



# VILLAGE BIBLE CHURCH

## SUGAR GROVE CAMPUS

# Discovering Disciples

The Target of Village Discipleship | Part 1

Tim Badal | September 6, 2015 | Matthew 11:25–30



Please open your Bible to Matthew 11:25–30. We are beginning a new three-week sermon series focusing on a new direction and vision for us as a church. At the beginning of this year our staff had their annual retreat, and one of the things we talked about was honing in on the vision and purpose of Village Bible Church across its four campuses and how we are going to do ministry. What we're going to share with you is in some ways just a sneak preview because it's not fully developed yet. Also you're going to see it as ministries come along and as you continue to grow with us in this process.

When you talk about a new vision or direction, there are a lot of things that a church can do to make itself special regarding its ministry. A lot of churches have different visions. Many churches are building-centered which is when the building becomes the focus of the church. We see this when churches are constantly in the building process and their identity is focused on their facility. There are other churches that center their vision around the pulpit ministry of the pastor. Maybe he is a uniquely gifted individual and not only are the people of that church blessed but many others around the area are blessed as well. The church becomes known for their solid, biblical teaching.

Other churches are known for the programs they have like their worship team, or children's ministry, or student ministries, or small groups. People flock to that church because they offer something that no other church is doing. There are a lot of reasons for a church to exist. But for the next three weeks we want to focus our attention on telling you that none of those are our vision. As a staff we gathered together and asked the question, "If Jesus was building a church, what would He use as His focus? What would be His vision?" Then we were reminded that Jesus was in fact on earth building His church. He said, "*I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*" (Matthew 16:18b).

So we recognized a couple of things. When Jesus built His church there was no building. Jesus was known for His teaching and His ministry to those who were hurting through exorcising demons and healing diseases, but He was more than just a great Teacher. Jesus didn't have a youth group. He didn't have children's ministry. Jesus didn't even have AWANA to serve the people. Many times He would literally just stand on a mountainside and begin to teach.

But as we look at Jesus' ministry in the three and a half years before He went to the cross, we see that Jesus' focus was on making disciples. In His final farewell address to His disciples He gave them the same vision, and we call it The Great Commission. Jesus told those eleven disciples, "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you*" (Matthew 28:19–20a).

So as a church we want to do what Jesus did. While those other things are important in some ways, Village Bible Church exists to make disciples. But how do we go about making disciples? It's easy to preach about it but how do we really begin to live it out? The first question we have to ask is what is a disciple? This is the definition that we'll use over the next three weeks: disciples are those who diligently learn, passionately love and purposefully live according to the pattern of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. They diligently learn, they passionately love and they purposefully live in light of the truth that Jesus Christ came to the world to save sinners like you and me (1 Timothy 1:15). We dedicate the rest of our lives to learning from Him, to loving Him and living for Him. This is our goal for Village Bible Church. This is what we desire for the people of God here.

How do we join God in this endeavor? In any vision, simplicity is important so we tried to bring it down to three quick things we are going to do: Village Bible Church exists to glorify God by discovering, developing and deploying disciples. It is a three-dimensional act of discipleship. So for each of the next three weeks we'll look at one of these, starting with what it means to discover disciples. What does it mean for us to begin this process of modeling to others what Jesus has modeled to us?

Now when Jesus speaks of disciple-making to His first disciples He breaks it down very easily. He says, "[Come,] *follow me, and I will make you fishers of men*" (Matthew 4:19). By saying "Come!" that means He discovered them. Saying "follow me" means He taught and developed them. Then He deployed them to become the fishers of men that He wanted them to be. So how do we go about this first step of discovering? In this series we'll look corporately at our role as a church in discovering disciples but also focus on how we as individuals can do this as well.

Matthew 11:25–30 says:

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

When we use the word "discovery" in our culture we recognize that it is something that is celebrated and cherished. No less than a month from now, as a nation we will commemorate the discovery of this land by Christopher Columbus. We celebrate new medical breakthroughs and the impact they have on the hurting. We celebrate new technology that we will enjoy and that supposedly will make our lives easier. As sports fans, we love to watch the discovery of new, young talent by the Chicago Cubs and also how the south side club has continued to discover ways to lose this year. As parents, we recognize as our children grow older that one of the greatest joys is watching them discover new things in this world. There's something exciting about discovery.

