

DISCIPLE

SEEKING A PAUL,
BECOMING A TIMOTHY



BY: A BROTHER IN CHRIST

Introduction: Why Discipleship, and Why Now?

For more than three decades, I have prayed for and longed for deep, life-on-life discipleship. I've desired that Paul-to-Timothy kind of relationship-someone older in the faith who would walk with me, shape me, challenge me, and help me grow. But that kind of one-on-one discipleship never fully came. And in that longing, the Lord met me.

He became my Teacher. I have been discipled by the living God through His Word and by abiding in Christ day after day (John 15:5). Along the way, the Lord also used many saints-most now with Him-to shepherd my soul from a distance. Through their sermons, writings, biographies, and examples, these faithful men and women became unexpected mentors. I am eternally grateful for their obedience and their willingness to pass on what they learned.

I've also learned from those I've observed up close-sometimes what to imitate, sometimes what not to do as a servant-leader. God used all of it: the longing, the absence, the examples, the warnings, the books, and the Scriptures. And though I never received the kind of formal discipleship I deeply desired, that ache became a holy hunger. It rooted discipleship deeply into my heart-a passion to pour into anyone who wants to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

Scripture makes it clear that discipleship is not optional or incidental. Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20). Paul told Timothy to invest what he had learned into others who would then teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2). Titus was instructed to cultivate generational, gender-specific mentoring within the local church (Titus 2:1-8). The pattern is unmistakable: disciples who make disciples who make disciples.

For decades now, I have had the privilege of pastoring and preaching thousands of messages, and each one has been offered with discipling intent-so that we would not merely hear the Word, but obey it (James 1:22); not merely attend church, but become more like Christ. I live under the conviction that I must fight for personal holiness, because I can only lead people as far as I am willing to go (1 Timothy 4:16). Discipleship is not theory-it is apprenticeship to Jesus in the real stuff of life.

This little book is meant to be a simple help and a starting place. It will not replace your Bible, your local church, or the Holy Spirit's leading. It is not a substitute for faithful pastors, elders, and godly men and women who labor among you (Ephesians 4:11-16). But it will give you a clear pathway to walk with another believer-so that together you can:

Open the Scriptures and obey them (James 1:22).

Pray for and with one another in honest accountability (James 5:16).

Count the cost and follow Jesus wherever He leads (Luke 14:25-33).

Embrace sound doctrine and let truth shape life (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Share the gospel and multiply disciples who make disciples (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20).

You'll notice a workbook feel throughout: each chapter begins with Scripture and a short reading, followed by practical, face-to-face discussion questions and space for prayer. My hope is that you will not merely read these pages, but live them. Meet regularly-over coffee, on a job site, in a living room, after a worship service. Open the Bible, ask hard questions, confess sin, serve side-by-side, and pray with expectancy. Discipleship is not complicated; it's costly, consistent, and Christ-centered.

If you are new to all this, welcome. If you've been walking with Jesus for years, consider this a fresh invitation to take someone with you. Christ is worthy. His ways are good and right. And until He returns, His commission remains our calling: go and make disciples.

A Simple Prayer to Begin

"Lord Jesus, teach me to follow You closely and to help someone else do the same. Give me humility to be taught, courage to obey, and love to invest. Lead me to the person I should ask to walk with me, and the person I should invite to walk behind me. Make us more like You. Amen."

Chapter 1

The Mandate of Discipleship: Called to Follow and to Lead

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
— *Matthew 28:19-20*

“Discipleship is a long obedience in the same direction.” — Eugene Peterson

From the first moment Jesus said, “*Follow Me*,” He was inviting ordinary people into an extraordinary relationship. He didn’t form a classroom; He formed a community. The Great Commission wasn’t given to a few elite believers but to all who follow Christ.

Paul captured the same heartbeat when he told Timothy, “*The things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also*” (2 Timothy 2:2). The model is multiplication: Paul → Timothy → faithful men → others. Discipleship was never meant to end with us—it is designed to flow through us.

Discipleship happens in kitchens and coffee shops, while working, worshiping, and walking. It’s life-on-life formation in the presence of Jesus. When believers take that seriously—when they begin to invest deeply in one another—the Church becomes vibrant, fruitful, and unstoppable.

Walking Like Jesus Did

When I read the Gospels, what strikes me most is how **Jesus disciplined through shared life**. He walked dusty roads with His followers, ate meals with them, answered their questions, corrected their pride, and modeled dependence on the Father. For three years they saw Him pray, weep, serve, and stand firm. He wasn’t just giving them lessons—He was giving them Himself.

Every miracle they witnessed, every parable they heard, every step beside Him was shaping them for the day He would say, “*As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.*” (John 20:21).

They learned by living with Him. And because they lived with Him, they were transformed by Him.

What amazes me most is that this method—simple, relational discipleship—turned the world upside down. A handful of fishermen, tax collectors, and ordinary men and women carried the Gospel across continents. They weren't the religious elite; they were committed followers who reproduced what they had seen in Christ.

Imagine the power of that multiplication today. If **one believer** disciplined **one person** for a year—truly investing, praying, walking through life together—and the next year both of them each disciplined one more, the numbers would grow exponentially. Within **33 years**, the approximate length of Jesus' earthly life, the entire world—8 billion souls—could be reached through discipleship. It's simple math, but it's also divine design. Jesus' way still works when we walk His way.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to open each verse, underline key words, and write what it shows you about discipleship, relationship, and reproduction.

Matthew 4:19 – “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Mark 3:14 – Jesus appointed twelve “that they might be with Him.”

John 13:15 – “I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done.”

Luke 9:23 – “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself.”

Acts 2:42-47 – The early church devoted to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer.

1 Corinthians 11:1 – “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”

2 Timothy 2:1-2 – Pass on what you have received.

Titus 2:1-8 – Older believers teaching the younger.

Hebrews 10:24-25 – “Let us consider one another to stir up love and good works.”

John 15:8 – “By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit.”

Philippians 3:17 – “Join in following my example.”

Together Questions

What does Jesus' approach to discipleship teach us about our own relationships?

Why is "being with" people so essential to making disciples?

How can we begin walking with others the way Jesus did with His disciples?

What practical steps can we take this month to build intentional discipleship rhythms?

How might this type of relational discipleship affect our church, family, and community?

Prayer Together

"Father, thank You for showing us the way through Your Son. Teach us to follow closely, love deeply, and invest intentionally. Make us disciples who multiply, for Your glory and the joy of all nations. Amen."

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 2

1. Who in my life has modeled Christlike discipleship for me, even informally?
2. Am I living close enough with anyone that they see my walk with Jesus up close?
3. What would it take for me to begin discipling one person this year?
4. What comfort, time, or fear might I need to surrender to say "yes" to that call?
(These reflections prepare your heart for Chapter 2: "Counting the Cost of Following Jesus.")

"We are not simply followers of Jesus;
we are apprentices who become master-makers when we apprentice others."
— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 2

Counting the Cost of Following Jesus: The Call to Die Daily and Live Fully

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily,
and follow Me.”
— *Luke 9:23*

“Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”
— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

From the very beginning, Jesus made something unmistakably clear: following Him is glorious, but it is not casual. He never softened the cost. He never hid the fine print. He looked crowds in the eye and said words that would thin them out: “*Whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.*” (Luke 14:27).

Jesus refuses to be an accessory to our lives; He must become our life. Discipleship requires surrender, sacrifice, and a willingness to lay down anything that competes with His Lordship.

The early disciples understood this. Their allegiance to Jesus cost them comfort, reputation, relationships—even their lives. Yet the New Testament doesn’t paint them as victims but as people overflowing with joy, hope, and purpose. They discovered what every true disciple finds: *losing your life for Christ is the only way to truly find it* (Matthew 16:24–25).

Counting the cost does not mean fearing the cost; it means embracing the worth of Christ. Discipleship is not about what we give up—it’s about who we get: **Jesus Himself**.

Walking the Hard Road With Jesus

When Jesus spoke of counting the cost, He was inviting His disciples into a deeper reality. He wasn’t turning them away; He was preparing them. Jesus did not hide the truth that narrow is the road that leads to life and few find it (Matthew 7:13–14). Yet He walked that same road Himself—first, best, and perfectly.

What stands out in the Gospels is that the disciples learned the cost by *being with Him*. They watched Him choose the Father’s will over comfort. They saw Him serve when tired, love when rejected, forgive when wounded, and pray when pressed. His life displayed a cross-shaped pattern long before He carried a literal cross.

And that pattern became theirs. After the resurrection, these once-fearful men and women turned the world upside down because they were utterly convinced that Jesus was worth everything.

The cross they carried did not crush them—it empowered them. Because Jesus had already carried the heavier weight.

Imagine a generation today that embraces this same costly faith. A church unafraid of inconvenience. Believers who choose holiness over ease, sacrifice over self, obedience over applause. Disciples who say with Paul: *“I count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord”* (Philippians 3:8).

This is the kind of discipleship that multiplies. This is what transforms families, churches, and nations.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to open each verse, underline key words, and write what it reveals about surrender, sacrifice, and the cost of following Jesus.

Luke 14:25–33 — Jesus’ clearest teaching on counting the cost.

