

Steps to Making Disciples

A. Preach the Word of God, God's message of reconciliation.

"...the word of their testimony" (Revelation 12:11).

Share the Gospel—2 Methods

Them focused—preach the gospel: This is telling God's story.

In 3 Steps, bird's eye view of evangelism (example Paul: Acts 19:1-7)

1. Ascertain whether they're Christ's.
2. Tell them how to be saved. (Is something wrong, missing, incorrect, or inaccurate?)
3. Invite them to join you in Christ. (And Join with them—enter into discipleship with them.)

You focused—share your story: This is telling your story as God's story.

How to Share Your Story (example Paul: Acts 9:1-22, 22:3-21, & 26:1-29)

1. Your life before Christ.
2. How specifically you met Him, and
3. The difference that He made.

B. Making New Disciples of Jesus Christ

Making Disciples in 7 Steps (1-5 are called "evangelism;" 6-7 are called "discipleship")

1. **Always be ready.** Be open. Represent Christ well (Christlike character). 1 Peter 3:15-16
2. **Talk to people.** Spend time with people. They're everywhere! Don't limit what is acceptable to discuss, e.g. avoiding politics and religion. Do not ever shy away from Jesus' name or mentioning Him.
3. **Tell your story.** Be authentic and let others know who you are and what God has done for you. Make Jesus and the gospel the center of your story. Your story is His story. He is the star of the show.
4. **Be intentional, strategic, and flexible.** Put the previous three together intentionally to gather friends around you in your life who share you love for God and compulsion to follow Jesus.
5. **Be bold.** Invite people to join Jesus, to be a part of His Kingdom. Warn others about the dangers of being outside of Christ. AND Warn against the coming judgement.
6. **Baptize and teach.** Baptize those who receive the Word of God and begin the process of teaching them everything the Lord Jesus has commanded. Watch for their souls. Guide their spiritual growth. If you can't teach or guide them in something, know who can, and recognize when they need to advance. *(Begin with A – Ambassador for Christ: You are not the same/bought with a price. You are Christ's/a new creation. You are not of this world but an ambassador for Jesus Christ.)* Matthew 28:19-20

7. **Fellowship.** Be a part of them. Be there. Be family. Be together. Receive from them as God gives to and works through them. Be part of one another, one body in Christ Jesus the Lord.

C. Prerequisites to Making Disciples for Jesus Christ

1. You have to be a Christian. You have to belong to Christ and have His mission.
2. You have to love the church, and realize that it is God's Kingdom—God's community of the saved.
3. You have to be aware of sin and the coming judgement. Hate sin. Look forward to the judgement. Yet, be afraid for those who will not repent and turn to God through Jesus Christ.
4. You have to know the gospel and the plan of salvation.
5. You have to care for others and have faith that God will work in their lives to save those who are appointed to salvation, realizing that you cannot save anyone, but only God working through you.
6. You have to be disciplined and actually put your faith into practice. Fear being idle and bearing no fruit for the Kingdom of God (Matt. 25). Basically, get off your butt and stop sitting on your hands. Faith without work is dead (James 2:20). Matthew 7:17-19.
7. You have to be true to the truth, God's Word, God's will, and God's way, not your own nor any man's, but only God's.

D. Challenges and tips for getting started.

1. Write out your own conversion testimony using the 3 step/3 phase model outlined earlier (You before Christ, how you met Him, and the difference He has made).
2. Enter into your own discipleship intentionally. Be His ambassadors, and learn how to be better, more effective, more faithful, and more powerful ambassadors.
3. Be the church. Love the church. "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35).
4. Serve God inside the church first. Then seek to bring others into the blessing and benefit of being in God's Kingdom.
5. Recognize and engage in spiritual warfare for God's glory.
6. Take your sonship and mission (calling and election) seriously (1 Peter 1:10... vv. 1-11).
7. Determine to be chosen and to be truly His, by walking in His light and doing His will. (Matthew 7:21-23; 20:16; 22:14)