



Investing in Others

(Matthew 28:18-20)

Choosing Jesus

- C** — Choosing Jesus
- H** — Holding to His Word
- O** — Obeying His Commands
- O** — Opening Your Life to Community
- S** — Serving the Kingdom
- I** — Investing in Others
- N** — Nurturing Faithfulness
- G** — Glorifying God

Review

This is the third lesson in our Jesus Journey series.

C - Choosing Jesus

Choose to follow Jesus, surrendering your life to Him and beginning your journey of faith.

H - Holding to His Word

Choose to root yourself in Scripture, for the sake of knowing Him and growing to spiritual maturity.

O - Obeying His Commands

Choose obedience, prioritizing God's will above everything else, and allowing the Holy Spirit to shape your character and actions to reflect Christ.

O - Opening Your Life to Community

Choose to engage in fellowship with other believers as the family of God, for support, accountability, and encouragement.

S - Serving the Kingdom

Choose to serve, using your gifts, resources, time, and talent to build God's Kingdom.

The next stage of our Jesus Journey...

I - Invest in Others

Choose to disciple and mentor others, helping them grow in their faith and equipping them to disciple others.

 **STORY: TOM HUDGINS**

◆ #1 - Making Disciples is Our Mission

(Matthew 28:18-20) —

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Jesus had four key elements to His earthly ministry

- Proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom
- Providing Salvation through His Sacrifice and Resurrection
- Demonstrating God’s Love and Character
- **Investing in His Disciples**

Jesus is commissioning the disciples to carry on his work

- (John 14:12) — “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me *will also do the works that I do*; and greater works than these will he do...
- *As I have taught you, go teach others* — As I have invested in you, go and invest in others. *As I have loved you...*

This is Our Commission Too

- (Vs 20) - “...teaching them to observe all that I have *commanded* you.”

● **STORY:** JESSE PALMER — *(DO FOR SOMEONE ELSE...)*

● **STORY:** TIM

- **NOTE:** The closer you get to someone, the more you care about what they care about. Building the Church through making disciples is Jesus’ heartbeat, and it should be ours too!

◆ #2 — Making Disciples is a Command

(Verse 19) —

Go therefore and make disciples...

GO! — This is a command

- On what authority is Jesus making this command? (The Highest Authority) — *Therefore* - (vs 18) - “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me”
- On completion of His work for the Father — (Philippians 2:9) — ...Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name...
 - **NOTE:** A command from the true King — a mission on behalf of His Kingdom

GO! — Is an outward mission

- This means it's not all about me
- We can't be fulfilling the mission if we're not *going* in some shape or form
- We've been promised power for this purpose — (Acts 1:8) — ... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and *to the end of the earth.*”
- The *power* is for the purpose of “going”

GO! — Can mean, “as you go”

- We're not *all* called to be missionaries and full-time evangelists, but we are called to be obedient “as we go”

● **STORY:** LEE GRADY —
Discipling a convenient store clerk

◆ #3 — Making Disciples is Relational

(John 15:15) —

No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but *I have called you friends*, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

Jesus modeled relational discipleship

- The majority of Jesus' ministry was His relational investment into His disciples (3 years)

Paul modeled relationship discipleship

- (1 Thessalonians 2:8) — So, being *affectionately desirous of you*, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become *very dear to us*.
- (2 Timothy 1:2–4) — To Timothy, *my beloved child*: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as *I remember you constantly in my prayers* night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, *I long to see you*, that I may be filled with joy.

- **NOTE:** You must be willing to build a real relationship with someone else in order to disciple them.

- **STORY:** BARRY ST CLAIR —
went out of his way to spend personal time

◆ #4 — Making Disciples is done by Example

(Philippians 4:9) —

What you have *learned and received and heard and seen in me*—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

The best way to learn from someone is to spend time with them as they show you by their life what they desire for you to learn.

Jesus was the example for us

- (John 13:34) — A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just *as I have loved you*, you also are to love one another.
- (1 John 3:16) — *By this* we know love, that he laid down his life for us...

Paul was the example for Timothy

- Timothy likely spent **6-8 years** in close association with Paul during the second and third missionary journeys (49-57 AD), with frequent travel and ministry together.
- 5 different times, Paul sent Timothy out on his behalf - because he trusted Timothy had learned from their time together.

● **ILLUSTR: MOSES & JOSHUA**

Moses and the Tent of Meeting: (Exodus 33:11) — Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

◆ #5 — Making Disciples is Costly

(Luke 9:23-24) —

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever *loses his life* for my sake will save it.

Jesus warned us that Choosing Him is costly - and doing the work of the Kingdom is costly.

Jesus modeled total surrender

- (1 John 3:16) — By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and *we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.*

Paul modeled total surrender

- (Colossians 1:28–29) — Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. ²⁹ For this I *toil, struggling* with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.
- (Philippians 2:17) — Even if I am to be *poured out* as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

● **STORY: BARRY & LEE —**
Lives devoted to discipling others

◆ #6 - Making Disciples is Eternal

(Matthew 6:19-21) —

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves *treasures in heaven*, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

PAUL'S TREASURE

- (1 Thessalonians 2:19–20) — For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? *Is it not you?* ²⁰ For you are our glory and joy.

OUR GOAL IS TO BEAR ETERNAL FRUIT

- (John 15:1-13) — Vs 1, 5, 8, 10, 11, 16, 26-27

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I - Invest in Others

Choose to disciple and mentor others, helping them grow in their faith and equipping them to disciple others.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer — “Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”
- Oswald Chambers — “The one great passion of the disciple is to make disciples of others.”

● QUESTIONS:

- If someone were to make an assessment of your day to day life, are you investing in others on behalf of Jesus?
- Who is your Timothy?