Israel--God's lost sheep. 7 Go and announce to them that the Kingdom of Heaven is near. 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure those with leprosy, and cast out demons. Give as freely as you have received!"

In this passage we see how Jesus sends the workers to those lost sheep. In verse 8 we find a list of things Jesus had done during His ministry that he now sent His disciples out to do. What sorts of responses do you think the disciples had when Jesus charged them to do these things?

3. His Mission, Our Mission

Matthew 28:18-20 NLT - 18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 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."