

The Compass

a tool for disciplers



Equipping Believers for Ministry

Spiritual Multiplication

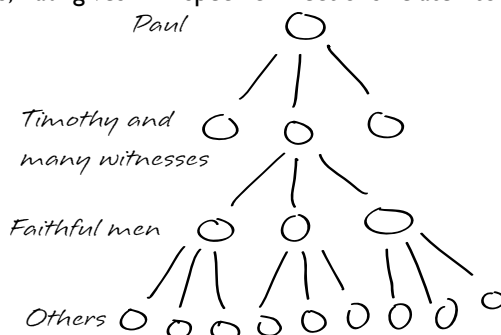
Conversation On the Journey

Biblical Basis for Multiplication

It is seen in the life of Christ. Read Luke 6:12-19. Though Jesus had a multitude of disciples to spend time teaching in large groups and to minister to, He selected out of those many disciples only 12. These were ones He had with Him almost all of the time. He taught them, spent time with them, and ministered to others with them. They learned by being with Him, they caught His heart, vision, and passion. He poured His life into them to the end so that they would give leadership to the Church after He was gone. They would carry on the work of the Kingdom. His whole strategy rested on these 12 men. While Jesus was still on earth, His ministry actually grew from 12 to the 70, and there were 120 praying in the upper room after His death and resurrection. After Pentecost in Acts 2, 3000 joined the new body of believers. Multiplying leadership was Jesus' primary strategy to establish the Church.

The apostle Paul followed Jesus' example. He developed leaders for the church by taking men with Him and teaching, training, and imparting His life to them. Paul always had young potential spiritual leaders with Him on His missionary journeys. One example is Timothy. In Acts 16, Paul found Timothy and took him along on his 2nd missionary journey. Tim became his beloved son in the faith. Near the end of Paul's life, he writes I and II Timothy to Tim to give him instructions on how to be a leader in the early church. Timothy already was and would continue to be the spiritual leader in the church at Ephesus.

2 Timothy 2:1-2 – In these verses, Paul gives Tim specific directions related to the development and multiplication of leaders. Look at verse 2 and ask your disciple how many generations of leaders Paul speaks of? Look at this together, and see the four generations. Paul (discipled) Timothy who (discipled) faithful men, and these faithful men (discipled) other faithful men.



Notice that Paul describes two qualifications of the men that Tim is to multiply his life into.

1. *Faithful men* - Timothy was to entrust to these leaders the things Paul had taught him. Therefore, they needed to be faithful. He had to know that they could be depended upon to pass on to others what he entrusted to them. Otherwise, the church would eventually weaken

This Week's Excursion

In this lesson, your focus is on motivating your disciple to want to multiply his life into the lives of others and begin looking for someone to disciple. You will help your disciple understand the Biblical principle of multiplication - how a movement or church grows through leaders reproducing other leaders.



and die. This remains true today. You need to wisely discern if someone you want to disciple is going to be faithful with what you pass on to him; otherwise, your ministry will not multiply. How can you know if he will be faithful? Is he faithful to come to church or appointments weekly? Is he available when you give him opportunities to grow and serve, e.g., attend, a retreat or conference, come along with you sharing your faith? Is he dependable with the ministry responsibilities he is given?

2. *Able to teach others* - Paul may be referring to the specific gift of teaching used in the larger body - we are not sure. Or it may have broader application. Not just to an up-front teaching gift, but to what most all believers can do. That is to teach and help other believers learn through one-on-one interaction, follow-up, and small group Bible studies, even if you don't have a "gift of teaching." For our purposes as those who disciple in our Body, being "able to teach" probably includes the following things. Lacking in one of these can hinder a person being "able to teach" and help someone else learn and grow, short-circuiting the multiplication process.
 - a. Spiritual maturity and heart for God - enough depth in their walk and knowledge of the Word to be able to pass on truth from both the Word and their own life application. Hungry and eager to learn – always looking to learn and get to know the Lord better. Some potential multipliers are just young and need time to grow and develop before they are ready to teach others. What they pass on must be "real" in their own life. However, we are not talking about being perfect before you can disciple, because all of us have weaknesses and are always going to be growing and learning.
 - b. Social or emotional maturity - Can a person relate well enough so that others want to follow him and learn from him? All of us have problems, and issues of growth in our lives, but the emotionally maturing person is growing and able to trust the Lord with these areas of need so he is able to give to others and be involved in someone else's life, even though he isn't perfect and is still growing himself. Some people are not mature enough emotionally to lead others.
 - c. The Lordship of Christ in his life - If Jesus is not Lord of his life, often he doesn't have the heart to minister to someone else, or he won't make the time. If a relationship, job, reputation, hobby, or another activity is more important to him than Jesus, he often won't "make the time" to disciple someone else. Multiplying your life requires dying to self, taking on Christ's purpose as your life purpose, and submitting your agenda to His. If Jesus is not Lord, a person will often not do well at being "faithful" at

Next Steps

Do you think you are ready to begin multiplying your life? Is there someone you could begin to disciple?





“teaching others.” Obviously this applies to willful disobedience in his life. If there is any sin that he will not deal with, he is not a candidate to multiply until he deals with that sin.

Summary

The church is thriving today all over the world because Jesus and the apostles disciplined faithful men and women, and spiritual leaders for the past 2000 years have done the same. You can get in on the pleasure and fulfillment of multiplying your life into others. In fact, we can reach the world through multiplication.

Side Trails

The Master Plan of Evangelism.
Robert Coleman. Baker.

Order at christianbook.com

“The Right Reasons for Discipleship.” Roger Hershey.

“The Right People for Discipleship.” Roger Hershey.

Available at
centerfieldproductions.com

End

The Compass is the discipleship curriculum for Campus Crusade for Christ's Campus Ministry. It was created by Centerfield Productions, the field based division of CruPress. We'd love to hear your feedback on this lesson. Please write us at centerfield@uscm.org

©2007 Cru Press, Campus Crusade for Christ, Inc. All rights reserved.
No part of this publication may be digitally reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, without the prior permission of Cru Press.