

# THE LOST ART OF DISCIPLESHIP II

MIDWEEK SERVICE | THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

**John 17:3-12** *And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. 4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. 6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. 7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. 8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. 9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. 10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. 11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.*

**John 20:21** *Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.*

**John 21:15-18** *So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. 16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. 17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep. 18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldst: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldst not.*

*Not only is discipleship a mandate in the scripture, but it is also modeled in the scripture, most notably by the Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostle Paul!*

## Two Introductory Truths Concerning Discipleship:

- A biblical disciple is a man or woman that is \_\_\_\_\_ in the word of God (John 15:7-8; 2 Timothy 3:15-17), given to the work of God (John 15:8, 16; Titus 3:8), and \_\_\_\_\_ by the love of God (John 13:34-35).

- A biblical \_\_\_\_\_, or disciple-maker, is a man or woman that INTENTIONALLY invests his/her time, talents, and treasures into the life of another influencing them and impacting them for Christ and the cause of Christ (Matthew 4:18-22; 2 Timothy 2:2; 3:10)!

*Disciple-making is the process of taking a man or woman under our wing—regardless of who they are, where they come from, or what they’ve done—and see them changed by the word of God for the work of God to the glory of God!*

In his book *The Lost Art of Discipleship*, Leroy Eims, wrote the following important reminder: “It takes time to make disciples. It takes individual, personal attention. It takes hours of prayer for them. It takes patience and understanding to teach them how to get into the Word of God for themselves, how to feed and nourish their souls, and by the power of the Holy Spirit how to apply the word to their lives. And it takes being an example to them of all of the above.”

In his book *Rediscovering Discipleship*, Robby Gallaty writes: “The ‘have-it-now’ mentality has spread like a virus, making a host of every Westerner’s life. This not only has infected secular aspects of life but also spiritual aspects. The McChristian, mass-production mindset is the adversary of discipleship and spiritual growth. Why? You can’t microwave disciples. ‘Discipleship’ is a Crock Pot recipe that is often forced into a microwave.”

## Let’s consider together a few thoughts from the Gospel of John as our Lord closed His earthly ministry.

1. John 17:3-12 Jesus’ primary reason for coming was to die for our redemption, but his secondary reason for coming was to reproduce \_\_\_\_\_ who in turn would go out into all the world and reproduce disciples.
2. John 20:21 Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ His disciples out to do what the Father sent Him to do.
3. John 21:15-18 Two ways that we reveal our love for Jesus is to \_\_\_\_\_ Him and to \_\_\_\_\_ His sheep—**This is what we call discipleship.**

*In all reality, everyone in the church should either be in the process of being disciplined by someone or should be discipling someone.*