



New Followers

John 1:35-51
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A Christian is a disciple – a person who follows Jesus as a lifestyle.

Acts 11:26 The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. (NIV)

Matthew 28:19 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations... (NIV)

The Greek word for “disciple” (*mathetes*) means “a learner, student, follower – one who learns information from a rabbi and practices it.”

A disciple is a follower of a rabbi who is a learner and a doer (an apprentice).

Discipleship begins with seeking Jesus, grows by staying with Jesus, spreads by bringing others to Jesus, and deepens by seeing Jesus.

▪ Seeking Jesus (35-39)

What am I really seeking right now?

Discipleship starts with an authentic pursuit of Jesus.

Missional discipleship is about connecting people’s real hunger to Jesus.

▪ Staying with Jesus (39)

We do not grow as disciples by simply associating with Jesus, but by abiding in Jesus.

Discipleship: Be with Jesus → Become like Jesus → Do what Jesus did.

Who is discipling and forming me?

What would change in my life if I actually stayed with Jesus daily?

▪ Spreading Jesus (40-50)

John the Baptist → Andrew & John (35-39)

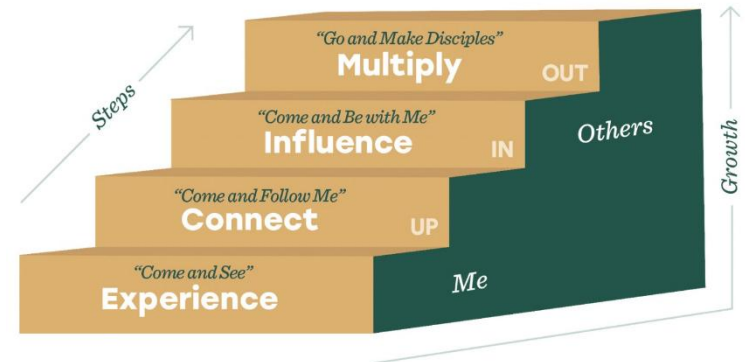
Andrew → Peter / John → James (40-42)

Jesus → Philip → Nathanael (43-50)

Real encounters with Jesus naturally lead to invitation.

Christianity grows best from people to people, not from pulpit to pew.

▪ Seeing Jesus & His Kingdom (39, 46, 51)



It is possible for Jesus and his kingdom to be present without me even recognizing they are here.

Jesus and his kingdom are always present and active in our world, whether or not we see them.

Mark 1:15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!” (NIV)

Luke 17:21 “...the kingdom of God is in your midst.” (NIV)

Matthew 6:9 “This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven’” 33 ...seek first his kingdom...” (NIV)

Too often we pray, “God, get us out of here, so we can go up there!” Instead, we need to pray, “God, bring up there down here!”

Spiritual growth is increasing my capacity to see Jesus and his kingdom in the daily moments of my life.

Acts 17:27 “God...is not far from any one of us.” (NIV)

Response: Come and See, then Go and Tell.