Luke 9:23–24 — Deny yourself, take up your cross daily.

Matthew 16:24–26 — Losing your life to find it.

John 12:24–26 — A grain of wheat must die to bear fruit.

Philippians 3:7–10 — Paul counts all things loss for Christ.

1 Peter 4:1–2 — Suffering in the flesh breaks the power of sin.

Romans 12:1–2 — Present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

2 Timothy 3:12 — All who desire to live godly will suffer persecution.

Matthew 7:13–14 — The narrow road that leads to life.

Galatians 2:20 — Crucified with Christ, yet alive in Him.

Hebrews 12:1–3 — Consider Jesus who endured the cross.

Together Questions

What are the biggest barriers in our culture that make costly discipleship difficult?

In your own life, what “cross” is Jesus asking you to carry right now?

How does Jesus’ example help us embrace the hard parts of discipleship?

What steps can we take together to walk the narrow road with faithfulness and joy?

How does counting the cost prepare us to make disciples ourselves?

Prayer Together

“Father, give us courage to follow Your Son wherever He leads. Teach us to deny ourselves with joy, to take up our cross daily, and to trust that Jesus is worth every sacrifice. Make us steadfast, unmovable, and overflowing with love as we walk this road together. Amen.”

How we can pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 3

1. What am I most afraid of losing if I follow Jesus wholeheartedly?
2. Where is God inviting me into deeper surrender and trust?
3. What is one step of obedience I can take this week that requires faith?
(These reflections will prepare you for Chapter 3: “The Word of God—Learning and Living Truth.”)

“Counting the cost isn’t about what you give up—it’s about who you gain.
And gaining Jesus is worth everything.”
— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 3

Shaped by the Word:

Learning to Fit Our Lives into Scripture

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

— 2 Timothy 3:16–17

“Either the Bible will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from the Bible.”

— D. L. Moody

The Word of God is not a collection of suggestions; it’s the voice of the living God calling His children into alignment with His ways. Yet, if we’re honest, there are seasons when we treat Scripture more like a buffet than a banquet—we take what looks good and leave what convicts us.

Real discipleship happens when we stop trying to bend the Word to fit our lifestyle and start bending our lives to fit the Word.

When the Word Reads You

There was a season in my life when God’s call for absolute surrender hit home. I was on fire for the Lord—worshiping, witnessing, ready to go wherever He led—but I was also fighting a losing battle with my flesh. I told myself it was “spiritual warfare,” but truthfully, a lot of it was just me being stubborn.

In that time, I slipped into what I now call “the school of learning the hard way.” I found myself doing things I knew were wrong—drinking, partying, and ignoring conviction. I’d wake up with guilt and shame and tell myself, *That’s the last time*. But the next weekend, there I was again.

Then one night, while reading Daniel 1:8—“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself”—the Holy Spirit made those words come alive. It wasn’t just about Daniel; it was about me. God was saying, “*You can purpose in your heart, too.*” That night, I surrendered. I told the Lord, “*You’re on the throne, not me. You call the shots.*”

It was the last time I ever touched alcohol. Not because I became legalistic, but because I finally agreed with God’s Word instead of arguing with it. That verse became my pre-decided boundary—when temptation came, the decision was already made.

When the Word Comforts You

Then there was the time young love broke my heart. I was certain life was over (and if you've ever been a heart-broken teenager, you know exactly what that means). While I was wallowing in despair, the Holy Spirit brought a verse to mind I'd never even memorized: *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"* (Matthew 11:28).

It was like the Lord Himself whispered, *"You can come to Me. I'm right here."* That verse became a lifeline, not just in heartbreak, but in every storm since. Scripture doesn't just expose sin—it also binds up wounds.

When the Word Transforms Others

Over the years, I've seen that same transforming power in biblical counseling sessions. People who had chased the world's wisdom—therapy, self-help, endless diagnoses—found true freedom when they turned to the Word of God.

Jesus said, *"You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"* (John 8:32). Truth isn't a concept; it's a Person. And when His Word takes root, it renews the mind and rewires the heart.

I've watched men and women long bound by lies walk in freedom simply because they believed God's promises. Some even found healing from long-standing mental struggles—because truth replaced deception.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

2 Timothy 3:16–17 – Scripture's purpose.

Psalms 119:9–11 – Hiding the Word in the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 – The Word as a living sword.

John 17:17 – "Sanctify them by Your truth."

Joshua 1:8 – Meditate day and night.

James 1:22–25 – Be doers, not hearers only.

Psalms 19:7–11 – The law of the Lord is perfect.

Romans 12:2 – Renewal of the mind.

Proverbs 3:5–6 – Trust and acknowledge Him.

Colossians 3:16 – Let the Word dwell richly in you.

Together Questions

What does it mean to let Scripture “read” you rather than just reading it?

How has God used His Word to call you into deeper obedience?

What verse or truth do you need to “purpose in your heart” today?

How might our lives look different if we consistently applied what we already know?

How can we, as Paul and Timothy pairs, hold each other accountable to live the Word?

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 4

1. Is there an area of your life where you’re still trying to negotiate with God’s Word instead of submitting to it?
2. When was the last time Scripture brought you comfort or correction in a real-life moment?
3. What would it look like for you to become a student of the Word, not just a consumer of devotionals?

(Next chapter: “The Essentials of the Faith.”)

“The Bible isn’t meant to sit on our shelves; it’s meant to stand us upright.”

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 4

The Essentials of the Christian Faith: Who God Is, Who Jesus Is, Who the Holy Spirit Is

“Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits.”

— Hebrews 6:1–3

“You will know as much of God, and only as much of God,
as you are willing to put into practice.”

— Eric Liddell

From the beginning, Christian discipleship has rested on **truth about God** that is confessed, taught, and obeyed. The Church has always gathered around the essentials: **one God in three Persons** (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), **Jesus Christ fully God and fully Man**, His **substitutionary death** and **bodily resurrection**, the **indwelling Holy Spirit** who regenerates and empowers, **salvation by grace through faith**, the **authority and sufficiency of Scripture**, the **people of God (the Church)**, and our **blessed hope**—the **imminent** return of Christ and the resurrection to life and judgment. These are not abstract ideas; they are the living truths that shape a disciple’s worship, witness, and walk.

Doctrine matters because discipleship without truth becomes sentiment, and zeal without knowledge becomes error. Sound doctrine anchors relationships, guides decisions, guards the gospel, and fuels holiness. In healthy discipling relationships, we **open the Bible together**, confess the faith once delivered to the saints, and help one another live it out with courage and humility.

“Let us go on to maturity.” That is the call of Hebrews 6: not to abandon foundations, but to **build on them**, moving from milk to meat—so that our lives, families, and churches display the glory of the Triune God and the hope of Christ’s soon appearing.

A Personal Word From My Own Story

Looking back over my walk with Jesus, I can see how deeply essential doctrine has been in forming me as a disciple. I didn’t grow up with an older “Paul” walking beside me line by line through Scripture—but the Lord, in His kindness, disciplined me Himself through His Word and through the voices of faithful saints across the centuries.

I still remember being about nine years old, sitting in the adult service next to my mom. (I had bailed on Sunday school—not because I was godlier, but because the kids picked on me for not being able to read.) That morning, the pastor preached on the return of Christ, and something ignited in my heart. I went home and prayed a bold prayer, telling the Lord I would stand and fight for Him during the Great Tribulation. (I’ve since actually studied the Tribulation—and let’s just say, I don’t want to be around for that!)

But that *moment* awakened something in me: a conviction that Jesus is truly coming again, and that life must be lived ready, holy, watchful, anchored in truth.

Years later, as a young man, I found myself reading A.W. Tozer late at night—barely understanding half of it—but being gripped by the realization that **knowing God is the highest pursuit of life**. Around that same season, I remember laboring through the opening chapters of Romans, wrestling with the weight of sin and the holiness of God, surrounded by five different commentaries just trying to make sense of it all. Then I reached Romans 5, and it was like the Holy Spirit turned the lights on in my soul.

For the first time, I *felt* the doctrine of **justification by faith**—and I wept. Not because I understood every nuance, but because God’s grace suddenly became personal, beautiful, and utterly undeserved.

Not long after, someone handed me Chuck Smith’s *Why Grace Changes Everything*. I didn’t like reading, but I devoured that book in one sitting—and then read it again. The message of grace rearranged my understanding of God, my calling, my identity, and my future. It’s why I teach the way I do today.

My prayer for you, as you walk through this discipleship journey, is that **you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ** (2 Peter 3:18).

But I want to caution you with something that has stayed with me my whole life: Many people know doctrine without knowing God.

The Pharisees were experts in Scripture, yet blind to the God who authored it. Doctrine became to them a ladder of pride instead of a pathway to a Person.

Doctrine is vital—but doctrine that leads to legalism rather than love, to pride rather than worship, to self-righteousness rather than surrender—is doctrine misused.

If your theology does not lead you to Jesus, you’ve missed the point.

And it is only by grace—grace alone—that we can rightly be disciples of Jesus at all.