As great as each of these things is, there's no greater joy in this world than the privilege of helping people discover Jesus. The Bible says, "*There is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents*" (Luke 15:10). That should be our response as well at the opportunity we have to help people discover the One Who has changed each one of us.

But sadly many of us as Christians miss out on this opportunity. We think it's for the spiritually elite. "It's the job of the pastors, elders, Sunday school teachers or small group leaders to share their faith. It's not for me." But the Bible makes it clear that if you are a follower of Jesus Christ then your job is to share that good news with anyone who will listen. It is your job as a follower of Jesus Christ to help others discover what you have discovered through the grace and mercy of the Spirit of God.

It's been said that evangelism is no different than one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread. You have found hope, satisfaction, peace and salvation in the Person and work of Jesus Christ. So as a beggar whose stomach is now filled with all good things you can go to the hurting, helpless and the harassed to share the good news with them about where they can find eternal life as well.

## 1. See their Situation

How are we to do it? In our passage Jesus makes it clear what that invitation should look like. If we're going to discover disciples we need to recognize how we do it. What is our posture to be? What is our message to look like? How are we to go about doing what Christ has mandated us to do? In the text you will notice three steps to help people discover Jesus Christ. The first thing we are to do is help people see their situation. Jesus is called the Great Physician because He diagnoses the problem before dispensing the cure. In Jesus' earthly ministry, we see Jesus repeatedly helping people recognize the reason that they're hurting and lost. He helps them understand why life is a struggle in so many ways. Jesus repeatedly sought to help people understand their plights. That is what you and I are called to do as well. But here's the problem: we do a terrible job at it. Before we do, we have to help people understand the malady that plagues humanity.

### Understanding the malady that plagues humanity

There's a sickness out there called sin. In our text Jesus says people are weary and heavy laden. If you've lived any amount of time in this world you recognize this syndrome. People are broken, hurting and tired because they're seeking satisfaction, rest, pleasure, excitement, honor, respect and all the things that human beings desire. But here's the problem: we try to find these things in places apart from God. This is the problem that sinful man has. God has created man for a relationship with Him. God

has created man to live an absolutely abundant life when it is lived in relationship with Him. But man has turned his back on God. *"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way"* (Isaiah 53:6). As a result of our turning from God, we have created for ourselves trial, turmoil and tribulation. We seek to find satisfaction in the things of this world that can only be found in God. As a result of that we are on an endless pursuit for satisfaction we will never find.

Because of this the devil has had us buy into a lie. He says, "If you just take in enough of this... If you just do enough of that... If you just make sure you focus on yourself enough then you will find satisfaction." But the British theologian, C.S. Lewis said believing these lies of the devil is like one who is thirsty drinking salt water—the more you drink the more you thirst. So we've got a world that is seeking satisfaction and fulfillment in the things of this world only to find itself thirstier as it drinks.

Jesus saw this on numerous occasions. At one point when Jesus saw the crowd He had compassion on them. He saw them as harassed and hurting people, wandering about like sheep without a shepherd. Evangelism begins by our understanding that the world is lost and in need of a Savior. Do you see your world that way today? When you go to the office tomorrow, will you see the people you're working with as people who are hurting, harassed and seeking fulfillment in the things of this world only to come up empty every time? Do you see your neighbors that way? Do you see your classmates that way? The problem is that we turn a blind eye to this idea that the world is in need of a Savior. We are so busy seeking our own fulfillment and desires that many times we turn away, forgetting that the world is in need of Jesus.

### **Ministering to others with a Christlike mindset**

It will mean that if we're going to help people understand the malady that plagues them then we have to minister in such a way that we have a Christlike mindset. Notice in our text when Jesus speaks to these hurting and broken people He speaks to them through the eyes of perfection. When Jesus looked at the people in Matthew 11:28, He looked at them through righteousness. When you and I look at the world we look through sinful and broken eyes. Jesus looks through eyes that have never sinned. Jesus looks through eyes that have never failed. When Jesus sees people He has the prerogative to do what many of us do today without having permission to do so. Jesus could have said, "All you broken and messed up people: come over here and I'll fix you. You stink! Look at your lives! I don't even want to get near you."

