

Great Commission Training Manual

Partnering with Jesus to Make Disciples

Personal & Discovery Group Exercises

JAMES and CYNTHIA LILLY



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Prologue

To make disciples and change the world, Jesus gave us the great commission in the form of a great “partnership” to work as partners with him. The perspective of partnership changes the dynamics of all aspects of how we live our lives and make new disciples. Being a partner with Jesus requires becoming disciples ourselves. Helping you become a disciple of Jesus and partnering with Jesus to make disciples are the first two goals of the *Great Commission Training Manual*. Helping you understand what movements are, how they form and can change the world is the third goal.

This Training Manual is an outgrowth of the *Great Commission Disciple Making Workbook*. Used in different training situations, it was apparent that additional materials were needed to clarify principles, give sufficient tools, and improve understanding of the disciple-making process. Extra lists of discovery studies, as well as more introductory information, and a new section on oral storytelling were added to make this a stand-alone document to assist in disciple-making and starting and nurturing Disciple Making Movements (DMM).

There are four new illustrations in addition to those that were in the workbook. These include illustrations of Multiplication, Disciple-Making Funnels, Disciple-Making Cycle, and Four-Fields, all with explanations. Additional appendices of all the standard discovery series have been added to bring a small group from beginning a discovery study, to the point of forming churches and sending disciple-makers to other locations. Finally, the list of training video URLs has been updated.

The Training Manual has been structured into three sections to facilitate training:

- Setting a Foundation: Individual reading and exercises
- Disciple Making Discovery Studies: Discovering Biblical Principles
- Outreach and Appendices: Launching a disciple-making team.

The first section is designed to acquaint the reader with some of the basic concepts of disciple making in context of the Great Commission. It will assist anyone interested in participating in the Great Commission as a disciple of Jesus. It gives sufficient background to coach as well as participate in, forming a disciple-making team.

The second section of Discovery Studies is designed to guide a group in discovering each of the basic steps in the process of establishing DMMs. Discovery Studies are inductive studies that include the additional components of

1. Memorizing the passages
2. Applying them in practical ways to our lives
3. Telling other people what we have learned

It is these three additional steps that turn the inductive study into a Disciple-Making Process that can fulfill Matthew 28:16-20.

The Outreach and Appendices section provide resources and additional understanding necessary for a disciple-making team to successfully develop a Disciple Making Movement (DMM) by engaging people, making disciples, guiding them in forming churches, and reaching their own and neighboring communities.

Great Commission Disciple Making is a companion resource that gives additional background and explanation of disciple making and Disciple Making Movements (DMMs). It is highly recommended that each disciple-making group have at least one copy. Copies are available on Amazon.com and at Xulonpress.com.

Contents

Prologue.....	v
STUDY GUIDE FOR DISCIPLE-MAKING TRAINING	ix
Discovering Disciple-Making	xi
SECTION ONE: (LOOKING BACK) - SETTING A FOUNDATION:.....	13
Disciple-Making Orientation.....	14
Definition of a Movement	15
Kingdom Circles: Acts 15:1-20.....	16
Start with Prayer!	19
Disciplines of a Disciple of Jesus:.....	20
Oral Storytelling and Discovery – Key Points	22
The Disciple Making Cycle.....	27
Imitation: The Discipleship Model.....	28
Written Discovery Study	29
Discovery Group Process	30
Role of the Facilitator:.....	32
Writing and Discussion: Review the Discovery Process.....	33
SECTION TWO: (LOOKING UP) - DISCIPLE MAKING DISCOVERY STUDIES	35
1. Initial Introductory Discovery Meeting: - The Great Partnership – Matthew 28:16-20.....	36
2. Luke 10:1-11 – How to Make Disciples?.....	41
3. Discovery Group Exercise: John 14:15-27	43
4. Discovery Group Exercise: John 1:35-46; Matthew 23:8-11; and Matthew 18:20.....	45
5. Discovery Group Exercise: Deuteronomy 6:1-15	48
6. Discovery Group Exercise: Luke 11:1-13 - Prayer	50
7. Discovery Group Exercise: Matthew 9:35 - 10:16.....	54
8. Discovery Group Exercise: Acts 16:25-34 – A Person of Peace	56
9. Discovery Group Exercise: Matthew 16:13-21 – Church Planting.....	57
10. Discovery Group Exercise: Acts 15:1-20 - Cultural Awareness.....	59
11. Discovery Group Exercises – Cultural Adaptation.....	61
11a. Philippians 2:5-8 — How did Jesus model contextualization?	61
11b. I Corinthians 9:19-23 — Paul’s orientation to different cultures	61
11c. Acts 17:22-27 — Paul Addresses the Areopagus.....	62
12. Discovery Group Exercise: 2 Timothy 2:1-7; 14-16 - Replication	64
13. Discovery Group Exercise: John 15:1-11.....	65

SECTION THREE: (LOOKING AHEAD) - OUTREACH AND APPENDICIES.....	67
Four Fields – DM Approach	69
Near Relationships – With Whom to Start	70
Personal and Group Accountability	71
Peer Coaching Group.....	71
Counter-Intuitives	72
Great Commission Outreach Guidelines and Peer Coaching Group Agenda	76
Appendices: Scripture Series	79
Parables of Jesus Series – Engaging People	79
Discovering God – Creation to Christ – First/Initial Series.....	80
Discovering God in Spiritual Community – Young Professionals.....	81
Discovering God – Hindu Passages	82
Discovering God – Buddhist Passages	83
Creation to Fall of Satan Story Outline – Buddhist.....	84
Discovering God - Shame and Honor Bible Passages - Muslim	86
Discovering God - Shame and Honor Bible and Quran Passages	87
Discovering God - Punjabi-Sikh	88
Discovering Obedience – Becoming Disciples – Second Series	89
Discovering Church – Third Series.....	90
Discovering and Equipping Leaders – Fourth Series	95
Discovering Leadership – Fifth Series.....	97
Discovering Disciple-Making – Sixth Series (see page xi)	98
Appendix: Video Training Resources — Current in 2021	99

STUDY GUIDE FOR DISCIPLE-MAKING TRAINING

The ideal group size is four to eight people, but as a minimum, a group of two people is sufficient. For a group of six people plan on spending about one and a half hours together.** The meeting times will follow the format laid out in Discovery Group Process outline on page 30.

** Add extra 20 to 40 minutes, if you do a written study together during the meeting

Discovery Studies: Discovering Disciple-Making

Following is the list of Discovery Studies and the chapter in *Great Commission Disciple Making* where each is found. The other columns give chapters in other books which are recommended and training videos that you can download.

Scripture	Description	GCDM	MM	CDM	CD	Video
Luke 10:1-11	Introduction	Intro-1,2,3	Intro-2	3, 8	1, 2	2a,3,5a,7
Acts 15:1-20	Disciple-Making Process	4	6	11, 15	15	5b, 6
John 14:15-27	Obedience	5	-	7	3, 11	5c, 8
John 1:35-51	“Come and See”	6	-	-	-	5d
Matthew 23:8-11	Our Role: “Be Brothers”	-	-	-	-	-
Deut. 6:1-15	Heart of discipleship	7	-	11	13	5e
Luke 11:1-13	Focused prayer	8	3	12	-	9
Matt. 9:35-10:16	Discipling Believers	9	5	13	-	-
Acts 16:25-34	Person of Peace	-	-	14	-	10
Matthew 28:1-10; 16-20	Great Commission	10	-	10, 17	15	12b
Matthew 16:13-21	Church Foundation	-	-	18	-	-
Discussion	Cultural Adaption	11	10	5, 6		13
Philippians 2:5-8	Culture: Jesus Model	12	-	2, 16	6	11, 5f
1 Cor. 9:19-23	Culture: Philosophy	-	-	-	-	-
Acts 17:22-27	Culture: Application	-	-	-	-	-
2 Tim. 2:1-7; 14-16	Replication: Concern	13	7	-	-	12a & c
John 15:1-11	Fruitfulness	-	-	-	-	1, 2c

These books are available on Amazon as well as individual publishers.

GCDM — Chapter in *Great Commission Disciple Making*, Lilly

MM — Chapter in *Miraculous Movement*, Trousdale

CDM— Chapter in *Contagious Disciple-Making*, Watson

CD — Chapter in *Are you a Christian or a Disciple?* Gross

Video — Training Video URLs are on the last page of this training manual.

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Discovering Disciple-Making

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 2)

This is the list of passages that you will study as an introduction to Disciple-Making.

Lesson 1. **Matthew 28:16-20** — Disciples' commission and partnership with Jesus.

Lesson 2. **Luke 10:1-11** — Disciple-Making Process

Lesson 3. **John 14:15-27** — Obedience and the Holy Spirit

Lesson 4. **John 1:35-51** — Calling disciples

Matthew 23:8-11 - Our role in Disciple-Making

Matthew 18:20 — Jesus is available to teach us.

Lesson 5. **Deuteronomy 6:1-15** — Shemah: Disciple-Maker's Orientation

Lesson 6. **Luke 11:1-13** — Focus and persist in prayer.

Lesson 7. **Acts 16:25-34** — Person of Peace

Lesson 8. **Matthew 9:35-10:16** — Compare to Luke 10:1-11

Lesson 9. **Matthew 16:13-21** — Planting churches

Lesson 10. **Acts 15:1-20** — Council of Jerusalem — Cultural Awareness

Lesson 11. **Philippians 2:1-8** — Cultural relevance - Model for Paul's and our actions

1 Corinthians 9: 19-23 — Cultural relevance — Paul's philosophy

Acts 17:22-27 — Cultural relevance — Paul applies his philosophy.

Lesson 12. **2 Timothy 2:1-7, 14-16** — Key to replication

Lesson 13. **John 15:1-11** — Fruitfulness, love, obedience

Illustrations and Diagrams

Disciple-Making Funnels — page 14

Schematic Illustrations of Church Planting Movements - page 15

Kingdom Circles — page 16

Focus of Biblical Storytelling — page 25

Disciple-Making Cycle — page 27

Discipleship Schematic — page 28

Written Discovery Study Schematic — page 29

Four Fields Schematic — page 69

Notes:

SECTION ONE: (LOOKING BACK)

SETTING A FOUNDATION: INDIVIDUAL READING AND EXERCISES

Learning to become a disciple who makes disciples of Jesus requires a good deal of unlearning as well as learning from the scriptures, especially for people with a Christian background. A good analogy is taking off a pair of glasses that you have used to see for a long time, then putting on a different pair that will give you clearer vision. The old pair of glasses is the cultural and doctrinal understanding you use to read and understand scripture. The new pair of glasses is the scriptures themselves and letting the Holy Spirit instruct you.

Try this simple exercise:

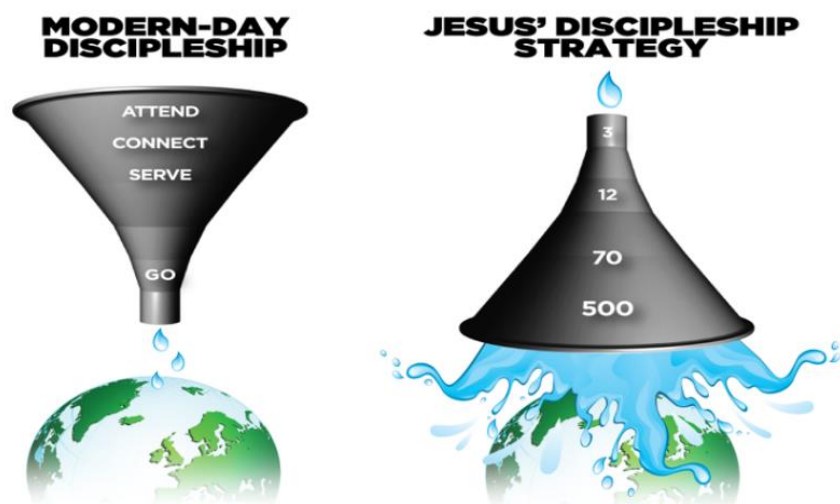
Write this question below or in a notebook: “What is the good news that Jesus brought us?” and then answer it in your own words.

After (not before) you have done that, write down Matthew 4:23 and Matthew 24:14, also read Matthew 6:9-10. Next answer the question, “What does the difference in your understanding of the good news and Jesus’s statements about the good news mean to how you should live your life?”

Notes:

Disciple-Making Orientation

Disciple-making attempts to duplicate what Jesus did with the men who followed him. It focuses on the examples and instructions that Jesus left us in the four gospel accounts. It also relies on the stories in the book of the Acts of the Apostles that illustrates how the disciples applied what they learned from Jesus, in other cultures.



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Funnel Illustration used with permission of *EmotionallyHealthyDiscipleship.org*.

One of the key components to making disciples is the “person of peace” (the drop of water in the inverted funnel on the right), mentioned in Luke 10. This is the person that you have asked the ‘Lord of the harvest’ to send. It is this person who will bring in the harvest. And it is this person you are to coach and mentor as he introduces the discovery process to his nearest social contacts, usually his family. Disciple-making is above all about relationships.

As the two halves of the funnel illustration from *Emotionally Healthy Discipleship* show, disciple-making following the example of Jesus, requires putting on different lenses of understanding; often it seems to be “upside-down” from everything you have assumed before. Discovering Disciple-making is an adventure of allowing the Holy Spirit to teach you directly from the scriptures (John 15:26).

Numbers 13:25-33 relates the reports that the twelve spies gave to Moses and the assembly when they returned from reconnoitering the promised land. Ten of them reported through the eyes of previous human experience. Two spies reported through the vision of faith.

All the studies in this training manual are designed to enable Jesus and the Holy Spirit to teach and disciple you and your small group (Matthew 18:20), so you can see with a new perspective the Great Commission Jesus gave us to do and way that he gave us to do it.

Definition of a Movement

Following is an idealized illustration of what a disciple-making movement looks like. A movement is generally defined as four generations of reproducing churches or groups in multiple streams that have produced 100 or more churches or group within four years and continues to reproduce.

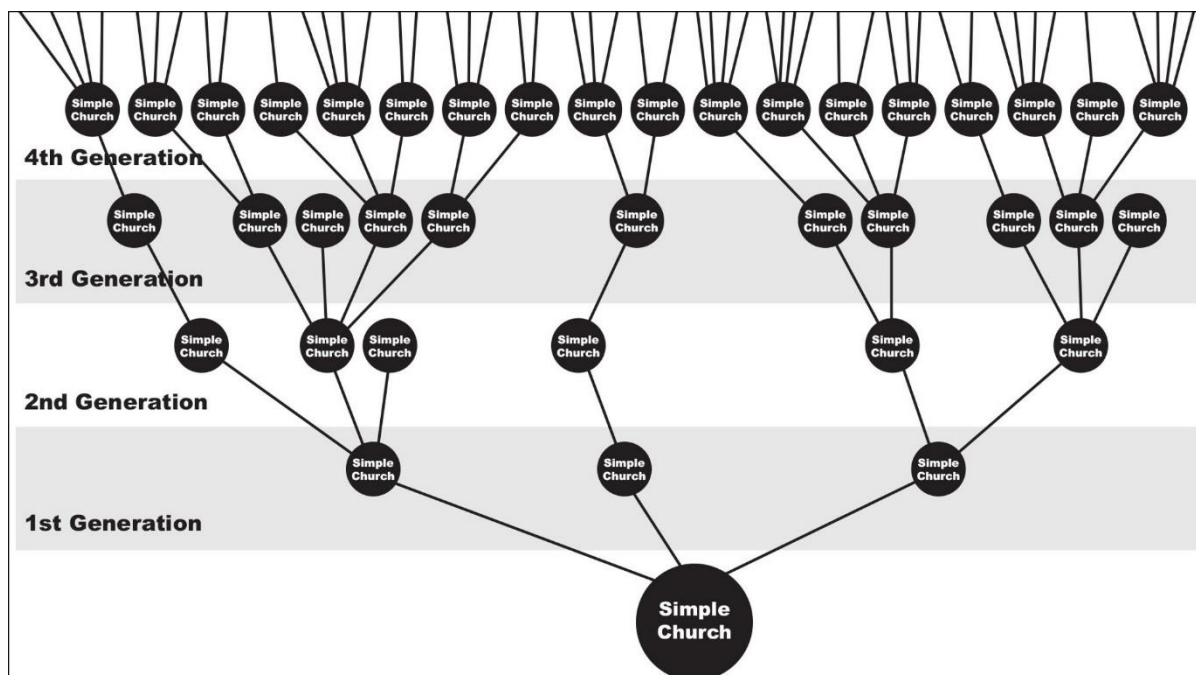


Figure 2.2 from *Great Commission Disciple Making*, illustration created by Beyond.

In practice, the process is much more disorganized with some groups stopping and some not reproducing.

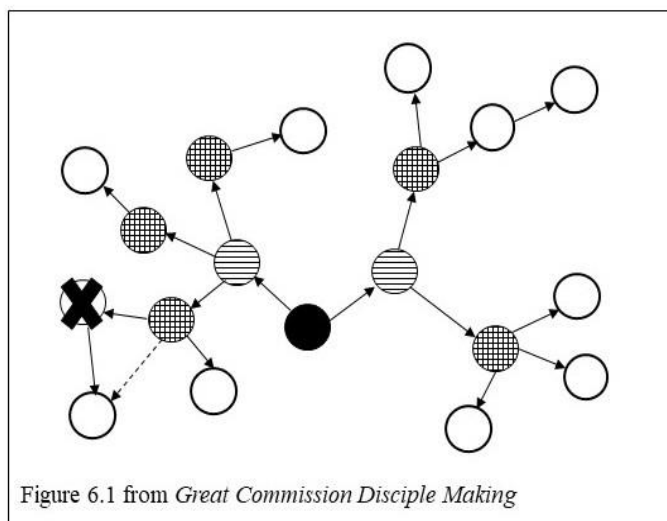


Figure 6.1 from *Great Commission Disciple Making*

reproducing. In Figure 6.1, the original group is the dark circle, the light gray circles with horizontal lines are second generation, the circles with hatching are third generation and the white circles are fourth and fifth generations. The circle with the X through it, disbanded after starting another group. This group was picked up and mentored by the third-generation group that started the one that stopped.

Key to multiplication is faithfully replicating the essential elements of

memorization, application, sharing, and helping others, in each generation. This requires ongoing coaching of each new generation by the previous one.

Kingdom Circles: Acts 15:1-20

Revelations 5:9-10: “. . .you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

The Kingdom is the central message of the Good News. John the Baptist came proclaiming “repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” After he was arrested (Mark 1:14-15), Jesus took up the same proclamation. Jesus did not come proclaiming Christianity, the church, salvation, or happiness. He followed John the Baptist’s message, “Repent for the Kingdom of God, or the Kingdom of Heaven, is near, or at hand” (Matthew 4:17, Mark 1:14-15). This is the central truth of Jesus’s message. The Kingdom is bigger than any of these while including them all: the church, salvation, happiness, and persecution besides. The final vision is that all peoples, languages, and nations will worship God as their Heavenly Father and he will reign on earth (Revelations 5:9-10).

