EXPAND

Helping Others Follow Jesus And Muliply Disciples

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Helping Others Follow Jesus and Make Disciples

Jesus never intended for discipleship to stop with you.

Everything you have received - every truth you have learned, every rhythm you have practiced, every way you have experienced Jesus - was always meant to eventually flow through you into someone else.

This is where the pursuit begins to expand.

Not by building a bigger platform. Not by gathering a larger crowd. Not by becoming an expert. But by making another disciple.

FROM ADDITION TO MULTIPLICATION

There is a massive difference between addition and multiplication. Addition grows one person at a time. Multiplication grows through people who grow other people. It is exponential.

Think about a row of dominoes. One domino knocks over another, which knocks over another. A small beginning can eventually create enormous impact. That is a picture of discipleship.

Jesus understood multiplication. He invested deeply in a handful of ordinary people and then told them, “Whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these...” (John 14:12).

Jesus was not suggesting His disciples would become greater than Him. He was revealing what would happen when His life multiplied through them.

One Jesus. Twelve disciples. Then hundreds. Thousands. Cities. Nations. Generations. And eventually the gospel reached you.

> THE QUESTION
> You are part of a chain of spiritual multiplication that began with Jesus. Will it stop with you?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT

For many people, the idea of discipling someone feels intimidating. I don't know enough. I haven't been following Jesus long enough. What if someone asks me a question I can't answer? I'm not a pastor. I'm not a leader.

Jesus didn't begin with experts. He began with ordinary people who were willing to follow Him and invite others along.

Discipleship isn't saying, "I have arrived. Follow me." It is saying, "I'm following Jesus. Let's follow Him together."

You don't need a theology degree, a microphone, a title, or a church building. Sometimes you just need a table, a few chairs, an open Bible, and some willing people.

PULL UP ANOTHER CHAIR

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus created spaces where transformation could happen - around tables, walking roads, inside homes, and around fires. Jesus taught crowds, but He formed disciples through proximity.

This book is an invitation to take the next step: invite a few people, open your life, open Scripture, ask honest questions, practice the way of Jesus together, pray for one another, and begin walking intentionally toward Jesus.

The pursuit was never supposed to end with you.

HOW THIS BOOK WORKS

Two Movements of Disciple-Making

Part One answers: What am I actually inviting someone into? Part Two answers: How do I intentionally help someone else follow Jesus and eventually do the same for another person?

PART ONE

WHAT IS A DISCIPLE? — What does disciple-making involve?

- **Discipleship has a Person**
- **Discipleship has a Promise**
- **Discipleship has a Purpose**
- **Discipleship has a Provision**
- **Discipleship has a Priority**
- **Discipleship has a Price**
- **Discipleship has a Posture**
- **Discipleship has a Process**

PART TWO

HOW DO I LEAD AND PARTNER WITH MAKING DISCIPLES?

- **Discipleship has a Partnership**
- **Discipleship has a Pursuit**
- **Discipleship has Proximity**
- **Discipleship has a Practice**
- **Qualities of a Disciple-Maker**
- **How to Lead a Discipleship Group or Cohort**
- **How to Start Your Group**
- **12 Don’ts for Groups**
- **Discipleship has Multiplication**

BEFORE WE BEGIN

Can Any Christian Become a Disciple-Maker?

Yes, every believer is called and capable of becoming a disciple maker. Jesus gave the Great Commission to ordinary people, not spiritual experts: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). He didn’t command only pastors or leaders, He sent anyone who had encountered Him. Disciple making isn’t about gifting, eloquence, or experience; it starts with a simple yes to Jesus. If the first disciples, with their failures, doubts, and inexperience, could step into this mission, so can you.

Any Christian can become a disciple maker because God provides the power, not you. Jesus promised, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20), and the Spirit equips every believer to guide others toward Christ. Disciple making is less about being the expert and more about being available, faithful, and authentic. Paul said, “Imitate me, as I imitate Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1). If you’re following Jesus, you already have something worth passing on. The Holy Spirit in you makes you fully qualified to help someone else grow.

Why Should I Want to Become a Disciple Maker?

You should want to become a disciple maker because it’s the very mission Jesus tied to following Him. The Great Commission isn’t an optional ministry assignment, it’s the natural overflow of a life shaped by Christ. When you disciple someone, you join Jesus in His core work: transforming lives, not just attending services. This is fruit-bearing obedience that carries eternal weight. Jesus said, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19). To follow Him is to join Him. Disciple making turns your faith outward, gives your story purpose, and multiplies what God has already done in you.

You also become a disciple maker because it forms you as much as it forms them. Walking with others sharpens humility, courage, patience, and spiritual maturity. Paul captured this when he wrote, “What you have heard from me…entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2). When you pour into others, God deepens your own walk. Disciple makers don’t just consume truth, they replicate it. They step into the joy and responsibility of building spiritual legacy and partnering with Jesus to shape lives that last.

Six benefits of being a disciple-maker

1. It will give you personal satisfaction living your life as something bigger than yourself
2. It will grow you in the faith
3. It will reward you with the joy of seeing others live out their destiny and purpose
4. It will create deep, lifelong relationships with those you disciple
5. It will bring the Word of God to the forefront of your life
6. It will let you leave a legacy that will echo for eternity

PART ONE

WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?

What Does Disciple-Making Involve?

What is a disciple?

The word disciple is lost in our cultural understanding today. You will not hear it or read it much in our current cultural context. It is a churchy word and not very popular or defined.

The Greek term for a disciple in the New Testament is mathetes, which means more than just student or learner. A disciple is a follower; someone who adheres completely to the teachings of another, making it their way of life and conduct. It refers to a student who follows the teaching and patterns of another that the student becomes a clone. It refers to someone who takes up the ways of someone else. Applied to Jesus, a disciple is someone who learns from him to live like him.

In the ancient world, gymnasiums were not arenas for sporting events. They were training centers to teach students the thoughts of Plato and the system developed by Aristotle, known as Aristotelian logic. The students thus trained were “gymnatized,” which is a Greek word for a gymnasium.

So successful was this discipling process that it allowed the Greeks to influence the whole Greco-Roman world. This process was called Hellenization, in which people who were not Greek began to adopt Greek thinking, language, and culture. That was all part of this concept of discipleship.