These moments in my story shaped me—not because they were emotional, but because they were doctrinal. They revealed **who God is**, and in light of that, **who I must become**. They taught me that discipleship is always built on truth—and truth is always meant to become right devotion.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to open each passage, underline key words, and note what it teaches about the nature and work of God—and why that matters for discipleship.

Deuteronomy 6:4–5 — The LORD is one; love Him with all your being.

Isaiah 40:25–31 — God’s holiness, power, and sustaining strength.

John 1:1–3, 14 — The Word is God; the Word became flesh.

John 14:6–9 — Jesus reveals the Father; He is the only way.

Acts 2:32–33, 38–39 — Risen Christ, promised Spirit, repentance, and gift of the Spirit.

Romans 3:21–26 — Justification by grace through faith in Christ’s finished work.

Romans 8:9–11, 14–16 — The indwelling Spirit gives life and adoption.

1 Corinthians 15:1–4, 20–26 — The gospel essentials and the bodily resurrection.

Ephesians 2:8–10 — By grace through faith—unto good works.

Titus 2:11–14 — Grace trains us now as we look for the **blessed hope**.

2 Timothy 3:16–17 — Scripture is God-breathed and sufficient to equip.

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18; 5:1–11 — The Lord’s imminent return; comfort and readiness.

Revelation 22:12, 20–21 — “Surely I am coming quickly.” The Church’s “Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!”

Together Questions

Why does Hebrews 6:1–3 call us to “go on to maturity,” and how do we do that without **leaving** the foundations behind?

Which essential doctrine (Trinity, Person/work of Christ, work of the Spirit, salvation by grace, Scripture’s authority, the Church, Christ’s return) do we most need to strengthen together, and how?

How does our belief in the **imminent** return of Christ shape our daily discipleship (holiness, urgency, comfort, mission)?

What safeguards can we build into our discipling relationship so that doctrine stays **biblical, humble, and practical**(not merely theoretical)?

Which passages above will we memorize or study in depth this month to anchor our conversations?

Prayer Together

“Father, we praise You—holy, sovereign, and good. Lord Jesus, true God and true Man, our only Savior, we trust in Your finished work. Please open our eyes, renew our minds, and empower our obedience with the help of Your Holy Spirit. Keep us rooted in truth, abounding in love, watchful for Christ’s return, and faithful in disciple-making—for Your glory. Amen.”

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 5
(The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus)

1.

Where has right doctrine stayed mostly in my head instead of shaping my habits, speech, and relationships? What one change will I make this week?
2.

How does believing Jesus could return **at any moment** purify my priorities today (1 John 3:2–3)? Name one priority to realign before next Sunday.
3.

Which truth about **who Jesus is** do I need to cling to as we enter Chapter 5—and how will that truth comfort, correct, or commission me?

“Doctrine is not a shelf of ideas; it is the scaffolding of obedience. When truth holds, disciples stand—and the Church builds upward in love while watching for His soon return.”

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 5

The Gospel:

The Life, Death & Resurrection of Jesus

“For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.”

— 1 Corinthians 15:3–4

“Take Jesus out of Christianity, and there remains nothing.”

— *Charles Spurgeon*

Everything in Christian discipleship flows from the gospel. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus are not just the beginning of our faith — they are the center, the fuel, and the anchor of our discipleship. We don’t graduate from the gospel; we grow deeper into it.

The Gospel at the Center of Discipleship

The gospel is not merely a message to accept — it is a reality to enter.

Jesus’ life shows us how to live.

Jesus’ death shows us what our sin required.

Jesus’ resurrection gives us the power to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).

A disciple is not someone who merely knows truths about Jesus, but someone who *lives* in the light of His finished work. The cross isn’t simply where Jesus died — it’s where disciples live, die to self, rise again daily, and find new mercies every morning.

Discipleship detached from the gospel becomes moral improvement.

Discipleship rooted in the gospel becomes transformation.

Young Faith & Battles Collide: The Gospel Became Personal

Though my childhood memories are scattered, I remember one thing clearly: my mom dragging my little butt to church when I was just two years old. It was a tiny white church not far from our home. My earliest memory of God is standing at my bedroom window before preschool, overwhelmed and anxious, whispering a simple prayer: “*God, go with me.*”

I didn’t understand theology then, but something inside me knew the Bible was not just information — it was personal. God wasn’t a Sunday idea; He was Someone I could talk to.

The Night the Gospel Broke Me & Called Me

Though I believe I was saved at a young age, the gospel *hit me with full force* about a month before I graduated high school. A friend invited me to his youth group. That night, surrounded by students on the edge of adulthood, something inside me broke wide open.

I worshiped and wept before the Lord like I never had.
It was surrender — real surrender.

I laid down every dream, every ambition, every plan and told Jesus He could have my life completely. That moment was equal parts joy and holy fear. I didn't know what He would ask of me — but I knew He was worthy.

That night marked me. I left wanting to grow, to serve, to learn *everything* I could about Him. And so I did — prayer meetings, Bible studies, small groups, serving anywhere anyone would let me. The gospel had become more than a message; it had become my Master.

The Gospel Became My Lungs

Over the years, the gospel became the lens through which I see everything.
I preach it to myself.
I preach it to others.
I cling to it when my flesh rises.
It confronts and comforts me.
It disciplines and delights me.

The gospel has become my lungs — the very breath of my discipleship.

It corrects my pride.
It exposes my sin.
It pulls me back when I wander.
It lifts me when I fall.
And it keeps me looking to Jesus when everything in me wants to look elsewhere.

The Gospel Shapes Discipleship

There is no discipleship without the gospel.

When we understand the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus —
not merely in theory, but in our bones —
we begin to long for others to know the same hope.

Paul said, “*The love of Christ compels us.*”
That's what compels me.

From Genesis to Revelation, the whole story of Scripture is about God reconciling man to Himself — this is the gospel. But the gospel is impossible unless God came. He did, in His first Advent. And the same Scriptures that foretold His first coming promise He will return again.

That is our blessed hope.
And that hope gives disciples urgency.

If Christ could return today, how can we delay obeying His Great Commission?
The harvest is ready.
The world is aching.
The gospel is the only hope.

And Jesus has chosen the Church — *His disciples* — to be the ones who carry it. Not with a “come and see” mentality, but with a bold “go and tell.”
Go into all the world.
Make disciples.
Live the gospel.
Share the gospel.
Multiply disciples who cling to the gospel.

Scriptures to Read & Reflect On

Take time to open each passage, underline key words, and consider what each reveals about Christ’s life, death, and resurrection — and why they matter for discipleship.

1 Corinthians 15:1–4 – The gospel defined.

Romans 6:4–11 – United with Christ in death and resurrection.

John 19:28–30 – “It is finished.”

Isaiah 53:3–6 – The suffering Servant.

Philippians 2:5–11 – The humility and exaltation of Christ.

Colossians 1:13–22 – Christ supreme and reconciling.

1 Peter 2:24–25 – He bore our sins in His body.

Hebrews 12:1–3 – Look to Jesus, who endured the cross.

Romans 1:16 – The gospel is the power of God unto salvation.

John 11:25–26 – “I am the resurrection and the life.”

Revelation 1:17–18 – “I am alive forevermore.”

Together Questions

What part of the gospel stands out to you most right now — Christ’s life, His death, or His resurrection?

How does the resurrection give you strength to fight sin this week?

In what ways does the gospel confront your fears, pride, or habits?

How can we preach the gospel to each other in our discipleship relationship?

Who in your life desperately needs to hear or see the gospel lived out?

Prayer Together

“Lord Jesus, thank You for living for us, dying for us, and rising again in victory. Teach us to walk in Your finished work, to breathe the gospel deeply, and to share it boldly. Make us disciples who carry the cross, proclaim the resurrection, and love with Your love. Amen.”

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 6

(Christian Worship: Living & Gathering)

1. Has the gospel become personal to me — or has it become familiar?
2. What part of the gospel do I need to meditate on more deeply this week?
3. Where is Jesus calling me to obedience because of His finished work?
4. Who can I share the hope of the gospel with in the next seven days?

“The gospel is not the first step of discipleship — it is the ground we walk on, the air we breathe, and the message we multiply.”

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 6

Christian Worship: A Life Before His Throne

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,
that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God,
which is your reasonable service.”
— *Romans 12:1*

“Nothing teaches us about the preciousness of the Creator as much as when we learn
the emptiness of everything else.”
— *Charles Spurgeon*

Worship Is Not a Moment — It’s a Life

Worship is not a style, a preference, or a Sunday ritual. Worship is the posture of the heart that says, “*Jesus is worthy of all I am.*”

Before disciples serve, before they witness, before they obey—they worship.

The early church understood this well. They “continued daily with one accord... praising God” (Acts 2:46–47). Paul taught that worship was not simply what happened in a gathering, but the offering of one’s entire life as a sacrifice before God (Romans 12:1–2). David showed us that worship is the cry of the soul—whether rejoicing or broken (Psalm 34; Psalm 63; Psalm 27).

True Christian worship fuels discipleship.
True discipleship produces worshipers.

Theology of Worship in Discipleship

Worship shapes disciples in at least four ways:

1. Worship reorients our hearts toward God.

We behold what we become (2 Corinthians 3:18).
If disciples spend more time looking inward than upward, they will never grow.

