DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS DMM

Today's call as an invitation not to just call yourself a disciple of Jesus but to actually be a disciple of Jesus. To be a disciple of Jesus not just at church and when you hang out with Christians, but where you eat, work, learn, live, and play.

If we look at my paraphrase of Mark 1:16-20: "*Their mission would take the fishers of every human being across the lake to the Gentiles, to the people for who Jesus was going to die for*"

The calling of the disciples is a call to follow Jesus and a being set aside for missionary activities. Calling, discipleship and mission belong together—not only for the first disciples who walked with Jesus but also for those who would respond to this call after Easter.

A question, is it after the first Easter?

Well then, we have a response to make to this call.

The call to discipleship is a call into God's reign in our lives. The call to discipleship is not for its own sake; it joins us into the service of God's reign.

Discipleship is not the first step toward a promising career, it is the fulfilment of your destiny.

Discipleship involves a commitment to God's reign, to justice and love, and to obedience to the entire will of God. The call to the great commission to announce the gospel and make disciples of every one, everywhere…

David J. Bosch - The gospel is "the announcement of a personal encounter, mediated by the Holy Spirit, with the living Christ, receiving his forgiveness and making a personal acceptance of the call to discipleship" -

To carry out that mandate, the missional church concentrates on the "threefold call to follow, witness, and serve as the marks of faithful discipleship,"

Our Discovery Groups will engage in obedience-based discipleship that sees disciples reproducing disciples, leaders reproducing leaders, churches reproducing churches, and movements reproducing movements.

Roy Moran, author of Spent Matches, says, DMM is a strategy that has six key characteristics:

1. God ordained,
2. Spirit dependent,
3. Bible centred,
4. Obedience focused,
5. Discovery based,
6. Disciple driven.

In brief, our Discovery Groups will turn average followers of Christ into event planners, rather than salesmen for Jesus, so that they can invite their friends, neighbours, and workmates

into small groups designed to hear from God through reading the Bible, obeying what He says, and sharing it with their social networks.

These groups can take place where we eat, work, learn, live, and play.

Success through these small groups can be summed up in two words: **Generational Discipleship.** They measure whether disciples are making disciples who make more disciples who make more disciples.

We want to unleash every person to be a disciple maker. When people ask what you do. Hopefully you will say, "I'm a shop keeper to provide for my family, but I'm actually a disciple maker." Or, "I'm a schoolteacher to make a living, but I'm actually a disciple maker."

Underestimating the power of groups, and the importance of group process, is one of the biggest mistakes we can make. There are several reasons groups are so powerful:

Groups remember more than individuals. A group of people can remember more, and more accurately, than an individual. As groups recall things together, group memory becomes the memory of each individual in the group.

Groups learn faster than individuals. Groups require less repetition of facts and principles before they can recall them collectively. As we've said before, the group recollection process causes group memory to become individual memory. Consequently, the learning process is greatly accelerated in groups when you allow the group process to happen.

Groups multiply faster than individuals. Because groups remember more and learn faster, individuals within a group rapidly reach a point at which they can pass on what they know to others. Since that individual was discipled within the group process, they naturally use the same process to disciple new groups.

Groups keep individuals accountable. If you plant the gospel in established groups, group members see each other enough to hold each other accountable.

Jesus had a model for us to follow in Luke 10…

In Luke 10 Jesus appointed and sent out seventy-two disciples, in addition to the Twelve, two by two. He sent them out to proclaim the gospel. He gave them instructions for how they were to approach their missionary task.

Let us list first those instructions of which there is likely no debate.

1. **PRAY.**

(2) He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

2. **PREPARE FOR OPPOSITION.**

(3) Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.

3. **TRUST THE LORD TO PROVIDE.**

(4) Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

4. ACCEPT THE HOSPITALITY AND CARE OF THE PERSON OF PEACE.

(7) Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. (8) "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you.

5. CARE FOR THE PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

(9) Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'

6. DO NOT REMAIN IN A TOWN THAT REJECTS YOU.

(10) But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, (11) 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you.

Discipleship

This will not happen unless we are reading, obeying, and sharing the Word of God.

Could it be that each person here today is a man or women of peace? A person who can pray, trust, give hospitality, and care for people?

What are the **GOALS of our Discovery Groups:**

1. Read the Bible regularly (daily if possible)

2. Not just learn the content, but apply wethey learn

3. **Share** those lessons on our spiritual journey with others

4. **This** is done in community with other family members and/or friends who hold each other accountable to apply and share

5. **We love** and serve one another in practical ways

6. We actively pursue loving and serving our neighbours in practical ways

We will launch these discovery groups in the first week of Feb, and believe God is in it. The challenge is for the next two terms… they are not about becoming bible studies but discipleship groups.

HOW DO DISCOVERY GROUPS WORK?

LET'S DO THIS - Training/Workshop Time

Now as we engage with modelling the process you will see and understand why this cannot be run virtually

DISCOVERY GROUP PROCESS:

Intro. Review what you learned last week and how you put into practice. Who did you share it with? (Facilitator)

FIRST - Read the passage out loud at least twice and then retell it in your own words. (Others to read and facilitator retells.)

Mark 12:28-31 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" (29) "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. (30) Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' (31) The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

1. What does this story tell us about God?

2. What does this passage teach us about people?

3. If this is passage is really God's word, what changes would we need to make in our lives?

4. Who will we tell?

APP PICTURES FOR DAILY STUDY

SIGN UP FORMS ON YOUR CHAIRS

Next week we will have a 'MEET AND GREET' with the hosts of our Discovery Groups at the service.