Kingdom Circles — An Illustration of Cultures and Traditions-

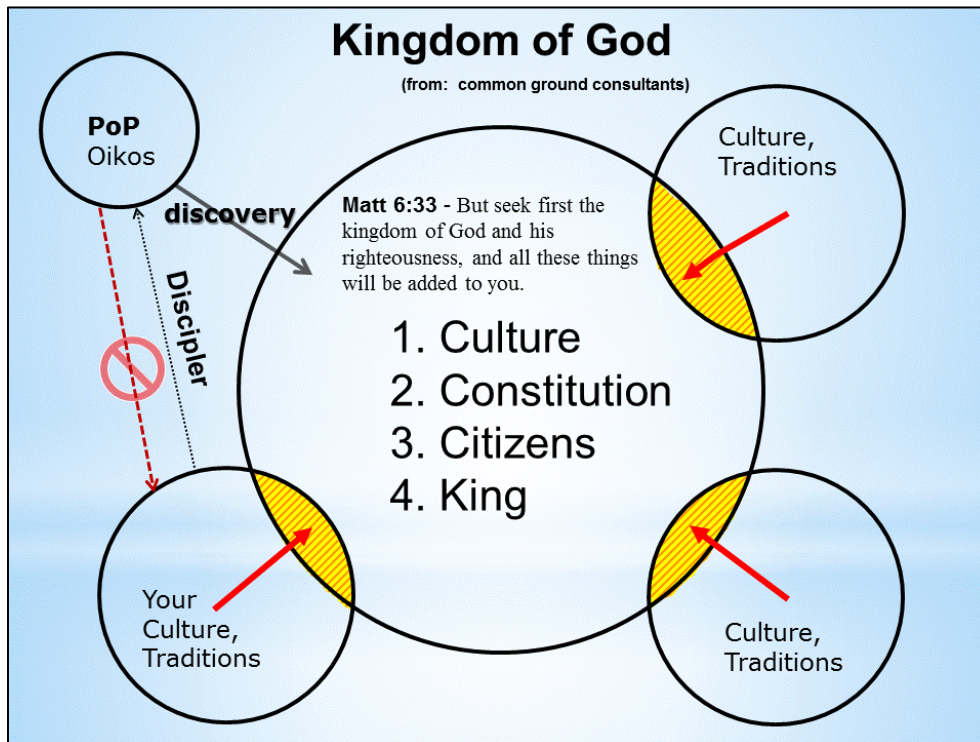


Figure 1.1 — Kingdom Circles (*adapted from Common Ground Consultants*)

PoP — Person of Peace (Luke 10:5-6); the laborer prayed for in Luke 10:2.

Oikos — Greek word for household; PoP’s social network; harvest field; Gentiles in Acts 15.

—➔ Do not bring the PoP or his Oikos into your church, or culture (Acts 15:19).

Discipler - Disciple Maker who coaches the person of peace to facilitate a discovery study.

➔ The discovery process allows this Oikos to modify their existing culture to bring it into the kingdom of God according to what they learn from the Bible (Revelations 7:9).

The shaded part of “your culture” circle inside the Kingdom Circle are the unique parts of your culture that form your identity. They are compatible with the scriptures, though some are not explicitly mentioned in the Bible. These include all your additions to the Biblical model of simple church. Things outside the kingdom circle are those parts of a culture that need to change before they can be incorporated into the kingdom of God.

When Jesus sent out his disciples, he expected them to understand and be able to proclaim that the Kingdom of God was at hand (Luke 10:11). Therefore, understanding this diagram and what it represents is extremely important in the Disciple-Making Process.

Individually take some time to answer the following questions then discuss in your small group:

Who is the king? (1Corinthians 15:20-28)

Who are the citizens? (Ephesians 2:19)

What is the constitution? (Luke 5:1, 11:28)

What are some of the characteristics of the culture (Romans 14:17; 1Corinthians 4:20, all of Jesus’s kingdom of God and heaven parables)?

The Kingdom Circles illustration was derived from the account in Acts 15 of the First Council of Jerusalem. Complete a small group discovery study on Acts 15:1-20 (5-19) and then complete the exercises that follow. (Use the format on pages 30 and 31).

But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.”

The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith. Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will. . . .”

Therefore, my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God,”

Sketch of Kingdom Circles

Based on this passage, draw your own version of the Kingdom Circles below and write an explanation of what the Kingdom of God is, using the example of the Jews and the Gentiles. Then add circles for the groups of people that you would like to reach out to (friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, ethnic communities, etc.). This is an excellent tool to use in discussions with Muslims.

Written Explanation of the Kingdom Circles that you could tell a Potential Person of Peace

Supplemental Reading

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch. 1 and 2, James Lilly

Miraculous Movements, by Jerry Trousdale, Ch. 6 — “Discovery Bible Studies and Obedience-Based Discipleship”

Contagious Disciple-Making, David L. and Paul D. Watson, Ch. 15 — “Discovery Groups”

Start with Prayer!

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 2)

The source of everything that a disciple does should flow from prayer.

As you start learning to become a disciple of Jesus, ask God to identify what group or groups of people he wants you to reach. This can be any group. For example, it might be the neighbors around your church or your home, coworkers or fellow students, an ethnic group of people in your city, students at a school or university, family or church members, or activity groups or clubs, such as: bridge, skateboarders, or bowling league. There is no limit to the number of harvest fields.

In the chart below write the names of one or two groups for whom God is giving you a heart and desire to reach. Next, think of people who may share an interest in reaching any of these groups that you can invite to participate with you in the process of making disciples. (Jesus send the disciples out 2 by 2.) They could be people inside or outside the group you want to reach. Write their names in a list beneath each of the people groups. Take time in prayer to ask God to direct you as to how and when you should invite them to join you.

Outreach Group:	Outreach Group:
Name of those who could partner with you: Phone or email	Name of those who could partner with you: Phone or email

Figure 2.1

This will become useful in identifying others to join you in reaching different groups of people.

Disciplines of a Disciple of Jesus:

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 2 to Ed Gross's original work)

Watch the video: 5.c. Part 2: Follow Me: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUY8JQ0WkKI> or <https://tinyurl.com/33bm2xws> (Last page of Training Manual)

The five critical disciplines of a first century disciple of Jesus were:

Obey Jesus in everything.

If you love me, you will keep my commandments. — John 14:15

and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. — Matthew 28:20a (NRSV)

Know from Memory all Jesus's commands and teachings so they can tell others.

Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old. — Matthew 13:51–52

Know the Old Testament and learn and accept Jesus's understanding of it.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. — Matthew 5:21–22

For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old. — Matthew 13:51–52

Conform their life to that of Jesus in everything (thoughts, actions, speech, mission, etc.). Jesus's mission to reconcile us with his Father (2 Corinthians 5:18) and bring his kingdom (Matthew 4:23, 6:10, and 24:14) to the world becomes our mission.

A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. — Matthew 10:24–25a

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. — Romans 12:2

Make disciples after the model of Jesus. This is Jesus's final command.

Therefore [having gone] make disciples of all nations... Baptizing... teaching them to [obey] all that I have commanded you, and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." [From the Greek – see pages 39 and 40.] — Matthew 28:19–20

Jesus gave us a few qualifiers that other rabbis could not. These are extremely important in the Discovery Disciple-Making Process.

And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. —Matthew 28:20b

For he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you. — Hebrews 13:5b

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them. — Matthew 18:20

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. — John 14:26-27

But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. The greatest among you shall be your servant. — Matthew 23:8-11

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them. Matthew 18:20

Reread the preceding six sets of passages and answer the following questions:

Based on the passages about making disciples, who is to do the discipling (teaching)? Who is to be our teacher?

As a “disciple-maker”, what is your role in the discipleship process?

Based on what you learn in these 13 passages, write a description of what a disciple-making process might look like?

In your small group, compare and discuss your answers to the questions.

Supplemental Reading

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.3, James Lilly

Oral Storytelling and Discovery – Key Points

A key component of the Discovery Study Process (page 30) is retelling the passage being studied, both to enhance the understanding for the group's discovery time and to be able to share the passage with others. You may know or discover, that analytical evaluation of scripture is difficult for many literate as well as oral, learners. Learning about oral storytelling can open new levels of communication with many literate people, as well oral learners.

Classifications of Learners: 46% to 53% of people officially classified as literate are functionally oral learnersⁱ – they do not receive, reproduce, or recall concepts through written media. This means that the number of oral learners is much greater than you would surmise from official government statistics. All oral-preference learners have some difficulty with analysis of a passage that require abstract answers. Discovery questions such as: “What do you learn about God and man?” in which answers are not clearly presented in the passage require abstract thinking.

All children under the age of 10 are oral learners. So, we all have had some experience as oral learners ourselves and many of us have some of these oral learners in our own households.

(Following is derived from *Making Disciples of Oral Learners*, (International Orality Network/Lucerne Conference on World Evangelism. This is recommended reading.)

ORAL LEARNERS

Illiterate – words exist as sounds related to images or events.

Functionally Illiterate – Pass on their values, beliefs, culture, and religion orally.

Semi-literates – Learn primarily through Narrative presentations.

LITERATE LEARNERS

Literate – rely on printed material as an aid to recall.

Highly Literate – usually highly educated, often professional; thoroughly print-culture.

Learning Method of Oral Learners – (Ref. Scripture in Use – SIU) They think differently than literate learners. The following items should influence the way we use storytelling to engage people.

1. Hearing and Remembering vs. Reading – Oral learners can remember what they hear more quickly and completely than literate learners. They need/want clarification of what they hear, not an analysis of the story.
2. Observing and Imitating vs. Teaching – Oral learners identify the actions in the story with their own experiences. The truths of a story come from identifying things in their own life with the story. Drama is an excellent connection point to help participants learn and understand the whole story. Likewise putting things into action with “I will” and “we will” statements and commitments allows participants to apply and imitate parts of the story. The results they experience validate the story and the worldview it contains. Also, oral learners will imitate the teacher/trainer. Whatever is modeled in storytelling, they will do.

3. Repetition of a story imparts Value vs. Written Validation – Rather than arguing a point, repeat the story. Repeating and memorizing a story means it is valuable and important.
4. Stories are the Reservoir of Information vs. Accumulation of Facts – Stories shape worldview. Worldview shapes beliefs. Belief forms values, good and bad. Values direct actions. Jesus used stories to confront people's worldview. A change in world view over time, will change actions. The opposite is not true. (See diagram on page 25.)
5. Possessing a written text is important to validate story vs. Reading the Text – having a written copy of the text is important to validate the story even when it is not read. Oral learners value written scripture, even when they cannot or do not read it.
6. Learning is through Experience vs. Abstract Knowledge – As described in number 2, oral learners identify the story with their own experience. When they discuss the story, they will match it with experiences in their lives. Using “I will” statements and reporting the results helps with this.
7. Groups are Decision Makers vs. Individual – Oral learners tend to discuss the story with their social network / oikos and make decisions as a group. Sharing the story with others and discussing it will help with this.
8. Focus on Whole Story vs. Piecemeal Analysis – Literate learners focus on analysis of the story whereas oral learners focus on the whole story. Focused time should be spent learning to tell the story and share with others. Discussion by oral learners will be more about relating the story to their own experiences rather than analysis.
*Emphasizing analysis can cause oral learners to lose rapport with the story and interest in the study.
9. Truth is passed by Stories, Proverbs, Poetry, and Songs vs. Written Text. Besides storytelling, putting the stories to song, a poem, or drama amplifies the story. Using appropriate proverbs has a big impact on oral cultures.

The story must maintain accuracy after multiple repetitions.

- Telephone tag illustration – When a story is told to one person, then that person tells another, and then the story is repeated the same way without verification ten to a dozen times, the resulting story can have very little connection to the original.
- Question: Will people have and be able to use written or recorded scriptures to check the passage, or will they learn orally only?

If the people you are reaching do not use written or audio scriptures in their discovery studies, the stories must be passed on word-for-word. However, in all circumstance, for sharing with friends, a paraphrase that sounds natural is best. Use the word-for-word approach when doing studies and preparing people to replicate discovery studies with people without a book or recording form of the scriptures.

Assure everyone can retell the story - Use questions from the text to develop stories. Dialogue questions are questions that have answers directly in the text. The goal is to assist memorization and understanding. Having listeners complete your sentences, identify the characters in the story, and describe the action are examples of dialogue questions.

Discovery questions for oral peoples require answers that summarize the key points of the story/passage, or they help the listener identify with the story. Examples include: what problems did the characters face, have you experienced similar things, how does the passage/verse apply to what you do? The goal of these questions is to assure understanding and application of the story. Discoveries about God and people may flow from these questions.

Understanding and Engaging Culture – Culture is formed by the collection of subconscious assumptions about the world and people’s place in it. Together these assumptions form people’s worldview upon which beliefs, values, and behaviors are built. Individuals develop these as they grow up in their culture and accept them without questioning them if they are reinforced in their daily lives. Because oral learners identify with the stories they hear, scripture stories can reinforce or challenge them at the deepest levels.

Each culture has an intrinsic understanding and assigns value to the (12) items in the list below. Each of these cultural values and understandings conforms to, or conflicts with, how they are understood in the kingdom of God. Scriptural stories work to affirm those that are compatible or challenge worldviews that are counter to the values of God’s kingdom. To begin engaging a culture, determine how each of these twelve is understood in the culture. Determining these in conversation with people can be an excellent way to build relationships as well as understand the people and their culture.

Remember your own culture has understanding that may not align with the truth as presented in the scripture. So, listen without judging or reacting. You may have to adjust some of your own cultural assumptions.

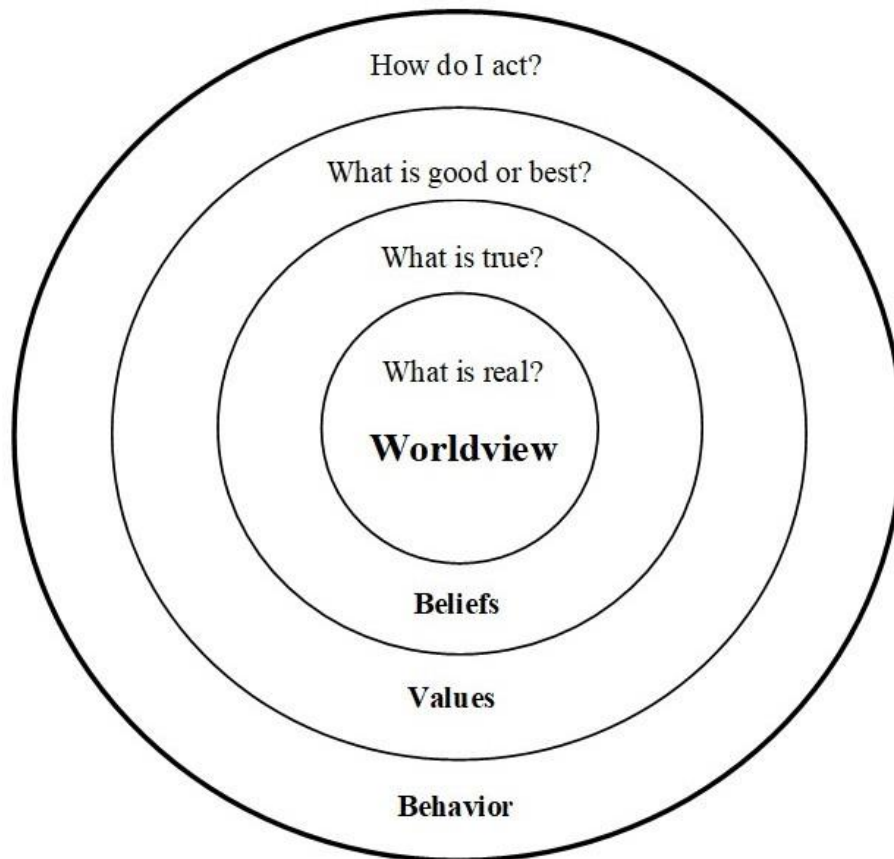
Item	Cultural Understanding	Scriptural Truth	Scripture Stories
1. Men and Women			
2. Family			
3. God			
4. Jesus			
5. Holy Spirit			
6. Salvation			
7. Judgment/ Eternity			
8. Angels and Demons			
9. Prayer			
10. Sin/ Justification			
11. Prophets			
12. Saints/ Holy People			

After developing a list of “cultural understandings” for each of the items, review the Bible to determine similarities and differences in understanding – God’s “scriptural truths” anchored in the words of the Bible. Develop lists of “scripture stories” that affirm their understanding of each item that is consistent with the scripture. Likewise, when the cultural norms are contrary to these truths, develop a list of scripture stories that offer a Biblical worldview. The story of the “good Samaritan” is an example of Jesus doing this with the Jews and their cultural

understanding of their uniqueness before God. The different *Discovering God Series* on page 80 in the appendices provide more examples of these kind of stories.

Transforming Power of Stories - Look at the following circle diagram starting from the outside and working inward. Changing behavior (How do I act?) using correction or instruction may influence how people act and even their values (What is good?), but it will not influence understanding of truth. (What we believe?). Knowledge may influence understanding of truth, values, and behavior, but will not change worldview (What is real). Stories, however, work to change worldview. A change in worldview will also change the understanding of truth. Inevitably, this makes people open to adjusting values and their behaviors. More than 80% of the Bible is made up of stories.

Change comes from the core of a person's worldview. Worldview determines what people understand to be true, what is best, and how they should act. Stories that people embrace set or alter worldview. Embracing the truth of the gospel without a change in worldview produces syncretic cultures that overlay one religion upon another. You can see this around the world with syncretic Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu, as well as Christian religions.

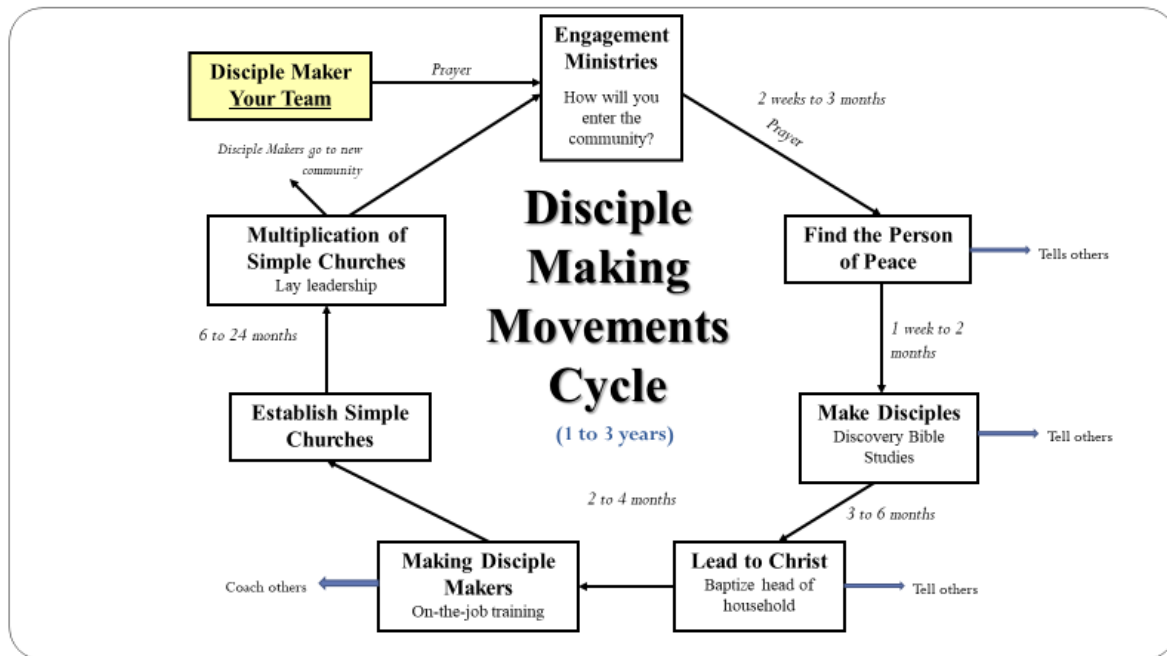


Focus of Biblical Storytelling is on shaping the hearer's worldview

Watch Video 14 "Man of Peace" using URL on page 99.

Notes:

The Disciple Making Cycle



Coaching each step of the DMM Cycle is essential for reproducing movements.

Become a Disciple Maker: Disciple Makers are first disciples and are part of a team before they make disciples. Use the Discovering Disciple Making Series.