2. Worship softens the heart for obedience.

A heart bowed in worship becomes a heart ready to obey (John 14:15).

3. Worship anchors us when life shakes us.

Paul and Silas worshiped in prison (Acts 16).
Worship doesn't ignore battles—it transforms them.

4. Worship multiplies discipleship across generations.

You cannot disciple people into what you do not delight in.
David said, “*One generation shall praise Your works to another*” (Psalm 145:4). Worship perpetuates discipleship.

A Personal Word From My Own Story

1. A Heart for the Next Generation

My heart for worship—and for raising up the next generation—goes back farther than I realized.

In high school I served summers as a parks and recreation supervisor. Kids would come all day, and I would run games, lead programs, and simply *be with them*. Even then, before I fully understood discipleship, God was shaping in me a heart for the younger ones coming up behind.

Years later, I attended the largest youth gathering in the world at that time—over 70,000 teens packed into the old Detroit Lions stadium. Third Day was leading worship. As the sun was setting, beams of light streamed through the stadium roof, and I remember thinking:

“This is what I want to do for the rest of my life—teach the next generation to worship Jesus.”

It was more than a moment; it was a calling.

2. Worship Overflowed Into Ministry

I remember coming home from a retreat where we had spent hours worshipping the Lord. I had a sermon fully planned for Sunday—typed, prepared, ready to go.

But when I stepped into the pulpit after that weekend of worship, the Holy Spirit nudged me:
“Set your notes aside.”

And what came next wasn't rehearsed—it was overflow.
Worship had so filled my heart that preaching became the fruit of abiding.

That day taught me:
A worshiping heart produces a fruitful ministry.

3. When Worship Is Hard

Not every season of life makes worship easy.

I know the difference between a heart turned toward God in worship and a heart turned inward toward the flesh. And I've had plenty of moments where worship didn't rise naturally—but had to be chosen.

Sometimes in the middle of a battle, worship is the last thing you feel like doing. Which is exactly why you need to do it.

Many times I've gotten in my car, turned the radio up as loud as it would go, and worshiped at the top of my lungs. Nobody could hear me but God—and He was the only one who needed to.

Worship realigns the soul and breaks strongholds.

4. The Most Practical Advice I Can Give

If you want to cultivate a life of worship:

- **Commit to regular fellowship and weekly corporate worship.**
God designed the church to sing together (Colossians 3:16).
- **Talk about Jesus often.**
Let His name be normal in your conversations.
- **Pray the Psalms.**
They have shaped my worship more than anything outside Scripture itself.
Psalms 27 — Confidence in the Lord
Psalms 34 — Worship in affliction
Psalms 63 — Thirsting for God
Psalms 103 — Bless the Lord, O my soul

And most importantly:

Worship daily, not just weekly.

Worship is a lifestyle, not an event.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to open each passage, underline key words, and note what it reveals about worship as a way of life.

Romans 12:1–2 — Worship as a living sacrifice.

John 4:23–24 — Worship in spirit and truth.

Psalm 27:4 — The one thing David desired.

Psalm 34:1–3 — Worship in affliction.

Psalm 63:1–8 — Thirsting for God in the wilderness.

Hebrews 13:15 — Sacrifice of praise.

Colossians 3:16 — Worship through song and Scripture.

Acts 2:46–47 — The early church praising daily.

Revelation 4:8–11 — Heavenly worship.

Acts 16:25 — Worship in suffering.

Together Questions

How would you describe the difference between “singing worship” and “living worship”?

What moments in your life has worship carried you through, strengthened you, or redirected you?

When worship feels difficult, what practices or Scriptures help you turn your heart back toward Jesus?

How can we cultivate a shared rhythm of worship—together and individually—in our discipleship relationship?

What distractions or idols most often compete for the worship of your heart?

Prayer Together

“Father, shape us into worshipers—men and women whose lives reveal Your worth.
Tune our hearts to Your glory.
Teach us to worship in the battle and in the blessing.
Let our worship lead others to You.”

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 7

(Discipline & Obedience)

1. When I look at my daily habits, what do they reveal I value most?
2. Does my lifestyle reflect Romans 12:1—my whole self offered to God in worship?
3. What area of my life is hardest to surrender as an act of worship?
4. Where is God calling me to turn worship into obedience—especially in areas requiring discipline?

“Worship is not what I give God on Sunday; it’s the offering of who I am every day.”
— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 7

Discipline & Obedience: Trained by Grace, Formed for Fruit

“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”
— *John 14:15*

“For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but afterward it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”
— *Hebrews 12:11*

Teaching Overview

Biblical discipleship does not stop at knowing truth or even loving worship—it moves into **obedience shaped by love**. Discipline in the Christian life is not punishment; it is training. God does not discipline His children to harm them, but to form them.

Jesus makes the connection unmistakably clear: *love leads to obedience*. Obedience is not the root of our salvation, but it is the fruit of it. Grace saves us, and that same grace trains us “to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts” and to live holy lives (Titus 2:11–12).

Discipline is how love takes shape over time. Prayer trains the heart to depend on God. Scripture trains the mind to think rightly. Obedience trains the will to submit joyfully. Left unattended, our hearts drift; disciplined, they are anchored.

This is why discipleship cannot exist without discipline. A disciple is a learner—but also a follower. Hearing without obeying leads to self-deception (James 1:22). But obedience rooted in grace leads to freedom, joy, and spiritual maturity.

A Personal Word From My Own Story

Over the years, I’ve learned something about my own heart: **when worship fades, discipline usually follows—and not far behind is compromise**. I don’t say that lightly or abstractly; I’ve lived it.

There are seasons when obedience feels natural—when prayer flows, Scripture is sweet, and walking with Jesus feels light. But there are other seasons, especially in trials, fatigue, or

discouragement, when discipline feels costly. In those moments, obedience becomes an act of worship.

I've learned that when I neglect spiritual disciplines, my flesh rarely stays neutral—it fills the vacuum. But when I choose obedience, even when I don't *feel* like it, something remarkable happens: my affections begin to realign.

Discipline has trained me to return—again and again—to Jesus. To open the Word when I'd rather scroll. To pray when silence feels uncomfortable. To obey when my pride resists. Over time, I've seen Hebrews 12:11 prove true: discipline yields fruit—but only *afterward*.

And this is where discipleship becomes deeply practical. We don't just teach obedience—we model it. We don't just talk about discipline—we walk it out together. We help one another train for godliness, not as athletes striving for medals, but as sons and daughters being formed into the likeness of Christ.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to read each passage carefully. Note what it teaches about discipline, obedience, and the heart behind them.

1. **John 14:15** – Love expressed through obedience
2. **Hebrews 12:5–11** – God's loving discipline
3. **James 1:22–25** – Hearing vs. doing the Word
4. **Luke 6:46** – “Why do you call Me ‘Lord’ and not do the things I say?”
5. **1 Timothy 4:7–8** – Training for godliness
6. **Titus 2:11–12** – Grace that trains us
7. **Psalms 119:9–11** – Guarding the heart through the Word
8. **Romans 6:16–18** – Obedience leading to righteousness
9. **Matthew 7:24–27** – Obedience as a foundation
10. **Galatians 5:16–25** – Walking by the Spirit, not the flesh

Together Questions

1. How does Scripture define discipline differently than punishment or legalism?
2. Why is obedience a response to love rather than a condition for acceptance?
3. Which spiritual disciplines have been most formative in your walk with Christ?
4. Where do you currently feel resistance to obedience—and why?
5. How can we help one another grow in joyful, grace-filled obedience?

Prayer Together

“Father, thank You that You discipline those You love. Train our hearts to obey You with joy, not fear. Help us walk in step with Your Spirit, growing in holiness and humility. Shape us into disciples who follow Jesus fully. Amen.”

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 8

1. Where has God been calling me to greater obedience—and what has delayed my response?
2. Are there disciplines I’ve neglected that once helped keep my heart soft toward God?
3. Do I view obedience as burden or blessing—and why?
4. How might consistent obedience prepare me to share my faith more faithfully?

“Obedience is not the price we pay for grace; it is the pathway grace trains us to walk.”
— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 8

Sharing Our Faith: Disciples Who Multiply

A Brief Word Before We Begin

This chapter is a little longer than the others—and that’s intentional.

Evangelism has never been a side note in my life or ministry. It has been a shaping force. Sharing the gospel has taught me dependence, exposed my fears, stretched my obedience, and anchored me again and again in the power of the Holy Spirit. For anyone who knows me personally, this won’t come as a surprise. I can’t talk about discipleship for long without talking about telling others about Jesus.

The reason is simple: discipleship that never moves outward eventually turns inward. Faith that never speaks eventually forgets why it exists. Jesus did not save us merely to mature us—He saved us to send us.

So in this chapter, I want to slow down. I want to tell stories. I want to linger in Scripture. And I want to be honest—about fear, boldness, faithfulness, failure, and the grace of God that keeps calling us forward. My prayer is not that you feel pressure to “perform,” but that you feel invited into the joy of witnessing to what God has done in your life.

