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A Series Study Guide
October 2025

WHAT'S IN THIS BOOK?

SERIES INTRODUCTION

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Week 2: A Life-Defining Mission
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2 Cor. 4v6-12, v16-28

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NEXT STEPS



Vision Series

Becoming a Disciple-Making People

When God gives His people a vision, it reshapes everything. That's what this series is about; it's not just four weeks, but the beginnings of a movement of ordinary believers stepping into an extraordinary call: to become disciples who make disciples. We're convinced that Jesus didn't call us to simply attend services, consume teaching, or admire His words from a distance. He called us to follow Him, to be formed by Him, and to join Him in His mission of making all things new.

Why Disciple-Making?

At the very heart of Jesus' invitation is the call to multiplication. When He called fishermen, He didn't say, "Follow Me and you will become better people." He said, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of people" (Mt. 4v19). His plan to reach the world wasn't through programs

or institutions but through disciples who reproduce disciples—ordinary people filled with His Spirit, embodying His love, and carrying His Good News into every corner of the world.

Paul captures this vision in his charge to Timothy: "What you have heard from me… entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2v2). The gospel is meant to move through us, never stop with us. One life investing in another until the ripple spreads across families, neighborhoods, and nations. For Paul, the health of the church was measured not by the size of her gatherings but by the sending of disciple-makers. That same calling rests on us today: to carry the gospel as a living trust and pass it on until Jesus is known everywhere.

Many of us have been sold a lie: "Disciple-making is for some kind of spiritual elite. That's what pastors and missionaries are for. It's nothing I could ever do!"

No, this is the ordinary Christian life; this is for all of us. Jesus' Great Commission (Mt. 28v18–20) wasn't given to pastors or missionaries alone but to the whole church. Acts 1v8 makes it clear: "You will be my witnesses." This is not a special assignment for some; it is the Spirit-empowered identity of every believer. We are missionary disciples.

This vision is intensely practical. What if every disciple in our church embraced this call? What if every block in our valley had resilient disciples who embodied Good News, practiced hospitality, and multiplied spiritual family? What if house churches spread across neighborhoods and cities until, as Habakkuk 2:14 promises, "the knowledge of the glory of the Lord" covered the Inland Valley as the waters cover the sea?

That is exactly our vision and our prayer.

Together

God is calling; and we're responsible. We're all owners of the Great Commission. Why? (1) Because the mission of God advances through people, not programs. (2) Because your growth as a disciple depends on it. We learn by doing. (3) Because this is the outgrowth of being with Jesus and becoming like Jesus... we begin to do what Jesus did. As we share His heart, we come to share His mission.

Scripture points to this over and over:

- "What you have heard from me… entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others also" (2 Tim. 2v2).
- "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you" (John 20v21).
- "We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ" (Col 1v28).

This is why our vision isn't just about building a church but cultivating a movement. It's why we pray not simply for growth but for multiplication. It's why we're asking everyone—not some, not a few—to see themselves as disciple-makers.

An Invitation

As we step into this Vision Series, we're not just studying four passages. We're receiving a holy invitation. Like Isaiah, we see God's holiness and hear His call: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" (Isa. 6v8). Like the first disciples, we're invited to drop our nets and follow Jesus into a new way of life. Like the Acts 2 church, we're being knit together into a Spirit-filled family that embodies the gospel in a fractured world.

This is more than a sermon series—it's a call to reimagine

our lives, our church, and our valley. To believe that God can do more through us than we can ask or imagine. To offer our lives as a blank check to the King who gave everything for us.

Community, let's say together: Here am I. Send me.

Additional Resources

21 Days to Becoming A Disciple-Maker, Jim Britts (Practical, accessible guide to getting started on your disciple-maker journey).

Contagious Disciple Making, David and Paul Watson. (A disciple-making handbook that will empower you to do what Jesus did.)

4 Chair Discipling, Dann Spader (Offers a simple and reproducible approach to disciple-making.)

Saturate, Jeff Vanderstelt (Living as a faithful disciple right in the everyday stuff of life.)

One Eighty, Jeff Vanderstelt (Inspiring and equipping the church to re-center disciple-making.)

With, Skye Jethani (A reflection on doing life and ministry *with* Jesus - rather than *for* Him.)