Where is Jesus Working? This is answered through prayer, observation, and research.

Engagement Ministries: Join one or start one. These can focus on social services, health, sports, language acquisition, education, etc. They should build relationships in the community.

Find a Person of Peace: As Jesus instructed us, we are to pray that the Lord of the harvest sends workers into the field. Our job is to find that person.

Starting Discovery Studies: Coach the person of peace (worker sent by God) in starting a Discovery Group with his family or social network. Keep focus on this social network.

Making Disciples: Your role as the disciple-maker is to coach and work through the person of peace (the facilitator of the discovery study). Use the Discovering God Series.

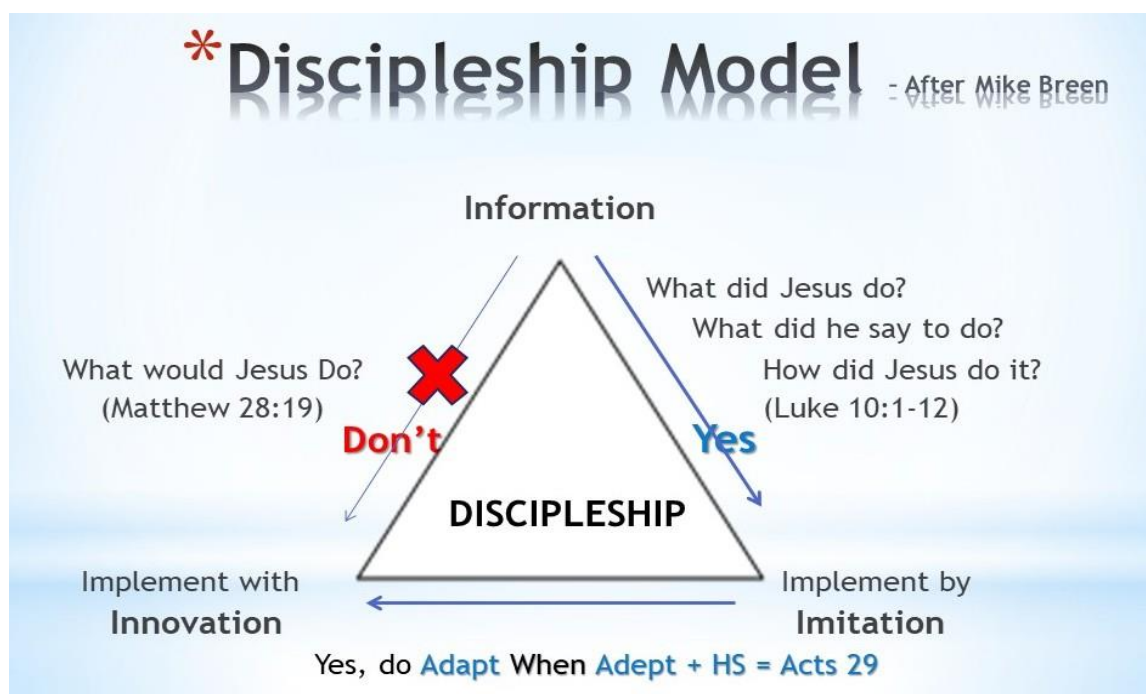
Lead to Christ – Baptism: Normally, the disciple-maker would baptize the head of the Discovery Group and that person baptizes the remainder of the group.

Making Disciple Makers: Use the Discovering Obedience Series in the appendix to develop a group identity and the ability to initiate other groups.

Groups and Churches: The groups become churches based upon what they discover in the scriptures. Use the Discovering Church Series.

Multiplication and Sending: The final point of the Discovery Group Process is when the members of the group reengage their own community and send out others to adjoining communities. Use the Discovering Leadership Series (4 and 5) in the appendix.

Imitation: The Discipleship Model



A characteristic of human culture is the pattern of grabbing an idea and integrating it into what we are already doing. Typical of this is integrating disciple-making into traditional Christian methods of “evangelism” and “seed sowing”. These each have a place, but the focus of disciple-making is forming meaningful relationships with intentional listening and dialogue. Offering to tell people a story and then asking them what they think about it, is almost always welcome and often leads to deeper or spiritual conversations (Hebrews 4:12). We see that Jesus never spoke to the people without using a parable (Matthew 13:34). Engaging people with a story was characteristic of Jesus that is worthwhile imitating.

Living as a disciple is about learning what Jesus said and did, imitating, trying, falling short, learning from mistakes, trying again, repetition. (*The only time you fail is when you quit trying.*) What did Jesus say to do? How did he say to do it, or show us?

As anyone knows who has been involved in training for sports, music, or dance; proficiency comes after much practice of the basics. This is also true of becoming disciples of Jesus who make disciples. Jesus spent approximately three years training a group of men, gradually entrusting them with more responsibility and autonomy.

Mastering the five disciplines of a disciple of Jesus (page 20) means developing a way of life that demonstrates being a disciple. Becoming disciples of Jesus starts with your own life and the lives of those closest to you.

Innovation before thoroughly mastering the process will not produce the desired results. However, once the process is fully internalized, adapting the process to meet specific circumstances is encouraged--but a person should never forget to practice the basics.

Written Discovery Study

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 3)

In preparation for each Discovery Group meeting, each participant who is able and especially the facilitator, should prepare by doing a written study of the passage that the group will study. The illustration below represents two facing pages in a notebook. It will be helpful if you number each pair of pages (Page #) and then put an index on the first page of the notebook. This will enable you to quickly find studies you have completed. *(For oral learners coach the facilitator in memorizing and studying the passage. If there is no recorded copy of the passage memorization should be word-for-word for use in the discovery group. See page 23)*

Four-Column Written Discovery Study			
First Page		Second Page (Page #)	
Passage from the Bible As Written	In Your Own Words	Application I will. . . We will. . . Sharing Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who will you tell? • When? • Where? • How will you start? • What follow-up questions can you ask? 	Our Discovery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About the passage • About people • About God/Jesus Helping Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who needs help? • What help is needed? What can be done?

Using a notebook, open two facing sheets and fold each sheet to make two columns. *(The columns can be in any order desired.)*

In each of the columns in sequence write:

Column 1: Passage: Write the passage as written — and try to commit it to memory.

Column 2: Your words: Write the passage in your own words so you can tell others in a conversational format.

Column 3:

- **Application:** Decide what you will do to apply it to your life. “I will . . .”
(Should be able to start it within 24 to 48 hours and be able to report progress by the next meeting.)
- **Sharing:** Plan with whom, when, follow-up questions, and how you may share this passage. *(Should be doable within a week. Plan helps even if person reached is different.)*

Column 4

- **Discovery:** *(Leave space to add comments from discovery group members)* Write what you learn from it about the passage, people, and God.
- **Helping:** What friend, neighbor, family member needs practical help.
(To suggest to your discovery group)

Discovery Group Process

Watch video 7, Dave Hunt's - "Bible Study Process" from the list on the last page of this training manual. The facilitator guides participants by asking each of the questions.

LOOKING BACK: BUILDING A FOUNDATION

1) COMMUNITY— Opening Questions:

- What are you thankful for this week?
- What challenges have you had this week (*Direct participants to look for answers to these challenges in the passage that they are going to study. If counseling is needed it should take place outside group time.*)

2) SHARE EXPERIENCES—Review Questions: (*These start the second meeting.*)

- How have you experienced God since the last time that we met? (*If the following accountability questions make people feel uncomfortable, answers to this question can include the next two. This is especially common for new groups or in shame – honor cultures. The goal should be to move people to accountability which comes with trust and comfort in the group. Testimonies encourage people to be more open and to try more earnestly.*)
- With whom did you share last week's passage?
- Did you apply what you learned since our last meeting and how did it go?
- Update on the people your group is helping.

LOOKING UP: LEARNING FROM HOLY SPIRIT AND SCRIPTURE

3) DISCOVERY (BIBLE) STUDY: (Read, Reread, Retell, Details) – Done orally

REVIEW THE PASSAGE PREVIOUSLY STUDIED

Start by having one or two people share the scripture from the previous session by memory. Then take time for people to share one or two things that impacted them about the scripture. (*Scriptures should become part of each person's life, not just knowledge about the scripture. The group can study the same passage again if the group has not fully learned it.*)

INTRODUCE THE NEW PASSAGE

Read the passage aloud at least twice. The second time one person rereads it while the others just listen. Then take turns (both in pairs and the whole group) trying to retell the passage in each person's words covering all the main points. The group should add missing parts. The goal is to learn together and be able to share your paraphrase of this passage with someone outside the group as a story. (*Group learning is much faster than trying to learn individually.*)

Details: Discuss the passage: Participants are required to confine their remarks to the passage being studied (no preaching or teaching or referring to other materials). This provides the opportunity of everyone to share as an equal which encourages participation. If the connection of any remark to the passage is not clear, the challenge question that anyone can ask is: "Where does it say that in this passage?" This both allows clarification and keeps remarks focused on the passage. The facilitator should make sure everyone is able to ask this question.

- What happens in this scripture passage? What do you like or do not like in the passage?
- What do we discover about God?
- What do we discover about people?

LOOKING AHEAD: LIFE TRANSFORMATION AND OUTREACH

4) OBEDIENCE — “I Will” and “We Will” Statements must be practical, measurable, and able to be started in 24 to 48 hours. (*Record these for next meeting.*)

Now that the group members have discovered truths from God’s Word, identify what difference this makes in each of your lives. (*At this point you may consider all preceding passages studied.*)

- Based on what we have learned about God and people, how should it change what we do?
- Did you find an answer to your challenge?
- **What will you change in your daily life to reflect what you have learned?**
(*“I will . . .” - at least one thing weekly – “We will . . .” when applicable*)

5) OUTREACH — Concluding and Action Questions:

- What other questions do you have about this passage? (*Assure everyone in the group understands the passage well enough to discuss it with whomever they share it.*)
- With whom will you share this story, when, and how? The first few times of doing this, the group can divide into pairs and role-play each of the individual’s plans. (*Remember, the basic plan will work even if the group member shares with a different person. Having a plan improves the chance of successfully sharing with someone else.*)
- Do you know anyone who needs help? What will this discovery group do to help them? (*Jesus repeatedly spoke of the importance of helping others with needs. Helping people will focus the group outside of themselves. It will help form relationships with non-believers that reduce hostility, establish friendships, and may provide opportunities to share, discuss scripture passages, and help them start their own discovery group.*)

LAST QUESTION — When do you want to meet again? (*Ask this question when the group is just starting or when members experience changes in their personal schedules.*)

GROUP DEVELOPMENT: After the group becomes comfortable with the discovery process, rotate facilitators. As each person in the group is learning to facilitate, take time to evaluate what the group learns from the person who facilitated the current study. What was done well? What could have been done better? The goal is that everyone eventually learns to facilitate the discovery studies. Sharing passages and being able to facilitate are two essential skills to be able to help other families or groups start their own discovery studies.

As groups become believers: expect them to pray for the challenges/problems identified in the opening questions and to pray for the people with whom they will share the passage and those they will help or are helping.

REMARKS — Any discovery process that will result in a disciple-making movement, must be simple, it must be self-correcting, and it must produce the essential disciplines of a disciple of Jesus. It must be simple enough that anyone can learn it quickly and replicate it with others. It corrects by focusing on the scripture studied. This allows the Holy Spirit to teach and give understanding, so all the participants grow in knowledge of God and truth. The process used must also train everyone in the five disciplines of a disciple (page 20). In terms of the study, these are accomplished by: selection and memorization of the passages, “I will” statements and obedience, helping others, sharing the stories, engaging them in simple discovery by asking questions, and inviting those who respond to discovery Jesus in the scriptures.

Role of the Facilitator:

Every group should have a primary facilitator. Over time, facilitation duties should be rotated. The facilitator of a meeting has several responsibilities:

- Prepares before the meeting to identify key discoveries and develop questions to ask.
- Maintains order. Guides the sharing back to the process if it strays from the questions.
- Assures that all comments pertain to the passage during the discovery step, and that there is no teaching or preaching. Everyone in the group should be comfortable with asking the challenge question, “Where do you see that in this passage?”
- Should use questions to engage everyone in the group and to assure that all the key discovery points are brought out. When a new group is starting, the disciple-maker trains and coaches the new facilitator in developing key discoveries and questions.
- Assures that the key discoveries are brought out and uses questions to direct the discovery to any that are missed.
- Sees that each group member records a list of other member’s challenges, so that they can pray (*if they are believers*) and support each other between meetings.
- Assigns another person in the group to record all the “*I will*” statements and names of the people with whom they will share the scripture. Use this list for accountability during the next meeting.
- Is an active participant in all parts of the process as an equal.

The primary facilitator should eventually train each person in the group who is able, to facilitate the discovery group. Those who can facilitate are capable of starting and coaching others to start discovery groups.

When people are learning to facilitate; the group should take time at the end of the meeting to evaluate the facilitator using this list of responsibilities. As an example, ask, “what did the facilitator do well?”. Then ask the facilitator what he or she could have done better. Others can share things they thought could have been better. (If members of the group are not comfortable with each other, handle this so that none of them are embarrassed or feel uncomfortable.)

Discovery Group Size

The best group size depends somewhat on the amount of time available. The facilitator needs to make sure that everyone has opportunity to share.

- In general, plan to spend 15 minutes per person to complete all five steps. So, if there are four people in a group, allot one hour. If there are six people, allot 1-1/2 hours.
- The depth and breadth of sharing improves up to a limit of six to eight people. After this number, some people typically will be passed over during sharing and discovery time. Larger numbers mean that an occasional absence will not disturb the group interactions. Multiple groups can meet in the same location and share discoveries in the combined group. Larger groups can be divided for the discovery part of the study.

Writing and Discussion: Review the Discovery Process

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 5)

Take a few minutes to review what you have learned so far:

Each of the questions in the discovery process develop long term characteristics of the group. Write the five steps of the Discovery Process and what characteristics and practices might each question produce in the group over time as it becomes a church?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Facilitating is different than leading. What are some of the responsibilities of a facilitator?

What is the challenge question in the discovery study? Why do we ask that question?

What are some of the ways that you can handle a long passage during the actual Discovery Study? (See lesson 3 on page 43 and improvise ideas.)

Notes:

SECTION TWO: (LOOKING UP)

DISCIPLE MAKING DISCOVERY STUDIES

Making disciples of Jesus starts by becoming a disciple. To become a disciple of someone requires focusing your life on the teachings of that person and then studying and imitating their life. One of the most important questions you can ask is, whose disciple do you want to become? And then, “How can that be done?”

These 13 disciple-making discovery studies focus on the teachings of Jesus in the gospels and then on their application in the recorded Acts of the Apostles. The expectation is that if two or more people gather in Jesus’s name to study the scriptures, he in the person of the Holy Spirit, will be there to teach the essential things the group needs to know to become and make additional disciples.

A critical step in becoming a disciple is to obey the commands and put into practice the teachings of your master; thereby making him your “Lord” (Romans 10:9). This is the lifestyle of a disciple. The last of the five disciplines of a disciple is to become a disciple-maker. Making disciples is a partnership with Jesus, not an activity that we do alone.

Notes:

1. Initial Introductory Discovery Meeting: The Great Partnership/Commission – Matthew 28:16-20

Invite four to ten of the believers whom you identified on page 19 and have been praying for. You can invite others that you have thought of since, who may be interested in becoming and making disciples of Jesus, to two introductory meetings of about two hours. These two meetings will introduce the discovery study process and present the basic concepts of disciple-making. Let them know they are not making a commitment to anything beyond the two meetings but at the end of the second meeting, will decide if they want to continue. The total time you will be together in each of the two meetings should be about two hours.

The eventual purpose of this group should be to participate with you in living as disciples and making disciples of Jesus. As a minimum size group, you will want to have two or three other people complete these studies with you.

Before you meet, you as the facilitator should complete a written discovery study of Matthew 28:16-20 following the Written Discovery Study format on page 29. During your study, identify as many essential discoveries as you can. Write them down and make sure that the group identifies them during your time together. Have questions ready that would help the group identify them if needed. The simplest yet effect, questions are ones like, “Let us look at verse “___”, what do you learn from it?” For examples, review some of the questions at the end of this lesson.

Starting your time together

Have something for each person to write on, such as a notebook. Also have enough pens available.

Select a comfortable place to meet. If appropriate, prepare some refreshments and snacks. When your guests are together and relaxed, explain that you are going to introduce and do a discovery study with them looking at Matthew 28:16-20. Together watch the video by Jerry Trousdale - “What are DMMs?” using the URL (number 3) on the last page of this book.

Ask for one or two people to take official notes for the group (challenges, discoveries, “I will” statements) so you can focus on explaining and facilitating. Also, everyone should write the things both they and the rest of the group discover in their own notebook.

Following the Discovery Group Process on page 30. **begin** the study by asking each person to share what he or she is thankful for this week. Next, ask them if they are comfortable, to share what challenges they have had this week. Then ask them to make a note of their own challenges and see if they find something in the study of Matthew 28:16-20 that will give them ideas for a solution.

Read the **Review Questions** and explain the purpose of reporting what each person has done the previous week (accountability, to encourage the group, and opportunity to help each other if they have difficulty completing each of them.) Start answering these at the next meeting.

- How have you experienced God since the last time that we met?
- With whom did you share last week’s passage?

- Did you apply what you learned since our last meeting and how did it go?
- Update on the people your group is helping.

Introduce the **DISCOVERY (BIBLE) STUDY**. If you want to start by having the group do a written study allow about 20 to 40 minutes to explain it (page 29) and have them at least complete the first two columns. This is a good idea the first meeting. You can use your own written study as an example.

Read Matthew 28:16-20 aloud while having them read along in their Bibles. You can take time to let them comment on the passage if they have anything to say. The second time reread the passage while the others listen with their Bibles closed.

Then have two volunteers one at a time, practice saying it in his or her own words without looking at the Bibles. Have the others listen (still with their Bibles closed) and when each person is done, have the group add anything that the person missed.

Repeat the entire process with the second person, starting by reading the passage twice.

Have the members pair up and each practice saying it to the other in their own words and the second person correcting.

Finally, have individuals from two of the pairs share with the whole group, who make corrections after each retelling. (*This is part of the learning process for the group.*)

Now you are ready to **discuss the passage**. Explain that participants are to confine their remarks to the passage being studied (no preaching or teaching or outside materials). (*Confining the remarks just to the passage helps everyone participate as equals.*) Then introduce the challenge question that anyone can ask: "Where does it say that in this passage?"

Ask each person to write down the group's discoveries to the following three questions. (For oral learners refer to the questions on pages 23 and 24.)

- What happens in this scripture passage? What do you like or do not like in the passage?
- What do we discover about God?
- What do we discover about people?

Using the **OBEDIENCE** section on page 31, ask what changed in their perception of God or people. Next, ask if anyone found an answer to their challenge or problem they shared earlier. Finally, ask what can they apply to their lives based on what your group has learned about God and people in Matthew 28:16-20?

Explain the purpose of each person writing an **"I Will" Statement** (obedience is an essential requirement for becoming a disciple) that is practical, measurable, and can be started in 24 to 48 hours. Have each person write an "I will" statement to apply what each has learned? You may need to coach them on doing this. (*Record all the "I will" statements for the next meeting.*)

Now you are ready for the **OUTREACH: Concluding and Action Questions**.

- As we conclude, do you have other questions about this passage or the discovery process? (*Each member should understand the passage well enough to discuss it with someone else.*)
- With whom will you share this story this coming week. Have each member write down the name of one person, when he or she is likely to see them, how they would lead the conversation into sharing the passage, what follow-up questions could they ask? (*Having*

a plan increases the success in sharing with someone, even if it is different than the person planned for. Role playing is helpful as you learn to do this.)