Witness Is Not a Program—It’s a Life

Sharing our faith is not an optional add-on to discipleship; it is one of its most natural fruits. Jesus did not say, “*Go and make converts,*” but “*Go and make disciples*” (Matthew 28:19). Evangelism is not merely the starting line—it is woven throughout the entire race.

Biblically, a witness is simply someone who tells the truth about what they have seen, heard, and experienced. When disciples walk closely with Jesus, speak often of Him, and live in step with the Spirit, the gospel naturally overflows. Paul captured this when he wrote, “*The love of Christ compels us*” (2 Corinthians 5:14).

Evangelism is not about mastering a script or winning arguments. It is about loving people, asking good questions, listening well, and faithfully pointing others to Jesus—trusting the Holy Spirit to do what only He can do.

A Personal Word From My Own Story

Seeds Planted in a Sleeping Bag

The first time I remember sharing my faith with any depth was in sixth grade. I was at a sleepover at my friend Ryan's house. We had finally quieted down, the lights were off, and the room was still. I knew I believed in Jesus. I knew He was real. I knew He forgave sins. But I had no idea how to package all of that into a clear gospel presentation.

So I didn't.

Instead, I asked questions.

I asked Ryan what he believed about God, why he believed it, and why it was different from what I believed. I don't remember convincing him of anything that night. I don't remember a prayer. I don't remember a dramatic moment.

What I remember is learning something important very early on: **sharing your faith often begins with curiosity, not conclusions.**

Years later—many years later—I had another opportunity to talk with Ryan about Jesus. And again, I found myself asking questions. I don't know what seeds were planted in that sleeping bag or in the years that followed, but I know this: Jesus asked a lot of questions in the Gospels. Questions open doors. Seeds grow slowly. God is patient.

That night taught me that faithfulness does not always look like immediate fruit.

Fear, Boldness, and Love

If I'm honest, I've had seasons where fear kept me from sharing my faith—and I still do. Boldness is not something you permanently arrive at.

What I've learned is this: **the seasons where I am most bold are the seasons where I am most in love with Jesus and most burdened for the lost.** Scripture says, "*Perfect love casts out fear*" (1 John 4:18), and I've found that to be true. When I'm abiding in Christ, enjoying Him, and walking humbly with Him, there is a natural overflow—what Jesus called "*rivers of living water*" (John 7:38).

Boldness does not come from personality.

It does not come from freedom of speech.

It comes from love.

I think often about believers around the world who face real consequences—prison, loss, even death—for sharing Christ. It humbles me. We have tremendous freedoms in the West, and it raises an important question: **what are we doing with them?**

I also love that Jesus sent His disciples out **two by two**. There is something uniquely strengthening about sharing Christ together—praying together, encouraging one another, stepping out side by side. Obedience is often easier when it is shared.

Fourteen on a Friday Night

As a young adult, I spent many Friday nights sharing the gospel on College Avenue in downtown Appleton, WI. Back then, people would cruise the Ave, hang out, park their cars, blast music, and just linger. I went week after week. Honestly, it often felt fruitless. A few conversations here and there, but no visible response.

There was always the same group parked on the same corner. They thought I was nuts. One guy in particular would point me out and joke, “Here comes that Bible thumper.”

Then one Friday night, everything changed.

As I was crossing the street, that same guy stuck out his hand to shake mine and said, “Hey—everyone needs to listen to this man.” He had just talked with his grandpa, who told him the very same things I had been saying for weeks.

That night, I shared the gospel like I always did. But this time they really listened. **Fourteen young people bowed their heads and received Christ.**

I wish that happened every Friday. It didn’t. But that night taught me something I’ve never forgotten: **faithfulness matters, even when you don’t see results.**

Jesus said, “*Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men*” (Matthew 4:19). I’m not the greatest fisherman—but I’ve learned. Sometimes you change bait. Sometimes the waters shift. Sometimes the fish aren’t biting. Our job is not results; our job is obedience.

A Holy Interruption by the Ocean

One of the clearest moments of Spirit-led evangelism I’ve ever experienced happened on a set of steps along a steep ocean cliff in Southern California. As I was walking down, a young couple was coming up. We stepped aside to pass, and the Holy Spirit said clearly: “*Stop.*”

I stepped back, looked the young man in the eyes, and said, “You need to pray with me right now to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.”

He looked at me and said, “Yes, I do.”

We bowed our heads right there and prayed. When I opened my eyes, his girlfriend was weeping. She said, “We’ve been praying for him for so long to come to know Jesus. Thank you.”

I've often wondered about them. Did they get married? Are they walking with Jesus today? Are they discipling others? I don't know—but I know God was at work. That moment reminded me that the Holy Spirit is always ahead of us.

Sharing as a Way of Life

Over the years, I've seen people come to faith through preaching, counseling, conversations, and moments I never could have planned. I've seen people who thought they were Christians realize, sometimes in counseling, that they were trusting in themselves rather than in Christ—and come to genuine faith.

Sharing the gospel is not something I turn on and off. It's a way of life. I'm often amazed at how freely we talk about everything else—and how quiet we can be about Jesus. For me, talking about Him is not performative; it's personal. He has been too good to keep to myself.

The Word of God has fueled this in me. God is a missionary God. The more time I spend in Scripture, the more my heart aligns with His mission. Just recently, while teaching in the jail, we walked through a broad overview of the book of Acts. I was reminded again that **God is still on mission, still building His church, still saving sinners.**

Sometimes people respond. Sometimes they don't. Sometimes I walk away wishing I'd said more—or less. But Jesus is faithful. He is still making us into fishers of men.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

- **Matthew 28:18–20** — The Great Commission
- **Acts 1:8** — Power to be witnesses
- **Romans 1:16** — Not ashamed of the gospel
- **2 Corinthians 5:14–21** — Ambassadors for Christ
- **Colossians 4:2–6** — Speaking with grace and wisdom
- **Matthew 9:36–38** — Compassion for the harvest
- **1 Peter 3:15** — Ready to give a reason with gentleness
- **John 20:21** — Sent as Jesus was sent
- **Acts 4:29–31** — Praying for boldness
- **Luke 8:11–15** — The seed and the soil

Together Questions

1. What fears most often keep you from sharing your faith?
2. How has love for Christ—or lack of it—affected your boldness?
3. What role do questions and listening play in your gospel conversations?
4. Who has God placed in your life right now to walk with patiently?
5. How can we support one another in faithful witness?

Prayer Together

“Lord, give us hearts that love You deeply and love people genuinely. Fill us with Your Spirit, give us wisdom and courage, and help us speak of Jesus faithfully. Make us disciples who multiply for Your glory. Amen.”

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 9

1. When was the last time I intentionally shared my faith?
2. What fears or distractions might God be calling me to surrender?
3. Who is God placing in my life to walk with or disciple?
4. Do I trust God with the results of obedience?

“We don’t share the gospel because we have it all figured out—
we share it because Jesus is too good to keep to ourselves.”

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 9

Making Disciples Who Make Disciples:

Recovering the Lost Art

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

— *2 Timothy 2:2*

“Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.”

— *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

A Lost Art That Must Be Recovered

At some point, discipleship quietly slipped out of the center of the church and into the margins.

I didn’t realize that at first—I just noticed something wasn’t there.

When I began reading Scripture for myself, I saw discipleship everywhere. Jesus lived it. Paul modeled it. The early church multiplied through it. And yet, when I looked at my own life growing up in the church... I didn’t see it happening.

I didn’t even know what was missing at the time. I just knew there had to be more.

Over the years, I’ve seen this confirmed again and again. Many churches don’t teach the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27), and as a result, the people of God are not deeply discipled. When I talk with believers across denominations and backgrounds, discipleship is often something that is assumed—but rarely practiced.

And when it *is* practiced, it is often shallow, unintentional, or reduced to casual fellowship—which for many simply means “hanging out.”

Biblical discipleship is far more than that.

It is intentional.

It is relational.

It is grounded in the Word.

And it is meant to multiply.

What Is Biblical Discipleship?

Discipleship is not just mentoring.

It is not just friendship.

It is not just meeting regularly.

Discipleship is helping someone follow Jesus by walking with them in truth, love, and obedience to the Word of God.

Paul said it plainly:

“Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.” (1 Corinthians 11:1)

That’s the model.

We don’t point people to ourselves—we point them to Jesus, and we walk with them as we follow Him.

At its core, discipleship must include:

- **The Word of God** (teaching, studying, applying)
- **Prayer** (dependence on the Lord)
- **Obedience** (not just hearing, but doing)
- **Relationship** (life-on-life, not classroom-only)
- **Multiplication** (it doesn’t stop with us)

You can read other books—and I encourage it—but they should always point back to *the* Book.

A Personal Word From My Own Story

It Started Simple—and a Little Messy

I first began intentionally discipling others right after high school. I didn’t have a perfect model. I didn’t have a step-by-step system. I simply had a growing hunger for the Word of God and a desire to share it with others.

I started serving in youth ministry—junior high kids. I opened my home. We studied the book of Proverbs together. We talked. We laughed. We wrestled with real life.

Looking back, it wasn’t polished—but it was real.

And that’s often how discipleship begins.

Meet People Where They Are

Over time, I learned something important: discipleship is not one-size-fits-all.

You meet people where they are.