Let me remind you that if anybody had the prerogative to say that it was Jesus. When we look at the outside world, far too many of us are saying with our words or thoughts. "You disgust me! I would never do such a thing." But we forget that these people are lost. We should have a heartbeat for the lost. When Christ looked at that group of people He didn't see people who are broken because of idols in their lives. He didn't see people as simply broken because of all their sexual struggles, lying tongues and prideful hearts. He saw all of that, but it didn't drive Him to self-righteousness (which He could have had since He was God) but it drove Him to compassion.

In the world we live in today it is easy to look at people's sin and be disgusted. But nowhere do we see disgust in Jesus' words. When He says "come to Me" it's because He wants intimacy with the broken. He wants to draw near to the hurting. In our day and age evangelicals do the opposite and keep their distance. Jesus is inviting the broken and hurting and He recognizes what we too must recognize: mercy and compassion are the heartbeat of God. He says, "I know you're hurting and burdened. I know you're trying to live this life on your own but come to Me and let Me change your life." Far too many of us live in contradiction to that. Our self-righteousness is seen as disgust with the world.

Not too long ago Miley Cyrus created an uproar again because of what is a pretty provocative—and some might add pretty disgusting—picture of what a young lady should be involved in. Miley Cyrus is near and dear to my heart because several years back I had the opportunity to cater twice for her dad's concert tours. I got to meet her as a young girl. I was cooking at the barbeque pit and she was running around. This is way before Hannah Montana and all of that. I recently saw a video clip someone put on Facebook and my first thought was, "This is disgusting! What is your problem?" But then the Lord reminded me of the short amount of time I spent with her. I remembered that little girl and God said, "That little girl was made in My image. Yes, she has gone off the rails but, Tim, let Me remind you: so did you without Me."

We're quick in popular culture to look at unbelievers in our family, or neighborhood, or pop culture, point at them and say, "What are you thinking? I want nothing to do with you." But Christ reminds us that they are the very people who need the gospel. Jesus says, "I didn't come to take care of the healthy. I came to take care of the sick." Likewise you and I are called to reach out and minister to the sick. Yes, they're going to cough and vomit on us. Yes, they are going to try to get us sick as well and we need to recognize that. But the Bible says that Jesus saw their situation and, filled with compassion, He said, "I am going to bring people to Myself." The job of the believer is to do that as well: to help people discover Jesus.

So we show them their situation. We show them that they're lost. We help them understand that we too were lost and without a Savior. How healthy would it be for some of us to share the good news with somebody and instead of pointing our fingers at them to say, "I was with you. I was there too. My life was filled with the endless pursuit of satisfaction and making myself feel good. I was there but then I met Jesus and He took care of all of that striving and toiling to make something of me. Jesus took my dysfunction and made it functional again. He took my sin and redeemed me."

Take some time this week to look at the world around you, to those unbelievers who are closest to you. What needs do they have? Jesus knew the needs His people had. What lies have they bought into? Are you listening to them? Are you taking time to hear them, to find out where their struggle is and where they have seemingly gone off the rails? Are you helping to diagnose the problem or are you there just saying, "Thank you, Lord, that I am not like them." We are too much like Pharisees today rather than being real soul winners. We as a church want to be active in helping people discover Jesus, not showing them the way to hell.

## 2. Submit to Christ's Invitation

As we diagnose the problem we have to rightly apply the cure. What is the cure? We need people to understand that the cure is found in submitting to Jesus' invitation. *"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* There is no place in all of Scripture where there is a more grand invitation that was ever given. This should be sweet words for every one of us. But this invitation is only good if we accept it. This invitation isn't a suggestion or a simple idea; Jesus is commanding us as the Creator of the world to submit to His help. Jesus says, "I know what plagues you. I know where you're struggling. I know where you're broken. I made you. I know the number of hairs on your head (or lack thereof; Matthew 10:30). I knit you together in your mother's womb (Psalm 139:13). My fingerprints are all over your life. I know what you yearn for." Jesus is able to say as the Great High Priest, "I know what it's like to be in the flesh. I know what it's like to struggle with temptation. I know what it's like to deal with issues of disease and death." In that moment Jesus cries out to us and says, "Come to Me!"