- Is there someone who needs help and what could be done? (*For this first meeting just discuss possibilities and options. Next meeting with those who want to continue, develop a plan to reach out and help someone.*)

Take some time to pray for needs, problems and challenges identified earlier. Then pray for each of the people with whom each group member will share what they learned, and anyone identified who needs help. (Prayer is for believers, but not expected for unbelievers in their study groups.)

Explain the next study will be on Luke 10:1-11, where you will learn about making disciples. Let them know that you will show an eight-minute video on how this works in practice. Ask if any of them want to invite someone else to join you? If they do, ask them to share what they just learned with the new person.

For next week ask everyone to do a written discovery study on Luke 10:1-11 (see page 29).

This ends the study.

FURTHER REFLECTIONS ON THE PASSAGE

You can use the following questions to challenge the group to further discovery of insights of the Great “Partnership” in this passage. These “reflections” are examples of essential content discovery questions mentioned in the orality section at the top of page 24 and your preparation as a facilitator mentioned on page 32.

In verse 16 identify who went, why they went, and how that might apply to us?

Who went?

Why did they go?

How does verse 16 apply to your life?

In verse 17, what were the responses of the eleven?

What are your doubts about your role in participating in the Great Commission/Partnership?

What do we learn about the interaction of obedience, doubting, and being disciples from this passage?

To whom are the commands and directions in verses 18 through 20 given? What does this mean to us today; what kind of relationship with Jesus is necessary for us to be able to fulfill the Great Commission/Partnership? Read John 2:23-25 to learn about Jesus's relationship with believers.

What was Jesus's response in verse 18 to the eleven's actions and doubts? What do we learn?

In verse 18, who has all the authority when we make disciples?

In verse 19 most Bibles translate the past aorist participle Greek verb (πορευθέντες — poreuthentes) as a command “go” making a separate command from “make disciples.” In the Greek, the participle is literally “having gone.” While there is a strong imperative connection with the two verbs, the fact is that there is only one command “make disciples” in this sentence. Translating the passage as “Therefore *having gone*, or *as you go*, make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” will lead to different actions than the word “go”.

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him, they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go Therefore ~~and~~ [having gone] make disciples of all nations [ethne – people groups], baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe [obey] all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (ESV with literal Greek in brackets)

In verse 19, compare the different actions expected if we have one command, “as you go make disciples,” or two, “go and make disciples.” What would you do differently in the two cases?

In verse 19, who is to baptize new disciples?

What does this mean for you as a disciple-maker?

In verse 20, the Greek word translated “observe” is “Τηρεῖν” (terein) which if used with a command means to continue to “obey orders or commands, to obey, or to be keeping commandments”. In practical terms, how will teaching disciples to obey all that Jesus commanded differ from teaching what he commanded?

Jesus makes a promise in verse 20, what is it?

Combined with verse 18, what does that mean to us as we make disciples?

How have you or might you, experience the fulfillment of this promise?

How does the entire passage apply to us and what we do in making disciples?

2. Luke 10:1-11 – How to Make Disciples?

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 3)

As you the facilitator, did for the first meeting, prepare by doing a written discovery study and noting important discoveries. This passage is the key passage to understand the process of making disciples. (We will look at this passage again in Exercise 7 and compare it to Matthew 9:35 to 10:16.)

Refer to the bottom of page 23 and top of page 24 to develop questions that you can use to help the group find the essential steps to make disciples. Note the sequence of asking the Lord of the harvest to send laborers in verse 2 and finding the person of peace in verse 6.

As you start, ask someone to can take notes of all challenges shared and “I will” and “who you will tell” commitments, both for prayer and as a record for review in the next meeting.

Once your group is ready, ask the opening and then the review questions (page 30). During the review questions, spend some time finding out why people had difficulty completing any of their commitments from the first session. Encourage the group to share ideas to make each person successful this next week. Implementation of what they have learned is usually a challenge for believers from a traditional church background. Be patient, coach, and expect each person to try each week.

When you begin the DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY portion, have one or two people retell Matthew 28:16-20 and invite people to share reflections about it. One of the goals of the Discovery Group is that the passages studies become part of each member’s life. You do not have to go on to a new verse every week. If the group has not fully incorporated the previous passage or there appears to be more to be learned, you can spend another session with it.

Next read Luke 10:1-11 aloud and have them follow in their own Bibles. Now have them watch the 8-minute video, 2a — “Beyond.org Explanation” (Video URL links are in the Video Training Resources on the last page of the Training Manual). Look for similarities to Luke 10. Then discuss the steps from the Luke passage they see in the video.

Now, have another person read the story aloud while everyone listens. Then have the group identify all the characters in the passage. Have another person read the story again while the rest listen. Have the group describe each step of the disciples’ mission in the order presented in the passage.

Next read the passage again and have them listen with their Bibles closed. Have two people each attempt to tell the entire passage in their own words. Just as in the first meeting, have the rest of the group add things that were forgotten. Again, have the people in the group practice the passage in pairs. Then have two people share the story with the entire group. (*Orally processing a passage in a group leads to more rapid and thorough memorization than individuals memorizing on their own. Listening and adding missing parts reinforces the*

passage in each person's mind. About six or seven times through a passage orally usually results in everyone knowing the passage of up to twenty verses.)

After the discovery questions about the passage, people, and God, go through the passage verse-by-verse and ask what they learn that they can apply to disciple-making. If the group misses any point that you felt was important, ask one or two questions. Direct them to the verse or part of the passage where they can discover the concepts.

Explain that one of the goals of the group is that everyone will be able to facilitate. Then using the list of facilitator duties on page 32, have the group evaluate the strong points of your facilitation and suggest things that would help you improve. Evaluating while listening and then giving input will improve the facilitation skills of everyone in the group. This is another part of group learning and is deeper and broader than teaching.

If time permits, watch video 4, “Disciple Definition”, by Richard Williams. Otherwise start the next meeting with one of these videos (Group members can watch any of these videos on their own, or the group can review them if needed).

Find out which members of this group want to continue to discover more about disciple-making. Ask if they would like to invite anyone else. Then select a time and place where you will meet. If there will be new people, you will need to decide if you want to repeat these two lessons. Once you begin your group do not add additional people. You can coach a second group if others want to participate.

At this point develop a plan to help someone or meet their need. Helping others should become part of the activities of every group meeting.

For those who continue with the studies, each member should have a copy of this Training Manual.

Written Assignment:

Have those who want to meet again do a written discovery study on John 14:15-27 in a notebook using the four-column format on page 29.

Appendix 3 of *Great Commission Disciple Making* has a list of detailed questions which may be useful as you begin to examine these scripture passages. Take a few minutes to look at them and decide if they will be useful to you. A Kindle version is available from Amazon.

Supplemental Reading

Great Commission Disciple Making, James Lilly, Ch 4, “Applying the Discovery Process”

Miraculous Movements, by Jerry Trousdale, Ch. 6 — “Discovery Bible Studies and Obedience-Based Discipleship”

Contagious Disciple-Making, David L. and Paul D. Watson, Ch. 15 — “Discovery Groups”

3. Discovery Group Exercise: John 14:15-27

Obedience and Our Teacher the Holy Spirit

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 5)

By this session, your group should consist of people who have made a commitment to compete this series of studies and are interested both in becoming disciples of Jesus and making other disciples according to the first two passages you have studied.

This next study presents a portion of Jesus's teaching on obedience and the roles of the Holy Spirit in the Disciple-Making Process.

The passage has four primary concepts:

Verses 15 to 17 connects love and obedience to the Holy Spirit.

Verses 18-20 give assurance of Jesus's continuing presence.

Verses 17 and 21 to 24 give a scriptural picture of saving grace.

Verses 25 to 26 are key to understanding why a small group discovery study is effective in teaching and transforming lives.

Give some thought to how you will handle this passage. Learning two concepts is easy but adding a third and fourth can lead to confusion. Options include:

- Using the entire passage but breaking it into sections that include no more than two concepts and then learning the sequence of the parts so the group can put it together and tell it out loud.
- Use each section in different meetings and then review and retell the entire passage.
- Read the entire passage, but only commit the most important parts to memory for retelling.

Handling longer passages and passages with multiple but related thoughts is a common challenge.

If everyone completes a four-column written discovery study before your group meets you will have a greater chance of completing the entire oral study in one meeting. (Allow an extra 20 to 40 minutes if you decide to complete a written study together during the meeting.)

Complete the entire Discovery Process. Remember to take time to retell Luke 10:1-11 out-loud and share discoveries before beginning the new passage. (*This passage in Luke is key to understanding the process of finding and coaching the people that God has prepared to become disciples.*)

Start by watching and discussing Video 8, Jerry Trousdale - "Obedience" which can be found using the URLs on the last page of this training manual.

As you complete the study, ask what they learn that can be applied to being and making disciples, understanding the nature of salvation, and how people can become disciples of Jesus in small discovery groups. Ask questions to guide the group to discover other key points that

you have identified in your written preparation. See the bottom of page 23 and top of page 24 for suggestions to develop dialogue and discovery questions.

Group actions -

- Pick someone to record challenges, “I will” statements and the names of the people each person will share with to refer to in the next meeting. Use this list to pray at the end of your time together. One of the most important things each member of a group of believers can do is pray for the needs of the other members of your discovery group throughout the week, so have each person write the challenges for the others in the group.
- Take some time for the group to evaluate how well you facilitated the study and point out both your strengths and ways to improve. Have they seen changes from the last time you facilitated?
- The last item in the discovery process is to identify a “group project” for the Discovery Group to reach out beyond itself, by meeting a need of others who are not involved in the Discovery Group. By this meeting you should be able to pick one or two people and develop a plan. Jesus spoke and demonstrated the importance on helping those who are in need.

This activity will also help the group expand the influence of your discovery group, as well as begin focusing on the needs of others. By reaching outside the group, new relationships are formed. In a Discovery Group that consists of people who live in a society hostile to the gospel, this both reduces possible future hostility and increases the possibility of future multiplication. For a group of disciple-makers, it should be an intentional action to begin engaging the people and groups of people you want to reach and form relationships with them.

Written Discovery Assignment:

For the following meeting, do a written discovery-study at home on John 1:35-46 and Matthew 23:8-11 and 18:20 - Our role in Disciple-Making - in preparation for your next discovery group.

Supplemental Reading

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.6, James Lilly

Contagious Disciple-Making, David L. and Paul D. Watson, Ch. 7 — “Disciple-Makers Understand the Importance of Obedience”

Are you a Christian or a Disciple? By Ed Gross,
Ch. 3 — “What ‘Disciple’ Meant in the First Century.”

4. Discovery Group Exercise: John 1:35-46; Matthew 23:8-11; and Matthew 18:20

Calling of Disciples and Our Role in the Process

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 6)

This will be your fourth Discovery Group study. You should be comfortable facilitating and the group should be familiar with the Discovery Process by now. In your Discovery Group meeting share by memory and review John 14:15-27 and what you have learned in that passage. Then complete the Discovery Process focusing on John 1:35-46 and Matthew 23:8-11; and Matthew 18:20. Answer and discuss the following questions:

John 1:35-46 – What do we learn about each of these people? What were their relationships with each other? What was their role in this disciple making process?

- John the Baptist
- Two disciples
- Andrew
- Simon Peter
- Phillip
- Nathanael
- Jesus

How are our roles similar to each of these?

What do we learn about the process of making disciples? How much training is required? Why?

Matthew 23:8-11

- Who is to be the teacher?
- What are our roles in the process?
- What things do we need to guard against?

Matthew 18:20

- How can we be discipled by Jesus?

Discuss how these three passages help establish and define the discovery process.

Your discovery group members should all have a vision of making disciples by helping others start their own discovery groups, who in turn will repeat the process. Your role as the primary facilitator includes preparing the members of this group to help and coach others to start new groups. One of the critical skills to do this is to be able to facilitate a Discovery Study. (Sharing passages and guiding people to discuss them is another.) As you begin this discovery session,

discuss this with the group and let them know that you will need a volunteer facilitator for the next meeting.

As before, record individual needs for prayer, group discoveries, personal and corporate “I/we will” statements, and the names of people selected to share the passage with. Please remember that the people with whom you would share these 15 passages would normally be believers who may be interested in starting another disciple-making group. They can join you when you begin engaging people who do not yet have a relationship with Jesus. Once a group becomes established as yours has, do not add new members, but help people who are interested start their own groups.

For engaging people who are not-yet believers, use the “Parables of Jesus” or the “Discovering God” series. The Parables of Jesus are used primarily for initial contacts with people. The seven contextual Discovering God series on pages 79 to 87 each focus on different world views (general, skeptical young professionals, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, and Sikhs). Once people have discovered God, each group can follow the same series (e.g., Discovering Obedience – Becoming Disciples) as they progress in their knowledge of and obedience to God.

The seven contextual Discovering God Series are first of six different sets of studies which lead from: discovering God, to becoming disciples (page 88), to discovering church (p. 89), then equipping leaders (p. 95), next developing leadership (p. 97), and finally discovering Disciple-Making (pp. 98 and xi, the series you are doing). Completing all these series normally will take two or more years. By then groups should have become stable churches and have positive influence in their communities for the kingdom of Gods.

Discussion with your group - Let us get real.

After you have completed the discovery lesson, take some time to evaluate how your Discovery Group is going and if there are some changes you need to make.

- Are the members of the group following through with their “I will” statements? Are the group members making suggestions to help each other be successful?
- Are they consistently sharing with others what they have learned during the study time? Again, can the group give suggestions to improve?
- Have you identified and started helping someone outside the group?
- What can you change in the way your group functions to be more effective? (*Every aspect of a discovery group is to be a learning opportunity.*)
- At the close of the meeting, have the group review the list of facilitation duties on page 32. Then take some time to have the group evaluate your facilitation skills. This will become part of your training until everyone has mastered the skills of being a facilitator.

After they have completed the evaluation, ask for a volunteer to facilitate the next meeting. Arrange to meet the volunteer before the next discovery group to prepare that person. After this and for the next several meetings, take a few minutes for the group to evaluate and coach

the new facilitator's skills, pointing out both the things that were done well and places that could improve. Emphasize that this is so everyone improves their skills as a facilitator.

Decide what changes you want to try with the group, and then make them during the following meetings so you will have some opportunities to see how they work.

Written Discovery Assignment:

Lesson 6 will focus on prayer, but prayer starts with our orientation to living in the presence of God. We will therefore start by doing a written study of **Deuteronomy 6:1-15** in lesson 5. This passage is known as the great Shemah. For the Jews and Jesus this is the Greatest Commandment - Internal spiritual life. It paints the picture of a God-focused way of life. For disciple-makers it also illustrates sharing the word of God wherever you go, with whomever you meet. For parents it illustrates discipling your children in the way they should go.

The concept of teaching each person and assuring that he or she teaches the children and children's children is easily transferable to mentoring facilitators. This concept of teaching three generations also applies to assuring the four essential elements (knowing the passage by memory, "I will" application, telling others, and helping others) are faithfully replicated to three generations. As God casted a vision of multiplication of families to form a great people, the same applies to discovery groups.

Supplemental Reading

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.7, James Lilly

5. Discovery Group Exercise: Deuteronomy 6:1-15

A Disciple Maker's Orientation to Life

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 7)

Coach a new person to facilitate the discovery process each time you meet. At the end of each of your meetings have the group evaluate the facilitator using the list of responsibilities on page 32, pointing out what they have done well and giving suggestions to improve. The goal is that each person will develop the skills necessary to coach others to facilitate their own discovery groups.

Start all the Discovery Studies by someone saying by memory the passage you studied in your last meeting and the group members share discoveries. Always have someone make a master record of individual needs for prayer, group discoveries, personal and corporate “I/we will” statements and the names of people selected to share the passage with. As mentioned previously, these disciple-making passages are best shared with the people who are believers and may be interested in starting their own discovery group. You can coach them to start other groups. When they are ready, they can join you in engaging those people who do not have a relationship with Jesus. [Always think about replication and multiplication.]

APPLICATION TO DISCIPLE-MAKING

After you have completed the three discovery questions: ‘What do you like or dislike about the passage?’ ‘What do you discover about people?’ and ‘What do you discover about God’, take time to discuss what you learn about disciple-making from this passage. Following are examples of discovery questions similar to those described in the section on “orality”.

What does God expect us to do to assure multi-generational faithfulness of our family and how does this apply to assuring multi-generation fidelity of discovery groups? Vs 2, 6

If Moses is a model of the catalytic disciple-maker, for how many generations must we assure accurate replication? Vs 2 - How can you do this with different generations of discovery-groups?

What do we learn about listening and obeying and what is the result? vs 3 – Shemah is the Hebrew word for, hear and obey.

What is to be the motivation of everything we do? Vs 5

What are we to do when we are outside the home and walking? Vs 7 - What are some ways that you can do this? (This is called a Shemah lifestyle.)

In what places is God's word to be presented as the standard of life? Vs 8 and 9

Why is it important to know the Old Testament and how does this influence the selection of discovery passages? Vs 10

Why is it important to maintain a prayer life and scripture reading? Vs 12 - What does this mean to you as disciples of Jesus?

Practice with your group:

In pairs, role-play engaging people you meet at a deeper interpersonal level. The initial goal is to be able to share a story and engage in conversation about the passage. (Use parable or passage applicable to their life.)

Together evaluate and coach the new facilitator. Then select the next person to facilitate.

Implementation Assignment:

Have group members start discovery groups with their families or friends.

Written Discovery Assignment:

The next two lessons will be on prayer and then on finding a person of peace. We will start with **Luke 11:1-13** - Focusing and persisting in prayer. Also, complete the Community Prayer Guide on pages 52 and 53 before your next meeting.

Supplemental Reading

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.8, James Lilly

Contagious Disciple-Making, David L. and Paul D. Watson, Ch. 11 — “Be a Disciple Who Makes Disciples”

Are you a Christian or a Disciple? By Ed Gross, Ch. 13 — “Following Jesus's Teaching Concerning the Old Testament”

6. Discovery Group Exercise: Luke 11:1-13 - Prayer

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 8)

Watch video 9 by Jerry Trousdale, “Prayer.” The URL is found on the last page of this training manual.

With your Discovery Group, review the Deuteronomy 6 passage. Next complete the group process. For the scripture study do an oral study of Luke 11:1-13. Either in a group or individually complete the Community Prayer Guide of the following two pages.

Continue to change facilitators in your training group so that each person has several opportunities to facilitate. (Encourage each member to facilitate discoveries studies with his family or friends both to develop skill and to experience the impact of these studies on the family or group.) At the conclusion of your time together, evaluate how the facilitator did in maintaining order, involving everyone in the sharing time, and drawing out the important discovery points in the passage.

In addition to the standard discovery questions about God and man, what do you discover about prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in this passage?

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS:

- What do you like or dislike about the passage?
- What do you discover about God / Jesus?
- What do you discover about People?
- What are some things you discover about prayer? Entire passage
- Who is our model for prayer? What does that mean to us? Vs 1
- At what point of time did Jesus tell his disciples how to pray? Vs 1 - How does that apply to introducing prayer to people in a discovery group?

- What types of things do we normally pray for and how do you see that in verses 2-4 and verses 5-8?
- What are the points Jesus focused on in his prayer strategy in verses 2-4? - How did these relate to his overall mission on earth?
- How should verses 2-4 set our focus as disciples and disciple-makers?
- What did Jesus see as the ultimate purpose for prayer? Why is that important? Vs 13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is your personal prayer life like? What can be improved? How can you improve it?
- What prayer team do you have interceding for the work? What can be done to establish one or increase it?
- Who can you invite to pray for Disciple-Making Movements and fulfillment of the Great Commission among the people or groups you would like to reach?

