MAKING DISCIPLES

*How Leaders Can Catalyze Disciple Making Movements to Finish the Task*

1. INTRODUCTION
2. Leaders must know what God is doing else they risk being irrelevant in divine agenda
   1. Psa.28:6
   2. Don’t be a local champion: get connected to God’s global agenda!
3. God is gathering His plentiful harvest and mobilizing all of His people to take their place in doing so
   1. Matt.9:36-38
   2. The harvest
   3. Pattern: Nehemiah’s Wall strategy: simultaneous work, not sequential; all hands on deck: Neh.3. Everyone was involved in rebuilding the wall – high priest, priests, leaders, goldsmith, men, daughters, and even perfumers. The wall was a priority (even the gold of the goldsmith was unsafe if the wall was not in place!). The gospel is a greater priority and all believers must take their place in getting it out.
   4. How to eat an elephant
4. The harvest is gathered as we make disciples of all nations who make disciples who make disciples
   1. Matt.28:18-20
5. To finish the task, we must seek to make disciples that multiply disciples that make more disciples
6. DISCIPLES& DISCIPLESHIP
7. Definitions
   1. Herodotus coined the term, “disciple” in 400 BC
   2. At least 1000 other rabbis had disciples in the time of Jesus
   3. Disciple = bondservant; rabbi = master.
   4. The master has mastery over the disciple once the relationship is established
   5. Disciple = pupil; apprentice; learner intent on practicing what is learned
   6. Modern day examples: apprentices at motor part or other shops
   7. In the NT, you are either a disciple or lost. There was no such thing as a Christian or church member who was not a disciple. Christians were called disciples
8. Five universal characteristics of disciples
9. Obedience without question or hesitation
10. Memorizing all the teachings of the rabbi, word for word, without being allowed to write it down. It was against the law of the rabbinical schools for disciples to write down the teachings of their rabbi
11. Understanding and accepting your rabbi’s OT interpretation
12. Imitating the actions of your rabbi i.e. your rabbi can empower you to do all he can do
13. Becoming a disciple maker in the school of your rabbi. It was the duty of disciples to gather more disciples to their rabbi/master.
14. The goal of discipleship:
    1. To become like the master: Matt.10:24-25
    2. Ability to reproduce others like himself (and thus like his master, if he was a true disciple)
    3. God’s way of making us like Christ
    4. God’s way of raising instruments for His work
15. The terms/cost of discipleship
    1. Lk.14: 24-33, different translations; see AMPC below:

Luk14:25 Now huge crowds were going along with [Jesus], and He turned and said to them,

Luk14:26 If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his [own] father and mother [[7] in the sense of indifference to or relative disregard for them in comparison with his attitude toward God] and [likewise] his wife and children and brothers and sisters--[yes] and even his own life also--he cannot be My disciple.

Luk14:33 So then, any of you who does not forsake (renounce, surrender claim to, give up, [10] say good-bye to) all that he has cannot be My disciple.

1. Focus on OBEDIENCE: Comparative table of the implications of obedience and disobedience using Matt.7:24-28; Jn.14:23; Jas.1:22-25; 1Jn.2:3-5
2. STRATEGY
3. Disciple Making Movements: effective strategy for multiplying disciples
   1. Grassroots
   2. Low cost
   3. No long theological training required: only willingness to follow Jesus by obeying His word
   4. Matt.10:5-9 The Message:

*Mat 10:5 Jesus sent his twelve harvest hands out with this charge: "Don't begin by traveling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers. And don't try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy.*

*Mat 10:6 Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood.*

*Mat 10:7 Tell them that the kingdom is here.*

*Mat 10:8 Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously.*

*Mat 10:9 "Don't think you have to put on a fund-raising campaign before you start.*

*Mat 10:10 You don't need a lot of equipment. You are the equipment, and all you need to keep that going is three meals a day. Travel light.*

1. Church Planting Movements:
   1. Elephant and rabbit churches
2. Jesus and the twelve
3. Recruiting, Teaching, modeling, impartation in small group settings, focused on obedience
   1. Small group models
   2. Fit into church, or run by individuals
4. POUCH Strategy
5. The Tool: DBS: Discovery Bible Study
   1. DBS Benefits
      1. Small group: no place to hide; everyone gets attention & care
      2. Everyone can participate
      3. The Holy Spirit teaches and speaks through everyone
      4. People participate in discovering truth, leading to ownership which fosters obedience
      5. Accountability & mutual submission
      6. Obedience is easier to assess
      7. Error is limited
   2. DBS STEPS/OUTLINE
6. Opening prayer
7. What are you thankful for this week?
8. What challenges have you been faced with this week?
9. Who did you share last week’s message with nad how did it go?
10. Read passage for the day’s study
11. Ask someone to summarize the passage in their own words. What do you understand by the passage? What does it mean to you? Everyone to contribute
12. Based on the passage we’ve just read, how will you obey/put into practice/apply it?
13. With whom will you share what you’ve learned this week, and when?
14. Based on the passage, what is your prayer point, or what will you like the Lord to do in your life (and others)?
15. Witness: when should we meet again and where? (Important in dangerous fields where venues and times might have to be varied to avoid detection).
    1. Who should we invite to the next meeting?
    2. Consider starting DBS at a new person’s environment, family, social network.

IV. PRACTICAL ASPECTS IN DMM/DBS

1. Host DBS at homes or other venues of seekers, who gather people from their own relational or work circles
2. Split group when it gets to 15-20
3. Begin early to raise leaders; expose to further training outside the regular DBS
4. Be willing to use new disciples to start new DBS; trust that the Holy Spirit will grow/transform them as they go along

V. RESOURCES

1. GGCN: Open website; Tokyo Declaration; Discipleship survey;
2. The IDMI – International Disciple Making Initiative
3. Discoverapp.org
4. Google: Disciple Making Movements (DMM), and Church Planting Movements (CPM)