

Just a reminder that there is an outline in the bulletin for you to take down notes if that helps you concentrate

There are Bibles in front of you.

Let me pray for God's help and understanding. Let's pray...

Recap

[PowerPoint 1-B2B]

This is the final part of our 9 week B2B series

Where we have been looking at the basics of our faith in Jesus - so that we can share our faith with others

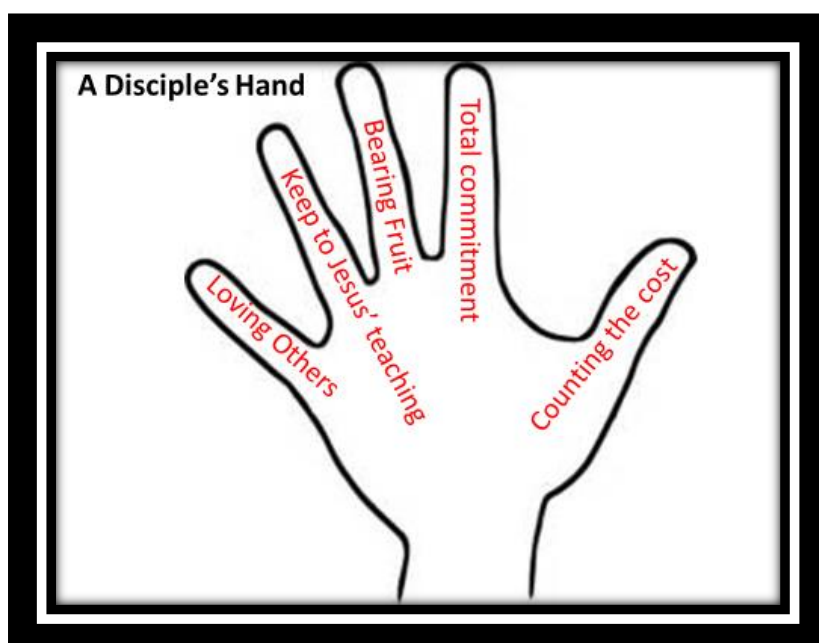
Last week we learnt what a disciple is

[PowerPoint 2-Disciple Definition]

Someone who follows the teaching of another - accepts that teaching and assists in spreading that teaching to others

Then we came up with a Disciple's Hand - to show what a disciple should look

[PowerPoint 3-Hand]



Now the whole point of being a disciple is to make more disciples

By nature of the definition of a disciple -

A disciple of Jesus does everything that the teacher - Jesus - does

So that includes making more disciples...

Why make disciples?

So why make disciples?

Firstly, because making disciples is bearing fruit for God's Kingdom

And bearing fruit - shows we are one of Jesus' disciples

That was one of the memory verses from last week

From John 15:8

[PowerPoint 4-John 15:8]

This is to my Father's glory, that you **bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.**

Secondly, we make disciples because God does not want anyone to perish and end up in Hell

So Jesus' return to Earth to judge everyone is delayed because...

As 2 Peter 3:9

[PowerPoint 5-2 Peter 3:9]

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, **not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.**

And thirdly, we make disciples...

Because Jesus said so

Which brings us to our NT passage from Matthew 28:16-20

Which you can turn to in your Bibles if you wish

[PowerPoint 6-Matt 28:16-20]

In this passage we see the nature of a disciple

It means obedience - the disciples went to Galilee to see Jesus because that's where He told them He would be

They worshipped Him - it literally means that they threw themselves down before Him - remember Jesus has just been resurrected at this point - so they are totally amazed at his appearance to them

The nature of some disciples is also to doubt - our sinful human nature causes us to doubt sometimes - but there is no need to doubt as a disciple of Jesus

Because Jesus has All authority in Heaven and Earth - nothing is impossible for Him

Then Jesus gives the disciple's their job description - which applies to us too - because as we said - the nature of a disciple is to do everything the teacher does

See v19-20 - for their job description

Our English translation might give the impression that "GO" is the emphasis of the command. But the main verb of the sentence is actually "make disciples" (blue) which is a command - an imperative (aorist active imperative) - with 3

subordinate participles (in red) hanging off it: **Go** (participle) (in going or as you go - or when you go), **baptizing** (participle) and **teaching** (participle)

[A Participle is a word formed from a verb (e.g. *teaching from the verb 'teach'*) and used as an adjective (e.g. *the disciples found themselves now being "teaching" disciples*)]

So baptizing and teaching are the means by which new disciples are made

Whatever else baptizing might symbolize or involve; here it refers to the new disciple repenting of their sin & rebellion against God AND submitting to the authority of Jesus, as Lord of their life and this world - once they've done that the new disciple is baptized - to show that Jesus has washed away their sin!

And the teaching that the disciples are to reproduce is the same teaching that Jesus himself has given them. Remember Jesus' disciples' referred to him all the time as 'teacher' (Matt 12:38; 19:16; 22:16, 24, 36; 26:18) and as Jesus taught them they grew in knowledge and understanding

The disciples are now in turn to make new disciples by teaching them to obey everything commanded by their Master, Jesus

And they are not alone in this job - Jesus promises to be with them - and He has also sent the Holy Spirit - to be their encourager and guide

How do we make disciples?

So now that we have the reason why we must make disciples

How do we make disciples?