Implementation Assignment:

Complete the Community Prayer Plan on the next page. With your Discovery Group discuss one of your community prayer plans and lead them in praying through each of the eight parts.

* _____ **Community Prayer Guide –**

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 4)

(Developed by Andrew and Heather Hocking)

*Examples include a specific neighborhood, company, ethnicity, organization, affinity group, etc.

Thank God for what He is doing in the Community — Identify what God is doing.

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. (Colossians 4:2)

Pray for Laborers to Partner with You

And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Luke 10:2)

Pray for someone to join you and for God to raise up workers from the harvest.

Write down names of people who can partner with you in prayer and reaching the community:

Pray for Guidance in Reaching the Community

Ask God, and write down any insight that God gives you for reaching the community:

Pray for Open Doors to the Gospel

At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak (Col 4:3-4).

Pray for natural opportunities to discuss Christ and spirituality with people in the community.

Pray for Individuals

Write down individuals that you know in community:

Pray for Persons of Peace

And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. (Luke 10:6)

Persons of Peace are insiders in the community who are spiritually hungry and will share spiritual things with others. Pray that God would connect you with people of peace. Make note of the individuals that fit this description and pray for them.

Pray God would Demolish Strongholds in the Community

For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

Write down worldviews contrary to the Gospel and pray that God reveals truth. Write down problems in the community and pray that God brings transformation in these areas: (See list on page 24 - discussion of orality.)

Pray for Multiplication Inside and Out from the Community

Write down other communities to which the Gospel can spread:

Prayer Walking – A practical Application

If you have selected a group of people to reach out to, start walking the area in pairs praying according to your Community Prayer Guide and asking God for contacts and discernment. Share and record your experience when you are together again.

Written Discovery Assignment: Matthew 9:35-10:16 – Mission of the Twelve

The next two assignments will be about finding a person of peace. Do a written study on **Matthew 9:35-10:16** - This passage describes the mission of the Twelve to reach other Jews to make disciples. There are a few distinctions between their assignment and that of the other Seventy-two, which are worthwhile noting. You also will look at this passage in parallel with Luke 10:1-11 to discover some of the responsibilities of the disciple-maker.

Supplemental Reading:

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.9, James Lilly

Miraculous Movements by Jerry Trousdale, Ch. 3 — “Pray the Lord of the Harvest”

Contagious Disciple Making, David L. Watson & Paul D. Watson, Ch. 12 — “Prayer”

7. Discovery Group Exercise: Matthew 9:35 - 10:16

Difference in the Work of the Twelve and the Seventy-two

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 9)

Complete the five-part Discovery Process of the Matthew passage with your group. In addition to the standard questions, take some time to compare the differences between the mission of the Twelve and the Seventy-two in Luke 10:1-11 that you studied earlier.

Characteristics of a Person of Peace and Role of the Disciple Maker

Matthew 10:1-16	Luke 10:1-9
<p>And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. ²The names of the Twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. ⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. ⁹Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics or sandals or a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. ¹¹And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.</p> <p>¹⁶“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.</p>	<p>After this the Lord appointed Seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ²And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ ⁶And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. ⁷And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. ⁹Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’</p>

Discussion Questions:

- Where was each of the two groups to go? What are some clues to the destination of the Seventy-two?

- What would have been the understanding and background of a “worthy person”? What was the understanding and background of a “person of peace”?
- What are the common instructions of the two groups that Jesus sent?
- What are some differences in the instructions? What do you learn from them?
- Where might the Seventy-two have come from? [Discuss implication of each possibility.]
- As a group, discuss what you learned about the community in your last discovery group from your prayer walk. Then adjust your prayer plans, pray for the community using the new plan (See page 52).

Written Discovery Assignment: Do a written study on **Acts 16:25-34** – This passage describes the Philippian Jailer as a model of a person of peace. We can also see characteristics of a disciple-maker in the actions of Paul and Silas.

There are many examples of people of peace in the Bible: Lydia, the Samaritan woman at the well, Cornelius, Zacchaeus, even Andrew and Philip, and the thief on the cross all demonstrate traits of a person of peace. There are also stories in the Old Testament such as, Rahab, who hid the Israeli spies, and the widow from Zarephath near Sidon which are examples. Almost everyone who has responded to a call of God demonstrates some characteristics of a person of peace. From these we can begin to identify characteristics of a person of peace as well as the role that we are to play as a disciple-maker.

Supplemental Reading:

There is no additional reading assignment. It is a good time to review or catch-up on your reading.

8. Discovery Group Exercise: Acts 16:25-34 – A Person of Peace

The Philippian Jailer

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 9)

Watch video 10, “People of Peace,” by Dave Hunt (See last page in the training manual for the URL). Then complete the Discovery Group Process for this passage. In addition to the basic three questions, make a list of the characteristics of the person of peace and the characteristics of disciple-makers. You can also refer to the Matthew and Luke passages you studied in the last lesson. How would you apply these to your own life?

Characteristic of a Person of Peace:

Characteristics of a Disciple Maker:

Implementation Assignment:

With your discovery group, discuss potential people of peace who you have identified. Now that you have a better understanding of the characteristics of people of peace, review and update your community prayer guide. In general, when talking to non-believers, the Parables of Jesus are good to share. For people from a Muslim background “Discovering God” series starting with Genesis provides the best passages to share. You can bridge many of these Genesis stories from the Quran.

Next, lead your Discovery Group in praying for people of peace who are to be workers. Write out a general description of the person of peace that God gives in prayer. Then ask God to lead each of you to a person of peace the following week. [Before you go be prepared; and when you are there, be aware and available to follow-up.]

Written Discovery Assignments

In the next lesson, in addition to Matthew 16:13-21 we will review different passages that give a basic overview of the two goals of a disciple-maker, to make disciples and plant churches.

- **Matthew 16:13-21** — Instructions for planting churches

Supplemental Reading:

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.10, James Lilly

Miraculous Movements by Jerry Trousdale — Ch. 5 — “Engaging Lostness”

Contagious Disciple Making, David Watson & Paul D. Watson,

- Ch. 13 — “Engage Lost People” and Ch. 14 — “Finding a Person of Peace”

9. Discovery Group Exercise: Matthew 16:13-19 – Church Planting

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 10)

The goal of this study is to understand the role that disciple-making plays in establishing churches. The focus of the Great Commission is working in partnership with Jesus as he makes disciples and builds his church among people who as we begin, do not know him. Whether it is making disciples or planting churches, our role of a disciple-maker is to be a catalysis to the process. A catalysis is anything or anyone that enables a change to take place without becoming consumed or integrated into the process.

Watch video 12b, titled, “Preparing a Person of Peace for leadership,” by Jim Yost (Video Training Resources).

Matthew 16:13-21 - A Disciple-Maker’s Role in Building Churches

Complete the discovery study of this passage. Then based on what you discover, discuss, and write down what your role in planting churches is. Next review what you have learned about your role in the Disciple-Making Process from Matthew 23:8-11 and John 1:35-52 (lesson 4), and that of the Holy Spirit in John 14:24-27 (lesson 3). Finally, in addition to the discoveries about God and man, answer the following questions:

- Who “makes” disciples in Matthew 23:8-11 and John 1:35-52?
- Who “builds” the church in Matthew 16:13-21?
- What is your role in “making disciples” (ref. John 1:35-52 and Matthew 23:8-11)?
- What is your role in “building the church?” (*Look for similarities with making disciples.*)
- Based on what you have learned so far, what resources does God give you to complete your part of “making disciples?”
- What resources does God give you for your role in “planting churches?”

Our partnership with Jesus and the Holy Spirit does not change as we move from making disciples to planting churches. The natural growth of a discovery group of disciples is to become a simple church. You have identified the resources and our role. They are adequate for both tasks. (See *Discovering Church and Leadership Studies* in Section 3.)

Implementation Assignment:

At the time of Jesus, the word the Bible uses for church, "ekklesia" was the term for a group of Roman colonists who would establish a town or city which operated under the authority of Caesar, Roman law, and Roman culture. Their leader was called an apostle. Their mission was to impose Roman rule, law, and culture in a subjugated land by their physical and cultural presence.

In context of this understanding of "ekklesia" what are the purposes of a church? As a group, write a statement of purpose and a list of essential functions for a church to accomplish this purpose. Think through what you can recall from the Bible, rather than from your experience. If possible, give examples and references.

Purpose of a Church

Essential Functions of a Church:

- Continue to pray for more workers and the specific needs of the people of peace you are working with as well as the needs of their own discovery group.

Written Discovery Assignments:

Review the Kingdom Circle Exercise on pages 16-18, Review Acts 15:1-20 and if you have not yet done it, complete a written discovery study of verses 5-19 of Acts 15.

Supplemental Reading:

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.11, James Lilly

Are you a Christian or a Disciple? by Edward N. Gross, Ch. 15 — "Following Jesus in Making Disciples."

Contagious Disciple Making, David Watson & Paul Watson —

- Ch. 10 — "Thinking Strategically and Tactically About Disciple-Making"
- Ch. 17 — "Leadership"
- Ch. 18 — "Mentoring"

10. Discovery Group Exercise: Acts 15:1-20 - Cultural Awareness

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 9)

As a group: Review the Kingdom Circles Illustration and exercise on pages 16 to 18. Review or complete a discovery study on Acts 15:5-19. Next, watch video 13, “Cultural Awareness,” by Richard Williams, then discuss

- What are your experiences with different cultures? Are there any ideas or general principles that you can draw from them? How could you apply them in the future?
- How can you separate the gospel from aspects of your culture such as when, where, and how you worship; how you pray, clothing, family identity, individual identity?
- Who can coach you in reaching into a different culture? (*Often the person of peace can fulfill this role. Even people in your own neighborhood or extended family have different social practices. Ask about: how people celebrate birthdays and holidays, who are the family or organizational authorities, how they govern, and the work ethic of the family. These questions can both help you understand the people you are trying to reach and build your relationship with the person of peace. – see page 24*)
- What are some of your cultural additions (music, order of service, etc.) to the Bible’s model of the church? What items are essential?

- Develop a mission statement for your Discovery Group. Then develop a short strategic plan and identify resources for achieving your mission. (A mission statement is short statement of your final goals and purpose as a group. Tactics vary, but a strategic plan sets the direction and defines the methods and resources to accomplish your mission – See Chapter 10 of *Contagious Disciple Making*.)

Mission: (what you will work to achieve.)

Strategy: (overall approach to accomplish mission.)

Resources: (assess what you have and what you need.)

Written Discovery Assignments

In the next chapter we will look at the skills a disciple-maker needs in a new culture and the model that Paul of Tarsus used. Do written Discovery Studies on the following three short passages.

Philippians 2:1-5 — Paul’s model for cultural flexibility — how did this influence Paul’s approach to cultures? How does this demonstrate Paul’s application of what he learned as a disciple of Jesus?

I Corinthians 9:19-23. — Paul’s orientation to different cultures

Acts 17:22-27 — Example of Paul’s transcultural practice — What do you learn about Paul’s contextualization and the proclamation of the truth?

Supplemental Reading:

Great Commission Disciple Making Ch.12, James Lilly

Miraculous Movements, by Jerry Trousdale: Ch. 10 — “The Hardest People Yield the Greatest Results”

Contagious Disciple-Making, David L., and Paul D. Watson:

- Ch. 5 — “Disciple Makers Realize the Structure of the Community Determines the Strategy Used to Make Disciples”, and
- Ch. 6 — “Disciple Makers Realize Their Culture and Religious Experience Can Negatively Influence Their Disciple-Making Unless They Are Very Careful”

11. Discovery Group Exercises – Cultural Adaptation Model, Philosophy, and Example

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 12)

Watch and discuss Video 11, by Richard Williams - “Characteristics of a Disciple Maker”

With your discovery group, complete the entire group process combining the following three passages for your discovery study. The Philippians passage not only lays out the approach and sacrifice of Jesus, but it also gives a clear picture of what Paul used as the model for his own interactions with different cultures. In the 1 Corinthians passage Paul explains his general philosophy which reflects the application of his understanding of what Jesus modeled. The Acts passage gives a graphic example of how Paul implemented his vision for reaching the lost.

As you study these three passages, in addition to the standard three discovery questions, discuss Paul’s focus on Jesus as a model. What was Paul’s philosophy, and how do you see it at work in his address in the Areopagus?

11a. Philippians 2:5-8 — How did Jesus model contextualization?

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- What do we learn about God and man?

- Describe the cross-cultural model that Paul saw in Jesus?

11b. I Corinthians 9:19-23 — Paul’s orientation to different cultures

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I

became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people; that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

- What do we learn about God and man?
- Paul was a disciple of Jesus. How did he apply Jesus model in Philippians 2:5-8 to his philosophy?
- What do we learn about how a disciple models his life to conform to that of Jesus?
- What changes can you make in your own life to adopt the model of Jesus?

-

11c. Acts 17:22-27 — Paul Addresses the Areopagus

So, Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,

In this passage we see one application of Paul's philosophy.

- What do we learn about God and man?
- What do we learn about how Paul researched a new culture?
- How did Paul apply what he learned?
- How did Paul balance contextualization with truth?
- How can we apply this to our own outreach? (*"We contextualize the gospel by just presenting the scriptures and allow the discovery group to put them into their context"* – David Watson.)

Now discuss how you can apply this to your work with the people that you are trying to reach. Next, discuss how to develop a relationship with people of peace. Then discuss how to guide them to starting their own discovery group.

Written Discovery Assignment

Complete a written study of **2 Timothy 2:1-7; 14-16** — Key to replication.

Look at:

- Genesis 1:1-25 — Creation Story - How to establish a foundation.
- Matthew 25:14-30 [Parable of *the Talents*] – To start a discussion.

Supplemental Reading:

Great Commission Disciple Making, James Lilly, Ch.13

Miraculous Movements, Jerry Trousdale

- Ch. 7 — "Simple Churches, Dramatic Transformation, Rapid Replication"

Contagious Disciple-Making, David L., and Paul D. Watson

- Ch. 2 — "Disciple Makers Deculture, Not Contextualize, the Gospel"
- Ch. 16 — "Establish Churches"

Are you a Christian or a Disciple? by Ed Gross

- Ch. 6 — "Jesus and Evangelism,"

12. Discovery Group Exercise: 2 Timothy 2:1-7; 14-16 - Replication

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 13)

Using the URLs on last page of the training manual, watch and discuss the two videos by Jim Yost: 12a, “Lack of Obedience” and 12c, “Multiplication.”

Complete Discovery Study on 2 Timothy 2:1-7; 14-16.

In addition to the questions about God and man, discuss how this advice to Timothy would apply to what you need to do. Read through the following passages and discuss each of their application to training a facilitator in a new group, as well as your own group’s goals.

- 2 Timothy 2:1-7
- 2 Timothy 2:14-16
- Matthew 13:3-23 — Sower of seed, pathway, rocky, thorns, good ground
- Matthew 13:31-33 — Mustard seed
- Matthew 21:19 — Cursing the fig tree
- Colossians 1:6-7 — Epaphras a faithful brother
- John 1:35-51 — Come and see
- Ephesians 6:10-20 — Spiritual Armor — (This is a good addition to your daily prayer).

Develop your skills as a facilitator

As you conclude your own Discovery Group time, take a few minutes to discuss what you have learned about facilitating a discovery group.

The first challenge in the Discovery Process is becoming comfortable with both the order of the process and in your ability to facilitate groups. Helping each other improve in facilitating a Discovery Group and understanding group dynamics is essential if you are going to demonstrate to a group of not-yet believers or train a person of peace. Disciple-making is much more about demonstration than teaching.

Written Assignment:

Complete a written study of John 15:1-11. The final lesson in this training series will connect obedience and fruitfulness.

13. Discovery Group Exercise: John 15:1-11

Fruitfulness and Obedience

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Chapter 13)

Using the URLs on the last page of the training manual, watch and discuss: Video 2c, Act Beyond, “New Movements”

The final study for your introduction to Disciple-Making is John 15:1-11, in which Jesus strongly links abiding in him with fruitfulness and obedience. Jesus modeled everything he wanted his disciples to learn; he modeled being a disciple of his Father in heaven. What was the fruit of Jesus’s ministry on earth? Take some time to discuss this and apply it to your own lives.

Discovery Questions:

Complete the three standard discovery questions. Then discuss the additional questions.

What do we learn about the relationship between Jesus and the Father? Vs 1.

What do we learn about trials? Vs.2

What do we learn about maintaining a life of regular prayer?

Engagement Partnerships

If you wish to engage a large people-group, assembling or becoming a part of team of people who engage their physical needs is best. The goal is to form relationships among the people and find a person of peace.

What other ministries or groups are working with the people you want to reach? Write names and contact information:

Establish Prayer Networks

It is of primary importance to establish prayer networks. The best people to engage in this work are people who have a burden for the group that you are trying to reach. Join with other groups who are working to reach the same or similar groups of people to pray regularly.

Who can you invite to begin praying for you and the people you want to reach? These can be individuals or existing prayer groups. For instance, you may want to approach your church's mission board or prayer ministry. Write their names and contact information.

Starting to Reach Out

By now, your small group should be prepared to fulfill the Great Commission by making disciples. When you have completed this lesson, discuss how you will implement what you have learned. Read "Section Three" and review the "Great Commission Outreach Guidelines" in that section. Schedule your next meeting to begin finding people of peace.

Written Assignment: To begin, start with the Parables of Jesus (for unbelievers in general) or the Genesis passages in the Discovering God Scripture Series (for Muslims) that follows and be prepared to share these passages from memory. Additional and specialized study passages can be found in *Great Commission Disciple Making's Appendices 2 and 7*

SECTION THREE: (LOOKING AHEAD)

OUTREACH AND APPENDICIES

Your study group should have become a team with understanding, ability, and focus on meeting those people whom God has prepared in answer to your and other's prayer. It is these people who can introduce their families, friends, and people they meet to Jesus.

The Four Fields diagram on the next page is a simplified presentation of the DMM Cycle on page 27 of this training manual. Disciple-making movements require successfully completing all these phases/fields. The discovery study is key, but only one element. Your coaching group needs to assure that you are engaging in each of these "four-fields" as you develop discovery groups.

The list of names you make on page 70 will give you an opportunity to evaluate the people you connect with regularly. These are people you can begin to engage with stories from the Bible. Successful disciple-making requires accountability and peer group coaching (p. 71), as well as having the "Counter-Intuitive" expectations and understandings as listed on pages 72-75. The Great Commission Disciple Making Guidelines and sample Peer Group Agenda on pages 76 and 77 should help as your training group transitions fully into a disciple-making team.

The lists of discovery studies in the Appendices provide resources for the members of your discovery group to use to coach the groups they start in the process of becoming disciples, churches, and disciple-makers themselves.

