

LIKE JESUS

7

PRIORITIES

OF AN EFFECTIVE

DISCIPLE-MAKER

THE METHODS OF JESUS

THE 7 PRIORITIES OF A DISCIPLE-MAKER

To help you understand more about disciple-making, we want to give you our quick summary of the seven “I” statements of Jesus in John 17 that so simply give us the specific “what Jesus did” to make His disciples. We call these the 7 priorities of an effective disciple maker or our “methods” of making disciples.

These 7 priorities are a great starting place for someone seeking to “Live like Jesus.”

When Jesus said, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men” (Matt 4:19), Jesus was demonstrating that discipling for Him was:

- **RELATIONAL** (follow me)
- **INTENTIONAL** (I will make you) and
- **MISSIONAL** (fishers of people)

In John 17 we see seven statements by Jesus in how He disciplined His men. I believe in this High Priestly prayer, Jesus wants us to learn from what He prayed back to His Father in heaven.

KEEP READING TO HEAR THESE 7 STATEMENTS IN JESUS' OWN WORDS

1. PRESENCE

“I HAVE REVEALED YOU TO THOSE YOU GAVE ME”

JOHN 17:6

How did Jesus do this? He did this primarily through His presence, for He “became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14). For over 30 years before He launched His intensely relational ministry, Jesus became a part of the Jewish culture. He knew their culture and lived a life of relational ministry.

Interestingly, in this text, on at least five occasions, Jesus’ mentions the “disciples that you gave Me.” Jesus saw His disciples as a gift from the Father! Our relationships can drastically change when we see people as those whom the Lord has graciously brought into our life.

Whom has God given you to invest your life in? If you saw them as a gift from above, how would this change your focus?

2. PASS IT ON

“I GAVE THEM THE WORDS YOU GAVE ME”

JOHN 17:8

The word for “word” used here is “rhema” not “logos”. Rhema is when the Spirit of God takes the written Word of God and makes it alive in our culture and context. It is when we read a passage and God shows us something new and we exclaim, “wow, I never saw that before”.

Jesus gave His disciples the words His Father gave Him. In the same way, we need to be sharing what God is showing us.

How can you share more intentionally with the people God brings into your life what He is showing you?

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3. PRAYER

“I PRAY FOR THEM”

JOHN 17:9

So many times we can find Jesus spending times in prayer, often right before He challenges His disciples to some next steps. Jesus clearly says, “I prayed for you Peter...” (Luke 22:32). If you can’t name your disciples, how can you pray for them by name?

Jesus knew the names of His disciples and mentions them throughout the Scriptures. To be able to specifically pray for your disciples you need to be able to specifically name who you are discipling.

***Who are your disciples?
Can you name them right now?***



4. PROTECTION

“I PROTECTED THEM.”

JOHN 17:12

Jesus protected His disciples through modeling life for them, teaching them truths, watching the patterns of their life and praying for them. A shepherd watches over His sheep. He cares enough to confront.

With wisdom and discernment, we need to be watching for harmful patterns in our disciples' lives.

*Do you care enough to confront?
What are some of the challenges of being
willing to confront?*

5. PRACTICE

**“AS YOU SENT ME INTO
THE WORLD, I HAVE SENT
THEM INTO THE WORLD”**

JOHN 17:18

On at least 6 different occasions Jesus took His disciples on fishing trips to teach them how to fish. On at least 5 different occasions (every six months) Jesus took His disciples on short-term mission trips to give them the opportunity to learn ministry. Jesus was extremely intentional in how He developed His disciples, telling us that, “just as the Father sent me, so I send you” (John 20:21).

In what ways are you giving your disciples opportunities and experiences to teach them how to share their faith?

6. PURITY

“FOR THEM I SANCTIFY MYSELF”

JOHN 17:9

It is clear that Jesus understood that His purity was for the sake of His disciples. “I sanctify myself that they too may be sanctified” (vs 19). You do not sin alone. You reproduce who you are. We cannot multiply something that we are not. Purity is a critical element of imparting our spiritual life to others.

How have you seen the truth that we multiply who we are?

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7. PURPOSE

**“I HAVE GIVEN THEM
THE GLORY THAT YOU
GAVE ME.”**

JOHN 17:22

The glory Jesus was given He has shared with us. He now rules and reigns at the right hand of the Father as “all authority has been given to Him” (Matthew 28:18). And one day He will return and we too will fully inherit that which has been given to us, the privilege of ruling and reigning with Him (Rev 5:10). Our earthly life is a preparation for that reality. This priority brings great meaning and purpose to our everyday lives. It is filled with hope and expectation.

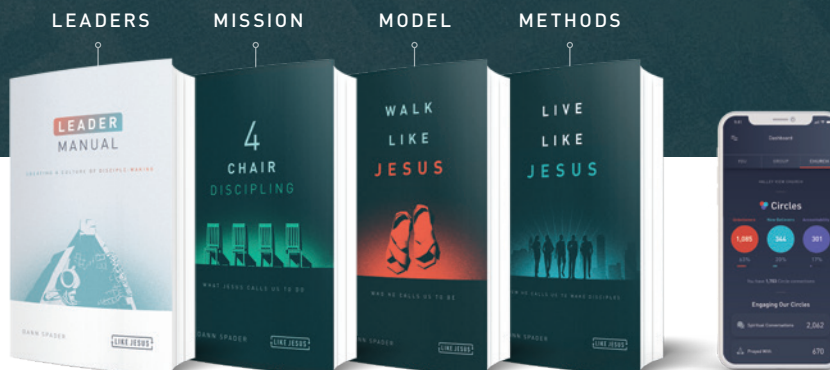
What happens when people capture the reality of this calling and future?

JESUS MODELED HIS LIFE & MINISTRY FOR US TO FOLLOW.

Like Jesus is a new disciple-making resource based on Jesus' Mission, Model and Methods.

Like Jesus helps you get back to scripture by studying Jesus' life and ministry and how He made disciples. He laid out a pattern and modeled disciple-making for us to follow. We can emulate His life and build movements of multiplication in our churches, small groups and ministries. That's what this resource is all about.

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