

# How Will I Make Disciples This Year?

## HOW WILL I FILL MY MIND WITH TRUTH?

The life of a disciple is the life of a learner. We constantly attune our ears to the words of our Master. As He teaches us through His Word, He transforms us in the world.

Consider a plan for reading, memorizing, and learning God's Word, but don't forget that disciples do these things not for information, but for **transformation**. Our goal as disciples is never just to believe God's Word; our goal is to obey God's Word. So as you plan to fill your mind with truth, purpose to follow the One Who is Truth.

- ❖ **HOW WILL I READ GOD'S WORD?** – You might start a plan to read a chapter a day. You can find plans on the [YouVersion Bible App](#) or in the church foyer. **Ideas:** go through a book of the Bible at a time or choose a reading plan to take you through the Bible or New Testament in a year. We will list scriptures from the Bible Project App "[Read Scripture](#)" in Sunday's bulletin. Journal as you read. Answer the 4 questions: Who is God? What has God done? Who are we? How should we live?

I will start with this plan: \_\_\_\_\_

- ❖ **HOW WILL I MEMORIZE GOD'S WORD?** –As you read, look for verses that seem significant or applicable to your life and then commit them to memory. Download the "[Fighter Verses](#)" app and memorize one passage a week. We will be printing "set 5" from the "[Fighter Verses](#)" app in the bulletin each week.

- ❖ **HOW WILL I LEARN GOD'S WORD FROM OTHERS?** Reading, studying, and understanding the Bible is not just an individual effort; it's a community project. Ideas: [Rightnow Media](#), Bible study class, small group, church service, discipleship groups, Bible Study Fellowship, podcasts (find out some of our elder's favorites)

## HOW WILL I FUEL MY AFFECTIONS FOR GOD?

There is a dangerous tendency for discipline in the disciple's life to become mechanical and monotonous. Our aim is not simply to know about God; our aim is to **love God**, and the more we read His Word, the more we delight in His glory. Our aim in other spiritual disciplines is similar. It is impossible to separate true faith in Christ from profound feelings for Christ. So as disciples of Jesus, we intentionally worship, pray, fast, and give in order to fuel affection for God.

- ❖ **HOW WILL I WORSHIP?** Worship is all of life. Prioritize Sunday worship gatherings. What are some ways you can incorporate worship throughout the day? **Idea:** spend some time with a few worship songs on YouTube a day.
- ❖ **HOW WILL I PRAY?** Find a place and set aside a time to be with the Father. Concentrated prayer at a specific time is the best fuel for continual prayer all the time. Simply setting aside this time and place will substantially change your life as a disciple of Jesus. Consider a space where you can make your prayer audible. There is power in declaring God's promises over yourself and those you're praying for in Jesus' name. Also consider committing to praying together with others.
- ❖ **HOW WILL I FAST?** Once a week or once every few weeks, instead of eating a meal, spend an hour praying and reading God's Word. Once you've grown accustomed to this practice, plan to fast for two meals in one day, and then for an entire twenty-four-hour period. You may want to try some other kinds of fasts to depend on God more (fasting from smartphone, tv, etc.)

### ❖ HOW WILL I GIVE?

One of the most effective ways to fuel affection for God is to give your resources in obedience to God. Giving intentionally, generously, sacrificially, and cheerfully fuels selfless love for God that overcomes selfish desires for the things of this world. Ideas: text giving and tithe.ly app

## HOW WILL I SHARE GOD'S LOVE AS A WITNESS TO THE WORLD?

God's will in the world and for our lives is to spread His gospel, grace, and glory to all peoples. Instead of asking what God's will is for our lives, every disciple of Jesus asks, "How can my life align with His will for me to be His witness in the world?" Every person that God has graciously put around you is a sinner eternally in need of a Savior. You were once that person, yet someone intentionally sought you out to share the gospel with you. And now this is the purpose for which God has graciously created, saved, and blessed you.

### ❖ WHO?

Take some time to write down the names of three, five, or maybe ten unbelievers God has placed in your life. Then begin praying specifically for God, through the power of his Spirit, to draw them to his salvation and to use you to share the gospel with them.

People I'm praying for:

### ❖ HOW?

Think through how, in the context of where you live, work, and play, and with the people God has put around you, you can begin to speak intentionally about God's character, man's sin, Christ's provision, and our need to respond to that provision.

### ❖ WHEN?

It is wise to consider how you can actively show Christ's love by creating opportunities to tell people about Jesus. Think about the people you identified above and how you can specifically and deliberately create opportunities to share the gospel with them. **Ideas:** share a meal, go for a hike, listen for opportunities, invite to a worship service or share an online service

## HOW WILL I SHOW GOD'S LOVE AS A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH?

The Bible flies in the face of the individualism of our culture and church consumerism, prompting every follower of Christ to ask the question, "Am I committed to a local church where I am sharing life with other followers of Christ in mutual accountability under biblical leadership for the glory of God?" To follow Christ is to love His church. It is biblically, spiritually, and practically impossible to be a disciple of Christ (much less make disciples of Christ) apart from devoting yourself to a family of Christians.