- Junior high students
- High schoolers
- Young adults
- Parents
- Elderly in nursing homes—70s, 80s, 90s

It doesn't matter the age or stage.

The goal is the same:

help them know Jesus and grow in His grace.

In recent years, I've discipled young boys and girls in group settings, and I've also sat one-on-one with older saints near the end of their lives. The method adjusts—but the mission never changes.

Multiplication Is Real

One of the greatest joys of my life has been seeing multiplication happen over time.

Some of those kids from 30 years ago—kids I sat with, taught, prayed with—are now:

- Leading ministries
- Shepherding others
- Raising their own children in the Lord
- Serving faithfully in churches

That's discipleship.

That's 2 Timothy 2:2 in real life.

You don't always see it immediately. But over time, **faithful investment multiplies.**

You Don't Have to Be “Ready”

One of the biggest lies I hear is this:

“I'm not ready to disciple someone.”

Let me lovingly say—that’s not what Jesus said.

He said, “*Go and make disciples.*”

If all you know is **John 3:16**, then start there.

Share it. Talk about it. Live it.

As you disciple others, you will grow yourself.

I’ve found that the responsibility of discipling others has driven me deeper into the Word. I read more. I pray more. I seek the Lord more—because I care about people growing.

I don’t read fiction—I just don’t have time. But I will read anything that helps me help someone else grow in Christ.

A Little Honesty (and Humor)

I believe we are all called to minister, not just a few.

Now, I’ll be honest—I’m a worship leader in heart, but not in voice.

You do *not* want me leading songs on stage.

I don’t sing on key.

I don’t play instruments.

And that is a blessing to the church.

But I’ve read *a lot* about worship. Why? Because I want to disciple people who *do* have that gift.

Before I was married, I read books on marriage.

Before I had kids, I read books on parenting.

Why?

Because discipleship means preparing to serve others, not just ourselves.

If You’ve Made It This Far...

Let me say this clearly:

If you’ve made it to Chapter 9, you are ready.

You don't need to wait for perfect knowledge.

You don't need a title.

You don't need a program.

You need:

- A Bible
- A willing heart
- A teachable spirit
- And one person to start with

Start small.

Start simple.

Start now.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

- **2 Timothy 2:2** — Multiplication model
- **Matthew 28:19–20** — Make disciples
- **Luke 6:40** — Becoming like your teacher
- **1 Corinthians 11:1** — Imitating Christ
- **Colossians 1:28–29** — Teaching every person
- **Hebrews 3:13** — Encouraging daily
- **Acts 2:42** — Devoted to growth

Together Questions

1. How would you define discipleship in your own words?
2. What has been missing in your experience of discipleship?
3. What fears or excuses have held you back from discipling others?
4. Who is one person you could begin walking with this month?
5. What would it look like for you to intentionally multiply your faith?

Prayer Together

“Lord, thank You for discipling us through Your Word and Your Spirit. Give us courage to step out, humility to learn, and love to invest in others. Help us be faithful to pass on what You’ve given us. Make us disciples who make disciples. Amen.”

How we can pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 10

1. Who is God placing on my heart to disciple right now?
2. What is one step I can take this week to begin?
3. Am I willing to be both discipled and discipling at the same time?
4. What would change in my life if I fully embraced multiplication?

“Discipleship doesn’t begin when you feel ready
—it begins when you say yes to passing on what Jesus has already given you.”
— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 10

Life Together in the Church:

We Were Never Meant to Walk Alone

“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”
— **Hebrews 10:24-25**

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” — **Psalms 133:1**

The Christian life was never meant to be lived alone. When Jesus saves us, He not only brings us into relationship with Himself—He places us into a family. We become part of His body, brothers and sisters in Christ, called to walk together.

Hebrews 10:24-25 is often used simply to remind us that we need to go to church. And we do. But notice how much deeper the passage goes: “consider one another,” “stir up love and good works,” and “exhorting one another.” Biblical fellowship isn’t merely sitting in the same room once a week. It is knowing people and being known, encouraging and being encouraged, carrying burdens, serving together, speaking truth, praying together, and continually pointing one another back to Jesus.

There is a sweetness in that kind of fellowship. Christians can come from completely different backgrounds, generations, occupations, personalities, and experiences and discover that we share something greater than all our differences: **we have Jesus**. Christ becomes the center around which relationships form that otherwise may never have existed.

Walking Like Jesus Did

I experienced this powerfully when I was young. When I was first baptized in the Spirit and really began taking my faith seriously for myself, I couldn’t get enough fellowship. I was probably attending five or six Bible studies a week. If believers were gathering or the church was doing something, I wanted to be there.

This happened only a couple months before I graduated from high school. I had grown up with many of the same friends and gone to school with some of them for thirteen years. Yet after only a couple months at this new church and being involved with the youth group, I remember realizing something at my graduation party. Many of my longtime friends were there, but so were these new brothers and sisters in Christ. Somehow, in only a few months, there was already a depth and reality to these new relationships that was different.

We had Jesus in common.

Through the years I’ve watched that same thing happen over and over again. I’ve seen it on mission trips, church building projects, and especially as people serve together at the pantry. When people work side by side, something happens. They talk, laugh, pray, carry burdens, solve problems, and begin sharing life. Before long, people who were simply attending the same church become family.

Sometimes people say they don't feel connected at church. Certainly the church should always work to welcome people and draw them in. But I've also found that one of the simplest ways to move from merely attending church to actually becoming part of the family is to **serve alongside others**. Grab a towel. Help someone. Join a ministry. Show up for the workday. Serve at the pantry. Go on the mission trip. Fellowship often grows naturally while our hands are busy serving Jesus together.

Life together also creates accountability. God has placed people in my life who have carried my burdens, lovingly spoken truth to me, prayed for me, encouraged me, and helped me continue following Jesus. We all need people who know us well enough to ask how we're really doing. "As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend" (Proverbs 27:17).

Even baptism becomes something we experience together. When a believer is baptized, brothers and sisters witness that public profession of faith. Years later, when that person is struggling, we can lovingly remind them, "Bro, sis, I was there. I watched you publicly declare that you belong to Jesus. Remember who you are and Whom you belong to."

And then there is communion. At Freedom Fellowship (my home church) we receive communion every week because Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of Me" (1 Corinthians 11:24). Every time we gather, we need to remember why we are together.

It is all about Jesus.

Look around the room. Different ages. Different backgrounds. Different vocations. Different personalities. Different experiences. Some of these people might never naturally have become friends.

Yet we come to the same table.
We need the same grace.
We remember the same cross.
We belong to the same Savior.

Jesus is what we have in common.

And that is the beauty of life together in the Church.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to open each passage and consider what it teaches about fellowship, belonging, serving, accountability, and life together in Christ.

Acts 2:42-47 – The early believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer.

Hebrews 10:24-25 – Consider one another, stir up love and good works, gather, and encourage.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 – Many different members forming one body in Christ.

Galatians 6:1-2 – Restore one another gently and bear one another's burdens.

Romans 6:3-4 – Baptism pictures our identification with Christ and newness of life.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 – Communion continually brings us back to Jesus and His cross.

Colossians 3:12-17 – Bearing with, forgiving, loving, and teaching one another.

Psalms 133:1 – The goodness and pleasantness of brothers dwelling together in unity.

James 5:16 – Confess to one another and pray for one another.

John 13:34-35 – Our love for one another demonstrates that we belong to Jesus.

Together Questions

1. What is the difference between simply attending a church and truly sharing life with a church family?
2. Who are some people God has brought into your life through the church whom you probably never would have known apart from Jesus?
3. How does serving alongside other believers deepen fellowship and relationships?
4. Who knows you well enough to encourage you, challenge you, pray for you, and lovingly speak truth into your life?
5. How do baptism and communion help us remember who we are, Whom we belong to, and what ultimately brings us together?

Prayer Together

“Father, thank You that You have not called us to follow Jesus alone. Thank You for bringing us into Your family and making us part of the body of Christ. Teach us to love one another, serve one another, carry one another’s burdens, speak truth to one another, and continually point one another back to Jesus. Help us not merely attend church, but truly share life together. Keep Jesus at the center of our fellowship and use us to strengthen one another as we follow Him. Amen.”

How we can pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 11

1. Am I merely attending church, or am I truly allowing myself to be known and involved in the lives of other believers?
2. Where am I currently serving, and if I am not serving, what is one practical step I could take?
3. Do I have believers in my life who can lovingly challenge me and hold me accountable? Am I willing to let them?
4. When following Jesus becomes difficult, who are the people God has placed around me to help me remain faithful?

(These reflections prepare your heart for Chapter 11: “Endurance, Suffering & Finishing Well.”)

**“Jesus didn’t just save us to Himself; He brought us into a family.
We follow Him best when we walk together.”**

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 11

Endurance, Suffering & Finishing Well:

Faithful to the Finish

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”
— **2 Timothy 4:7**

“But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.”
— **1 Peter 5:10**

Starting well is wonderful. Finishing well is better.

When we first begin seriously following Jesus, we can have expectations about what the Christian life will look like. We know there will be difficulties, but we may imagine that as we mature, following Jesus will somehow become easier. Temptations will disappear. Relationships will become simpler. Ministry will always be fruitful. If we pray, serve, love people, and faithfully teach God’s Word, surely everything will work out.