The Art of Missional Spirituality, Jeremy and Monica Chambers (Practices and rhythms to maintain a life that is open to the Spirit and the mission of Jesus.)

Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools, Tyler Staton (An invitation to extraordinary prayer.)

Discovery Bible Study // https://www.dbsgroups.com

Vision Series Week 1

Date:

Speaker:

Main Scripture: Isaiah 6v1-8

SERMON TITLE

A Life-Changing Vision

Main Points | Verses Used	Notes

REFLECTIONS

Reflect on how to apply today's sermon to your life

Quotes:

"If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people to collect wood, but teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."

- Antoine de Saint-Exupery

“The greatness of God rouses fear within us, but His goodness encourages us not to be afraid of Him.”

- A.W. Tozer

Week 1: Reflect and Discuss

1. Isaiah’s vision begins in a moment of national upheaval. Where do you feel cultural or personal “shaking” right now, and how does it change your perspective to remember that God is alive, holy, and on the throne?

2. The seraphim’s cry of “Holy, holy, holy” reveals God’s otherness and majesty. How might recovering a high view of God reshape your worship and your daily trust?

3. When Isaiah saw God clearly, he saw himself clearly. Can you think of a time when God’s presence exposed your weakness or sin? How did that experience change you?

4. The coal from the altar symbolizes cleansing and mercy. How does receiving God’s grace move truth from your head to your bones, from theory to lived reality?

5. Isaiah says, “Here am I. Send me,” without knowing the details. Where might God be inviting you to trust Him with obedience before clarity?

7. How is God calling you to respond to this passage? Try writing an “I will” statement (“I will _____”) that captures your response. Then, go and do!

8. Who can you tell about how God has met you in His Word? Pray for an opportunity to share it with them.

"Pray diligently. Stay alert,
with eyes wide open in gratitude."
Col. 4v2 (MSG)

Every movement of God begins with prayer. Revival in the book of Acts didn't start with strategy sessions but with a prayer meeting in an upper room. Before Jesus sent His disciples into the harvest, He told them to pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers (Matt. 9v37–38). Prayer isn't an afterthought or warm-up for mission; it is the engine that drives disciple-making.

Think about it: when we pray for others, we are bringing them into the presence of the Father. We're aligning our hearts with God's heart, asking Him to do what only He can, open blind eyes, soften hard hearts, heal deep wounds, and draw people to Himself. Prayer is love in action. To pray for someone by name is to lift them into the arms of Jesus.

Often, the first transformation that happens in prayer is inside of us. As we pray for neighbors, coworkers, or family members, God cultivates compassion in our own hearts. We begin to see them as He sees them—not as inconveniences or projects, but as precious image-bearers worth every ounce of His love.

Paul's example in Romans 10v1 is striking. He prayed with tears for his people to know Christ. His ministry of disciple-making began not with arguments or lectures but with consistent, heartfelt intercession.

The Practice

This week, we want to practice praying intentionally for the people God has placed around us. A simple tool is the FRANCE prayer sheet—an acronym to help us list out folks we can pray for, folks who are close to us, but far from God.

Write down 1-3 names for each category:

F - Friends

_____, _____, _____

R - Relatives

_____, _____, _____

A - Associates

_____, _____, _____

N - Neighbors

_____, _____, _____

C - Classmates/Coworkers

_____, _____, _____

E - Everyone else

_____, _____, _____

Here's how you can use it:

1. **Write down names** – Think of five to ten people you interact with regularly who may not yet know Jesus.
2. **Pray daily** – Set aside time (morning commute, lunch break, bedtime) to pray through the list.
3. **Pray specifically** – Ask God to:
    - Bless them with peace, health, and joy.
    - Reveal His love and truth to them.
    - Give you opportunities to show kindness and speak of Jesus.
    - Surround them with other Christian influences.
4. **Listen as you pray** – Sometimes God will nudge you toward a practical act of love or remind you to send an encouraging word. Obey those nudges

.

Remember, this is not about checking boxes; it's about creating a rhythm of intercession that aligns your heart with God's heart.

Take time today to start your FRANCE list. Write down names, and begin lifting them before the Father. Remember: when you pray, you are stepping into the same heart of Jesus, who "always lives to intercede" for us (Heb. 7v25).