In reality, you are already being discipled by the influence of culture. Today people are discipled by Netflix, ESPN, or CNN. Think about it, sports fanatics idolize their favorite players and attend every performance. Epic guitarists are worshiped by their fans as rock gods. And large groups of every day irreligious people spend their days devoted to their electronic devices. We are all products of being discipled by the influence of society and culture. The question is, “Am I being discipled to the full life Jesus promised?”

Jesus commissions us in Matthew 28:19-20 to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing 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.

A disciple is not someone who merely believes in Jesus, but someone who pursues being formed by Jesus and practices living like Jesus in the world.

Definition of a Disciple: A disciple of Jesus is someone who chooses to be with Jesus, believe what Jesus taught, becoming who Jesus was, and behave as Jesus would, by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

We call this experiencing and expressing the life and essence of Jesus.

A true disciple is:

- Called to be — continually transformed to embody the character of Jesus (Rom. 8:29).
- Sent to go — commissioned to participate in His mission in the world (John 20:21).
- Made to multiply — empowered to make disciples who do the same (Matt. 28:19–20).

Definition of a Disciple Maker: A disciple maker is a disciple who invites, invests in, and inspires others, as they pursue and practice the life rhythms of Jesus together through the power of the Holy Spirit.

A disciple maker embraces a lifestyle of embodied discipleship.

Embodied discipleship is Spirit-led formation that happens through real relationships, shared practices and incarnational presence, where faith is caught through proximity over platforms, modeling over managing, and humble examples over know it all experts.

Informational discipleship is church-led, content-driven formation that happens primarily through teaching, programs, and structured gatherings, where faith is learned through information more than caught through relational engagement, and the institution does most of the shaping.

Discipleship has a Person

Before discipleship has a promise, purpose, process, or practice, discipleship has a Person: Jesus.

The goal of discipleship is not simply to produce better Christians, complete curriculum, or master spiritual habits. The goal is to become like Jesus.

A disciple learns to be with Jesus, become like Jesus, and live the way Jesus lived. Everything else in this book serves that one center.

EXPAND IT

Who is one person in your life you could invite to intentionally follow Jesus with you?

Discipleship has a Promise

Jesus declared a promise in John 10:10 that He came to offer life, and life to the fullest. The promise of experiencing "life to the full" begins with a profound transformation of your inner world. Jesus invites disciples into a deep, personal relationship with God that replaces guilt, anxiety, and emptiness with lasting peace and joy. This full life does not mean you will never face trouble, but it ensures you have a steady anchor and an unbreakable hope through every trial.

True fullness of life also means discovering your divine purpose and identity. As a disciple, you stop drifting through life according to worldly standards and start living for something much bigger than yourself. Following Jesus clarifies your values, unlocks your unique spiritual gifts, and guides you to make a meaningful, positive impact on the world around you.

Finally, this abundant life thrives within a genuine, loving community. Discipleship is never a lonely journey; it connects you deeply with a family of believers who share your faith, support you in hard times, and celebrate your growth. Ultimately, this promise satisfies your deepest human needs for connection, meaning, and security both now and for eternity.

Discipleship has a Purpose

To better understand what a disciple is, we need to start by identifying God’s desired end goal for our lives. Discipleship is about hitting the bullseye of that end goal. Let’s start with the end game and work our way back from there. Think of it this way, destination determines direction. Once we have a destination for our lives in mind, we can define and determine the direction discipleship should head in. So, the answer to this question can be summarized in this way:

Life Transformation is the main goal God has for our lives!

When we talk about life transformation, we are not just talking about a better version of ourselves, a few modifications, tweaks, or some self-help improvements. When we talk about life transformation, we are talking about our lives decreasing so that the life of Jesus can be formed and increased in us. This is what we call the formational journey. It is the process of my life supernaturally being transformed by the Holy Spirit to look more like the life of Christ in me and through me.

It's Experiencing and Expressing the Essence of Jesus

Think about it, the moment a person puts their faith in Jesus, they begin the process of experiencing the life of Jesus inwardly, and they begin to express His life outwardly. The Holy Spirit works in us by peeling away our broken characteristics and replacing them with godly characteristics. His work in us makes us more and more like Jesus. We begin to think like Jesus; feel like Jesus; act like Jesus. Even at the best version of ourselves, we will never compare to experiencing and expressing the life of Jesus. This is what Jesus meant when he said in John 10:10, I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. Life to the fullest is what we all want!

A transformed life is a more fulfilled life. At the very depths of our being, we experience the life Jesus lived. A life of healing, wholeness, peace, hope, power, and purpose. It's about not settling for the ordinary but living an extraordinary life. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, the life of Jesus is transferred into us.

A TRANSFERRED Life leads to a TRANSFORMED Life

Those who believe in Jesus, and put their trust in Him, begin a new life in His power. The Bible describes this new life as a transformation. Many have compared the Christian transformation, the old self into the new self, in the same way as a caterpillar's transformation into a butterfly with metamorphosis.

Webster's dictionary defines metamorphosis as a change of physical form, structure, or substance, especially by supernatural means or a striking alteration in appearance, character, or circumstances. Through metamorphosis, the caterpillar becomes a totally new and much more beautiful creation.

Metamorphosis compares to the process of change that followers or disciples of Jesus undergo in becoming more like Him. The Bible tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:17, If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! In other words, we are not reformed, rehabilitated, or reeducated, but we are re-created (new creations) living in divine union with Christ. And Romans 12:2, tells us Do not be conformed any longer to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

A Transformed Life moves from ME-CENTERED to JESUS-CENTERED

Upon a person putting their full trust in Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit invades the hearts of believers, transforming their lives to be more Jesus-like. The Bible states that God has good, pleasing, and perfect plans for his disciples, and he wants them to be transformed people with renewed minds, living to honor and obey him. Over time, we begin to develop new perspectives, passions, possibilities, and pursuits. More importantly, we transform from being self-focused to being Christ-focused. We are transformed from being the caterpillar that is self-absorbed and obsessed with

consuming food and destroying plants to a brilliant butterfly who sails through the air, flying and pollinating flowers and beautifying the earth.

Transformation happens when we move from our brokenness to God's brilliance.

