

The Command To Make Disciples

March 10, 2013

Intro: VIDEO - "IF WE BELIEVE THIS GOSPEL

COMMAND OBEY EVERYTHING

Disciple: "a miraculous, Christ-like, work-in-progress."

Matthew 28:18-20:

18 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."

The Great Commission & the Church

4 Keys:

1. The Commission is Christ's Command!
2. It is personal...
3. The imperative is "MAKE DISCIPLES"

GRAMMER:

"Imperatives" empowered by "Indicatives"

What is a Verb Mood?

The mood of a verb designates the relationship of the verb's action relative to reality.

The New Testament uses indicative statements when discussing what God has done, is doing or will do. Conversely, "imperative" statements are used when stating

what we should do. It is important to realize... that **there is a specific relationship between these two in sanctification.**

Namely, *what God commands us to do (the imperative) is based upon what he has done, is doing or will do (the indicatives). God is signifying by this consistent pattern that sanctification depends on God, but involves human volition and cooperation.*

4. Don't just "teach" --- "teach to OBEY (TAY-Reh'-O) ALL..."

TAY-Reh'-O

OBEY

"Guard / Hold in Custody"

Watching-over

"Heed"

"Keep" / "Continue to Keep"

"Keep watch over"

"Reserve"

"Preserve"

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 = "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: **27** the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, **28** and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way that I am commanding you today, to go after other gods that you have not known.

AND

Jeremiah 7:23-24 = But this command I gave them: 'Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.' **24** But they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.

Salt Without Taste Is Worthless

Luke 14:34-35 = "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? **35 It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.**"

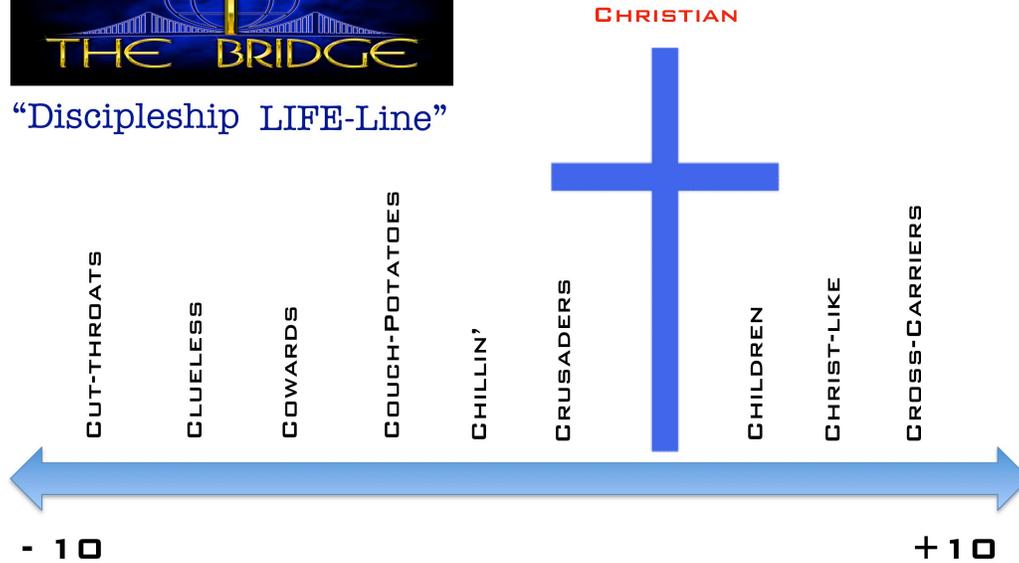
Ephesians 4:11-16:

*"And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, **12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;**" **13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. **14** As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; **15** but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up...*

True disciples (vs. clergy only) make disciples who make disciples



“Discipleship LIFE-Line”



Who / Where are You?

(BEWARE: “Hyper-Grace” & “Sniper-Grace”)

No excuses! (What excuses are we prone to use?)

Luke 9:57-62:

As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, “I will follow You wherever You go.” 58 And Jesus said to him, “The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” 59 And He said to another, “Follow Me.” But he said, “Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father.” 60 But He said to him, “Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God.” 61 Another also said, “I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home.” 62 But Jesus said to him, “No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

VIDEO: Don't Be Deceived - Disciples Make Disciples

More Than a Program

- A. Its passion... not programs
- B. "Knowing" is not enough... Going & Growing is a must!

SLIDES: Discipleship Contextualization (1 - 11)

Discipleship:

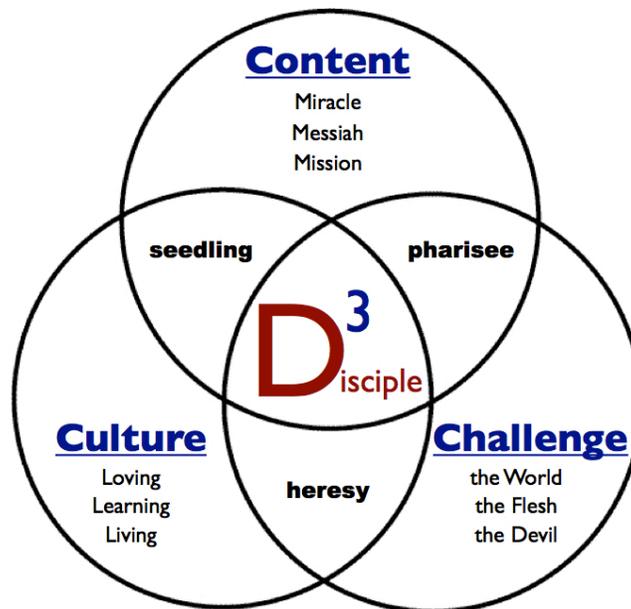
(VERB)

