

Study Series: Follow Me

Author: David Platt

 Lesson Title: “Born to Reproduce” (pp. 171-184)

Session 13

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The main point of this lesson is: Followers of Jesus are intended and enabled to make other followers of Jesus.

Focus on this goal: To help adults begin or strengthen their disciple-making call

Key Bible Passage: Matthew 4:19: 2 Timothy 2:2

Before the Session

1. Continue displaying the Matthew 4:19 poster.

2. Do a web search for images of blank checks and print out an image for each participant. (Step 7)

During the Session

Step 1. Create Interest / Jumpstart Discussion

Request adults think about times they engaged in some kind of activity or job and thought, “I was born to do this.” Allow volunteers to share their thoughts. Ask: What is it about an activity that makes us feel like we were born to do that thing? What kind of feelings does that evoke from us and why?

Read the Session 13 title (p. 171) and ask how participants feel upon hearing that. Read the main point of this lesson statement (p. 182). State this is a very motivating and practical lesson that can help adults begin or strengthen their disciple-making call.

Step 2. Disciples Make Disciples

Ask: Other than the Bible. what are some of the most influential things you’ve ever read and why? Relate from Day One (p. 171) the author’s story about the influential booklet he was given. Relate Dawson Trotman’s comparison between the Christians in this century and the first century (p. 171).

Discuss Day One, activity 1 (p. 171). Request a volunteer read Acts 1:8. