

“What Kind of Disciple Are You?”

Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a flexible guide that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God’s Word.

Message Summary

This week we returned to our study in the book of Acts titled “Upside Down.” Paul started his 3rd missionary journey traveling through Galatia when a man named Apollos arrived in Ephesus. Apollos was educated in the Scriptures and taught the way of Jesus accurately. He had a zeal for the Word of God, however, when Aquila and Pricilla met him in the synagogue, they quickly realized that Apollos was deficient and need to be disciplined. Therefore, they took him aside and taught him the scriptures more accurately. As a result, Apollos desired to travel to Corinth and help the church make disciples who make disciples.

Apollos was an example of a disciple of Jesus. Further we see through his story some characteristics of discipleship. This message focused on 3 characteristics of a disciple. Our desire through this message was to challenge the listener to examine their own discipleship and determine to make changes to their lives so that they might increasingly submit all of their life to the empowering presence and lordship of Jesus.

One aspect of discipleship is that a disciple of Jesus is teachable. Therefore, a disciple of Jesus must be a good student of the Word of God, the Bible. This week in our Missional Communities we will examine what role the Bible plays in the life of a disciple and Missional Community. As Jeff Vanderstelt teaches us through the video this week ask yourself what changes you personally need to make in relation to your handling of and study of the Bible. Be prepared to share with the group how you are going to grow in your use of and study of the Word so that you might grow in being a disciple of Jesus!

Message Outline

Discipleship is not a program, it is the process of leading others to increasingly submit all of life to the empowering presence and lordship of Jesus Christ.

A Disciple of Jesus is...

1. Teachable. (24-26)
 - He/she willingly receives correction, counsel, and instruction from other believers.
 - Student of...
 - The Word.
 - The Culture.
2. Accountable. (27a)
 - To obey Jesus.
 - Obedience is a natural result of being teachable.
 - To the church.
 - True relational accountability is best formed in the normal routine of life, not in a weekly meeting.
 - Life together is a necessary component of real accountability.
 - To his/her testimony.
 - One’s life cannot be compartmentalized into the sacred and secular; for the believer, it’s all Christian.
3. Reproducible. (27b-28)
 - Life on life.
 - Life must be visible and accessible.
 - Life in community.
 - It’s where the “one another” commands are lived out.
 - The primary disciple-maker is the Holy Spirit.
 - Life on mission.
 - On mission we see our daily need for the grace found in the Gospel.
 - The mission provides avenues to model & do evangelism.

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Group Discussion (video application)

Watch the video titled “The Bible in Missional Community.” Use the Listening Guide below as you watch the video and then spend some time making application by answering the following questions as a group.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20, Hebrews 4:12

Take time to _____ people in how to use their Bible.

What should be our posture toward the Bible?

1. We sit under His _____.

- Reading _____ the word (Eisegesis)
- Reading _____ of the word (Exegesis)

2. The bible is written in a _____.

- _____ context.
- _____ context.
- _____ context.
- _____ context.

3. Four purposes accomplished when opening God’s word:

- _____
 - What does this say about God’s _____?
 - What is God _____ here?
 - What is God saying about _____?
 - In light of this text, what will I _____?
- _____
 - Show me where I’m not living by _____?
- _____
 - How do I get to the _____ path?
- _____
 - How do you want me to begin to _____ this in everyday life?
 - This is a process of _____, _____, and _____.

Questions for reflection:

1. How have you perceived God’s word in terms of its authority? Does it have authority over you or do you have authority over it?
2. When’s the last time as an MC or as an individual you experienced God’s word doing this kind of work in your heart?
3. What are you going to do as a group or individual to grow in really knowing your Bible?

Weekly Prayer Focus

- **Church:**
Pray that God would give us new believers and covenant members.
- **Local:**
Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
- **Global:**
Pray that God would give us hearts for the nations.