The intentional endeavors of
“miraculous, Christ-like, works-in-progress”
(a.k.a. **Disciples) engaged in**
“finding the lost AND growing the found”
into family-members who are in-turn
committed to *making disciples*,
who make disciples, who make disciples...
by God's grace & for His glory.

- 2. 3 circles: 3 critical, contextual components ...
A). Content; B). Culture; C). Challenge
- 3. Content = Disciple's STORY;
Culture = Disciple's STRATEGY
Challenges = Disciple's STRUGGLES

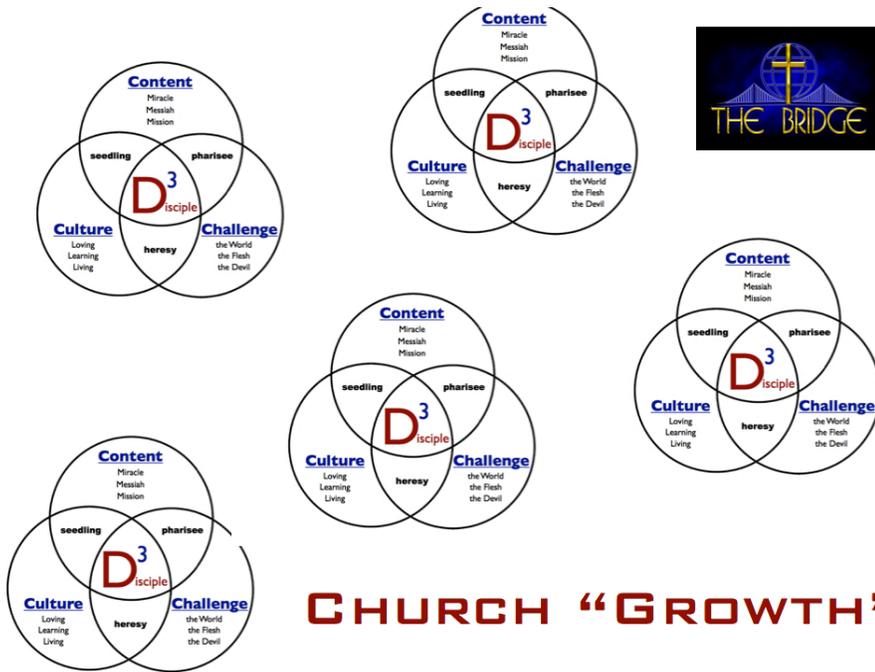
4. **Content = the Gospel**
Culture = BE the Church
Challenges = Spiritual Warfare
5. **Content = Miracle, Messiah, Mission**
Culture = Loving, Learning, Living
Challenge = World Flesh Devil
6. **“Seedling” = Content + Culture (lacking test)**
7. **“Pharisee” = Content + Challenge (lacking love)**
8. **“Heresy” = Culture + Challenge (lacking truth)**
9. **D3 = ALL 3 in unity...**

DISCIPLESHIP CONTEXTUALIZATION



C. God will empower what He calls you to...

SLIDE #10 = “CHURCH GROWTH”



CHURCH "GROWTH"

Our GOAL = Contextualism without Syncretism!

D. Don't expect being & building disciples to be easy...

Bonhoffer: Qt: *"When Christ calls a man...
He bids him: "Come and die!"*

John 15:18-20:

"If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Taking the First Step

Start seeing people as souls... in need of the gospel &/or growth.