Vision Series
Week 2

Date:
Speaker:
Main Scripture: Matthew 28v18-20

SERMON TITLE

A Life-Defining Mission

Main Points | Verses Used	Notes

REFLECTIONS

Reflect on how to apply today's sermon to your life

Quote:

“The God of the Old Testament is a missionary God, the Christ of the Gospels is a missionary Christ, the Spirit in Acts is a missionary Spirit, the Church in the Epistles is a missionary Church, and the book of Revelation is a missionary consummation.”

- John Stott

“The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.”

- Henry Martyn

Week 2: Reflect and Discuss

1. If God’s “to-do list” is redeeming people from all nations, how might this shape the way you think about your own priorities?

2. John’s Gospel emphasizes over 60 times that Jesus was “sent.” How does Jesus’ sentness give shape to what it means to follow Him today?

3. Why is disciple-making central to fulfilling the Great Commission, and how does this differ from other things we often prioritize as “success” in the church?

4. The sermon framed our choice as “risk or retreat.” What risks might God be calling you to take in order to step more fully into His mission?

5. Where do you see opportunities in your everyday life (family, work, neighborhood) to live as a sent one and make disciples?

6. How is God calling you to respond to this passage? Try writing an “I will” statement (“I will _____”) that captures your response. Then, go and do!

7. Who can you tell about how God has met you in His Word? Pray for an opportunity to share it with them.

Disciple-Making Habit 2:
Engaging in Spiritual Conversations

"Be gracious in your speech.
The goal is to bring out the best in others
in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out."
Col. 4v6 (MSG)

When we begin to pray faithfully for others, something shifts. Our hearts open. Our awareness heightens. And sooner or later, God provides opportunities to connect. The natural next step after praying for someone is to step into conversation with them: listening to their story, encouraging them, and inviting them to discover God's presence.

Jesus modeled this beautifully. He didn't deliver speeches at every turn; He asked questions and entered into conversations. With the woman at the well (John 4), He began by asking for a drink of water. That everyday question opened the door to a life-changing encounter.

God can do the same through us. A simple "How are you, really?" or "Can I pray for you right now?" can become the seed of a spiritual conversation that grows into faith.

The Practice

Building from Habit 1, take the names on your FRANCE prayer sheet and develop a simple 30-day prayer calendar. Each day, focus on one person specifically. Pray for God's blessing on their life, for His Spirit to soften their heart, and for opportunities to connect.

Then, take the next step: let them know you're praying for them - whenever possible, pray **with** them! Send a short text, write a note, or in conversation that day actual pray for them, with them.

Something as simple as:

- “Hey, I prayed for you this morning. How can I keep praying for you this week?”
- “I was lifting you up in prayer today. Is there anything you’d like me to pray for right now?”

Whenever possible, don’t just pray later, pray with them right then. A 20-second prayer over the phone, at the lunch table, on the front porch, or even over text can carry immense power.

Think of it as a rhythm:

1. Pray for them daily (calendar rhythm).
2. Let them know you’re praying (text, call, note, in person).
3. Pray with them in the moment when possible.

This simple practice builds bridges of trust and gently introduces spiritual conversations in natural ways. Praying with others turns a prayer habit into a disciple-making habit!

Pray with expectation - and be amazed at how God steps in. You’ll see “only-God” miracles. You’ll encourage others. You’ll inspire them to pray. You’ll grow in faith, prayer, and compassion. You’ll see God answer prayer. You’ll kick-start spiritual conversations.

Keep notes as you pray... and keep on praying for and with them!

Remember: you don’t need perfect words. The power isn’t in you—it’s in the Spirit who is already at work in their life. Your role is simply to pray, to show love, and to open space for God to move.

Vision Series Week 3

Date:

Speaker:

Main Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4v6–12, v16–18

SERMON TITLE

Every Disciple, Every Block, Every Day

Main Points | Verses Used	Notes

REFLECTIONS

Reflect on how to apply today's sermon to your life

Quote:

“I’m not afraid of failure; I’m afraid of succeeding at things that don’t matter.”

- William Carey

“Proclaiming the gospel to a lost world cannot be just another activity to add to the church’s crowded agenda. It must be central to who we are.”

