

The Discipleship Difference

Where's the Transformation?

The Discipleship Difference

- ▶ A Different Approach
- ▶ A Different Process
- ▶ A Different Outcome

A Different Approach

- ▶ We treat different people differently, individualizing our approach to fit the uniqueness of each person

A Different Approach

- ▶ The moral of these stories? Jesus had a common goal for everyone - but he approached every person differently.

A Different Process

- ▶ We make disciples at the same time as we are growing as disciples, not one first then the other.

A Different Process

- ▶ We make disciples at the same time we are growing as disciples...and we never finish.

A Different Outcome

- ▶ We move toward a holistic discipleship that includes loving God, loving others, and making disciples.

A Different Outcome

- ▶ We can't be two-thirds of a disciple, picking and choosing our preferred areas for growth.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#1 - Jesus made disciples of ordinary people, not superstars.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Discipleship is for everyone. It's not the fast track or the honors course - it's for ordinary people....everyone.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#2 - Jesus started with unbelievers, and made disciples outside of the church.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: People don't have to be Christians to begin the journey of discipleship, just willing to explore.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#3 - Jesus expected that his disciples would make more disciples.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Being sent out to make more disciples is a given. It's what disciples do.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#4 - Jesus made disciples within the context of relationships

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Pay attention to the people around you, in your natural network of relationships.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#5 - Jesus skewed discipleship toward the practical rather than the academic.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Whenever you have a choice between hands-on learning and classroom learning, go with hands-on learning. It sticks better anyway.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#6 - Jesus took people where they were at and started there.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Never count anyone out as a potential disciple. Remember that “whosoever will” may come, as an invitation of the gospel of grace.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#7 - Jesus dealt with people differently at different times in their lives.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Be flexible. Even the same person needs different input and types of feedback at different times in their lives of discipleship.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#8 - Jesus recognized and accepted that discipleship is a process, complete with setbacks.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Everybody has weaknesses and everybody fails sometimes. That doesn't mean they're not disciples.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#9 - Jesus assumed discipleship to be holistic in nature, touching on and transforming all areas of life.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Discipleship will impact every area of a person's life - not just the “spiritual” parts.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Principle#10 - Jesus intended for disciple-making to continue through the generations, multiplying across cultures.

Ten Principles That Reflect How Jesus Made Disciples

- ▶ Lesson for us: Disciple-making is what Jesus want us to focus on until his return, without any regard to geography, race, language, culture, or generation.