The Bible references the character of Jesus as the glory or brilliance of Jesus. The more we are transformed, the more His brilliance shines through our brokenness. God defines His glory in terms of His character on display through us. The Bible describes this transformational phenomenon in 2 Corinthians 3:18: But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit.

A Transformed Life is a Fruit-Bearing Life

The outcome or fruit of this transformed life is promised in Galatians 5:22: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Imagine living a life free of shame, failure, bondage, charades, or insignificance. We can live a life of power and purpose that will impact our identity, community, marriages, churches, families, friendships, jobs, and culture. Making disciples is about helping others unlock their God-given potential and move from the ordinary to the extraordinary!

Being a Disciple means Living a Radical Lifestyle

When we hear the word radical, we often think of religious extremists, crazy bull horn people on the streets, or even an off-the-grid hippie cult. However, the word radical means to be rooted. We know a tree or plant needs to have a healthy root system to bear fruit. Its root system ensures the health and quality of the fruit it grows.

Roots Determine Fruits

As disciples who want to bear the character fruit of Christ in our lives, we need to be rooted in Christ. Colossians 2:7 says, Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Jesus, also speaking of fruit-bearing said in John 15:15, I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me, you can do nothing. Maturity for a disciple is determined by the fruit we bear in our lives and is the test of authenticity as mentioned in Matthew 7:16 "By their fruit, you will recognize them".

Every person, at some point in life, must decide whether or not to receive Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. It is the starting point of a lifelong journey in discipleship as a follower of Jesus. As the apostle Paul says in Ephesians 4:15, we are to grow mature in Christ. We grow up into the head of the body, who is Christ. Such growing up is the process of spiritual formation. The moment we believe, through faith, God puts His Spirit

in us as a deposit of his DNA, and as we learn to walk with His Spirit in partnership and union, we see His life manifest brighter and stronger within us.

Discipleship has a Provision

In Acts 1:8, Jesus sends His disciples out with the power of the Holy Spirit, commissioning them to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. He says, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” This verse reveals that discipleship and mission are impossible apart from the Spirit’s empowerment.

Jesus doesn’t send us out to make disciples on our own ability, He gives us the very presence and power of God to equip, embolden, and guide us. The Holy Spirit enables believers to speak with courage, live with Christlike character, and bear spiritual fruit that draws others to Jesus. Just as the early church spread the gospel across cultures and continents through Spirit-filled disciples, we too are invited into this same mission, empowered not by fear or performance, but by the supernatural strength of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

Discipleship has a Priority

Discipling others should be a priority for all believers because it is the natural outflow of truly following Jesus. When Christ called His disciples, He didn’t just invite them to learn from Him, He equipped them to make more disciples (Matthew 28:19–20). This call wasn’t limited to pastors or leaders; it’s the mission of every believer. Discipling others deepens our own faith, strengthens the church, and advances the kingdom of God. It’s how the gospel multiplies, how spiritual maturity is reproduced, and how lives are transformed through relationships centered on truth and grace. When believers invest in others spiritually, they participate in God’s redemptive work, help others become rooted in Christ, and fulfill the calling to leave a lasting, multiplying impact. Simply put, if we’re following Jesus, we’re called to help others follow Him too.

Discipleship has a Price

Being a disciple of Jesus is not a passive journey, it’s an adventurous life and a spiritual battle that calls for courage, sacrifice, and deep faith. It’s a path that comes with a price, as Jesus Himself taught, requiring us to lay down our own agendas and follow Him wholeheartedly. To be His disciple means to “risk all to be all” that God created us to be, fully alive, fully surrendered, and fully engaged in His mission. It’s a life of purpose and

passion, where every step of obedience shapes us into the image of Christ and impacts the world around us for His glory.

This is why you don't need to have a slew of qualifications to disciple someone else. The original twelve were just ordinary, un-schooled men. You just have to follow and obey Jesus in your own life and be willing to help someone else do the same.

Making disciples is not something reserved only for pastors, priests, ministers, and church leaders. It is the responsibility of all believers. So the question remains: Who are you discipling? What younger believers are in your life that you can bring along in their relationships with Christ? Are you walking together with someone and sharing your life in Christ with them? Are you working with them through their doubts and rejoicing with them in times of celebration and breakthrough?

True discipleship involves investing in other believers, walking through life with them, and shepherding them to Christian maturity. Discipleship is purposeful, fun, and rewarding. It is one of the greatest joys of our lives. However, like most valuable things, discipleship also requires energy, time, and hard work. It is costly.

Salvation is free, but discipleship will cost us our lives. Jesus put it bluntly in Luke 9:23-25, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? To be a disciple of Jesus means that we have given up our lives to follow him wholeheartedly and unreservedly. It means that our lives are no longer our own, they are His.

When Jesus talked with his disciples about experiencing life to the fullest, he challenged them to have an ALL IN mentality. Having an ALL IN mindset and attitude is about living a life centered around Jesus where we decrease so that he can increase in us.

Discipleship has a Posture

Discipleship demands a posture, not a pose, a way of standing in the world that hell recognizes and heaven backs. We rise not as insecure strivers but as new creations, blood-bought and forgiven, walking with the weight of sons and daughters who know their Father's voice. We carry Kingdom authority, not to play church games but to crush the works of darkness, reclaim ground, and push back what pushes against us. This posture is bold humility, a surrendered fierceness, a yielded strength, a holy defiance that bows low before God and stands tall against the enemy. This is the stance of a true disciple: laid down before the King, lit up by the Spirit, and ready to move wherever He sends.

Discipleship has a Process

Discipleship is not a one-size-fits-all. When most people think of the disciples of Jesus, they usually think of the twelve disciples. However, there were hundreds of followers of Jesus, all ranging in different places on their personal faith journey.

In an instant gratification results-oriented culture, we can make discipleship a project like a weekend warrior wanting to renovate their basement. In reality, all of us are on a journey with peaks and valleys, with steps forward and steps backward, with victories and failures. Discipleship is not about a plug-and-play program. It's a process of meeting people where they are and then walking with them into life transformation. Personal growth and transformation are relative to each individual. Comparing or contrasting one journey to another can lead down a path of discouragement and frustration. What looks like growth for one person may actually be a step back for another. All of us are at a different season of life and different spaces within the formational journey.