### Recognizing our desperation

In order to do that we must help people recognize their desperation. In order to accept this invitation, an individual has to recognize their desperation. In essence what has to happen is, as Jesus says "come to me," the sinner has to stop and say, "I have nowhere else to go. There are no more opportunities. This is my only chance. In everything I do I hit a dead end. My predicament is too large for me to fix and I need someone stronger and greater to deal with it." So when Jesus comes and as the Holy Spirit convicts and reveals (verses 25–27) that a person is lost in their sin, the person says, "Yes! I will come. I will draw near to You because I am desperate. I've got nowhere else to go."

So what does that mean for us? If God demands that we recognize our desperation, what are we as believers to declare to the unbelievers in our midst?

Number one: doing gospel work means being honest and Christians are terrible at that. We need to articulate that we too were desperate and in need. Without Him leading and guiding us, we too would be a mess.

Number two: helping people to recognize their need means that we show the world that accepting Jesus Christ's invitation is totally worth it. Do the people around you see you as miserable as they are? Do they see you overwhelmed by the things of this world like they are? When you go to work or school, do they see you just as messed up and broken with no hope, joy or contentment and striving for the same things they do, or do they see you as different? "There's something about that guy. Things don't faze him like they faze me." "That lady has a peace about her. Her family is struggling with things and she's filled with joy. What is it about her?" We need to show people that Jesus is the joy of the Lord and that that joy of the Lord is our strength (Nehemiah 8:10). We want to show them that the greatest place on earth is the "road that leads to heaven" and that it fills us with joy. The greatest thing we have going for us is not the material things we have but Jesus, and we want Him to shine through us.

St. Francis of Assisi said one of the ways that we proclaim the gospel is preaching it without saying a word. Are you living the gospel in your coming and going? Are you living it out in such a way that someone would say, "I want to know more about what they're doing?" In a dry and weary land filled with pursuits of all kinds of pleasure and substances, wouldn't it be great to find someone who seemingly has found the bread of life that takes away every hunger and the living water that takes away our thirst? We've got it if we will only show the world that it is in us.

Third and probably the most important thing we can do to help people recognize their desperation: recognize that this will never happen through self-righteous judgment. We will never win a soul for the Lord by pointing our finger at them. Jesus never pointed the finger at anybody except for the Pharisees. Yet we think that's how we're going to evangelize. We think that's how we're going to win. When was the last time you were won over by someone yelling and pointing a finger at you? I always love when people do that to me! That does my heart good and gives me hope. Jesus shows us that an invitation to intimacy is an invitation to come no matter where you are currently.

### Repenting from disobedience

You might say, "Tim, I liked where you were going but now I'm not so sure." I'll show you that I'm not going off the deep end by only talking about love and grace. There is that but we have to remember that the invitation to come to Jesus means we have to repent of disobedience. Yes, we have to recognize our desperation, but what about turning to Christ? At some point don't we have to say no to the old self? Absolutely!

When Jesus calls us, He's calling as we're wandering away from Him. In order to hear His call we have to turn and now draw close to Christ. We cannot accept that invitation while continuing to walk the opposite way.

As a follower of Jesus Christ we have to help people see that they're lost and then we need to remind them that the only way they can receive the good things from Christ is to stop being their own God and allow Him to be their Savior. Salvation is found in heeding the invitation of Christ and by ceasing and desisting all the things that they were doing before He called. They need to stop living the way they did and start living for Him. When they hear the call of God it stops them where they are and they turn to follow Him.

### Resting in Christ's deliverance

*"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* Jesus was preaching to a group of people who thought that abundance was found in religion and doing good things. "If I just do everything the Pharisees tell me to do I'll be fine." The devil tells us if you fulfill your desires or get enough money you'll be happy; if you do them in greater measure joy and happiness will be found. Jesus says, "Come to Me. Stop trying. Stop toiling. I will give you rest. I will give you contentment and satisfaction. I will draw you close to Me and you will recognize what it means to have intimacy with the Almighty." You'll see that there is forgiveness. You'll see the way that you were really created to live.