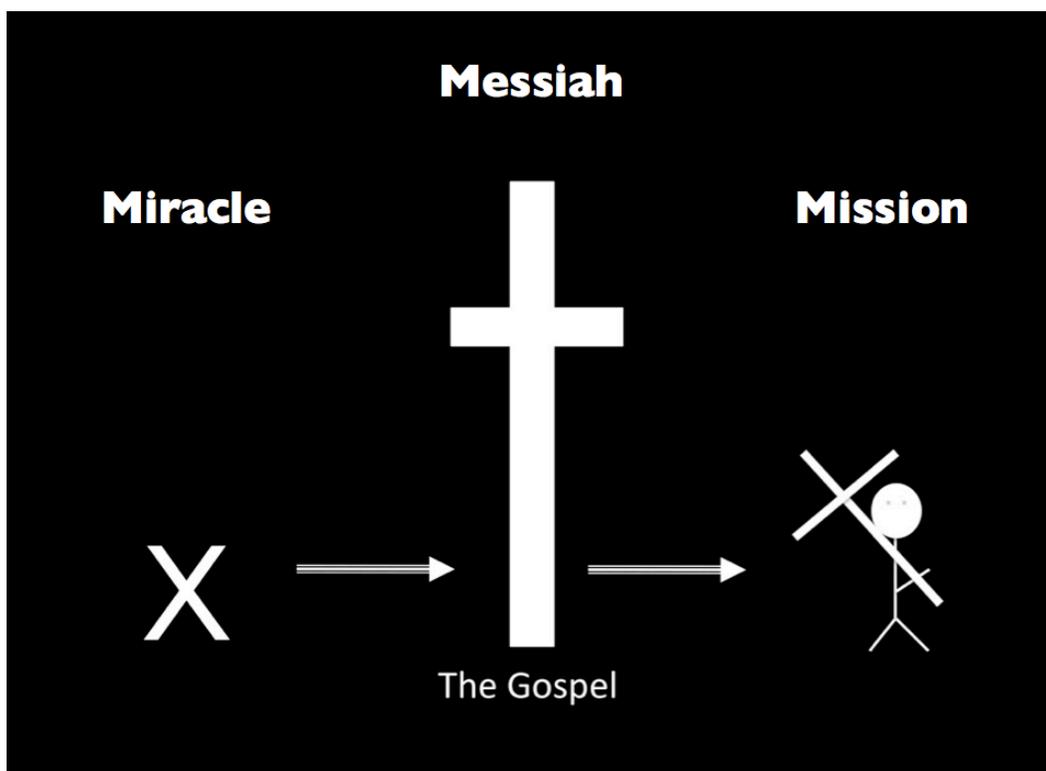
VIDEO: Making Disciples = Fruit of Discipleship

Commit to both reaching AND pouring out...

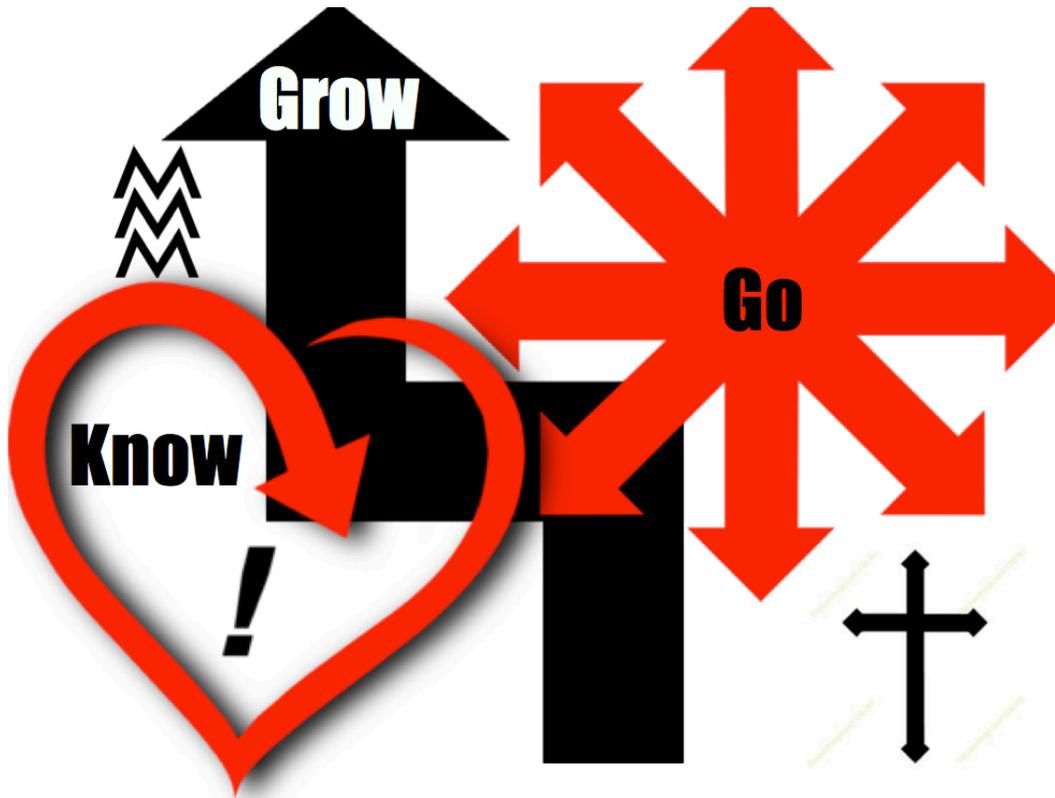
Realize that “relationships” are the conduit of discipleship.

The local Church is God’s design for discipleship training and incubation

BE-ing the Church means being used by God to build His Church.



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B.C. @ A.D.
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CLOSING:

When we look at the “COMMAND of the Great Commission”

Take heed to observe & obey...

1. It is a COMMAND
2. The command is to OBEY
3. The command is to obey EVERYTHING...

Lastly... couple this understanding with that of 1 Cor. 13...

“If I have all that... but have not love...

I am a resounding gong, clanging symbols,

I AM NOTHING!

I pray we will all be “miraculous, Christ-like, works-in-progress”
that make miraculous, Christ-like, works-in-progress.... who make
miraculous, Christ-like, works-in-progress..... AMEN!

Let's PRAY!