One of the beautiful things about Jesus is how he took the time to meet people where they were and engaged them in terms directly connected to where they were at in life. That's why any effective process or program related to discipleship has to have a lot of space for what is needed and what God is doing. We need to delete the assumption that every city, every church, and every person is the same. Why? Because they aren't!

During the times of Jesus, there were followers that ranged from curious to contagious. This progression shows both the inner transformation and outward multiplication of a maturing disciple. Being a disciple isn't always a clear linear progression. Often times we move between stages and seasons. But this will help serve as a personal assessment to help you identify what season you are in. These progressing followers are defined as:

Chair One – Curious but Conflicted

Curious about Jesus, but conflicted between His invitation and competing loyalties of the world.

Chair Two – Convinced but Cautious

Believes in Jesus as Savior, but hesitates to surrender every area of life to His lordship.

Chair Three – Committed and Conforming

Committed to follow Jesus and daily conforming their life to His character and ways.

Chair Four – Courageous and Contagious

Courageously living for Jesus and contagiously leading others to follow Him.

EXPAND IT

Which of these realities of discipleship do you most need to embody before asking someone else to follow with you?

PART TWO

HOW DO I LEAD AND PARTNER WITH MAKING DISCIPLES?

Partnering With God to Multiply the Life of Jesus

Discipleship Is a Partnership

Discipleship is a partnership where our role is faithfulness and God's role is fruitfulness. Scripture makes this unmistakably clear. Paul writes, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:6). Our job is gritty, relentless, and real, showing up, speaking truth, modeling obedience, praying without quitting, and walking people through the messy grind of life. But transformation? That's God's arena. "Apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). Hearts ignite, chains break, and fruit bursts forth not because of our effort, but because His Spirit moves. Our faithfulness provokes God's power; our obedience cracks open the soil; and when we plant and water, growth explodes in His timing, unstoppable and eternal. The work is ours to do, fruit belongs to Him, and the harvest will roar.

Our role is faithfulness and God's role is fruitfulness

Oftentimes, we think being a disciple-maker means having all the right answers, or we have to be a perfect model of a disciple. It really isn't about following a twelve-step program and graduate in six months. It's also not trying to force our growth plan on someone else with our expectations of how they should be transformed according to our timeline. The art of being a really good disciple-maker is being in tune with the aspects of transformation the Holy Spirit is highlighting in their life at the moment. Maybe the Holy Spirit is highlighting humility, but you want to coach them on compassion. Both are good but being a disciple-maker is partnering with the inner work of the Spirit in their life uniquely.

The secret to discipleship is not about being perfect but being a partner

Sometimes, despite our best efforts, those we are discipling aren't making progress as we imagined. That's okay. The responsibility of bringing about growth is fully with the Holy Spirit. We can guide them in the right direction and commit their growth to prayer, but we must wait on the Lord for His work in their lives. Don't be discouraged if the growth is coming slowly. Nothing is too slow for God, and His timing is always perfect. Be patient

and wait on the Lord, continuing to build your relationships and faithfully do your part in making disciples.

Discipleship is a partnership with the Holy Spirit as He forms us through His presence, the practices of the faith, and the pain and pressures of real life. It's also a journey walked closely with people whose proximity sharpens, challenges, and strengthens our becoming. When your posture is open to **People**, surrendered in **Presence**, honest in **Pain**, and disciplined in **Practices**, formation stops being accidental and becomes inevitable.

Presence is about understanding transformation happens from the inside out. It's the role of the Holy Spirit inside of us to manifest the life of Christ. He enhances and alters our nature and then empowers us to live the life of Christ. Transformation is a supernatural experience, and when we are in tune with the inner working of the Spirit, we partner with the transforming and forming work he is leading us in. The Holy Spirit sets the agenda and timeline for our discipleship. Walking in step with him allows us to get on his page and surrender to what he highlights in our lives.

Practice is about aligning our life with the values of Jesus. God invites us to partner with Him by practicing the rhythms of humility, compassion, prayer, studying the Bible, being in community, serving, evangelism, and rest. There are intentional practices we can implement in our lives that position us to experience Him and express Him deeply. Rhythms are strong, repeated kingdom values, adopted to position us to be formed into the likeness of Jesus Christ. They put us in the correct posture to receive the fullness of the life God promises.

Pain are about the trials, challenges, and struggles we all face in life. We know during times of hardship and pressure, we can either become better or bitter at the circumstances in life. It's during these refining circumstances that areas of our life need to be stripped away. Hardship also brings to the surface those imperfect areas of our life that need the most transformation. Character traits like pride, ego, jealousy, anger, or apathy can all come into focus as areas we need to see eliminated and refined.

People are about the community of influence we allow to shape us. The people we surround ourselves with can shape us for the better or for worse. A Christ-centered community was always part of God's disciple-forming strategy in our lives. Discipleship was never intended to be a hermit living in a cave experience. Even though we have personal encounters with God that are significant to our formation, full maturity is carried out in our lives through deposits from others. As we live in community, we all help shape and help form one another. This is more than a social club or affinity groups. This is a community that seeks to live out the values of Jesus in rhythm together.

Discipleship has a Pursuit

Discipleship is about pursuing Jesus and inviting others to join you on the journey. You don't have to be a Bible scholar or expert at following Jesus to be a catalyst for someone else. You simply just have to have a desire to see others experience God in their own journey.

Discipling others can be a challenge to prioritize for many believers because it requires intentional time, vulnerability, and spiritual maturity, all of which can feel costly in the midst of busy lives. In a culture that often values individualism, comfort, and personal growth over relational investment, making space to walk closely with others in their faith journey can seem inconvenient or intimidating. Many believers feel unqualified, thinking they need to have all the answers or reach a certain level of spiritual maturity before they can disciple someone else. Others struggle with fear of rejection, discomfort in initiating spiritual conversations, or lack of clarity on how to begin. Additionally, churches sometimes emphasize programs over personal relationships, which can cause discipleship to be overlooked or misunderstood. Yet, despite these challenges, discipleship remains central to the mission of Jesus, and stepping into it, even imperfectly, leads to deep spiritual growth for both the discipler and the one being discipled.