Before sin entered the world, God intended Adam and Eve to live in the garden in a vibrant and healthy relationship with God. We can have confidence that we no longer have to strive to have our sin taken care of because what God has set free is free indeed (John 8:36). We no longer have to toil with that eternal question of, "What am I going to do with my sin?"

So look about your life and ask the question, "Who needs rest?" Who in your life is burdened with sin? Who needs to know that there is One named Jesus Who is inviting them into a relationship with Him? He can heal their broken hearts and set captives free. He can cleanse them from their sins. Who needs to hear the gospel message that Jesus Christ came and gave up His life that they might have life in abundance (John 10:10)? Who are you called to seek out in order to encourage them to submit to God's invitation?

## 3. Step in the Right Direction

It involves one more thing: we need to help people step in the right direction. In verse 29: *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."* Jesus says, "If you're going to follow Me then you have to walk with Me. You have to learn from Me." As disciples already, we are called to help people discover what it means to walk and live with Christ.

### Identifying with Christ

First of all it means to identify with Christ. He uses the term yoke. This is a term we don't use very often but the yoke that Jesus is talking about is a yoke that would be placed on a team of oxen to harness their power. Yokes were usually not singular but double, paring two oxen together. Jesus is saying, "I want you to join Me in my endeavor of glorifying My Father in heaven. I want you to put on My yoke." Christ is already in the yoke so when we take on the yoke we're not alone. You wouldn't see a yoke that spans this stage because yokes are close and cause you to be close to the ox next to you. When we put on the yoke of Jesus we

tell the world, "I'm with Him." When we put on the yoke of Jesus we go in the same direction as Jesus. When we put on the yoke of Jesus we also do what Jesus is doing. We devote our time and attention to the very things of God.

We need to help people recognize that there isn't some magical pill to take that gives you eternal life but that to be a disciple of Jesus Christ is to put on the yoke. You might say, "Why would I put on the yoke after I just told you how burdened I am?" Because Jesus says as our Creator, *"My yoke is easy, and my burden is light."* So we need to recognize that Jesus knows what we need.

## Imitating Christ

Jesus goes on to say, "I want you to learn from Me." It doesn't involve just identifying with Christ but imitating Christ as well. How do we go about this? Christ shows us the way. We are to invite people to learn the ways of Christ from the words of Christ. Like good students we sit down and listen to our teachers. We take notes and teachers show us what it is to live like them and learn from them. Jesus—our great Teacher—didn't announce this invitation from heaven but right here on earth. He displayed for us what life with Christ should look like. He says, "I want you to mimic Me."

So we need to help people mimic Jesus. Paul reminds us how to do this. Paul says, *"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ"* (1 Corinthians 11:1). Do you live in such a way that people will imitate Christ if they imitate you? I'm not just talking about your Sunday morning public life but in the up close and personal parts of your life that nobody sees except God. If your fellow employees were to imitate you, would they be walking in intimate relationship with Jesus? Would your children? Would your classmates? The reason why many of us don't do much evangelism is because we recognize, "If I do evangelism they're going to see the hypocrisy coming a mile away. How can I discover disciples when I'm not discovering discipleship in my own life?"

## 4. Action Steps for Discovering Disciples

We need to help people see their situation, we need to help people submit to Christ's invitation and we need to help people step in the right direction. So how do we go about this? Let me close with some action points. Now that we know how Jesus did it, what do we need to do? Number one: acknowledge that God alone changes lives.

### Acknowledge that God alone changes lives

There's this idea when we talk about evangelism that we have to train you and give you these put-together resources for sharing the gospel, but here's the thing you have to remember: God is the One Who changes lives. Your message is the gospel. You don't have to sit there in fear and trepidation thinking, "What if I can't answer this question? What if I mess this up?" Jesus says, "You're going to watch Me bring dead people to life. You think I'm going to be tripped up by you messing up a word or two?" He's going to change the lives.

That's a reminder for us because we may look at someone's life and think they are too far-gone. "What could I say to them that would change them?" That's absolutely right. We can't say anything that will change broken and filthy sinners. But here's the thing: God can. In a New York second God changed one of the most hate-filled persons in the Apostle Paul. God says, "I'll take care of it."

