**Thought Provoking Statements:**

* We oftentimes dilute what it means to be a disciple from the beginning. We want to give people an assurance that they are saved without letting some time be there to see if there has been an actual heart change. Is the Spirit of God in this person?
  + The goal is not assurance of salvation because of a prayer, but rather a fundamental heart change that leads to life change, new purpose, new passions, and ultimately a desire to make the gospel known.
* If reproduction of discipleship is not happening, there is something wrong at the core. There is something that needs to be addressed.
* Being a disciple involves making disciples.

**Huge Question:**

* If we aren’t making disciples, are we disciples?
  + Ok, maybe we aren’t disciples.
  + Maybe I am a disciple, but there are areas I still need to obey.

**Though Provoking Statement:**

* Satan is pleased when we are deceived, when the word of God is preached but not obeyed.
* Jesus, John the Baptist, and Peter were all about repent and turn, versus people and churches often being about making people feel bad and making a grand statement.
* **Video:** Don’t Be Deceived, Disciples Make Disciples by Francis Chan and David Platt

**What Can We Walk Away With?**

* Discipleship requires looking beyond just learning what the scripture teaches or says, but looks to ask the question, “What is this passage telling me to do,” and what am I going to do about it?
  + Discipleship is not just about believing in Jesus Christ as our ***Savior***, but a sincere commitment to Jesus being our ***Lord***.
  + Notice that Jesus did not ask the disciples to say a prayer about belief in him as their savior, but called them to first “repent,” and then to “follow me.”

**Repent:**

* **Matt. 3:1-12** – Repent for there is an expectation of fruit bearing.
* **Matt. 4:17** – Jesus also begins with telling people who heard his preaching to repent.

**Following Me:**

* **Matt. 4:18-22** – Jesus tells Peter and Andrew to “follow him,” and they obeyed. Soon after, James and John did the same. **V. 19** is significant for he informs these soon to be disciples that he would, through his discipleship process, make them “fishers of men.”
* **Matt. 9:9-13** – Jesus tells Matthew to “follow me,” and he followed Jesus.

**Bear Fruit and Following the Will of God:**

* **Matt. 7:15-23** – God warns of imposters (marked by a lack of fruit), and he warns that not all who have called Jesus Lord and Savior will actually enter into His Kingdom (go to heaven). Jesus clarifies that they were people who did not do the will of God.

**Jesus Calls Disciples to Make Disciples!**

* **Matt. Chapter 10 –** At this time Jesus has already selected the 12 apostles. Jesus, after much instruction (the Sermon on the Mount is previous to this passage), sends out the disciples to go and do likewise. They proclaim “the kingdom of God is at hand” (v. 7).
* **Vs. 24 -15** – Jesus tells his disciples that as he has done, we are called to do, for surely a disciple is not greater than his teacher (especially in this case). Furthermore, this passage is an allusion to just as Christ will suffer, we have been called to suffer for the sake of obedience in the call to go out and make disciples among a lost society.
* **Matt. 28 – V. 19** – Jesus says “go” “make disciples of all nations.” **V. 20** tells us to, as a part of the command to make disciples, to teach “them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

**Reminder of Last Weeks Ending:**

* *Every Christian* should be helping **unbelievers become believers** by showing them Christ; that is, making a disciple.
* E*very Christian* should be **helping other believers grow to more and more maturity**. That is making a disciple.
* E*very Christian* should **be seeking to get help** for themselves from others **to keep on growing**.
* *Every church* should think through how all of these kinds (*last weeks references*) of biblical disciple-making find expression in their corporate life.

**How do you identify someone you are supposed to disciple?**

* I do not want to complicate this. Ask God, out of a desire to be obedient, “who have you put around me **who doesn’t know Christ”** or “who is **someone you can help to grow in Christ** and become disciple makers?”
  + How can we intentionally, lovingly, sacrificially, and strategically pour our life into someone needing discipleship?
  + If this person is a lost person, we would certainly not say we want to disciple them, but rather we would be very intentional about maximizing that relationship and seeking opportunities to speak truth about the gospel and about Jesus with them.

**How do you muster up the courage to go after making disciples among lost people?**

* First, don’t look within but look to God. We need to pray and **ask God for boldness** intentionally and specifically (Acts 4). We need to ask others to pray with us and over us as well.
* Secondly, ask God for the **lenses to see the opportunities** all around us.
* Thirdly, be ready to be obedient. **Plan what you might say if God opens a door ahead of time**. **Remind yourself of the** **very serious implications of a person being lost** without the hearing of the gospel and responding to it; let this reality, through the prayer of boldness and the Holy Spirit, overpower your fears. Remind yourself of **God’s very present presence** always - “I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matt. 28:20).