The best way to be a disciple maker is through the relationships you already have. This is why we like to call making disciples a friendship with purpose. Friendships are the best context to be a catalyst in their life. But instead of having a friendship centering around common interests and activities, friendship with purpose centers around Jesus and how he wants to use our relationships to encourage transformation and growth in each other.

Being a disciple maker and pursuing friendships with purpose involves three key aspects:

Invite. Jesus invited others into his life. Discipleship always starts with an invitation. Inviting means to pursue someone with intentionality. It means to initiate and open your life to include space for others. It means including them in your way of doing life and creating a margin to spend time together.

Invest. Jesus invested in others. Investing means making a commitment to the spiritual growth of another. It means to create a safe place for someone to seek an answer, share doubts, and ask tough questions. It doesn't always mean having the answers, but it's seeking answers together. It means to care for the other person and share your life experiences and lessons for their benefit. It means spending time, energy, and love for a deeper connection with God and their life transformation. Investing happens as we Share life, Share learning, Share Mission and Share Rhythms as we practice our faith.

Inspire. Jesus inspired others to do even greater things than him. Inspire means to blow wind or fan into flame the potential and maturity in someone else. Jesus asked questions more than he made statements which made him a great listener. Through one ear we listen to others share and through the other ear we are listening for what the Holy Spirit is doing in their life. The Holy Spirit is the embers and we partner with him by fanning into flames what he is doing in their formation. That's inspiration! Inspire also means recognizing the potential and then affirm, encourage, promote and empower them towards their destiny and purpose in life. Inspire means to launch them out of the nest to take flight and soar, but also be there to pick them up when they stumble and help them take flight again.

Discipleship has a Proximity

Making disciples is more than an informational journey…it is a relational journey.

While discipleship is all about Jesus, it is not a solitary endeavor. Discipleship is relational, and to fully respond to the Great Commission, we need to be disciples who are making disciples of Jesus. This means we need to spend consistent time with other believers. Jesus and his disciples spent a lot of time together (Acts 1:21-22). They ate together, walked together, rode in boats together. They even fought together (Luke 9:46-48). The twelve disciples were in each other's lives, constantly and intentionally. While we are all called to become disciples of Jesus, we become disciples with one another, learning how to love God and each other as we go. We need to allow others to disciple us by letting them challenge us and encourage us in our walk with God. This is why church and honest relationships with other believers are so central to the Christian life, we need one another in this journey of becoming wholehearted disciples of Jesus.

When Jesus imagined disciple-making, he imagined a loving community in the process of transformation and formation. Jesus once looked at his disciples and said, I call you my friends. Jesus defined discipleship in the context of friendship.

Jesus had friends. He was a friend.

Mark 3:14 "He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out."

Jesus modeled disciple making as "friendship with purpose."

Of course, Jesus isn't just any old friend. He's also Creator, Master, Savior, and King. But he is still a friend. Perhaps being those things and a friend, the Friend, makes his friendship all the more wonderful.

Friendship was Jesus' unique method for discipleship. He was a leader but never the lord-it-over kind of leader. He was the come-alongside kind, the kind who eats dinner at your house, takes long walks with you, and tells you stories. He encourages you when you mess up, empowers you to do ministry, and prays for you.

In John 15, he told his disciples explicitly, You are my friends. And he continues to say, I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give to you.

Having called his men, Jesus made a practice of spending time with them. This was the essence of his training program, letting his disciples follow him. Knowledge of Christ was gained by association before it was understood by explanation. He ate with his disciples, slept near them, and talked with them for most of his active ministry. Although there is no command to commit to such a level, it seems convincing that Jesus shows how important relationship development is to growing a disciple. If this does not happen, the disciple may feel like a project and not a person. The person should know he is loved, not only by Christ but also by their leader. Jesus never asked anyone to do or be anything which first he had not demonstrated in his own life. His desire was to get the disciples into a vital experience with God.

Christ demonstrated leadership by inviting, investing, and inspiring those around Him, guiding them through a relational rhythm that moved from meeting (engaging in conversation and connection), to modeling (living a life worth imitating) to mentoring (walking alongside with guidance and input). He embodied this strategy perfectly in His life.

When we invite, invest, and inspire through meeting, modeling, and mentoring, we create a pathway for others to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.

Community is where discipleship moves from theory to transformation. In community, you live out your convictions, fight your battles with support, and grow in character alongside others who are on the journey too. It's where honesty is met with grace, where encouragement strengthens resolve, and where accountability fuels growth. Real spiritual formation happens in the context of real relationships, because discipleship isn't just about what you know, it's about who you're becoming, together.

To be in a discipleship community where you practice **Shared Living**, **Shared Learning**, **Shared Mission**, and **Shared Rhythms** means doing life together with others in a way that reflects the heart and habits of Jesus. It is a Christ-centered community where

relationships are intentional, spiritual growth is collective, and everyday life is integrated with faith.

Shared Living means opening your lives to one another, through hospitality, authenticity, and mutual support, so that discipleship happens in real, everyday moments. It's about doing life together through the highs and lows. It creates a family-like environment where people are known deeply, cared for consistently, and strengthened through real presence.

Shared Learning involves growing together in God's Word, learning from one another, and being shaped by truth in community, not isolation. It invites every voice to contribute, sharpening each other's convictions while cultivating a collective hunger for Scripture.

Shared Mission is living on purpose together, serving others, reaching the lost, and using your gifts to advance God's kingdom side by side. It turns faith outward, transforming community into a movement that pushes back darkness with unified courage and compassion.

Shared Rhythms means aligning your lives around the core values and practices of the Jesus, cultivating a lifestyle marked by prayer, worship, Bible reading, generosity, serving and obedience to Christ. It forms a steady spiritual cadence that keeps the community grounded, focused, and faithfully moving in step with the Spirit.

In this kind of community, discipleship is not a program but a way of life, where people grow together by following Jesus, becoming like Him, and helping others do the same.

Discipleship has a Practice

There are intentional practices for our daily lives that can align us to experience him and express him deeper. Rhythms are strong, repeated kingdom values, adopted to align us to be formed into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

We call them "Rhythms" instead of values because if values are not practiced consistently, they are just good intentions. These Rhythms posture and position us to receive the fullness of life that God promises. They help us embrace the opportunities in front of us and overcome the obstacles that beset us.

