

Purpose of Multiplication

March 18, 2018

OPEN

Can you see progress in your discipleship journey? What is an example?

At Cornerstone Neighbourhood Church our vision for ministry is captured by the acrostic **w. h. o. l. e.** The final key word is “**equip**”...

We exist to release trained believers who will multiply themselves by positively impacting others for Jesus Christ.

DIG

When did the Gospel come to Thessaloniki? Read Acts 17:1-10. How did people respond to the message about Jesus Christ?

Read I Thessalonians 1:1-10 to see how Paul reflected in prayer on his ministry experience with the Thessalonian church.

According to I Thessalonians 2:13, the people *received* and *welcomed* the Word of God. Review the evidence that God was at work in them. How does your life measure up to this list?

- **Verse 3** Work of faith Labor of love Perseverance of hope
- **Verse 4** [Knowing you are] beloved [Knowing you are] chosen
- **Verse 5** Power Holy Spirit Conviction (assurance)

The Thessalonians became “imitators” of Paul’s team and Jesus Himself. Reflect on these verses in which Paul calls Christians to a life of imitation.

Philippians 3:17 **I Corinthians 11:1** **II Timothy 1:14**

When Paul’s team provided a pattern of imitation, the Thessalonians in turn became examples beyond their city to their province (Macedonia), to other parts of their country (Achaia) and even beyond (vv.7-8).



How can we as a congregation be an example of the Gospel in Albion...BC...Canada...and the world?

How was Jesus passionate for a movement of multiplication? Read the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20.

“God has a mission and the church is the missionary.”

~ Randy Friesen

Do you see yourself as a disciple-maker? If yes, how has God equipped you? If no, why do you not feel qualified to be a pattern of discipleship?

“The call to discipleship is the same for all.”

~ Colin Marshall & Tony Payne

Read I Thessalonians 1:1. What does Paul’s greeting of “grace and peace” say about the atmosphere which nurtures the multiplication of disciples.

In his book **The Challenge Of Jesus** N. T. Wright wrote, “When we are telling to story of Jesus, we are doing so as part of the community that is called to model this story to the world.” Why is the whole community of faith necessary to carry out the work of modelling and making disciples?

What examples can you give concerning the fact that the Gospel bears fruit wherever it goes? (see Colossians 1:6)

REFLECT

Author Dann Spader presents “four chairs of discipleship” to reflect the strategy of Jesus which He applied in making the very first disciples.

www.4chairdiscipling.com

- 1 – COME AND SEE** observational and introductory in nature and calls for sincere seeking heart
- 2 – FOLLOW ME** relational and calls for a decision to follow Christ, as one who is dependent
- 3 – FISH FOR PEOPLE** apprenticeship, as with a teen who assumes responsibility but not fully mature
- 4 – GO BEAR FRUIT** parenthood...disciples who reproduce themselves through making other disciples



“One must decide where he wants his ministry to count – in the momentary applause of popular recognition or in the reproduction of his life in a few chosen men who will carry on his work after he has gone. Really it is a question of which generation we are living for.”

~ Robert Coleman