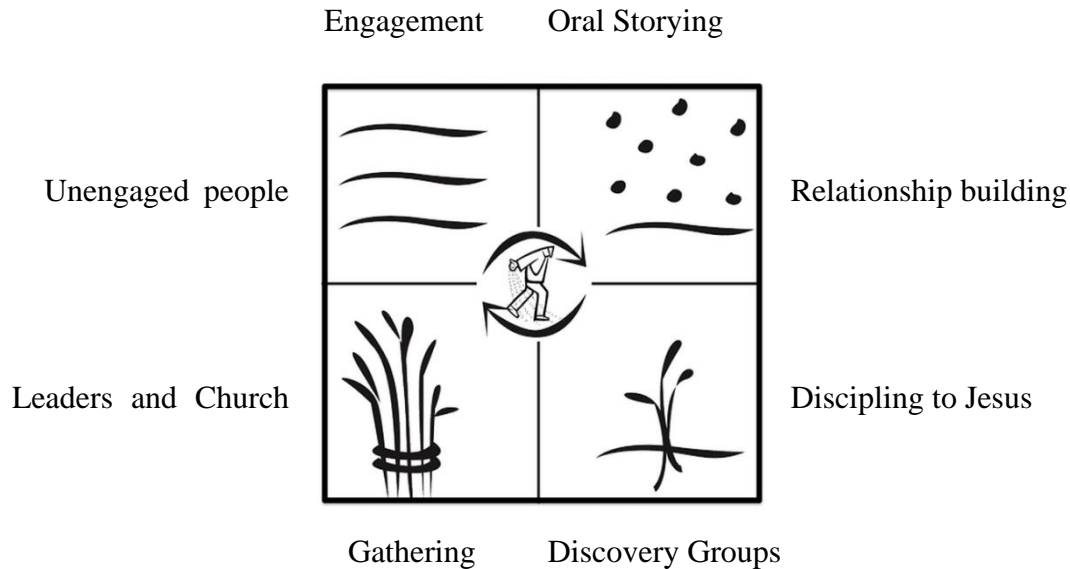
The parables in the first list (p. 79) are useful in sharing in almost any situation. The first seven Discovering God series (pp 80-88) provide different lists for reaching different cultures. The variety of lists illustrates that these lists of passages should be adjusted to address different worldviews, as discussed in the lesson on Orality on page 22. These specialized passages are each useful to share both orally and as written studies with people in those cultures.

The remaining Discovery series: Obedience, Church, Equipping Leaders, Leadership, Disciple-Making are each designed in series to develop healthy reproducing churches.

Finally, the list of video URLs on page 99 gives additional resources for you and your team to learn and apply disciple-making principles to your life. Many of these are incorporated in the lessons you have studied, but you may add others to meet the needs of your group.

Notes:

Four Fields – DM Approach



Mark 4:26-29 *And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."*

Coaching leaders to follow this process must be continual if you are to see a disciple-making movement.

Actions Steps of the Four Fields

Field 1 Entry, Engagement of lost people - Luke 19:10 - *For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.* – Prayer, engaging communities (needs, fears, and interests: medical, sports, social welfare, business, deliverance, etc.), contact with leaders, engaging households.

Field 2 – Power gospel teaching - Matthew 4:23 - *And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.* – Oral storytelling with questions and dialogue, and healing prayer.

Field 3 Command to make disciples - Matthew 28:18-20 - *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore [having gone] 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 obey all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* – Oikos Discovery Groups – Discovering God and Discovering Obedience Series

Field 4 – Gathering Mark 3:14-15 - *And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach and have authority to cast out demons.* – Leadership development and church formation - Discovering and Equipping Leaders, Discovering Leadership, and Discovering Church Series

Center – Workers - Luke 10:1-2 - *After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.* Prayer, training, strategizing, sending, supporting – Discovering Disciple-Making Series (this training manual and the books *Great Commission Disciple Making* and *Contagious Disciple Making*).

Near Relationships – With Whom to Start

Disciple-Making is about relationships, our initial success will depend on our current set of relationships. Begin by listing the top 20 closest current relationships in your life.

- | | |
|-----|-----|
| 1. | 11. |
| 2. | 12. |
| 3. | 13. |
| 4. | 14. |
| 5. | 15. |
| 6. | 16. |
| 7. | 17. |
| 8. | 18. |
| 9. | 19. |
| 10. | 20. |

Now go back and mark:

+ Beside those who are Christian,

– Beside those who are lost; and

? Beside those whose spiritual condition you do not know.

Evaluation:

The next step is a simple evaluation. Count the number of each of the three categories marked: +, –, and ?

- High number of “+”: You live in a Christian world. You can begin inviting believers to become disciples of Jesus and so multiply the number of disciple-makers to reach the lost. This was the first assignment of the Twelve in Matthew 10 and Luke 9. However, as you build a base of disciples, your eventual goal should be to reach beyond believers to engage the lost people all around you.
- High number of “–”: You have access to the lost. You are positioned to immediately begin engaging lost people. Remember to make sure you have a supportive team. Jesus sent out the teams of 12 and 72 disciples two-by-two and in Matthew 18:20 he promises to be with you. This is not meant to be a project for individual disciples.

High number of “?”: Start sharing some of the passages you have been learning with people and ask what they think about them. You will quickly find out what these people’s relationships are with God and Jesus. Their answers may lead you to people of peace.

Personal and Group Accountability

Make sure each member of your team supports and holds each other accountable, not just when you are together, but regularly outside of meetings. Set up additional times to pray together for each other and the people you are attempting to reach and develop relationships.

Having one or more accountability partners with whom you can share and are held accountable for both ministry and personal aspects of your life is important. You can use the following table to develop a list of potential accountability partners in addition to your disciple-making team. These are people you can share personal details of your life: family, prayer life, temptations, work, etc.

Potential Accountability Partners

Name	Contact Information	Meeting Time / Date

Peer Coaching Group

As your team works with different people-of-peace to establish other discovery groups, coaching each of those who lead new groups is essential. The purpose of this coaching is to help them work through challenges of the discovery process and to keep the **critical elements of:

1. Scripture memorization,
2. “I will” obedience, and
3. Telling and helping others.

Initially, this can be done one-on-one, but as the number of groups multiply consider forming peer coaching groups of leaders/facilitators. One member of your original group can act as a coach to help a new group start and to hold them accountable to replicate the critical elements.

Peer coaching groups meet for encouragement and to share what each member is learning. They join to resolve challenges that they individually or collectively encounter. Just as with discovery groups they rely on the Holy Spirit to teach through scripture, experience, and revelation. They use a similar format to that your team uses. The focus is on sharing the challenges and successes the members of the peer group experience. They should include a discovery scripture passage as well as the shared experience of each member of the group.

Peer coaching groups are an essential element for large and rapidly multiplying movements.

****Assuring that the three (3) critical elements are completed in each of three generations of discovery groups is essential to assure continued multiplication.**

Counter-Intuitives

In addition to the challenges to our own religious worldview that need to be addressed by seeking God in the scriptures, there are counterintuitive things which make these movements grow. Following is a list.

Go slow so you can grow fast -- When speaking of rapid multiplication of discovery groups and churches, the normal assumption is that DMM is something like one-on-one evangelism of an individual, except that you are reaching a small group where you lead people to an encounter with Jesus, and then you move on to another group. It is the exact opposite. The Disciple-Making Process is a long-term relational process with one or a few people. Growth of a movements comes from: coaching and mentoring a few key people, a simple and reproducible process, sharing with others, faithful imitation by the mentees, and accountability.

The disciple-maker's goal is not to start hundreds of discovery groups himself, but to develop long term relationships with a few people who will faithfully carry on this process until literally millions of people are reached.

Typically, a disciple-maker meets regularly for two to four years with the local leaders, but at increasing longer intervals. This is an ongoing relationship that may last for the disciple-maker's lifetime. How this works itself out will depend on the cultural setting and the needs and abilities of the local leader.

Focus on a few (one) to win many -- Learning to mentor people is one of the essential skills of a successful disciple-maker. Growth comes as the facilitator and members of his or her family or group find other people whom God is drawing to himself. This has at least two implications for you as a disciple-maker. First, you must be prepared to spend time in developing this primary relationship. Second, if you want to be effective as a disciple-maker, you need to be realistic as you assess the abilities and willingness of the person whom you are mentoring to put into practice all that you are coaching him to discover. Coaching focuses on teaching skills and strategies (capabilities). Mentoring focuses on character in all aspects of the mentee's life (capacity).

Share only when people are ready to hear. Walk away if the time is not right -- This is simply the application of Matthew 10:14 and Luke 10:10–11. When leaving a group of people, you are not making a statement of “never,” but rather “not now.” Perhaps more prayer is needed, or an engagement effort needs to be modified, or God needs to bring a disciple-maker with different skills or anointing, or perhaps more time is needed.

When or if, to leave people after an investment of time and effort is one of the more difficult decisions that a disciple-maker needs to be able to discern and make.

A new insider is more effective than a highly trained *mature* outsider -- The discovery-based Disciple-Making Process focuses on the not-yet-a-believer's existing relationships. He invites them into the same Discovery Process that he is going through. Of course, this requires

the close and ongoing coaching by the initial disciple-making team.

A lay disciple-maker is more effective than a paid professional one -- Sociologically, people receive more easily from others of similar education, economics, age, social, and cultural background.

Start with creation, not Christ -- God began his story at the beginning. It was not an accident that he walked mankind through a process of discovering their need, who he is, what he offers, and what he expects. Why do so few people fully live their lives for Jesus after confessing their sins, asking him to forgive them and save them? Could it be that no one ever told them of the great work that God wants them to participate in by bringing his kingdom to Earth?

Starting with creation allows people to discover God's plan and the reason that Jesus came. The passages selected should foreshadow who Jesus is and what his actions mean. When the members of the discovery groups arrive at the gospels, they should have acquired the essential pieces needed to assemble a full understanding of what Jesus offers us and what he expects from us. In the Discovery Process, group members have been living out genuine repentance in obedience to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Entering God's kingdom and accepting Jesus' gift of redemption is placed upon a solid foundation that will have equipped them to also make disciples of all nations.

Do not teach the Bible! Teach people how to discover truth from the Bible and how to obey (Matthew 28:19). One of the powerful results of teaching people to search the scriptures and apply it, is that groups of people engaged in this Disciple-Making Process grow in the knowledge of God's truth. They develop increasingly orthodox beliefs.

The leader is a facilitator, not a Bible teacher -- Training people to facilitate and not to teach is an ongoing challenge with Christians. It is usually not as difficult with non-Christians, but it still takes vigilance and repetition of instruction.

Let the lost lead Bible studies -- A Discovery Study tries to reproduce how Jesus called (John 1:35-51) and trained his disciples. It works for three reasons. First, the Discovery Process is self-correcting; it confines the discovery group members to studying the passage under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. No extraneous teaching or materials are allowed. Second, it works because the facilitator is being mentored each step of the way. This is another reason for the strong focus on long-term relationships. Most important, it works because the person of peace is the laborer that the harvest master has sent into the field. We are working in partnership with Jesus and the person he is calling (cf. Luke 10:2).

Disciple to conversion -- The *process* of discipleship begins once a person begins the Discovery Process. The intent is that they will continue growing in their understanding and personal experience of God throughout the discipling process until they eventually reach the place of full personal repentance, surrender, baptism, and commitment to Jesus. This is what the "Discovering God" series are each about. Jesus disciplined people to faith in himself.

Prepare to spend a long time, but anticipate “miracle accelerations” -- When Jesus says that he will be with us “to the end of the age,” is that true? If it is and he is with us, can we expect to see miracles occur? The many years of experience with DMM in different parts of the world demonstrate that miracles occur frequently. When they happen, the disciple-maker can expect to see several groups starting and a significant openness by more people to engage in discovery groups.

When miracles take place or questions arise, the disciple-maker needs to be flexible to do some Discovery Studies that address the questions or manifestations of the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit who is at work. Our job is to assist him in his work.

Once the people in a discovery group have both experienced and discovered in the scriptures the power of the Holy Spirit or have their questions answered, return to the original study. The goal is to lay a solid foundation. Forgiveness and miracles without a foundation of understanding will not keep a person living as a disciple of Jesus. (Matthew 13:20, 21)

The best time for a church to plant a church is when it is young and forming -- Why? There is an enthusiasm when the Holy Spirit begins forming a group of people into a church. People are open to try new things and to share them with others.

It is rare that a church older than five years will plant another church. This is the normal maturing process of a church. What it means for the disciple-maker is that he needs to be aware and help other churches develop as soon as opportunities arise.

No mass evangelism so that the masses will be saved -- Billy Graham’s crusades produced millions of professions of faith yet, despite all the follow-up efforts, only two to four percent of them could be found in a church a year later, let alone become disciples.

David Watson described the work of five people in India who prayed and became disciples, and then found people of peace and mentored them over a few years. This produced more than six million new disciples of Jesus in less than 20 years. These groups of disciples and churches continue to double about every five years and now total about 20 million believers in Jesus.

Obedience is more important than knowledge – Obedience not knowledge, produces a change in everything about a person. Knowledge itself will *puff up* (1 Corinthians 8:1) rather than *build up*. Obedience to the commands of Jesus leads to full repentance (Romans 12:2, John 14:15). Repentance is a conscious decision and action of a person to change the direction of his or her life to conform to God’s desires (Romans 12:1-2). Repentance is required to enter the Kingdom of heaven (Matthew 4:17). “He who loves me obeys my words and my father will love him and we will make our habitation in him” (John 14:23). Successful disciple-makers are obedient, faithful, and focused. With coaching, God will develop all the other needed skills.

Do not focus on personal evangelism; focus on reaching the whole community through families. The Person of Peace is the key. -- In traditional conversion-focused evangelism, the act of a person receiving Jesus as Savior and Lord normally begins to separate them from their

social community. Very quickly, they become an outsider to their family and friends. Furthermore, the new believer or convert is not equipped to guide his social group into a long-term relationship with Jesus that he himself does not have.

What happens when the Holy Spirit is at work in a person's life, and he wants to surrender his life to Jesus? Then counsel and pray with him, but also immediately invite the person to lead his friends and family in a discovery study. Start mentoring him as a "laborer in the harvest".

Focus on ordinary people, not professional Christians – The three criteria to look for are: obedience, faithfulness, and focus on the mission of Jesus. Education, credentials, church background or Bible or seminary training in themselves will not produce disciple-makers. There is a place for full-time movement leaders, but movements start with self-supporting ordinary people who develop a passion for introducing their friends and family to Jesus.

Buildings often kill church planting -- As a church grows, the acquisition of buildings is a normal part of maturing in non-hostile environments. Buildings takes a good deal of energy, resources, and focus. Buildings can serve as training and equipping centers for DMM and can lend public credibility to a church. But the fact is that it may remove that church from direct church planting and move them to a supportive role. Staying small and dispersed is best.

Expect the hardest places to yield the greatest results -- Remember that we are in a spiritual battle. When the devil digs in and gets aggressive, this is a strategic stronghold for him. A victory for the gospel in this area can open many other opportunities. Attack the strongholds with much prayer before physically engaging the people. Indifference is to be met with departure. Be encouraged when you encounter opposition (James 1:2).

Leave early! Here is the last one. It is counter-intuitive to all traditional missionary work. From the beginning, the disciple-maker needs to be planning his exit. This what Jesus did. It also marked the early Apostles. It was effective then and it is effective today.

In *Poised for Harvest, Braced for Backlash*, Timothy Miller writes:

*Paul probably never knew exactly how long God would allow him to be physically present with a group of new disciples. The very nature of his ministry, therefore, necessitated a mode of foundation building that imparted to new believers something that would result in both their personal transformation and in the further advancement of the gospel, regardless of the disruptions and unpredictable circumstances, engendered by the release of power through him.*ⁱⁱ

Again, recognize that it is Jesus who works through the Holy Spirit to build his church upon the bedrock of disciples (Matthew 16:18). Our goal is to establish a foundation of scriptural knowledge, obedience, sharing, accountability, and mentoring so that the Holy Spirit can replicate and multiply without our direct involvement. The relationship with those you coach and mentor, who have become your coworkers, continues either with electronic and telephone communications or occasional physical visits. If you are working in a hostile environment, these meetings will most likely be by telecommunications (internet, phone, video) or in a remote location to ensure the protection of both your mentee and the new church.

Great Commission Outreach Guidelines

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 1)

Purpose: Everything you have learned so far has been to prepare you to fulfill Jesus's offer of the great partnership, as outlined in Matthew 28:16-20. Your group's focus should now shift from preparation to implementation, from becoming disciples to making disciples, who in turn can make disciples. Just as the Apostles operated in teams, so you should continue to operate as a team. When you go out, go with a partner and prayer support.

The Discovery Process is simple, but implementing it takes commitment, prayer, work, and flexibility. As you have learned, it is a partnership with Jesus by means of his word and the Holy Spirit. Your responsibilities are limited and well defined: 1. pray the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers; as you go with prayer and blessings, 2. look for and find these laborers, the people of peace; 3. bring your person of peace to Jesus in his word where Jesus promises to be there (John 18:20), 4. coach him or her to coach his group to obey all that Jesus's Word and Spirit command them.

Making the Discovery Process part of each team-member's family's life and culture is an important foundation. Living as disciples with your families will provide first-hand experience with the challenges that families face, as well as the impact that it can have. Speaking out of experience is more effective than teaching information. Being a disciple makes people more effective disciple-makers.

Initial Goal: That working in pairs, your group will find one or more people of peace who will become the worker or workers to lead their families and/or social groups into the kingdom of God and will in turn, replicate by reaching others within their communities.

General: Plan on a minimum of 12 to 14 implementation sessions with your group of disciple-makers. The meeting times and dates need to fit your schedules. I suggest meeting biweekly or monthly to give yourselves time to implement what your group decides to do. Following are suggestions but should give you a place to start your own planning.

First meeting: Determine the group of people you want to reach. Complete, revise, or review your "Community Prayer Guide" that you should have started during this training (See page 52) of this training manual. Determine what additional information you need about this group and how you will obtain it. If you have sufficient information, review the seven Discovering God Series in the Appendix, and determine what series of scriptures would work best to engage them. Depending on the underlying belief system of the group you are trying to engage, you may need to modify the discovery passages. (In addition to the standard Discovering God series, there are some topical studies that can be used to engage people which are available in Appendix 7 of *Great Commission Disciple Making*.)

Sample Peer Coaching Meeting Agenda:

Form a peer coaching group by adapting the basic five-part Discovery Group Guide:

1. **Community: Opening questions:** In addition to focusing on your individual needs, include questions about finding people of peace and developments in the new discovery groups. Focus your efforts to help people in need who are part of the group of people you are trying to reach. This builds strong relationships with your team with a focus on your mission.

2. **Share Experiences** is the place you can report progress with reaching people of peace, starting groups, internal problems of the groups, replication, etc. as well as each member's "I will" and the groups "we will" statements. If there are difficulties, the group can work out solutions or approaches, share experiences and look for outside resources.

3. **Discovery Bible Study** should initially have two parts. The first is a review of one of the passages from the Discovering Disciple Making list on page xi or 98. The second is a full discovery study on one of the "Discovering God" or "Parables of Jesus" passages (see the next page). As you gain experience, still seek scriptural understanding to resolve challenges and for insight every time you meet. Never just rely on experience.

With **the review passage** from the Discovering Disciple-Making series on page xi or 98, focus on implementing the passage in your own lives as well as reaching others.

With **the outreach passages you choose**, (from the Parables of Jesus or Discovering God series) in addition to the normal discovery process, identify the essential elements of the passage to coach the new facilitators (people of peace) of the community Discovery Groups to be prepared to use questions to draw out his group members when needed. This is especially important as a new Discovery Group starts.

4. **Obedience** is time for brainstorming and to make both personal and corporate commitments on how to improve the outreach. Do not neglect your own growth as disciples. Develop "I will" and "we will" statements from each of the Discovering God passages you study, as well as application to your outreach.

5. **Outreach**, initially is the time to discuss your plans to share the passage you are memorizing and make plans to better connect with your outreach community. As groups start and multiply, shift to addressing challenges, training leaders, accountability, and faithful replication. With multiplication, you will need to also raise up leaders. Look at the two Discovering Leadership series as well as Discovering Disciple-making.

Close your time with prayer for the needs of your group, spiritual protection, and the needs of, as well as spiritual warfare for the community you are trying to reach.

As you continue to meet, you may need to adjust the time and frequency of your meetings. Always confirm the next meeting with everyone.

Notes:

Appendices: Scripture Series

Parables of Jesus Series – Engaging People

The parables of Jesus are easy to learn. They can be shared in almost any conversation and can quickly lead to spiritual conversations. Jesus said nothing to crowds of people without parables (Matthew 13:34).

