

Exercising Servant Leadership by Helping Others Become Reproducing Disciples

In Mark 10:42-45, we read, “But Jesus called them to *Himself* and said to them, ‘You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.’” In these verses, we see that godly leadership is serving others. Many times, we do not really know how to best serve others in their spiritual growth and ministry development.

This questionnaire is designed to help Christians be able to summarize where they feel they need help in learning how to be obedient to the Great Commission. That makes it possible for those who are leading them to be able to best know how to serve each one in becoming a more effective “Great Commission Christian”.

If you are a spiritual leader, this questionnaire provides an opportunity for you to learn how to help each Christian you lead to grow and learn how to become obedient to the Great Commission. If you are not yet a spiritual leader, this form will help you share with your leaders those areas in which you feel you need help. In this way, you help your leaders by making it possible for them to serve you in your ministry development.

Becoming a Great Commission Christian

In Matthew 28:19-20, we are given the Great Commission: “Go therefore and **Make Disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age. Amen.” As most of you are well aware, the Great Commission contains one command **Make Disciples**. Then it gives three participles going, baptizing and teaching which tell how we carry out that command. This command and the three participles will be the focus of this questionnaire.

The first thing we do to **Make Disciples** is found in the word *going*. Acts 1:8 says, “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” In this verse, we see that we need to learn to depend on the power of the Holy Spirit to cross four barriers as we are obedient in being witnesses of Christ. These four barriers are:

1. The barrier of our own fear. Our Jerusalem includes people that our relatives, friends and acquaintances, and others that we know.
2. The barrier of making contacts. Our Judea includes people of our culture that we do not know and we have to learn how to get acquainted.
3. The barrier of another culture, religion or ethnic group. Our Samaria includes people who speak our language but have a different culture, religion or come from another ethnic group.
4. The barrier of another language. The end of the earth means we will have to learn how to communicate in another language.

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Questions for this section on going:

1. ____ I feel comfortable sharing the Gospel and have had the opportunity to lead others to Christ.
2. ____ I need help learning how to share the Gospel with children.
3. ____ I need help learning how to share the Gospel with young people.
4. ____ I need help learning how to share the Gospel with adults.
5. ____ I feel comfortable making contacts and sharing the Gospel with strangers of my own culture.
6. ____ I need help learning how to make contacts with strangers.
7. ____ I feel comfortable making contacts and sharing the Gospel with people of another culture, religion or ethnic group.
8. ____ I need help learning how to make contacts with people of another culture, religion or ethnic group.
9. ____ I feel comfortable making contacts and sharing the Gospel with people of another language.
10. ____ I need help learning how to make contacts with people who do not speak my language.

The second thing we do to **Make Disciples** is found in the word *baptizing*. As some of you know, there are eight different kinds of baptism mentioned in the New Testament (at least one of which is very dry, see Matthew 3:11-12). All eight kinds of baptism have one thing in common. That is identification. We want to help all those who become Christians learn to identify themselves with Christ and with a local body of believers.

Questions for this section on baptizing:

1. ____ I feel comfortable doing basic follow-up with a new Christian.
2. ____ I need help learning how to do basic follow-up with a new Christian.
3. ____ I feel comfortable explaining the meaning of the baptism with the Holy Spirit and how that baptism affects our daily lives.
4. ____ I need help learning how to explain the baptism with the Holy Spirit.
5. ____ I feel comfortable explaining the meaning of water baptism to a new Christian.
6. ____ I need help learning how to explain water baptism.
7. ____ I feel comfortable explaining the importance of becoming a part of a local church.
8. ____ I need help explaining the importance of becoming a part of a local church.

The third thing we do to **Make Disciples** is found in the word *teaching*. The word that is translated observe is used 75 times in the New Testament; 57 times it is translated with the word keep or obey. This participle focuses on the fact that we are to teach people to obey all of the commands that Christ gave. This involves teaching them what Christ taught and then showing them how to obey those teachings by our own example. Many Christians, as they grow, learn what Christ taught but are never shown how to obey what they learned. That is why the Great Commission emphasizes that we are to teach them how to obey what Christ has commanded.

Questions about this section on teaching them how to obey:

1. ____ I feel comfortable showing people, by my example, how to follow Christ and encouraging them to follow my example - 1 Corinthians 4:16, 11:1
2. ____ I need help learning how to teach people the commands of Christ.
3. ____ I need help learning how to show people how to obey the commands of Christ.
4. ____ I would appreciate being shown how to do the following in my own life:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

Since every Christian has been given the Great Commission to **Make Disciples**, it might be appropriate to give a Biblical definition of what it means to **Make Disciples** so that we have a clear understanding of this commission. Matthew 13:52 gives us a Biblical definition of a disciple, "Then He said to them, 'Therefore every scribe instructed (*who has become a disciple*) concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure *things* new and old.' The word translated instructed is the same word we have in Matthew 28:20. We see in this verse four basic characteristics of a disciple of Christ:

1. He has become the head of a spiritual family - this requires one or more spiritual children.
2. He has a treasure - the Word of God.
3. He is able to bring new things out of that treasure - he is continuing to learn and grow.
4. He is able to bring old things out of that treasure - he can share the basics of Christianity with others.

Questions about our own development as a disciple:

1. ____ I am exercising my personal responsibility to be a spiritual parent to one or more new Christians.
2. ____ I need help learning how to take the personal responsibility to be a spiritual parent to one or more new Christians.

Questionnaire Summary Sheet

Name: _____

A. Questions about the section on going:

1. ___ feel comfortable sharing the Gospel and have led others to Christ
2. ___ need help learning how to share the Gospel with children
3. ___ need help learning how to share the Gospel with young people
4. ___ need help learning how to share the Gospel with adults
5. ___ feel comfortable making contacts and sharing the Gospel with strangers of my own culture
6. ___ need help learning how to make contacts with strangers
7. ___ feel comfortable making contacts and sharing the Gospel with people of another culture, religion or ethnic group
8. ___ need help learning how to make contacts with people of another culture, religion or ethnic group
9. ___ feel comfortable making contacts and sharing the Gospel with people of another language
10. ___ need help learning how to make contact with people who do not speak my language

B. Questions about the section on baptizing:

1. ___ feel comfortable doing basic follow-up with a new Christian
2. ___ need help learning how to do basic follow-up with a new Christian
3. ___ feel comfortable explaining the meaning of the baptism with the Holy Spirit and how that baptism affects our daily lives
4. ___ need help learning how to explain the baptism with the Holy Spirit
5. ___ feel comfortable explaining the meaning of water baptism to a new Christian
6. ___ need help learning how to explain water baptism
7. ___ feel comfortable explaining the importance of becoming a part of a local church
8. ___ need help explaining the importance of becoming a part of a local church

C. Questions about the section on teaching them how to obey:

1. ___ feel comfortable showing people, by my example, how to follow Christ
2. ___ need help learning how to teach people the commands of Christ
3. ___ need help learning how to show people how to obey the commands Christ
4. ___ would appreciate being shown how to do the following in my own life
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

D. Questions about my own development as a disciple:

1. ___ am exercising my responsibility to be a spiritual parent to one or more new Christians
2. ___ need help learning how to become a spiritual parent to a new Christian

E. My suggestions and ideas on areas where I need more guidance in the development of my ministry of making disciples.