- Francis Chan

Week 3: Reflect and Discuss

1. Coach K asked, “Do you understand the weight of wearing the jersey?” What does it mean to you personally to “wear Jesus’ name” in your everyday life?

2. How does the image of carrying “treasure in jars of clay” (2 Cor. 4v7) shape your understanding of both your weakness and God’s power?

3. Paul describes being “pressed, perplexed, persecuted, but not crushed.” Where do you feel these tensions in your life right now, and how has God sustained you in them?

4. Our church values are summarized as Be with Jesus, Become like Jesus, Do what Jesus did, Together. Which of these feels most natural for you, and which feels most stretching?

5. How do you see the vision of “a disciple on every block, a house church in every neighborhood” reshaping the way we think about church?

6. How is God calling you to respond to this passage? Try writing an “I will” statement (“I will _____”) that captures your response. Then, go and do!

7. Who can you tell about how God has met you in His Word? Pray for an opportunity to share it with them.

Disciple-Making Habit 3:
Engaging in Discovery Conversations

"God means what he says. What he says goes.
His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel,
cutting through everything, whether doubt or defense,
laying us open to listen and obey."
Heb. 4v12 (MSG)

One of the most powerful ways to help people meet Jesus is to let them encounter Him directly in Scripture. Notice how often Jesus led with questions: "Who do you say that I am?" (Luke 9v20). He wanted people to wrestle, discover, and respond for themselves.

In fact, Jesus was asked about 183 questions in the Gospels. In response, Jesus Himself asked over 300 questions (most counts say 307).

Of the 183 questions that Jesus was asked, only about 3 times did He offer a "direct answer." More often, He responded with another question, a parable, or a story that opened people's imagination rather than closing the discussion.

Jesus asked far more questions than He answered. His way of teaching was to provoke reflection, invite discovery, and draw people into dialogue.

That's the vision behind a Discovery Bible Study (DBS). It isn't about experts teaching; it's about creating space where God's Word speaks. In a world where people are skeptical of religious institutions or tired of polished presentations, many are hungry to simply open the Bible and ask, "What does this mean for me?"

The Spirit loves to work in those spaces. When people discover God together in His Word, transformation begins to take root.

The Practice

Starting a Discovery Bible Study is simpler than you might think.

1. Keep praying through your prayer calendar.

2. As you do, ask God to show you a story from the Bible related to what someone from your prayer list is facing. As God provides, reach out again. Something like, “I was thinking about what you’re going through and a story came to mind that I think would encourage you. Can I share it with you?”

3. Share the story in your own words – not as a “Bible study,” but just as one friend sharing a story with another. Remember, we’re asking God to lead us to a story that is helpful and applicable to what they’re going through.

4. Ask a simple question: What do you get from that story? How does it resonate with you? What struck you about God and your situation?

5. If the story was helpful to them, invite them to share it with a friend who might be helped by it too. Go over the story with them again.

So often this is how a Discovery Bible Study starts. One friend sharing a story of hope with another.

Jim Britts observes, “A message DISCOVERED is much more powerful than a message DELIVERED.” This is how Jesus taught - to illicit hunger, a journey, a conversation. Notice that you don’t need to be the teacher. Your role is to host, invite, and trust the Spirit. The Spirit is the true teacher; we simply create space.

Vision Series
Week 4

Date:
Speaker:
Main Scripture: Acts 2v42-47

SERMON TITLE

Welcome Home

Main Points | Verses Used	Notes

REFLECTIONS

Reflect on how to apply today's sermon to your life

Quote:

“The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer.”
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“Church is not a building or a mere gathering, but a community of disciples learning to live in the kingdom of God.”
- Dallas Willard

Week 4: Reflect and Discuss

1. In v42, the believers “devoted themselves” to teaching, fellowship, shared meals, and prayer. Which of these do you naturally gravitate toward, and which is harder for you to practice?

2. Verse 43 says “everyone was filled with awe.” What do you think created such awe in the early church? How could you open your life to such an experience today?

3. The passage shows both big gatherings (temple courts) and small gatherings (in homes). Why do you think both mattered? Does your discipleship know both expressions?

4. How have you personally experienced the church as a family, a place where outsiders become insiders? Where do you still long for that?

