

“ADJ - Making Disciple Makers Part 2” (12-18-22)

Series Introduction: The primary calling for all Christians is to make disciples; let's purpose to fulfill that call.

Today: Last time - the challenges of discipleship / This week - put it into practice

1) Model Discipleship

John 13:1 (ESV)

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

Note: Jesus is about to teach them an important lesson - but notice that this was something he had consistently lived.

- A disciple doesn't just teach information - they share the life they are living - in all circumstances!
(Remember: Jesus is about to be betrayed and killed and he knew it!)

John 13:3-4a (ESV)

Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper.

Note: Jesus served from a place of security - He knew who his Father was and therefore who he was!

- Pride has to go, but so does insecurity! - this is only found in proper relationship with God

John 13:4b-5 (ESV)

He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Note: Jesus literally washed their feet. He got his hands dirty, he took up a humble posture.

- When you hear “model” or “example” don’t think of a one time action you need to create. It’s about living your life open (visible), and taking the opportunities in front of you to serve.

Example: My Parents - loved Jesus (prayer & scripture common), Opened their home, Moved to DR

2) Encourage Obedience

John 13:12-17 (ESV)

(12) When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? (13) You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. (14) If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. (15) For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

(16) Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. (17) If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

Note: Jesus lived it, therefore he could encourage them to do the same!

(3 times Jesus encourages them to obey: vs. 14, 15, and 17)

- Obedience is vital to understanding (see: vs 12-14) - living it out brings real experience & understanding
- Obedience is vital to transformation (see: vs. 15-16) - a true disciple becomes like the master
- Obedience brings the blessing (see: vs. 17) - the blessing is in the doing not the knowing

Teaching Lordship is essential - we are following & therefore obeying & the by-product is blessing & growth

3) Timely Teaching

Compare **John 13** and **Luke 22** - after the foot washing Jesus brings up that someone is about to betray him. And notice the insight we get from Luke's gospel . . .

Luke 22:21-24 (ESV)

(21) But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. (22) For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" (23) And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this. (24) A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest.

Note: Can you imagine? He's about to be betrayed and killed, and he has just washed their feet! He lets them know that one of them is gonna betray him, and they quickly turn it into an argument about which of them is the greatest!

Every challenge - even (especially?) moments of failure are vital - so use them to teach!

Luke 22:25-27 (ESV)

(25) And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. (26) But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. (27) For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

Note: How did Jesus handle this moment? The way he always did . . .

- **Taught truth** - He consistently taught them about being humble servants, and continues that here.
- **Taught in community** - Teaching in the midst of daily living
- **Taught in context** - by teaching as you go, the context allows for real life application

Conclusion: Let's be committed to living as disciples - model it, encourage obedience, and teach truth all in the context of real community!

Consider how you will be committed to discipleship in this current season of your life . . .

- How can I be intentional in 2023 - who & how?
- Who are the "parents" in the faith investing in my life right now? Don't have any, then who can you ask?
- Who should I pour into "as I go"? What relationships in my life are brothers/sisters that I can work alongside? Who are my spiritual kids and grandkids; and if I don't have any, where can I start?
- **Resources for Discipling:** Life Group, ADJ (finish / start with others), Bible Reading Plan, New Series