### ❖ WHERE?

Think about the local body of Christ where you can most effectively make disciples of Christ and lock arms with that church, not as a spectator on the sidelines, but as a participant in the mission. Then, as a member of that church, identify where can you best plug into a community group. Sign up for the next *Starting Point* – becoming a member class

### ❖ WHAT?

As you look at Normandy Christian Church, consider what things you can do to build up the body of Christ here and what you will do to make sure that you have people who are watching out for your life in Christ. Identify specific ways that you will clearly express the love of Christ in and through the church of which you are a member. Fill out *Willing to Serve* form.

## HOW WILL I SPREAD GOD'S GLORY AMONG ALL PEOPLES?

The eternal purpose of God is to save people through Christ. The clear commission of Christ for every single disciple is to make disciples not just generally, but of **all nations**. So regardless of where you live, how is your life going to impact every nation, tribe, tongue, and people in the world? This is not a question for extraordinary missionaries; this is a question for ordinary disciples. God wants His will to be accomplished through us more than we do. And as we follow Him, He will lead us to the people, places, and positions where we can most effectively make disciples of all nations for the glory of His name.

### ❖ **How will I pray for the nations?**

How will I pray for this local community and the nations? Pray passionately for God's Kingdom to come and will to be done across the earth—in this city and all the world. Plan to deliberately focus your praying on the needs of this local community and specifically on the unreached people groups of the world. Ideas: [Operation World](#) website, app, or book; [Unreached of the Day](#) app; pray for Normandy's missionaries

### ❖ **How will I give to the nations?**

Plan to sacrifice and spend for the sake of this local community and for those beyond our borders. Sacrifice the wants in your budget to give to the needs of the world—most particularly the need for every people group to hear the gospel. **Ideas:** Sponsor a child in Haiti or the Philippines ([see links on Normandy's website](#)), give to short term mission trips

### ❖ **How will I go to the nations?**

Strategically, creatively, and wisely consider ways you can share the gospel with other people groups, particularly those that are unreached. Some of these people groups have come to America and live in your community, so consider ways you might reach out to them.

Then consider ways you can cross the ocean and go to them, whether on a short-term trip for a week or two, a mid-term endeavor for a year or two, or a long-term commitment for a decade or two.

**Upcoming NCC trips** when travel is more open:

**Haiti** – Vacation Bible School (VBS), vision clinics, medical clinics, deaf ministry, water filters; **Mexico** – VBS, vision clinics, building houses; **Philippines** – house repair, VBS, preaching/teaching, vision clinics, medical clinics, house visitations; **Peru** – VBS, dental clinics, water filters; **India** – Church leader training, outreach meals, house visitations, preaching/teaching

## HOW WILL I MAKE DISCIPLE MAKERS AMONG A FEW PEOPLE?

Jesus spent his life investing in a few people. His strategy for reaching all peoples was clear: make disciple-makers among a few people. God will lead us to live in all kinds of different places in the world. Yet regardless of where we live, the task we have is the same. No Christian is excluded from the command to make disciples, and no Christian would want to escape this command. So every one of us looks around and asks, "How will I make disciple-makers among a few people?"

### ❖ **How will I bring them in?**

Consider two or three people of your same sex that God has put in your sphere of influence whom you can lead to make disciples. Then invite those few people to spend intentional time with you in the days ahead for the express purpose of growing in Christ together. These are our [Discipleship groups](#).

I will meet with these people this year:

❖ **How will I teach them to obey?**

Think through how you can teach the few people your life is focused on how to obey everything Christ has commanded you. Focus on seeing their transformation.

**Ideas:**

-use the "*Multiply book*" or free app or go to [multiplymovement.com](http://multiplymovement.com)

-share the *4 questions* with your daily Bible reading (Who is God? What has he done? Who am I? How should I live?)

-use "*Growing in Christ Together*" book

-ask Kyle for other ideas

❖ **How will I model obedience?**

As you focus your life on the few people God has given you, they need to see and hear and sense the life of Christ in you. Making disciple makers involves saying to them: "Follow me." So identify intentional ways in which you will serve together and model with each other what it means to follow Christ. Don't see this just as going through a study.

❖ **How will I send them out?**

The goal is not just for these few people you are focused on to follow Jesus; the goal is for them to lead other people to follow Jesus. So think through how you will commission those few to begin making disciples. And consider how you will serve them as you send them out.