Matthew 5:13-20 [*Lamp on a Stand*] (Also Mark 4:21-22, Luke 8:16 & 11:33)

Mark 3:22-27 [*How can Satan cast out Satan?*]

Matthew 7:24-27 [*House on the Rock*] Also Luke 6:47-49)

Mark 4:26-29 [*The Seed Growing*]

Mark 4:30-32 [*The Mustard Seed*]

Matthew 13:1-9 [*The Four Soils*] (Also Luke 8:8-15, Mark 4:1-20)

Luke 5:33-39 [*The Fasting and patching an old garment*]

Matthew 13:10-17; 34 [*The Purpose of Parables*] The only way Jesus taught unbelievers.

Luke 6:39-42 [*The blind man and the speck and log*]

Matthew 13:18-23 [*The Four Soils Explained*]

Luke 6:43-45 [*The fruit on the tree*]

Luke 7:36-47 [*Unequal debt forgiven*]

Matthew 13:24-30 [*The Weeds*]

Luke 10:25-37 [*The Good Samaritan*]

Matthew 13:31-33 [*The Mustard Seed and the Leaven*]

Luke 12:13-21 [*The Rich Fool*]

Matthew 13:36-43 [*The Weeds Explained*]

Luke 12:35-48 [*Men waiting for their master*]

Matthew 13:44-46 [*Hidden Treasure and Pearl of Great Value*]

Luke 13:6-9 [*The Barren Fig Tree*]

Luke 14:7-11 [*The Wedding Feast*]

Matthew 13:47-52 [*The Net*]

Luke 14:12-14 [*The Great Banquet*]

Matthew 15:10-20 [*Defilement*] (Also Mark 7:14-23)

Luke 15:8-10 [*The Lost Coin*]

Matthew 18:10-20 [*The Lost Sheep*] (Also Luke 15:1-7)

Luke 15:11-32 [*The Prodigal Son*]

Luke 16:1-13 [*The Dishonest Manager*]

Matthew 18:21-27 [*The Unforgiving Servant*]

Luke 16:19-30 [*The Rich man and Lazarus*]

Matthew 21:28-32 [*The Two Sons*]

Luke 18:1-8 [*The Persistent Widow*]

Matthew 21:33-44 [*The Tenants*] (Also Mark 12:1-11)

Luke 18:9-14 [*The Pharisee and the Tax Collector*]

Matthew 22:1-14 [*The Wedding Feast*]

Luke 19:11-27 [*The Ten Minas*]

Matthew 25:1-13 [*The Ten Virgins*]

Luke 20:9-18 [*The Wicked Tenants*]

Matthew 25:14-30 [*The Talents*]

Luke 21:29-33 [*The Fig Tree*]

Discovering God – Creation to Christ – First/Initial Series

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 2)

Start formal Discovery Group studies with one of the Discovering God Series. This initial series can also be used to share and discuss with non-believers. It can be modified to fit different cultural world views (see discussion on page 24). More specific world views are addressed with the six additional Discovering God Series.

God Creates — Genesis 1:1-25

God Creates Man and Woman — Genesis 2:4-24

Man and Woman Eat the Fruit — Genesis 3:1-13

God's Curses — Genesis 3:14-24

God Regrets His Creation — Genesis 6:5-8

God Saves Noah and His Family — Genesis 6:9-8:14

God's Covenant with Noah — Genesis 8:15-9:17

God's Covenant with Abram — Genesis 12:1-8, 15:1-6, 17:1-7

Abraham Gives His Son as an Offering — Genesis 22:1-19

God Spares His People — Exodus 12:1-28

The Commands of God — Exodus 20:1-21

The Sin Offering — Leviticus 4:1-35

God's Righteous Servant — Isaiah 53

Jesus is Born — Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20

Jesus is Baptized — Matthew 3; John 1:29-34

Jesus is Tested — Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus and the Religious Leader — John 3:1-21

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman — John 4:1-26, 39-42

Jesus and the Paralyzed Man — Luke 5:17-26

Jesus Calms the Storm — Mark 4:35-41

Jesus and the Man with Evil Spirits — Mark 5:1-20

Jesus Raises a Man from the Dead — John 11:1-44

Jesus Talks about His Betrayal and the Covenant — Matthew 26:17-30

Jesus is Betrayed and Faces Trial — John 18:1-19:16

Jesus is Crucified — Luke 23:32-56

Jesus is Resurrected — Luke 24:1-35

Jesus Appears to the Disciples and Ascends to Heaven — Luke 24:36-53

Enter the Kingdom of God — Acts 2:25-41

Justified by God's Grace — Ephesians 2:1-10

Discovering God in Spiritual Community – Young Professionals

Developed by: Andrew Hocking and Ben McBride

Genesis 2:4–25 God Creates People

Genesis 3:1–24 God hold People responsible

Genesis 12:1–8; 15:1–6, 17:1–7 Covenant with Abraham

Exodus 1:1–14; 2:11–25 God hears the Defenseless

Exodus 3:1–22 God Responds to the Defenseless

Exodus 14:5–31 God defends his people

Leviticus 19:1–18 The Commands of God

Nehemiah 9:5–31 The People take Responsibility

Isaiah 61:1–9 The Promise of a New Day

Jeremiah 31:31–34 God’s Covenant with People

Luke 4:14–21 Jesus announces His purpose

John 3:1–21 Jesus and the Religious Leader

John 4:1–26, 39–42 Jesus and the Samaritan Woman

Mark 6:30–44 Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Luke 5:17–26 Jesus and the Paralyzed Man

Matthew 22:34–40 The Great Commandment

Matthew 26:17–30 Jesus Tells of his Covenant

Matthew 26:47–57 Jesus is Arrested

Luke 23:32–56 Jesus is Crucified

Luke 24:1–35 Jesus is Resurrected

Acts 1:3–11 Jesus Ascends to Heaven

Acts 2:22–41 People respond to the Message

Acts 2:42–47 People create new community

Discovering God – Hindu Passages

Genesis 1:1–25 God created the world	Matthew 1:1; 1–17 Genealogy
Genesis 2:4–24 God created man and woman	Luke 1:26–38 Angel appears to Mary
Genesis 3:1–24 Man and woman disobey God	Matthew 1:18–25 Angel appears Luke 2:1–20 Jesus is born
Genesis 3:14–24 Judge disobedience	Matthew 3:1–6; 13–17 baptism
Genesis 6:5–8:14 Grief - Disobedience	John 1:29–34 John testifies
Genesis 6:9–18; 7:11–2 The flood	John 3:1–21 Jesus to save the world
Genesis 8:13, 18–22 God saves Noah	John 4:1–26, 39–42 Jesus Messiah
Genesis 12:1–8, 17:1–8 Abram	Luke 5:17–26 Jesus’s authority to heal
Genesis 18:9–14; 17–19 Promised son	Mark 4:35–41 Authority over nature
Genesis 21:1–7; 22:1–19 The test	Mark 5:1–20 Authority over spirits
Exodus 1:7–14; 2:23–25 Slavery	John 11:1–44 Jesus Authority over death
Exodus 12:21–23; 29–32 God rescues	Matthew 26:17–30; Jesus’s betrayal
Exodus 20:1–21 Gods commandments	John 18:1–19:16 Jesus is betrayed
Leviticus 4:1–35 Offerings for sins	Luke 23:32–56; 24:1–12 Resurrected
Judges 2:10–23 Continual sin	Luke 24: 36–53 Jesus back to life
Isaiah 53:1–9 Suffering Saviour	Acts 2:25–47 Becoming believers

Discovering God – Buddhist Passages

From: PJ Neiger, with Beyond (<https://beyond.org/>)

Most Buddhists are predominantly fear/power and honor/shame focused and not as focused on guilt/innocence, but that would not be true of every individual.

Here is the initial story set we use:

- 1) Creation of the Spiritual World (A crafted story from multiple Scriptures:(see Story Outline on pages 83 and 84.)
- 2) Creation of the Physical World (Genesis 1:1-2:3; 2:15-17)
- 3) The Fall of Man (Genesis 3)
- 4) God's Promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-5; 15:1-6)
- 5) The Birth of Isaac (Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7)
- 6) King David (1 Samuel 16:1-13; 2 Samuel 7:1-17)
- 7) The Promised Savior (Isaiah 53)
- 8) Jesus is Born (Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-20)
- 9) Jesus has Power Over Evil Spirits (Mark 1:9-28)
- 10) Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man (Mark 2:1-12)
- 11) Jesus Raises a Little Girl Back to Life (Mark 5:21-24; 35-43)
- 12) Jesus' Teaching (Clean and unclean Mark 7:1-23 and the Great Commandment Matthew 22:36-40)
- 13) Jesus' Death (Luke 22:39-53; 23:1-49)
- 14) The Resurrection (Luke 23:50-24:12)

For first Gospel contact, we do one of two things: 1) share the Creation to Fall of Satan story; 2) share the story when Jesus heals the paralyzed man (Luke 5:17-26), or the man born blind (John 9:1-12). We train people to share these miracle stories if someone asks them to pray for them. We like to share a story about Jesus' miracles and then pray and ask for miracles. If we start with these miracle stories, the next story would be Creation to Fall to of Satan.

A couple of other general notes: we avoid sharing the flood story as the 4th or 5th story a Buddhist person would hear. We have found it to be a real barrier for Buddhists that have trouble imagining a God that kills. They have a better framework to understand the flood story after they understand more about God's character. We have a larger Old Testament story set that fills in the Old Testament understanding later in a person's discipleship. Our initial Creation to Christ story set focuses primarily on power and secondarily on Honor/Shame. We have other "situational" stories that we share like Joseph's story in Genesis and Ruth's story. In our larger Old Testament set, we have four Joseph stories and two Ruth stories. Some Buddhists find these stories very relatable and extremely interesting. There are many situations in life that lend to telling these stories. Also, if we are in the company of some people that are hostile to Christianity or Jesus, these are great stories that communicate truth without getting their hackles up.

Creation to Fall of Satan Story Outline – Buddhist

From: P.J. Neiger, with Beyond (<https://beyond.org/>)

This story about the creation of the spirit world and about the fall of Satan is essential for a correct understanding of what angels and demons are and where they come from. This is a composite story crafted from several different passages throughout the Bible. Our main focus in this story is to communicate that everything, including every spirit, was created by God and that everything He created was good. Also, our intent was to show how Satan came to be our adversary while showing that he is still subject to God's authority. This English text is a translation of the original crafted story in Tibetan. The Scriptural anchors are below each line.

Long ago Creator God alone existed. There was nothing like the physical earth, it was completely empty.

Scriptural anchor: Genesis 1:1-2

God himself a spirit and He is eternal. Before Him, there were no others, and no one created/established Him.

Scriptural anchor: John 4:24 (God is Spirit); 1 Timothy 1:17 (He is Eternal, Immortal, and Invisible)

He is the Creator of all things. He created other spirits and made them his own servants/attendants. These spirits' names are called angels. These angels stay with God's pure land/heaven/kingdom.

Scriptural anchor: Psalm 103:20-21 (angels are messenger/servants); John 1:3; Colossians 1:16 (God created all things); Hebrews 1:14 (They are spirits); Revelation 4:11 (God created them)

God created more [things] than we can count of many different kinds, and everything he created was good. Among all the created things these messengers are powerful and wise.

Scriptural anchor: Genesis 1-2 (what God made was good) Psalm 103:20 (created powerful and wise angels); Colossians 1:16 (God created many things)

But we all should not worship these messengers. This is because God created all these things himself, so, we need to worship Him alone.

Scriptural anchor: Revelation 22:8-9

These messengers go back and forth following God's commands.

Scriptural anchor: Psalms 103:20; Daniel 9:21-22; 10:12-15 (two examples of messengers following God's commands)

Among these messengers, one's name was called Satan and he was also made without any fault and without sin.

Scriptural anchor: Revelation 12:8 (Shows Satan losing his place in heaven, so therefore at one time he had a place) Jude 1:6 & 2 Peter 2:4 (both passages mention angels who sinned or "abandoned their own place of residence" and were punished, so at one time they had not sinned and were not rejected by God); Revelation 12:9 (One of the angels' names was Satan)

But one day Satan and some other angels turned against God.

Scriptural anchor: Jude 1:6, 2 Peter 2:4; 1 John 3:8

Then Satan and his followers no longer had the authority to stay in God's pure land/ heaven/ kingdom. God sent him and his followers out of heaven.

Scriptural anchor: 2 Peter 2:4, Jude 1:6

Satan became God's enemy and tries to change people's minds and recruit them to believe in himself. His servants/followers are now called devils.

Scriptural anchor: Matthew 4:9 (Satan tempting Jesus to worship him); Matthew 13:37-39 (Satan as God's enemy); 1 Corinthians 10:20 (idol worship is demon worship); Revelation 12:9 (angels followed Satan)

Not only that, but Satan is also now called many names like the deceiver, the root of lies, the enemy, and the ancient snake.

Scriptural anchor: John 8:44 (father/root of lies); 1 Peter 5:8 (enemy); Revelation 12:9 (deceiver) Revelation 12:9

God has punished Satan and his servant demons, and one day God will completely destroy Satan and his followers/servants.

Scriptural anchor: Jude 1:6 (coming judgment) Revelation 12:9 (Satan's punishment) 20:10 (final punishment)

Discovering God - Shame and Honor Bible Passages - Muslim

From: The Ephesus Team

1. Naked and Unashamed	Shame/Cover-Ups	Genesis 2:18–3:11
2. Joseph in Potiphar’s House	Honor: Fear of God	Genesis 39:1–23
3. Moses/Miriam/Aaron	Sibling Honor/Shame	Numbers 12:1–15
4. Korah’s Rebellion	Usurping Honor	Numbers 16:1–50
5. Deborah/Barak/Jael	Honor for Bold Obedience	Judges 4:1–24
6. Hannah	From Dishonor to Honor	I Samuel 1:1–28
7. Ahab/Jehoshaphat/Micaiah	Dishonor: Alignments	2 Chronicles 18:1–34
8. Mary and Joseph (Lineage:	Cultural Shame/Honor	Matthew 1:1–25
9. Jesus and Fasting	Ceremonial Honor/Dishonor	Matthew 6:16–24
10. Elisabeth and Zacharias	From Dishonor to Honor	Luke 1:5–25
11. The Prodigal Son	Honor by Grace for the Dishonorable	Luke 15:11–32
12. Rich Man and Lazarus	Status and Honor)	Luke 16:19–31
13. Honor of Jesus	God’s Honor)	John 1: 1–18
14. Incarnation of Christ	From Dishonor to Honor	Philippians 2:4–11
15. Woman at the Well	Cultural Dishonor/Honor	John 4:4–42
16. Jesus Washes Disciples’ Feet	Countercultural Honor	John 13:1–17
17. Judas	Shame that Leads to Death	Matthew 26:14–16, 47–50; 27:1–10
18. Jesus on the Cross	Countercultural Honor	Matthew 27:27–54
19. Jesus’s Resurrection	Dishonor/Honor	Matthew 28:1–20

*For those **from an honor/shame-oriented culture**, this story list can be used with just the usual DS questions.*

*To focus on honor/shame issues when training disciple-makers **not from an honor/shame-oriented culture**, you might want to add question 2a question (besides the usual DS questions) for these studies:*

1. What does this teach us about God?
2. What does this teach us about ourselves / people?
- 2a. **Who is honored or put to shame in this story? Why?**
3. What do you need to apply / obey? (“I will...”)
4. Is there some way we could apply this as a group? (“We will...”)
5. Who are you going to tell? (“I will...”)
6. Who are you going to help?

Discovering God - Shame and Honor Bible and Quran Passages

From Randy Torpen, Common Ground Consultants

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The Fall | AQ Al Aaraf 7:9–27, Genesis 3 |
| 2. Jacob getting rid of foreign gods | Genesis 35:1–5 |
| 3. The Bronze Serpent | Numbers 21:4–9 |
| 4. The temptation of Isa by Satan | Matthew 4:1–11 |
| 5. Isa exalted in the AQ | Al Imran 3:45–55 |
| 6. Isa casting out a demon in the synagogue | Mark 1:21–28 |
| 7. An evil spirit bringing 7 more | Matthew 12:43–45 |
| 8. The Storm | Mark 4:34–41 |
| 9. The Demoniatic | Mark 5:1–20 |
| 10. The woman with the flow of blood | Mark 5:25–34 |
| 11. The Syrophoenician Woman | Mark 7:24–37 |
| 12. The Widow of Nain | Luke 7:11–17 |
| 13. Lazarus raised | John 11:1–44 |
| 14. The Sons of Sceva | Acts 19:11–20 |

Shame/Honor stories to Jesus

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Adam and Eve | Al Aaraf 7:11–26, Gen 3 |
| 2. God Promising Honor to Abraham | Genesis 12:1–3 |
| 3. The Sinful Woman in Simon's house | Luke 7:36–50 |
| 4. The Priest and the Samaritan | Luke 10:25–37 |
| 5. Mary & Martha | Luke 10:38–42 |
| 6. The Prodigal | Luke 15:11–32 |
| 7. The Rich Man and Lazarus | Luke 16:19–31 |
| 8. The Pharisee and the Tax Collector | Luke 18:9–14 |
| 9. The Sheep and the Goats | Matthew 25:31–46 |
| 10. The Gift of the Poor Widow | Mark 12:41–44 |
| 11. Jesus' shame and honor | Phil 2:5–11 |

Discovering God - Punjabi-Sikh

From: Tom Helgersen, with Pioneers, 4farcorners@gmail.com

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 1. Creation | Genesis 1:1 – 2:3 |
| 2. Creation of Woman | Genesis 2:15-25 |
| 3. The First Sin | Genesis 3:1-24 |
| 4. The Flood | Genesis 6:1-7:24 |
| 5. Restoration after the Flood | Genesis 8:1-9:17 |
| 6. Moses | Exodus 2:1-15 and 3:1-15 |
| 7. Birth of Jesus | Luke 1:26-38 and 2:1-20 |
| 8. The Word became Flesh | John 1:1-14 |
| 9. Jesus and the Storm | Mark 4:35-41 |
| 10. The Man with Evil Spirits | Mark 5:1-20 |
| 11. Jesus Feeds the Crown | Mark 6:30-44 |
| 12. The Paralyzed Man | Luke 16:19-31 |
| 13. Woman Caught in Adultery | John 8:1-11 |
| 14. Rich Man and Lazarus | Luke 16:19-31 |
| 15. Jesus is Arrested | Luke 22:39-49 |
| 16. Jesus is Put on Trial | Luke 23:1-25 |
| 17. Jesus is Crucified | Luke 23:32-49 |
| 18. Jesus Dies, is Buried, and Rises | Luke 23:33-53 |
| 19. Jesus Appears to Disciples | Luke 24:33-53 |
| 20. Repent and Believe | Mark 1:14-15; John 3:1-7,16-28, John 14:6 |
| 21. God's Empowerment | John 13:31a and 14:16-18, 26 |

Discovering Obedience – Becoming Disciples – Second Series

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 2)

Matt 4:1–11 Facing temptations

Lk 5:1–11; Matt 4:18–22; Mk 1:16–2 Immediate obedience

John 1:35–51 Introduction obedience

Matt 10:16–23 Relating to unbelievers

John 15:18–25 Persecution is normal

Matt 10:23–31, Mk 13:9–13 Do not fear persecution

Matt 10:18–22, Mk 13:11–13 God's provision in persecution

Matt 5:10–12 Rejoicing in persecution

Matt 5:13–16 The life that make a difference

Matt 5:17–23 Reconciling relationship

Matt 7:17–23 Nature of sin

Matt 19:1–6 Marriage for life

Matt 5:33–37 Keeping our word

Matt 5:38–42 Revenge

Matt 5:43–48; Luke 6:27–36 Loving our enemies

Matt 7:12 Relating to others

Luke 6:27:38; Matt 5:38–42 Giving to others

Matt 6:1–4, Lk 12:33–34 Do good to please God

Matt 6:5–8 Praying with sincerity

Matt 6:5–13; Luke 11:1–4 God as Father, worshiping, surrender, provider, forgiveness, protector

Matt 18:21–22 Forgive always

Discovering Church – Third Series

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 2)

It is not necessary to do complete full Discovery Studies on each of these passages, but Discovery Groups should select passages in each section to do Discovery Studies on. They should review and discuss the others. This series allows people to discover the basics of what it means to be a church. Consider Exercise 9: what are the purposes that church serve?