DYING The Christ-Centered Life

Jesus declares that dying to self, dying to our agendas, dying to our preferences and ideals, and making Him the center of our lives actually leads to a full, abundant, and meaningful life.

Group Practices:

1. Each week, one person shares a moment they had to deny self or obey Jesus at a personal cost.
2. Rotate all group decisions (meal, location, time, topic) so no one clings to control.
3. A monthly practice where the group meets solely to serve a member's need, meals, childcare, yard work.
4. Handle tensions quickly with Matthew 18 conversations, humility, and forgiveness.
5. Choose one recurring fast (media, meals, spending) to practice dying to self as a group.
6. Share one place each week where following Jesus is challenging, and pray for courage to obey.

LIVING The Spirit-Filled Life

Instead of our feeble, inadequate, and debilitated striving, Jesus promised the provision of the Holy Spirit. He has provided us with an endless supply of His life being lived through us, and in spite of us, by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Group Practices:

1. Group Listening Prayer by asking, "Holy Spirit, what do You want to highlight tonight?" and share what you sense.
2. Weekly testimonies of how someone followed a Spirit prompting, even if imperfectly.
3. Prayer Hot Seat. One person sits in the middle while the group practices listening and praying prayers over them.
4. Practice spiritual gifts intentionally: encouragement, prophecy, discernment, wisdom, healing prayer.
5. Spirit-Check Questions, Ask: "Where did the Spirit empower me this week? Where did I resist Him?"
6. Discernment for Decisions. Bring real-life decisions to the group and practice collective Spirit-led discernment.

IDENTIFYING Baptism & Communion

Being a follower of Jesus means being a part of something bigger than our individual selves. Baptism and communion are sacred experiences that represent both the individual inward commitment to a personal relationship with Jesus and the corporate outward declaration of being connected to a local community of Christ followers, the local church.

Group Practices:

1. Monthly Communion. Worship, confess, and remember Christ together using communion in the home.
2. Testimony Nights. Each person shares how they came to Christ or what their baptism meant to them.
3. Witness Baptisms as a Group. Celebrate baptisms together to reinforce communal identity.
4. Identity Prayers. Begin gatherings by declaring truths like "We are God's children; we belong to His family."
5. Symbol Moments. Use simple symbols (water, bread, light) during a meeting to reflect on identity in Christ.
6. Covenant Reminders. Once a quarter review commitments the group has made to Christ and to each other.

ALIGNING Prayer & Humility

Aligning is about creating space in our schedules to meet with God, giving Him permission to search our hearts and minds for any thought, feeling, or motive that is out of alignment with all that He desires for us.

Group Practices:

1. Daily Shared Prayer Windows. Pick a time everyone pauses to pray for the group (e.g., 12:00pm every day).
2. Humility Confessions. Share one prideful thought or reaction from the week and ask for prayer to realign with Christ.
3. Take time to walk around the neighborhood, campus, or local community and pray for people, and needs you see.
4. Scripture-Based Prayer. Choose a passage of Scripture and pray through it line by line.
5. Prayer Mapping. Spend time identifying different "arenas" to pray for: personal lives, church, community, nation.
6. Repentance Practices. End meetings with a few minutes of silence for personal confession and group prayer.

CULTIVATING Community with Others

As image-bearers of God, humanity was created to live in community. The church is in its greatest expression of love when we live in close proximity with each other as a community that gathers around the person of Jesus. Discipleship happens best in the context of relationships as we invite, invest, and inspire one another.

Group Practices:

1. Everyone shares one highlight and one hardship from the week, building empathy and awareness.

2. Eat something together every gathering, snacks or meals, to normalize shared life.

3. Show up for one another's real life: a kid's game, a doctor visit, a stressful workday.

4. Gather once a month for a Sabbath-style dinner, phones away, slow pace, lingering presence.

5. Pick one household with a need, yardwork, childcare, repairs, and serve them as a group.

6. Celebrate Milestones. Birthdays, promotions, anniversaries, sobriety milestones, honor and rejoice together.

7. Group Retreat or Getaway. A one- or two-day retreat to rest, pray, worship, and realign vision as a community.

STEPPING Into the Misery & Margins

Stepping into the margins is more than awareness or advocacy, it's about associating, sharing life, and rescuing those who have been ignored and victimized by this cruel world. We share love in practical ways and share the gospel boldly in order to heal the sick and set the captives free.

Group Practices:

1. Adopt a Mission Partner. Commit to a specific ministry (shelter, school, prison, refugee center) and serve monthly.

2. Presence-Based Serving. Instead of one-time service, build consistent relationships with marginalized individuals.

3. Practical Blessing Projects. Prepare meals, collect clothing, or provide essentials for families in crisis.

4. Visits to the Overlooked. Visit the sick, elderly, lonely, or incarcerated as a group.

5. Once a quarter have a meeting dedicated to Scripture and conversation around compassion and justice.

6. Emergency Response Team. Keep a small pooled fund or resource list for fast responses to real-time needs.

LEVERAGING All That We Have

Leveraging all that we have for God's greater purpose is about realizing that all we have has been entrusted to us by God so we can play a part in his redemptive story for this world and my life.

Group Practices:

1. Gift Mapping Night. Each person identifies their spiritual gifts, natural talents, professional skills, and passions.

2. Everyone chooses a portion of their weekly schedule to leverage for discipleship, service, or mentoring others.

3. Build a simple group inventory. tools, vehicles, childcare, meals, financial coaching, tech that can be shared.

4. Once a month choose someone in need (in or out the group) to bless practically, or relationally with your resources.

5. Use your professions: teachers, counselors, business, mechanics.

6. Open your homes regularly not just to the group. Host dinners, parties, or prayer nights as an on-ramp to Jesus.

BREATHING The Word In & Through Us

The Bible is more than a how- to, self help book. Breathing God's Word is about taking a deep breath and inhaling all that He desires for us to absorb. At the same time, His Word is not intended to just remain in us but that we would exhale and share His message to those around us.

Group Practices:

1. Dedicate part of each gathering to unpacking the previous Sunday's message.

2. Choose a verse or short passage and memorize it together.

3. Turn a passage into prayer. For example, pray through Psalm 23, Romans 8, or Ephesians 3 as a group.

4. Head, Heart Hand. Use this simple group ritual at the end of reading the Bible:

- Head: "Here's what I now understand that I didn't before."
- Heart: "Here's how God is speaking to or stirring me."
- Hand: "Here's one thing I will do because of this Word."