Then we actually follow Jesus for a while.

Jesus never promised His disciples an easy road. He promised to be with us on the road. He told them plainly, “In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33).

Suffering isn’t a strange interruption of discipleship. God actually uses suffering as part of our discipleship. Trials expose us, humble us, mature us, deepen our dependence upon Christ, and teach us things about God’s faithfulness that we could never learn merely by reading about them.

The goal isn’t simply to survive suffering.

The goal is to know Jesus through it, become more like Him because of it, and remain faithful until we see Him face to face.

Walking Like Jesus Did

After decades of following Jesus and serving in ministry, I’ve learned that some of the hardest suffering comes through people.

There have been seasons when I believed God was clearly leading in a direction, yet other leaders weren’t seeking Him in the same way. When there isn’t unity in the Spirit, ministry can become deeply discouraging.

Even harder is loving people, praying for them, pouring yourself into them, and then watching some of those same people turn on you. Betrayal hurts precisely because you loved.

But Jesus understands betrayal.

He washed Judas' feet knowing what Judas was about to do. He was abandoned by His friends, rejected by those He came to save, falsely accused, mocked, beaten, and crucified.

Yet He continued toward the cross.

What keeps us going isn't our own strength.

Paul said:

"For the love of Christ compels us..." (2 Corinthians 5:14).

That's what keeps me going too.

The Gospel is still true. Jesus is still worthy. His love still compels us.

When I was younger, I also thought serving people would be easier than it actually is. You can pray for someone, love them, teach them, counsel them, and offer them help—but you cannot force someone to humble themselves and receive God's grace. Pride is destructive, and watching someone refuse help can be painful.

I also thought that after walking with Jesus for a while, my struggle with sin would somehow disappear.

It hasn't.

Decades later, there is still a war between the Spirit and the flesh. Temptation is real. The difference is that through the years you grow. You mature. You learn. You recognize things sooner. And you accumulate a history with God.

Hindsight becomes a wonderful gift.

I can look backward and say:

God was faithful there.

He carried me through that.

He provided then.

He kept His Word.

And when the next trial comes, I have a track record of God's faithfulness behind me.

God has always been faithful.

Why would He stop now?

He is a promise-keeping God.

Suffering Is Not Strange

Peter wrote:

“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you.”

— 1 Peter 4:12

We often respond to suffering as though something has gone terribly wrong.

Scripture tells us not to be surprised.

James says trials produce patience and maturity. Paul says tribulation produces perseverance, character, and hope. Peter says the genuineness of our faith is refined through fire.

Suffering is theological.

God has much to say about it.

And if you desire to become a useful instrument in the hands of our Redeemer, you should expect that some of God’s deepest work in you will happen through suffering.

That’s where we are refined.

That’s where self-sufficiency gets stripped away.

That’s where we learn dependency.

That’s where we discover whether Jesus Himself really is enough.

Brokenness and dependence upon God can actually become a very sweet place.

Not because suffering itself is sweet.

But because **Jesus meets us there.**

When the Darkness Doesn’t Lift

I went through a season of depression unlike anything I had ever experienced.

It lasted for years.

There were times when I honestly didn’t know whether I was going to come out of it. I could still function to some degree, but looking back, I know that was only because the grace of God was sufficient.

The feelings were horrific and overwhelming.

I learned what people mean when they speak of a “dark night of the soul.”

But I also knew I could not allow my feelings to determine what was true.

God’s Word was true when I felt it.

God’s Word was true when I didn’t.

God was faithful when I could see Him working.

God was faithful when everything felt dark.

And by the grace of God, He eventually brought me through that season.

Looking back, I can also see something else He did.

He opened doors for me to minister to people struggling with things I never would have understood in the same way before.

Suffering gave me a language for someone else's pain.

Paul writes:

“Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble...”
— 2 Corinthians 1:4

God doesn't waste our suffering.

Sometimes the very wound we wish we had never experienced becomes a place from which we can minister the comfort of Christ to someone else.

We Need Each Other to Endure

This is another reason Chapter 10 matters so much.

We need the body of Christ.

When you're emotionally exhausted, discouraged, suffering, or simply tired of loving difficult people, you need brothers and sisters who will stir you up again.

People who pray.

People who listen.

People who speak truth.

People who remind you what you already know when suffering makes it difficult to see clearly.

People who point you back to Jesus.

Jesus said:

“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”
— John 7:38

We don't ultimately fill one another.

Jesus does.

But what a gift when God uses another believer to lead our thirsty hearts back to the fountain.

Finish Well

Through the years I've known older men in their eighties who inspire me.

Some served as pastors for decades. Yet retirement from a vocation didn't mean retirement from serving Jesus.

They're still praying.

Still serving.

Still preaching when God gives opportunity.

Some have gone door to door in their neighborhoods for years simply telling people about Jesus.

I look at men like that and think:

That's how I want to finish.

I've also watched people fall.

Scripture itself contains sobering examples of people who didn't finish well. Today we regularly hear stories of Christian leaders whose ministries collapse because of sexual sin, financial dishonesty, pride, or other compromise.

Those stories should sober us.

“Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.”

— 1 Corinthians 10:12

I don't want merely to have followed Jesus once.

I want to follow Him to my final breath.

There is no retirement from following Jesus.

As long as He gives me breath, I want to be serving, loving, praying, preaching, discipling, and pointing people toward Christ.

And someday I want to be able to say with Paul:

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

Not because I was strong enough.

Because He was faithful.

And when we finally stand before Jesus, everything good that came from our lives will ultimately point back to Him. Any fruit, any ministry, any victory, any reward—it was His grace working in and through us.

He alone is worthy.

And our great desire is simply to hear our Savior say:

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to open each passage and consider what it teaches about suffering, endurance, God’s faithfulness, and finishing well.

James 1:2-4 – Trials produce patience and spiritual maturity.

Romans 5:3-5 – Tribulation produces perseverance, character, and hope.

1 Peter 4:12-13 – Do not consider fiery trials strange.

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 – God comforts us so that we can comfort others.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 – Our present suffering is temporary; eternal glory is ahead.

Galatians 5:16-17 – The continuing battle between the flesh and the Spirit.

Hebrews 12:1-3 – Run with endurance while looking unto Jesus.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 – Remain watchful and trust God’s faithfulness in temptation.

Philippians 1:6 – God will complete the work He began in us.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 – Paul finishes his race having kept the faith.

Together Questions

1. What expectations about following Jesus have changed as you’ve matured in your faith?
2. What has suffering taught you about God that you might never have learned during easier seasons?
3. When your feelings and God’s Word seem to contradict one another, which one determines what is true?
4. Who has God placed around you to help you endure difficult seasons? Are you allowing them to walk with you?
5. If you continue on your present spiritual trajectory, what would finishing well look like in your life?

Prayer Together

“Father, thank You that You are faithful in every season. When trials come, keep us from thinking something strange has happened. Use suffering to refine us, humble us, mature us, and teach us deeper dependence upon You. When our feelings overwhelm us, anchor us in the truth of Your Word. Surround us with brothers and sisters who will encourage us and point us back to Jesus. Guard us from pride and compromise. Give us grace not merely to begin well, but to endure faithfully. May we fight the good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith until the day we stand before Jesus. Everything good in us is because of Your grace, and all glory belongs to You. Amen.”

How can we pray for each other this week:

Specific Requests:

Personal Reflection & Preparation for Chapter 12

1. What suffering or difficult season has God used most significantly to shape my walk with Jesus?
2. Where am I presently tempted to become discouraged, give up, compromise, or rely upon my feelings rather than God's Word?
3. If I want to finish well, what habits, relationships, or areas of accountability need to remain strong in my life?
4. If my life of following Jesus were eventually reproduced in someone else, what would I want to pass on to them?

(These reflections prepare your heart for Chapter 12: "Passing the Faith Forward.")

"I don't want to simply have followed Jesus once. I want to be following Him faithfully when I breathe my last."

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Chapter 12

Passing the Faith Forward:

From Timothy to Paul

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”
— **2 Timothy 2:2**

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”
— **Matthew 4:19**

We have come full circle.

We began this journey with the call of Jesus: **“Follow Me.”** We saw that discipleship begins with being with Jesus, learning from Jesus, becoming like Jesus, and then helping others do the same.

We also began with Paul’s words to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:2. Notice the multiplication contained in one verse:

Paul → Timothy → Faithful Men → Others

Four generations of disciples.

Paul wasn’t simply concerned that Timothy knew the truth. He wanted Timothy to take what he had received and give it away. And those Timothy disciplined were supposed to do the same.

That means discipleship was never supposed to stop with you.

Maybe someone walked through this booklet with you as your Paul.

Maybe you’ve been the Paul walking alongside someone else.

Maybe you’ve disciplined people before, but somewhere along the way life became busy and other responsibilities crowded it out.

Or maybe you’ve finished this book thinking:

I could never disciple someone. I don’t know enough.

Wherever you are, the invitation is the same.

Follow Jesus. Walk with someone. And pass it on.