5. If your home became a “front door” for God’s kingdom, what would that look like in practice (with neighbors, coworkers, or friends)?

6. How is God calling you to respond to this passage? Try writing an “I will” statement (“I will _____”) that captures your response. Then, go and do!

7. Who can you tell about how God has met you in His Word? Pray for an opportunity to share it with them.

Disciple-Making Habit 4:
Discovering God with Others

Jesus said to them, “Come with me. I’ll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I’ll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass.” Matt. 4v19 (MSG)

So far, we’ve learned to pray for people by name, to begin spiritual conversations, and to share stories of Scripture in everyday life. The natural next step is this: gathering people together to explore God’s Word in community.

Why? Because discipleship was never meant to be a solo journey. From the very beginning, Jesus formed a group—a circle of disciples—who followed Him together. In Acts 2, we see the church gathering daily in homes, devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to prayer, to shared meals, and to one another. Transformation deepens when we discover God together.

A Discovery Bible Study (DBS) is one of the simplest, most reproducible ways to help people meet Jesus in community. It doesn’t require an expert teacher or a church building. It requires ordinary believers willing to gather friends, open Scripture, and ask good questions.

The Principles of DBS

1**.** Everyone can participate – The group isn’t built on one person’s expertise but on shared discovery.
2. God’s Word is central – Scripture itself is the authority, not our opinions.
3. Obedience over information – The key question isn’t “What did we learn?” but “What will we do in response?”
4. Multiplication is expected – Each participant is encouraged to share what they’ve discovered with others.

As Jim Britts says, “A message DISCOVERED is much more powerful than a message DELIVERED.” DBS is designed to make discovery the norm.

The Practice
Start a DBS Group. Here’s how to begin gathering people into a DBS:
1. **Pray and Invite**. Keep praying through your FRANCE prayer list and 30-day calendar. Ask God to show you 2–4 people who might be open to exploring Scripture together. Then extend a simple invitation: “Would you like to get together to read a short story from the Bible and talk about it?”

2. **Host a First Gathering**. Choose a short passage (a story of Jesus works best). Read it aloud together. Then guide the group through simple questions:

- What does this story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about people?
- How can I live differently in light of this story?
- Who can I share this with?

Check out more DBS tips and studies at the Community website: https://findcommunity.com/discovering-god/

4. **Keep It Reproducible**. The beauty of DBS is its simplicity. Keep the process clear and repeatable so that anyone in the group could lead the same conversation elsewhere. In fact, invite others to facilitate before either of you would expect!

5. **Encourage Obedience and Sharing**. Each week, ask: “How did you live out what you learned last time?” and “Who did you share it with?” These two questions fuel multiplication.

Remember: you don’t need to be a Bible scholar. Your role is to create space for God’s Word and Spirit to do the heavy lifting. Jesus promised that when even two or three gather in His name, He is present. Trust Him to show up.

Next Steps
While our study in Luke will continue, let's pause and look at some resources for what's next in our journey. What's your next step:

Help Others Meet God in Scripture:
God's Word has the power to transform lives and Discovery Bible Study is a simple, practical way to help others engage Scripture for themselves. More than just reading, it's a disciple-making tool that invites people to listen, obey, and share God's Word in community. Come learn the why, the how, and take a step into making disciples through God's Word.

Wednesday, October 29, 6:30-7:30pm (room 100).
RSVP: https://findcommunity.com/events/

Listen to God for Others.
Come join us for an evening of worship and teaching on prophetic prayer. Scripture tells us to "eagerly desire the gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy" as it strengthens, encourages, and comforts others (1 Cor. 14:1-3).

Together, we'll learn how to hear the Holy Spirit and speak His encouragement and comfort into the lives of others. This is a night to grow in listening for God's voice and practicing Spirit-led prayer.

Wednesday, Oct 15, 6:30-8:00pm (Worship Center)
More Info: https://findcommunity.com/events/

Seek First.
Seek First is a time of prayer and worship in the Upper Room on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month (8pm). We want to set time aside to seek God, pray for His kingdom to come, and listen to the Spirit. Join us for this group prayer event.
Join us: Oct 6 & 20; Nov 3 & 17; Dec 8 & 22

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Mt. 6v33

NOTES:

COMMUNITY
CHURCH RANCHO