5. SOAP Share. One group member prepares a short SOAP reflection (Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer) and teaches it to the group.

WORSHIPPING Glorifying & Enjoying God

Worship is a lifestyle that permeates every aspect of our lives. Worship is seen in how we manage our money, how we run our businesses, how we parent our kids, how we respond to people, and how we manage our dreams and ambitions. The heart of worship is a heart that seeks God's presence and enjoys God for who He is and all that He has done for us.

Group Practices:

1. In-Home Worship Nights. Once a month create space to sing, pray, and enjoy God together.
2. Testimony Praise. Start every gathering with a short testimony of where someone saw God at work.
3. Worship Through Work Reports. Share how worship showed up in workplace decisions or challenges.
4. Gratitude Rounds. Everyone names three things they're grateful for; the group responds in praise.
5. Creative Worship. Write prayers, draw, journal, or create something artistic as an act of worship during a meeting.
6. Worship Walks. Take a walk together outdoors and praise God through creation and Scripture.

NURTURING Family on Mission

A family that serves God by being on His mission, changing the lives they touch as wellas their own. As families pray together, discuss God's Word together, serve together and love a broken world together it empowers them to live out their faith side-by-side.

Group Practices:

1. Family Serve Days. Bring spouses and kids into quarterly service projects.
2. Family Prayer Spotlights. Pray over one family at each meeting, marriage, kids, calling, protection.
3. Intergenerational Meals. Invite multiple families, kids included, to share meals and relationships around Jesus.
4. Family Scripture Talks. Share how families are integrating Scripture at home each week.
5. Each household creates a simple "family mission plan," and the group supports and checks in monthly.
6. Parenting & Marriage Nights. Dedicate meetings to equipping and encouraging families in discipleship.

MULTIPLYING Disciples That Make Disciples

Multiplying is the rhythm of intentionally investing the life of Jesus in others so they can follow Him faithfully and help others do the same. As the Holy Spirit reproduces the life of Christ through ordinary disciples, the gospel spreads from person to person, generation to generation, until every believer is living a sent life.

Group Practices:

1. Pray for non-believers – lift up those the Spirit is calling.
2. Appoint apprentice leaders – raise up people to lead and multiply.
3. Read books on multiplication – grow knowledge and vision for disciple-making.
4. Release members early – send them to start new cohorts.
5. Coach in real-time – mentor as they practice discipling others.
6. Celebrate reproduction – highlight new disciples and new leaders.

Qualities of a Disciple-Maker

Character Before Competence

These qualities are essential because discipleship is the slow, sacred work of God that flows through the character, presence, and obedience of the one doing the walking. None of us may be experts or perfected all of these qualities, but they give us a clarity of attributes we should seek to carry out in our lives. Without a humble, loving, Spirit-led life behind it, discipleship collapses into technique and talk, forming informed believers rather than transformed followers who carry the life and mission of Jesus forward.

Philippians 2:1-3 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit.

1. Abiding

A disciple maker lives in daily dependence on Jesus, drawing life, wisdom, and authority from intimacy with Him rather than from methods or ministry skill.

2. Spirit-Led

A disciple maker follows the promptings of the Holy Spirit, allowing God—not schedules, systems, or control—to shape relationships and outcomes.

3. Prayerful

A disciple maker relies on the Spirit's power through prayer more than their own wisdom, strategy, or charisma.

4. Humble

A disciple maker leads from lowliness, not superiority, knowing they are a fellow sinner saved by grace, not a spiritual expert above others.

5. Heart for People

A disciple maker genuinely loves people, carries compassion for their stories and struggles, and is more committed to their becoming than to their performance.

6. Available

A disciple maker intentionally creates space in their life to be present, interruptible, and responsive to the real needs of people.

7. Authentic

A disciple maker lives transparently before others, modeling real repentance, weakness, and growth instead of spiritual performance.

8. Tender

A disciple maker leads with gentleness and emotional sensitivity, handling people's wounds, doubts, and fears with the care of a spiritual father or mother.

9. Patient

A disciple maker honors the slow, hidden work of God in others, refusing to rush growth, pressure outcomes, or give up when progress is messy.

10. Faithful

A disciple maker shows up consistently over time, trusting that long obedience and presence form people more than quick results.

11. Missional

A disciple maker lives with gospel purpose, helping others see their everyday life as a mission field.

12. Encouraging

A disciple maker calls out God's work and identity in others, strengthening faith through affirmation and hope.

> **A SIMPLE DEFINITION**
>
> Disciple-making is intentionally investing the life and ways of Jesus into another person through relationship, example, practice, and mission so they can follow Jesus faithfully and help someone else do the same.

A disciple follows Jesus. A disciple-maker helps someone else follow Jesus. A multiplying disciple-maker helps them do the same for someone else.

How to Lead a Discipleship Group or Cohort

Create a safe, growth-focused environment where discipleship can thrive.

Confidentiality. Share freely, but what's said here stays here. Protect personal stories; trust builds growth.

Participation. Everyone is invited to share; no one is forced. Speak from your own experience, not for others.

Honesty & Openness. Be truthful about struggles, victories, doubts. Vulnerability fuels authentic transformation.

Don't Do All The Talking. The best leaders facilitate conversations rather than dispensing information. The best leaders strive to facilitate the conversation and keep it moving from member to member rather than talking to the members.

Be Comfortable With Silence. Embrace the 15 seconds of silence, which may seem like an eternity. Realize that through silence, the Holy Spirit is working on people. Learn to be comfortable with ambiguity.

Be A Good Listener. So simple yet so hard to do. Don't just listen, actively listen. Avoid judging or offering unsolicited advice. The best leaders listen with their eyes and ears.

Don't Answer Your Own Questions. The whole purpose of asking the question is to create an environment where group members feel safe to share. It's not about getting the right answer.

Ask Open-Ended Questions. Open-ended questions help to tell more than a simple yes or no. Questions like, "What did you like about the verse or chapter of the book?" will bring up more than yes/no questions. Use what or how questions to get people to open up.