Walking Like Jesus Did

If I'm honest, having a Paul in my own life is something I've longed for.

God has graciously brought many people into my life who have loved me, encouraged me, taught me, and poured into me. I'm incredibly thankful for them. But that consistent, long-term discipleship relationship with someone who simply walked closely with me is something I prayed for and never experienced quite the way I desired.

In many ways, I still pray for it.

Maybe that's one reason discipleship has remained such a burden on my heart.

Interestingly, if I'm honest, quite a few of my "Pauls" are dead guys.

I've spent years reading the saints of old and listening to sermons from faithful men who finished their race before me. I never met them. They never knew my name. Yet God has used their lives, writings, and teaching profoundly in mine.

Someday I'll meet some of them in heaven.

And I look forward to thanking them.

But perhaps there's also a lesson in that longing:

Sometimes God can use what we wished we had received to create a desire to give it to someone else.

Maybe you never really had a Paul.

Then become one.

Be for someone else what you wished someone had been for you.

You Don't Have to Feel Qualified

I remember one of my first Timothys.

He was a young man who loved fishing.

So we went fishing, a lot.

We talked about Jesus. We talked about Scripture. We prayed together. We shared life.

It wasn't complicated.

I certainly didn't feel qualified.

Not long after that, I began leading a Bible study for junior-high students.

If you've spent much time with junior-highers, you know what that means—awkward teenagers with lots of questions about life!

Many of them were church kids. My desire was simply to help them move beyond knowing things about Jesus and discover the reality of personally walking with Him.

Again, I didn't feel qualified.

But there was a need.

So I stepped into it and loved those kids the best I knew how.

It started as a small group at church. Before long I opened my home, and within about a year dozens and dozens of junior-high students were coming for Bible study.

What did we do?

We opened Proverbs.

Verse by verse, we simply walked through God's Word together, trying to glean His wisdom for our lives.

God used it.

Years later, after I had become a Bible teacher, my sermons were being aired on a local television program. Some people who had known me in school saw me teaching and reached out.

Essentially their question was:

“What happened to you?”

They remembered the kid with a learning disability who struggled to read.

Now I was reading and teaching the Bible.

My answer was pretty simple:

Jesus happened.

Paul reminds us:

“But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise...”
— 1 Corinthians 1:27

God isn't looking for experts.

He's looking for willing disciples.

You don't need a theology degree to open your Bible with someone.

You don't need all the answers to pray with someone.

You don't need decades of experience to tell someone what Jesus is teaching you.

You don't have to be fifty miles farther down the road.

You simply need to be following Jesus and willing to turn around and say:

“Come walk with me.”

Discipleship Is Life Together

Your Timothy might be a schoolmate.

A family member.

A neighbor.

A coworker.

Someone at church.

Someone God hasn't even brought into your life yet.

Discipleship might happen sitting across from each other with Bibles open.

It might happen over coffee.

It might happen while you're fishing.

It might happen while you're working on something together.

It might happen around your dinner table.

The location isn't the important part.

Intentionality is.

Read Scripture together.

Pray together.

Ask real questions.

Talk about sin.

Talk about grace.

Serve together.

Walk through suffering together.

Celebrate what God is doing.

Confess when you fail.

Keep pointing one another back to Jesus.

And somewhere along the way, tell your Timothy:

“You need to do this with someone else.”

Because the goal isn’t simply discipleship.

The goal is **multiplying discipleship**.

Don’t Let the Good Replace the Great Commission

If I have a regret when it comes to discipleship, it is probably allowing other pressures, responsibilities, and ministry obligations to sometimes take priority over the simple thing Jesus told us to do:

“Go therefore and make disciples...”

— Matthew 28:19

Life and ministry can become incredibly busy.

For me there’s always sermons to prepare.

People to counsel.

Meetings to attend.

Problems to solve.

Events to organize.

Buildings to maintain.

Programs to run.

And many of those things are good.

But good things can crowd out the main thing.

As many days as God gives me, I want to increasingly give myself to making disciples.

Because this is Jesus’ method.

I love big church events.

Outreaches.

Rallies.

Revivals.

Crusades.

God can and does use all of them.

But imagine what would happen if ordinary Christians simply took Jesus seriously about making disciples.

One person intentionally disciples one person.

Then those two each disciple another.

Then four.

Then eight.

Then sixteen.

Not building our own kingdoms.

Not making followers of ourselves.

Simply helping people follow Jesus who will help other people follow Jesus.

I believe we could see the Gospel spread around the globe through ordinary believers simply doing what Jesus told us to do.

God's ways are better than ours.

He is much wiser than we are.

Now It's Your Turn

You've reached the end of this booklet.

But hopefully you haven't reached the end of this journey.

Actually, this is where it begins again.

Maybe you've been the Timothy.

It's time to become a Paul.

Maybe you've already been a Paul.

Be a Paul again.

Maybe you've never had the Paul you desperately wanted.

Become that Paul for somebody else.

Take what you've learned.

Take the Scriptures you've studied.

Take the lessons God has taught you.

Take your victories.

Take your scars.

Take the story of God's faithfulness in your life.

And give it away.

Find one person.

Pray for them.

Invite them into your life.

And maybe the first thing you do is simply hand them this booklet and say:

“Would you like to walk through this together?”

Then start again at Chapter 1.

This time, you're the Paul.

Scriptures to Read and Reflect On

Take time to read these passages as a final reminder of the calling Jesus has given every disciple.

Matthew 28:18-20 – Jesus sends His followers to make disciples of all nations.

2 Timothy 2:1-2 – Entrust what you have received to faithful people who will teach others.

Matthew 4:19 – Follow Jesus and He will make us fishers of men.

1 Corinthians 11:1 – “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”

John 15:5, 8 – Abiding in Christ produces fruit that glorifies the Father.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 – God delights in using ordinary and unlikely people.

Titus 2:1-8 – Mature believers intentionally investing in those coming behind them.

John 20:21 – “As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

Acts 20:24 – Finishing our race and the ministry received from Jesus.

Together Questions

1. Who has God used as a “Paul” in your life, formally or informally? What did you receive from them that you now need to pass on?
2. What makes you feel unqualified or hesitant to disciple someone else? What does Scripture say about God using ordinary people?
3. Who is already in your life that God may be calling you to intentionally walk alongside?
4. What would it practically look like for you to begin discipling that person?
5. How can you make sure your discipleship doesn’t stop with them, but encourages them to eventually disciple someone else?

Prayer Together

“Father, thank You for every person You have used to help us follow Jesus. Thank You for Your Word, Your Spirit, Your Church, and the faithful believers who have gone before us. Forgive us for the times we have allowed busyness, fear, insecurity, or other good things to distract us from the simple command to make disciples. Give us courage to step out even when we don’t feel qualified. Show us the people You have already placed around us. Help us to follow Jesus faithfully and invite others to walk alongside us. And may those we disciple go on to disciple others until the Gospel continues from generation to generation. Keep us faithful until our final breath, and may everything accomplished through our lives bring glory to Jesus alone. Amen.”

How can we pray for each other as we move forward:

Specific Requests:

YOUR NEXT STEP

This time there isn’t another chapter to prepare for.

There is a person to pray for.

Who might God be calling you to intentionally disciple?

My Timothy:

Why do I believe God may be placing this person on my heart?

When will I ask them to begin meeting with me?

What will our first step be?

Before you close this booklet, pray for that person by name.

Then ask.

Don't wait until you feel completely prepared.

Don't wait until you know everything.

Don't wait until life becomes less busy.

Follow Jesus.

Invite someone to walk with you.

And when they have learned to do the same—

send them to someone else.

Paul → Timothy → Faithful Men → Others

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

— 2 Timothy 2:2

“Maybe you’ve been the Timothy. It’s time to become a Paul. Maybe you’ve already been a Paul. Be a Paul again. Take what Jesus has given you, give it away, and keep making disciples until you breathe your last.”

— Pastor Landon Churchill

Continue the Journey

Finishing this booklet doesn't mean your Paul-and-Timothy relationship is finished.

Keep walking together.

Discipleship is a lifelong journey of becoming more like Jesus, and part of that journey is learning to faithfully live out God's design and calling for us as men and women.

That is why the next studies in the **Paul & Timothy Discipleship Series** focus specifically on **Biblical Manhood** and **Biblical Womanhood**.

God created us intentionally. Being a man or a woman is not an insignificant detail of our lives—it is part of His good design. Scripture speaks practically about character, purity, relationships, marriage, family, leadership, service, work, ministry, and the unique ways God calls men and women to glorify Him.

These studies are designed to be walked through just like this one: **life-on-life, Scripture open, praying together, asking honest questions, and learning to obey Jesus in everyday life.**

So don't stop here.

If you are a man, continue the journey with another man through **Biblical Manhood**.

If you are a woman, continue the journey with another woman through **Biblical Womanhood**.

Keep meeting. Keep opening God's Word. Keep asking questions. Keep praying. Keep challenging one another. Keep pointing one another to Jesus.

You found a Paul. You became a Timothy. Now keep growing—and become the kind of man or woman God designed you to be.

And when you've walked through it together, find someone else and do it again.

Discipleship doesn't end with us. It continues through us.