Again - I'd like to give us a handful of ways

[PowerPoint 7-Hand]

First - it's **teamwork**

[PowerPoint 7a-Teamwork]

In our OT reading from Exodus 18

Moses' father in-law, Jethro, can see that Moses is on overload and having to judge and teach all the people - and it's a ridiculous and impossible workload

So Jethro gives his son in-law some great advice in verses 19-21

[PowerPoint 8-Exodus 18]

¹⁹ Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to him. ²⁰ Teach them his decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave. ²¹ But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.

So the advice to Moses is to delegate his work to capable people

And it's the same with making disciples

It's not just the minister's job or the elders' job or for a selected few -

It's for all of us - we are all capable of making disciples

Because - that's what the B2B series is about - to equip us all to make disciples

In your own context - in your own setting

We're talking one to one discipleship -

Just sitting down with one person and building a friendship that can lead to discipleship - which can then lead to teaching

Our Second finger - discipleship looks like **teaching**

[PowerPoint 9-Teaching]

We might say - well I can't teach?

But we can all read the Bible or listen to the Bible being read

We all have the B2B study booklet

We can all have a copy of the Back to Basics Discipleship book (green book) if we wish

And the teaching we're talking about is not formal teaching

But informal as we build a friendship

The Bible and the Holy Spirit are the teachers - we just need to commit to sitting down with someone

The Bible says this about itself

[PowerPoint 10a-2 Tim 3:15-17]

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

So God's word teaches us as we read it or hear it

[PowerPoint 10b-John 14:26]

And Jesus in John 14:26 promises that the Holy Spirit will teach us all things and remind us of Jesus' words - so we can claim that as we make disciples

Third finger - discipleship looks like **correcting**

[PowerPoint 11-Correcting]

It's always tricky to correct someone - without upsetting them or causing offence - and perhaps coming across judgmental

However as we build a relationship with someone and they see it is a loving and caring relationship - they will accept the correction if it is done in a loving way

The Apostle Paul gives us some tips in this

See Ephesians 4:2 and 15

[PowerPoint 12-Ephesians 4:2, 15]

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ

Now remember - we've learnt already that the God's Word is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness - so we can take our disciple to God's Word and read a passage with them - and ask them what God's Word says about the topic we're concerned about - then let God's word do the correcting and rebuking - rather than us.

The late Billy Graham used that technique - the Bible says...

For example if we're discipling someone and they are often worried - we can take them to Philippians 4 and show them verses 6 and 7

Philippians 4:6-7 ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your

requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Fourth - discipleship looks like **modelling Jesus**

[PowerPoint 13-Modelling Jesus]

(pause)

As Christians we need to realize we are Christ's ambassadors and God is making His appeal to others through us

[PowerPoint 14a-2 Cor 5:20]

An ambassador is a representative or promoter of an activity or cause

We are meant to be representing Jesus and promoting His cause - which is to make disciples so that people will believe in Jesus death for forgiveness - and believe in Jesus' resurrection for eternal life in Heaven

Australia's ambassador to the USA - is Joe Hockey

If he behaves badly or says something inappropriate or untrue - that will reflect badly on Australia - won't it? And he wouldn't be a good ambassador for Australia

As ambassadors of Christ we must represent what Jesus stands for - and that is being righteous - right before God - which means our behaviour must represent what Jesus stands for too - our behaviour should be consistent with our faith in Jesus - otherwise people will see us as saying one thing and doing another - and see us as hypocrites - and that will reflect badly on Christians and on the church - and people will not want to become a disciple of Jesus

[PowerPoint 14b-1 Cor 11:1]

As the Apostle Paul says in 1 Cor 11:1 - follow Paul's example as he follows Jesus' example

Finally - discipleship looks like **Loving**

[PowerPoint 15-Loving]

As we disciple someone - although there might be an element of a teacher-student relationship - there must be mutual love and respect for one another

As we disciple someone - our goal is to love new Christians by helping them live in the light of Jesus - but as we do that - they will recognize that our ability to help them do that depends on them helping us to that - and loving us for helping them

And so there is mutual love and respect in that discipleship relationship

Our love for them is such that we want to see them grow in their love for Jesus and their love for others

As Hebrews 10:24-25 says:

[PowerPoint 16-Heb 10:24-25]

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

As we meet up each time - we need to be spurring one another to love Jesus more and love others more

Application

So applying the idea of making disciples to our lives

There's a few ways we can proceed

[PowerPoint 17a-Workshop]

1. If you want to learn more about Making Disciples - we will be having a Making Disciples Workshop on Saturday 28th April - we'll be advertising that in the coming weeks - and they'll be a sign-up sheet

[PowerPoint 17b-Breakfast]

2. For the men - there will be a men's breakfast - please invite a friend or family member along - on Saturday 7th April - where Hong-Ki Ahn the minister from The Entrance Presbyterian Church will talk to us about Discipleship

[PowerPoint 17c-Movie]

3. There's a Movie Night for ALL - on Wednesday 11th April at 7pm - where we'll show the movie - Case for Christ - please invite a non-Christian family member or friend

[PowerPoint 17d-B2B Green Book]

4. Finally - please be praying for one person that each of us can disciple and take through the B2B green book -

Conclusion

I'm going to finish with Jesus' words from Luke 10:2 - Jesus says

[PowerPoint 18-Luke 10:2]

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Friends, we have a huge harvest in our community - of people who don't know
Jesus

Please, let us be praying for workers for God's harvest field

Let's pray...