Make Sure Everyone Understands The Purpose Of The Group From Day One. Your job as a leader is to cast a compelling vision. Keep that purpose at the forefront of every meeting and look for ways to promote vision-casting.

Try To Involve Everyone. Your cohort might be too big if everyone isn't able to speak their thoughts. Cohorts of over eight members will have difficulty doing this. In those cases, it's best to divide the cohort in half.

Remember, The Focus Is Not On Getting Through The Material. Know that if you are very task-oriented, you may concentrate more on getting through the study than allowing members the time they need to discuss, process, and grow with the information.

Pray. Pray before your meeting, after your meeting, and during meetings. Pray in-between cohort meetings. Ask God for his help and leading. It is helpful to make a list of prayer requests and keep them on a bedside table so you can be very specific in your prayer request.

Remember That God Is In Charge. You were not selected to lead this cohort on your own; God chose you, He will be with you. Trust in His power and lean on him for support.

Be intentional with Proximity and Practices. Discuss and plan as a group ways that you can experience the Rhythm Practices and shared living together.

Check-In's: Spend time following up with those in your cohort outside of group time. Pursue them through phone calls and texts. Pursue times for connecting one on one for coffee or meals.

A Simple Cohort Rhythm

CONNECT — What is happening in your life right now?

LOOK BACK — Where did you notice God, obey Him, struggle, or grow since we last met?

LOOK UP — What is Jesus saying through Scripture?

LOOK IN — Where is God forming your character and practices?

LOOK OUT — Who is God calling you to love, serve, invite, or disciple?

PRAY — What are we trusting God for together?

How to Start Your Discipleship Group or Cohort

How to Start Your Discipleship GROUP OR CohortPray: Take a few weeks and prayerfully consider two or three others you can invite into the cohort.

INVITE — Personally approach each person. You might ask something like, “The Lord has placed you on my heart. Would you be willing to join me and one or two others on a weekly journey to explore a better life?” Ask each person to prayerfully consider the invitation. Specifically, ask them to not respond immediately but to really examine whether they have the time and the heart for the journey.

COMMUNICATE — If you are using resources, be sure everyone has what they need ahead of time, and find a time everyone will meet consistently.

EXPECTATIONS — People need a clear sense of what is expected of them. Talk about vulnerability, commitment, and what potential the group has to multiply to start new cohorts.

TIME & PLACE — Set the first regular time together and get started. Quiet places are best to develop transparency and intimacy. At the first gathering, ask each person why they decided to commit to the cohort and what they hope to get out of it.

GUIDE & FACILITATE — Pick a Topic. You can use a book on Christian living, a devotional or a sermon series. Reading through a book of the Bible is transforming and allows the group to experience the power of not just reading God's Word, but letting God’s Word read you. Take time and move at a comfortable pace. Encourage questions. Life will happen while you are together. Remember, discipling cannot be forced through a curriculum. The goal is Christ-likeness, not to complete the reading.

KEYS FOR GROWTH — The group will only go as deep as your willingness to be vulnerable, honest, and transparent. Intimacy, accountability, and transparency are paramount.

MULTIPLICATION — Within your group or cohort, always look for those who may launch out and start a new cohort on their own. When the time is right, it’s important to celebrate and encourage others to step out on their own to start a new cohort.

Your First Meeting Playbook

1. Pray: Ask God who He has already placed around you.

2. Invite: Personally invite two to five people into an intentional journey with Jesus.

3. Define: Explain the purpose: pursue Jesus together and become disciples who make disciples.

4. Decide: Choose a consistent place, day, time, frequency, and initial season of commitment.

5. Gather: Share a meal or coffee, tell your stories, establish trust, and clarify expectations.

6. Practice: Open Scripture and begin practicing the rhythms of Jesus together.

7. Multiply: From day one, tell the group that the goal is eventually to help someone else do the same.

12 Don’ts for Group Discipleship Life

Don’t Make It About Yourself. Avoid dominating conversations or using the group as a platform to show off knowledge, experience, or spirituality.

Don’t Allow Gossip or Judgment. Never speak negatively about absent members; protect trust and confidentiality.

Don’t Skip Accountability. Don’t let unresolved sin, conflict, or personal struggles go unaddressed under the guise of “keeping it casual.”

Don’t Neglect the Word. Avoid meetings that only socialize or vent without engaging Scripture and spiritual growth.

Don’t Force Participation. Don’t pressure people to share before they’re ready; allow space for vulnerability to develop naturally.

Don’t Overload the Leader. Don’t make one person responsible for everyone’s growth; disciple-making must be shared.

Don’t Avoid Conflict. Don’t sweep tension or relational issues under the rug; conflict handled poorly can fracture community.

Don’t Ignore Prayer. Avoid skipping intentional prayer for members, for guidance, or for group needs—prayer is the lifeblood.

Don’t Minimize Differences. Don’t pretend differences in personality, culture, or spiritual maturity don’t exist; instead, navigate them with grace.

Don’t Focus Only on Head Knowledge. Don’t let the group become purely intellectual; discipleship must engage heart and hands as well.

Don’t Allow Cliques or Exclusion. Don’t let subgroups form that leave people isolated or disconnected from the wider group.

Don’t Ignore Missional Living. Don’t make discipleship insular; avoid meeting only for internal growth without practicing shared mission outside the group.

Discipleship has Multiplication

Don’t Just Grow. Reproduce.

The goal of a discipleship cohort is not simply to keep a good group together forever. The goal is to form people deeply enough that they can reproduce what they have experienced.

Healthy things grow. Mature things eventually reproduce.

From the beginning, every cohort should carry a multiplication vision: someone sitting around your table today may be leading another table tomorrow.

This is where addition becomes multiplication - disciples make disciples, groups reproduce, leaders are released, and the life of Jesus reaches people you may never meet.

A Simple Multiplication Path

- I do — you watch.
- I do — you help.
- You do — I help.
- You do — I watch.
- You do — you multiply.

> **THE MULTIPLICATION LOOP**
>
> DISCIPLE → DISCIPLE-MAKER → COHORT → NEW DISCIPLE-MAKERS → NEW COHORTS

The pursuit was never supposed to end with you.

You have been invited. You have been invested in. You have been inspired. Now pull up another chair - and expand the pursuit.