### Ask God for opportunities

When was the last time you prayed about the people around you by name? "Lord, I pray for Tony. I sit in the cubicle next to him. We talk about fantasy football and what's going on in the world. Lord, I want to stop and pray for Tony because he's not a believer and I have not opened my mouth to tell him about Who You are and what You mean to me." How about the Johnsons next door? "We live by one another, we wave to one another, we even share tools, but I've never asked You to give me an opportunity to share the good news with the Johnson family."

### Abandon Christian isolation

I think this action point is one of the biggest issues that we as a church are struggling with today. The reason we don't ask for opportunities is that we fail to abandon Christian isolation. One of things that I dislike as the church continues to grow bigger is that it becomes really easy for us to get all we need from this church. We love the programs that are going on because they are opportunities for people to fellowship, engage and use their gifts. But the church can become so big that we never have to have friends outside of this church. There are phenomenal people here, but when was the last time an unbeliever was in your home for the sake of a gospel opportunity? I imagine that for many of us an unbeliever hasn't darkened our door steps in a long time. "Why do we need them? We've got all the friends we need in the world." But God says, "You are called to go and make disciples."

So we need to abandon Christian isolation. In this world there is sin and you are going to have to continually fight with sin—not do all that you can to protect your family from it. That's a losing idea because you won't. Sin is found in the human heart. So you may be able to stop it coming in from the outside but you'll never be able to stop the inside from coming out. We need to abandon this idea that we're not going to do things in the world. We need Christians in the public square. We need Christians serving in areas where there are no other Christians serving. The greatest Bible story you can know right now in this post-Christian world that we live in is the story of Daniel. Daniel lived among pagans. They didn't like his God or his religion. But here's the thing: he was able to serve them well and serve his God well. We need to be doing that. We need Daniels in this world who are not isolated from the world.

### **Be spiritually active in your community**

Does the community around you know the gem they have in you because you're a follower of Jesus Christ? I've told my children that I want our community to look at us like Joseph was looked at in Potiphar's household. Potiphar was an unbeliever who said, "My house is a better place because Joseph is here." My prayer for Village Bible Church is that your community would say of every one of you, "We're a better place because so-and-so lives here. Everything they touch makes it more beautiful. They are a breath of fresh air in our community." That means we need to be active and our neighbors need to know us. Our communities need to know us.

### **Look for unique avenues to make inroads**

That means they have to see us in action. So what does that mean? We've got to look for unique avenues to make inroads. Have you asked the question, "Why God did you place me here? Why did you place me in my neighborhood?" Acts 17:31 says God places us all in our times and spaces for a very distinct purpose. "God, why did you give me this job? Why did you put me next to this person? Why did you give me these neighbors? Is it for a purpose? Is it for a plan? Then I'm going to look for those opportunities because you didn't just place me here to be a bump on a log; You placed me here to be the light of world. I'm going to look for unique opportunities to be light and salt in the world around me."

### **Be available at all times to share the gospel**

When was the last time we shared the good news with someone and told them, "I was blind but now I see? I found the One Who has the answers and His name is Jesus." Here's what I've come to know in my own experience: I work myself up into a frenzy with all kinds of reasons why I shouldn't share the gospel. Here's what I've come to learn: everything I'm worried about never happens. It doesn't mean they accept. It doesn't mean they say, "You are so great and wonderful. Thank you for that!" Sometimes they say, "I don't buy it. I think quite frankly you're a little bit crazy." And that's okay because they're not getting mad at me and rejecting me—they're rejecting Christ. Here's what I've come to learn: Jesus is okay with that. Jesus has been there and He can handle it on His own. My job is to proclaim the good news and leave it up to God.

Are you discovering disciples? We will never accomplish our purpose here on earth unless this first part of our vision is completed. This is the one that the elders would say we struggle with the most. I think we're doing a good job of developing disciples. We're deploying disciples. There's no doubt that people are serving and using their gifts in multiple ways. But this is an area that we must get better in if we're going to glorify God in this time and place. So let's endeavor to do it! Let's seek God's face and the power that His Spirit gives. When we discover disciples there's nothing greater in this world. Let's come back next week and speak of the opportunities that God gave us to share His good news with all those we come in contact with this week.