



## Paradigm Discipleship Lesson

*The purpose of this resource is to provide some guidance for you as you encourage your disciple to develop a strong devotional relationship with God.*

*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 and experience of interacting with a God who desires a deep, intimate relationship with you.*

### **Discipleship Introduction**

#### **Study Question: What comes to mind when you hear the word disciple? What is it?**

- Apprentice, follower, student, pupil, learner, imitator
  - “For to be a disciple in any area or relationship is not to be perfect. One can be a very raw and incompetent beginner and still be a disciple.” - Dallas Willard
  - A Christian disciple follows Jesus, becoming more and more like Him through a life of faith and obedience. This is a lifelong process.
- Read Matthew 4:18-22
  - What is Jesus doing and saying in these verses? How do people respond?
  - Jesus isn’t after converts but those who are walking in the ways of Jesus because of what Jesus has done for them. To be a disciple is our response to what Jesus has done for us.
    - “It is almost universally conceded today that you can be a Christian without being a disciple.” - Dallas Willard
  - Matthew 4:19
    - Follow Me (Be with Jesus)
    - I will make you (Become like Jesus)
    - Fishers of Men (Do what Jesus did)
- **Goal** - To help them see that a Christian is someone who is a disciple of Christ, who has committed their life to him. This does not mean that they have to be perfect, have no doubt, or have all the answers.

#### **Study Question: What is discipleship or disciple-making?**

- Discipleship is mentoring someone in their faith. Simply put, disciple-making is about following Jesus and taking others with you. The mentor does not have to have all the answers, but be someone who is growing into looking more like Christ.
- Verses to read: 2 Timothy 2:2 and Matthew 28:18-20
  - What is a key element to being a disciple of Christ? Helping others be disciples!
- **Goal:** To help them see that part of being a disciple is making disciples. Being a disciple of Christ does not happen in a vacuum, but in community with other disciples, gathering with your church, singing to God, hearing God’s word preached, serving your church, and submitting to church leadership. One-on-One discipleship is great but is not enough. Church involvement is key.
  - Read Ephesians 4.11-16 to help them see the role of the church in their lives if needed.

### **What is next? Where are we going?**

- We want to set clear expectations for our new disciple about what future meetings will look like. These meetings will hopefully include:
  - Biblically-driven lessons (Discipleship Road Map), transparent hearts, genuine conversations, honest prayer, real accountability.
  - Consistency:
    - **Right now solidify how often, when, and where you will meet.**

Good Questions to ask each week can include:

- Be ready to answer these yourself! You may need to model for them how to answer.
  - How has your week been?
  - What have you been reading in God's word?
  - How was church this past Sunday?
  - Who are you trying to share the Gospel with in your life?
  - How can I be praying for you?

All of our discipleship lessons will come out of our mission statement as an organization;

Here at Challenge, we are a group that is...

**“Seeking Gospel-centered lives by abiding in Jesus, proclaiming Jesus, and loving Jesus’ church, all for God’s glory!”**

The first set of lessons will focus on “What is the Gospel.” We go through all these lessons with everyone who comes through Challenge because:

- Even if they seem like they know the gospel and have been a disciple for a while, we do not want to assume anything.
- We also want to model everything for our disciple. They may disciple someone in the future who will need to go through these lessons.
- All of us need to hear and be reminded of the Gospel daily. Our lives as followers of Jesus are centered around the Gospel. No one matures past the Gospel.

### **Homework for next week:**

- Come next week with your testimony and we will swap our stories.
- What has God been doing in your life since you began to follow Jesus?
- What is something you would like to grow in? What are you weak in?
- Read and/or Memorize - Matthew 4:19