



Jesus and Discipleship

Spend time reading and making observations about the following passages. After you have discussed the passages, read through the discipling principles below.

Matthew 9:35-38: *Who did Jesus minister to? What did Jesus pray for?*

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Luke 6:12-16: *From whom did Jesus call his disciples? What preceded this event?*

In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Matthew 17:1-2: *Who did Jesus bring with him? Can you think of any other times Jesus singled out these three disciples?*

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light.

Disciple Making Principles:

1. Jesus ministered to the crowds (Matthew 9:35-38, Luke 6:17, etc)
2. Jesus chose twelve to be with Him (Luke 6:12-16, Matthew 10:1-4, Mark 3:13-19)
3. Jesus invested heavily in the three (Matthew 17:1-2, Mark 5:37, Mark 14:33)

Principles Applied:

1. Just as Jesus spent disproportionate time with the three, so we need to spend lots of time with a few in order to help others become disciple makers.
2. Spend time with someone before jumping into a discipleship relationship with them -- get to know them without committing to anything. If you are still unsure, agree to spend 4 to 6 weeks meeting with them.
3. Pray for men and women who are FAT -- Faithful, Available and Teachable.
4. When you are ready to begin a discipleship relationship with someone you may find the following steps helpful:
 - Spend time sharing **your story** and how discipleship benefited you.
 - **Affirm** what you see in them.
 - **Cast vision** and **set expectations** for the time so that it does not simply become a glorified friendship.
 - Clearly **invite** them to be discipled by you.
 - **Establish** a time and place to meet right there!