Matthew 22:34–40; Deuteronomy 6:1–6; and John 14:15–26. Love and Obey
Matthew 28:16–20: Great Commission

The Holy Spirit

Acts 3:1–10 -- The Holy Spirit at work through Peter and John and the church

Acts 2:1–47 -- How the Holy Spirit was at work in birthing the church

John 15:26–16:15 -- Act of the Holy Spirit in disciple's lives

Acts 1: 4–9 -- Importance of the Holy Spirit

Acts 5:12–16; 9:31, 9:40–42 -- Working of the Holy Spirit

Acts 16:6–10 -- Guidance of the Holy Spirit

Acts 15: 28 -- Seeking unity and guidance in solving difficult problems

All Authority -- Prayer

Matthew 6:5–18

Psalm 28:6–7

Luke 11:5–13

Luke 11:1–13

Psalm 88:1–2

Luke 18:1–7

Matthew 7:7–11

Psalm 107:6

Luke 20:45–47

John 17

Psalm 116:1–2

John 14:12–14

John 15:4–10

Psalm 118:5–6

Acts 12:5–16

Genesis 18:23–32

Ecclesiastes 5:2

2 Corinthians 12:8–10

Joshua 7:6–12

Matthew 26:39–46

Hebrews 4:15–16

Job 30:20–23

Matthew 18:18–20

James 5:16

Psalm 5:1–3

Matthew 21:21–22

1 John 3:21–22

All Authority -- Intercession

2 Chronicles 20:1–30

Romans 8:26–39

Acts 11

Mobilizing Prayer

Genesis 18:20–33

Acts 7:60

Exodus 32:7–14

Exodus 32:19–32

Ephesians 3:14–20

Daniel 9:1–27

Ezra 9:1–15

Philippians 1:9–11

Nehemiah 1:1–11

I Kings 18:30–39

Colossians 1:9–17

John 17:6–26

Luke 23:24

All Authority -- Hindrances to Intercession

Psalm 66:16–20

James 1:5–7

Luke 20:46–47

James 4:3

Mark 11:22–25

John 15:16–17

Psalms 66:16–20 sin

Luke 20:46–47 pride

Mark 11:22–25 lack of faith and forgiveness

James 1:5–7 doubt and not asking

James 4:3 motives

John 15:16–17 not asking and lack of love

All Authority -- Practice Praying Scripture:

Deuteronomy 4:29

1 Chronicles 28:9

Psalms 9:10

Psalms 19:1–3

Proverbs 8:17

Isaiah 55:6

Jeremiah 29:13

Matthew 7:13–14

Luke 13:24

John 6:65

Romans 2:4

2 Corinthians 2:11

2 Corinthians 4:4

2 Corinthians 7:10

1 Timothy 2:4

2 Timothy 2:26

Colossians 1:9–14

Go -- Be Like Christ

John 12:20–33

John 20:21,

Philippians 2:1–11.

Go -- Overcoming

John 4:1–42 -- Barriers between Jesus and the woman

Acts 10:9–48 and Acts 1:8

Matthew 28:16–20 and Acts 17:15–34

Mark 16:15–16 and Acts 28:1–10

Luke 24:45–49 and Luke 24:13–27

John 20:21 and Acts 13:1–4

Go -- Spiritual Warfare

Daniel 9–10

Ephesians 6:10–18

Matthew 10:16–25

2 Corinthians 10:3–6

2 Chronicles 20:1–30

Exodus 17:8–16

Effects of prayer: Acts: 1:14 / 1:24 / 2:42 / 6:6 / 8:15 / 9:11 / 9:40 / 10:2 / 10:9 / 10:30 / 11:15 / 12:5 / 12:12 / 13:3 / 14:23 / 16:16 / 16:25 / 20:36 / 21:5 / 22:17 / 27:29 / 28:8

Make Disciples -- Do What Jesus Did

John 20:21 -- As the Father sent me, so I send you.

Matthew 3:11–17 -- Jesus obeyed God through baptism.

Matthew 4:1–11 -- Jesus resisted temptation.

Matthew 4:12–17 -- Jesus declared ‘The Kingdom of Heaven is near.’

Matthew 4:18–22 -- Jesus called others to follow Him.

Matthew 5:1–29 -- Jesus taught them how to live.

Matthew 8:1–17 -- Jesus healed the sick.

Matthew 5:28–34 -- Jesus drove out evil spirits.

Matthew 10:1–42 -- Jesus sent out the disciples.

Matthew 14:13–21 -- Jesus fed the hungry.

Matthew 17:24–27 -- Jesus obeyed the law.

Matthew 10:1–35 -- Jesus taught using stories.

Matthew 26:36–46; 27:32–56 -- Jesus obeyed God to the point of death.

Matthew 28:16–20 -- Jesus commanded His disciples to teach others to obey.

Make Disciples -- How We Are Sent

Luke 10:1–20

Matthew 9:35 -- 10:16

Make Disciples -- Find the Person of Peace

Luke 9:1–16,

Luke 10:1–20,

Matthew 10:5–20

Acts 13:1–4

Acts 16:11–15

Make Disciples -- Appropriate Evangelism

Acts 2 Peter's Sermon to Jews in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost

Acts 17:18–34 Paul's Sermon to pagans in Athens

I Cor. 9:19–23

John 4:1–30, 39–42

Make Disciples -- Make Disciples of All People

Matthew 28:16–20

Matthew 24:14

Revelation 7:9–12

Galatians 3:26–29

Genesis 12:1–3 God's promise to Abraham

I Corinthians 9:19–23

Acts 15:1–29

Basics: Baptized

Matthew 28:19–20

1 Corinthians 12:12

Romans 6:1–14

Baptized -- Metaphors of the Church:

Ephesians 1:15–23 / Romans 12:3–8 / 1 Corinthians 12:12–31 (Body of Christ)

Ephesians 5:22–32 (Bride of Christ)

1 Timothy 3:14–15 (God's Household, Pillar)

1 Corinthians 3:9–17 (Temple of the Holy Spirit)

1 Peter 2:4–10

Baptized -- Nature of the Church

Matthew 16:18 (Belongs to Christ)

Matthew 16:18 / Ephesians 2:19–22 (Built on Foundation of Apostles, Prophets, & Christ)

Matthew 18:15–18 / Acts 5:11 / 1 Corinthians 1:2 / Ephesians 5:22–32 (Holy)

Galatians 3:26–28 / Revelation 5:9 / Revelation 7:9 / Ephesians 2:11–22 (Universal)

John 17:20–23 / 1 Corinthians 1:10 / Ephesians 4:1–6 (United)

Acts 13:1–3 / 1 Corinthians 12:1–30 (Led, Empowered, and Gifted by the Holy Spirit)

Baptized -- Functions of the Church

1. Teaching: Matthew 28:18–20 / Acts 2:42–47 / 1 Corinthians 14:26 / 2 Tim. 2:2; 4:2

2. Fellowship and Encouragement: Acts 2:42–47 / 1 Thessalonians 5:11 / Hebrews 10:24–25

3. Caring for each other: 1 Corinthians 16:1–4, 2 Corinthians 8:1–5, Galatians 6:9–10

4. Praying: Acts 12:5 / Acts 14:23 / James 5:14

5. Fasting: Matthew 6:16–18 / Matthew 9:14–15 / Acts 13:1–3 / Acts 14:2

6. Worship: Acts 13:1–3 / 1 Peter 2:1–10

7. Reverence and Awe: 1 Corinthians 11:17–34 / Hebrews 12:28–29

8. Miraculous Signs and Wonders -- Acts 5:12, Acts 19:11, 2 Corinthians 12:12

9. Lord's Supper: 1 Corinthians 10:14–22 / 1 Corinthians 11:17–34

10. People Saved: Acts 5:14, 8:12, 9:42, 11:21, 14:2, 17:12

11. Discipline: Matthew 18:15–18 / 1 Corinthians 5:1–13 / 2 Corinthians 2:5–11

1 Chronicles 16 -- make list of everything the people of God are supposed to do

Leadership in the Church

Ezekiel 34

Matthew 23:1–39

1 Peter 5:1–11

Teach to Obey -- Scripture

Nehemiah 8:1–9:2 (covenant following obedience)

Acts 8:26–40

Acts 2 (mixture of the Holy Spirit and Word)

Acts 17:10–15

Hebrews 5:12–14

Obey and Teach Obedience

1 Samuel 15:1–35

Matthew 22:36–40,

Psalm 1:1–3

Deuteronomy 6:1–8

John 15:4–14

Matthew 28:16–20

Deuteronomy 28:1–14

Rediscovering Church: Church

John 20:21–23

1 Corinthians 9:19–2

Amos 5:21–24

Philippians 2:1–11

Matthew 23:8–15

Rediscovering Church: Make Disciples, Not Converts

Matthew 28:16–20

Matthew 15:1–20

Matthew 23:1–36

Luke 18:18–30

1 Corinthians 11:1

2 Timothy 3:10–12

Matthew 4:18–22

Mark 1:14–20

Rediscovering Church: Five-fold leadership

Ephesians 4:11–15

Galatians 2:8

1 Corinthians 12:4–31

Rediscovering Church: Tent-making

1 Corinthians 9:1–23

Acts 20:32–35

2 Thessalonians 3:6–15

1 Timothy 5:17–18

Jesus as carpenter (Mark 6:3)

Acts 4:34–37

Acts 5:1–11

Acts 21:16

Acts 28:7–10

Acts 1:1; Colossians 4:14; 2 Timothy 4:11

Acts 6:8–10

Acts 8:4–5

Acts 18:24–28),

Acts 8:26–40),

Acts 8:3; 9:1–2; 26:9–11

Acts 13:6–12

Acts 16:22–34

Acts 17:34

Acts 18:8

Acts 9:36–43

Acts 10:1–48

Acts 12:12–17s

Acts 16:13–15, 40

Acts 18:1–3

Discovering and Equipping Leaders – Fourth Series

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 2)

It is not necessary to do complete Discovery Studies on each of these passages, but Discovery Groups should select passages in each section to do Discovery Studies on. They should review and discuss the others. The goal here is to train leaders within the church and prepare them to impact the world around them.

Acts 9:26–27

Acts 11:25–26

Acts 13:1–13

Acts 13:46–14:20

Acts 14:8–18

Acts 15:1–4, 12

Acts 15:36–39

2 Timothy 4:11

Exodus 18

Deuteronomy 31:1–8;
34:9

Judges 4:4–16

Ruth 1:1–4

1 Samuel 1:1–3

1 Samuel 9–15

1 Samuel 16; 19:18–24

Esther 1–10

God's Glory

Revelation 7:9–12

John 17:1–5

Isaiah 43:6–7

Ephesians 1:4–6

Isaiah 49:3

Psalms 106:7–8

Ezekiel 20:14

2 Samuel 7:23

Romans 9:22–23

Ezekiel 36:22–23

John 7:18

Mat 5:16

John 5:44

John 14:13

John 12:27–28

Romans 15:7

John 16:14

Romans 15:8–9

1 Corinthians 10:31

1 Peter 4:11

Outside and Inside Leaders

Acts 16:1–5; 17:14–15; 19:22

1 Timothy 1:18–20; 3:1–15; 4:11–16; 2

Timothy 2:1–2

Matthew 28:18–20; John 16:5–15

Acts 14:21–28; Acts 20:17–38; Titus 1:4–5

Exodus 18:13–26; Joshua 1:1–9; 2 Kings 2:1–14

Reaching All

Acts 1:8

Acts 2:5–12, 37–41

Acts 6:1–7

Acts 8:1, 4

Acts 8:5–8

Acts 8:14–17, 25

Acts 8:26–40

Acts 10:1–48

Acts 11:19–26

Acts 13:1–14:26

Acts 15:1–33

Acts 16:1–4

Acts 17:16–34

Acts 18:5–11

Acts 21:17–36

Acts 28

Matthew 28:16–20

Acts 1:1–11

Luke 10:25–37

1 Thessalonians 1:2–10

Matthew 8:5–13

John 4:4–42

Acts 16:9–10

Acts 1

Redeem Local Culture

John 20:21–23	1 Corinthians 9:19–23	Galatians 2:11–14; 1
Philippians 2:5–11	Matthew 22:15–22	1 Thessalonians 1:9–10
Acts 17:16–34	Acts 17:22–23:	1 Corinthians 2:1–5
Acts 19:11–20	Acts 15:5–22	

Church Planting Strategy: Reproducing

John 1:35–51
Acts 2:41; 4:4; 6:7; 8:1,14; 9:31; 15:7–9; 17:4,12 and 18:8
Matthew 25:14–30
Matthew 13:3–23
Matthew 21:19; Matthew 13:31–33; 2 Timothy 2:2; Colossians 1:6–7

Spiritual Warfare

Ephesians 6:10–20

The Rightful Order

Daniel 7:13–14	2 Corinthians 10:3–6	1 Corinthians 15:22–25
John 17:1–6	2 Corinthians 5:18–20	Philippians 2:9–11
John 12:31–32	Ephesians 1:19–23	
Colossians 2:14–15	Ephesians 3:5–12	

God’s Work and Our Response

2 Kings 6:15–23	Romans 8:26 -- 35
2 Chronicles 20:15–26	Acts 17:26–31
Isaiah 57:14–19	Hebrews 7:25
Isaiah 60:1–5	Hebrews 10:19–25
Isaiah 61:1–4	Hebrews 11
Luke 6:12	Attacks of the Enemy
Luke 9:18	Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43
Ezekiel 22:30	

Discovering Leadership – Fifth Series

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 2)

Developing leaders is essential for the growth and multiplication of movements. These passages help develop many aspects of leadership. Coaching and mentoring are essential in leadership development and these passages can be integrated in these processes.

Matt 4:18–22 Leaders Call Other to Follow Christ

Matt 5:1–16; Matt 6:33–34 Leaders Teach Attitudes That God Blesses

Matt 6:1–8; Matt 6:16–18 Leaders Seek to Please God, Not Man

Matt 6:19–34 Leaders Serve God

Matt 7:1–6; Matt 18:15–20 Leaders Judge Rightly

Matt 7:7–12 Leaders Seek God

Matt 7:21–28 Leaders Obey God

Matt 9:9–13 Leaders Work with Social Outcasts

Matt 9:18–33. Matt 10:1 Leaders Use Jesus's Power

Matt 9:35–38 Leaders Model Kingdom Strategy

Matt 10:1–16 Leaders Implement Kingdom Strategy

Matt 10:16–31; Matt 5:43–48 Leaders Prepare for Persecution

Matt 11:25–30 Leaders Offer Rest to the Weary

Matt 13:3–9; Matt 13:18–23 Leaders Are Fruitful

Matt 14:13–21; Matt 20:29–34 Leaders Meet People's Needs

Matt 16:13–28 Leaders Accept the Cost

Matt 17:1–13 Leaders Listen to Jesus

Matt 17:14–21 Leaders Teach About Faith

Matt 18:15–35 Leaders Deal with Sin

Matt 19:3–9 Leaders Honor God's Design for Marriage

Matt 20:20–28 Leaders are Servants

Matt 25:14–30 Leaders Invest Faithfully

Matt 25:31–46 Leaders Serve the Needy

Matt 28:16–20 Leaders Teach Others to Obey

Discovering Disciple-Making – Sixth Series (see page xi)

This is the series you have been studying.

Lesson 1. **Matthew 28:16-20** — Disciples' commission and partnership with Jesus.

Lesson 2. **Luke 10:1-11** — Disciple-Making Process

Lesson 3. **John 14:15-27** — Obedience and the Holy Spirit

Lesson 4. **John 1:35-51** — Calling disciples

Matthew 23:8-11 - Our role in Disciple-Making

Matthew 18:20 — Jesus is available to teach us

Lesson 5. **Deuteronomy 6:1-15** — Shemah: Disciple-Maker's Orientation

Lesson 6. **Luke 11:1-13** — Focus and persist in prayer

Lesson 7. **Acts 16:25-34** — Person of Peace

Lesson 8. **Matthew 9:35-10:16** — Compare to Luke 10:1-11

Lesson 9. **Matthew 16:13-21** — Planting churches

Lesson 10. **Acts 15:1-20** – Council of Jerusalem – Cultural Awareness

Lesson 11. **Philippians 2:1-8** — Cultural relevance - Model for Paul's and our actions

1 Corinthians 9: 19-23 — Cultural relevance – Paul's philosophy

Acts 17:22-27 — Cultural relevance – Paul applies his philosophy

Lesson 12. **2 Timothy 2:1-7, 14-16** — Key to replication

Lesson 13. **John 15:1-11** — Fruitfulness, love, obedience

Appendix: Video Training Resources — Current in 2021

(Reference in *Great Commission Disciple Making*: Appendix 6)

It is recommended that you download the videos listed below to use in your training.

1. Cityteam — DMM Overview (5 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/yswtf9h>
2. Beyond.org — Explanation
 - a. Disciple-Making Training (8 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/3dbw56n6>
 - b. Awareness Training (6 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/64fh2yxf>
 - c. Prayer (3 min): <https://vimeo.com/186469882>
 - d. Prayer Walking (3 min): <https://vimeo.com/192036708>
 - e. First Contacts: (5 min): <https://vimeo.com/205606784>
 - f. Miracles and Healing (5 min): <https://vimeo.com/236105666>
 - g. Discipleship (4 min): <https://vimeo.com/255645612>
3. Jerry Trousdale — What are DMM (3 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/662srsuh>
4. Richard Williams — Disciple Definition (5.5 min): <https://tinyurl.com/uew3nvcv>
5. Ed Gross — First Century Discipleship
 - a. Introduction (4 min): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qlREyeb671g>
 - b. Part 1: The Foundation (12 min.): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_Ma5fwYaYM
 - c. Part 2: Follow Me (12 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/33bm2xws>
6. Dave Hunt — Group Process (4 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/48krtzbh>
7. Dave Hunt — Bible Study Process (5 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/3kyntwbn>
8. Jerry Trousdale — Obedience (4.5 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/3ffrft>
9. Jerry Trousdale — Prayer (4 min.) <https://tinyurl.com/6zetyvt3>
10. Dave Hunt — Person of Peace (3 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/jyz5jkaf>
11. Richard Williams — Characteristics of a Disciple Maker (6 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/s5e2j248>
12. Jim Yost — Inhibitors to DMM
 - a. Part 1: Lack of Obedience (3 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/wzr5p883>
 - b. Part 2: Preparing a Person of Peace (2 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/2byfdhsx>
 - c. Part 3: Multiplication (2 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/3w4ktjtc>
13. Richard Williams — Cultural Awareness (6 min.): <https://tinyurl.com/e9e2y8wc>
14. Scripture in Use — Man of Peace (32 min): [Man of Peace on Vimeo](https://vimeo.com/61189209) — <https://vimeo.com/61189209>

ⁱ *Making Disciples of Oral Learners*, ION/LCWE, 2004, p

ⁱⁱ Timothy Miller, *Poised for Harvest, Braced for Backlash* (Xulon Press, 2009), p. 18.