

Paradigm Discipleship

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The purpose of this resource is to provide some guidance for you as you cast vision for your disciple and give them biblical expectations to reproduce the gospel-centered, discipleship investment which they have received, into others, so that it will be reproduced for many generations to come.

We encourage you to do your own study, using this resource as a guide, to develop a learning experience for you and your disciple that will help you both move deeper in your understanding of how to be life long disciple makers.

Generational Reproduction

Opening question: Who does it seem like Jesus spent most of his time with?

- *Affirm any answers having to do with the twelve disciples or His even closer circle of three.
- * You might ask how they know this, and where it can be found in scripture?

Follow up question - Setting the stage for the rest of this study: Read Matthew 28:16-20 together. What was Christ's main strategy for making His gospel known and building the global church?

***Things to look at as you prepare to teach this, and questions to help your disciple get there with you:** Who was present when Jesus said this? Is He giving them a suggestion, or a structured plan of action? What is the goal of what He tells them? Jesus is about to ascend to Heaven, why is it significant that this is one of the last things He says to his disciples?

***What does the life of Jesus tell us about his strategy?**

- *He deeply invested his life in a few (twelve) with the expectation that they would deeply invest their lives in a few, who would be faithful to do the same, and so on.
- * Does anything about this strategy surprise you?
- * What are some reasons why He might have chosen *this* strategy?
 - * Is it possible that He chose to bring His followers in on a strategy that is simple, attainable, and reproducible?

Study Question: Read Acts 9:26-27; 11:25; 12:25; 13:2-4&7. What kind of relationship does it seem like Paul and Barnabas had?

- *The goal of this is to help your disciple recognize the discipleship relationship between Barnabas and Paul?
- * It's not very often that we think of Paul as having been discipled and trained by someone else. Even after having had a significant, life-changing encounter with Jesus, Paul needed to be trained before he could effectively train others.
- *What do these passages tell us about Barnabas?
 - * His conviction about discipleship?
 - * His willingness to deeply invest his life in someone else?
 - * His understanding of what Jesus meant in Matthew 28:18-20?

Read 2 Timothy 2:2 together.

- * Who is writing, and to whom is he writing?

- * Paul is writing to Timothy.
- * What is the nature of Paul and Timothy's relationship?
 - * Paul has been discipling Timothy.
- * What is Paul's hope for the outcome of his investment in Timothy?
 - * That Timothy would continue the investment into another generation of disciples
- * What was Paul's understanding of what Jesus said in Matthew 28:18-20
- * How many generations of disciples do you see in this verse?
 - * We can technically find five, because we know that **Barnabas** discipled Paul, then, **Paul** discipled **Timothy**, who would invest in "**faithful men**", who would invest in "**others**".

Reflection Question: What is Christ's main strategy for making His Gospel known and building the global church? And how does your discipleship relationship fit into that?

- *Have you expressed your desire to see your disciple eventually invest in someone else? If you haven't, they need to hear that from you.
- * Do you and your disciple need to make any adjustments in the way that you spend time together so that your relationship will be more effective?
- * Do you have clear vision of what you want for you relationship with your disciple? And does your disciple have clear vision for what they have been called to, and what it really means to make disciples?

Cast Vision: Use this to show your disciple numerically, how effective deep, one-on-one discipleship can actually be.

Memorize: 2 Timothy 2:2 together this week.