



Community Group Discussion Guide

Making Disciples – May 19, 2019

I. Starter Question:

- Describe some attributes that you think a disciple of Jesus should have?
- In what way(s) have you grown in your understanding of the Christian life in the past year?

II. Discussion of Scripture:

Matthew 28:18-20 NASB - And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

John 4:23-24 NASB - But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. [24] God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

1 Peter 3:15 NASB - but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

John 13:12-15 NASB - So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "Do you know 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, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. [15] For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.

John 17:17-18 NASB - Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. [18] As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

Brief Explanation: The four Gospels give us the definitive portrait of Jesus in his life on earth, and if we really want to know what it means to be his disciple, the Gospels are likely where we start. In particular, John's Gospel shows us three complementary perspectives on what it means to follow Jesus, each patterned after Jesus himself. Building off John's profile, we could say that a disciple of Jesus is a worshiper, a servant, and a witness.

1. A Worshiper - to follow Jesus means to worship Him and trust exclusively in Him as Lord and Savior (John 4:23-24). Peter also says to "sanctify Christ as Lord in your heart... (1Peter 3:15) before even giving a defense for the hope that is in you. Worshipers make Christ number one in their lives over everything.

2. A Servant - Jesus modeled for us to serve one another in love. A servant disciple gives to others out of love. (John 13:12-15)
3. A Witness - Jesus was sent by the Father to testify to the truth and so Jesus sends us to be a witness to the truth and bring others to salvation in Christ. (John 17:17-18)

To be a disciple of Jesus means to point people to Him. It means to tell the story of Jesus and His love so that others will know Him, worship Him, serve Him, and then witness to others about Jesus as ambassadors. We are commanded to love others as Jesus has loved us!

For Discussion:

1. What kind of people did Jesus choose to be his disciples? (Younger, middle to lower class, no formal religious training, diverse group in personality and philosophy)
2. Is being well-educated a hindrance to being a disciple? Why or Why not?
3. Why do you think that Jesus chose the disciples he did over choosing all religious leaders at the time? (See Mat 23:1-12).
4. What are some of the biggest obstacles you see in living out discipleship?
5. What does it mean to put Christ first in your life?
6. What is the relationship of God's grace and the process of discipleship? (See 2Cor 12:9)
7. How do hardships develop us as disciples?
8. What can you do to help our church move toward a culture of discipleship? What would you need to change to do this?
9. What do you think the connection is between Jesus' claim of all authority, and the command to make disciples of all nations in Matt 28:18-20?
10. In what ways could you disciple someone who is hurting? What about discipling someone who thinks they are doing just fine the way they are?

III. Responding in Prayer:

Pray for your one, that person in your life, whether it is a co-worker, family member, good friend, or just an acquaintance. Pray for their heart to be softened to receive the Gospel truth and Jesus as their personal savior. Pray for strength to lead them to know the truth and follow the truth in Christ. May the Holy Spirit work in each of us to strengthen us to speak spiritual truths and lead many people to Christ.

Pray for your three. Pray for the Lord to lead you to be a disciple and to disciple followers of Christ. Pray that the Lord would be so gracious as to create a culture at Henderson Hills of truly Loving God, Loving people and making disciples. Pray for this weekend, May 19, 2019, to be a pivotal moment in the life of HHBC as discipleship becomes the DNA of HHBC.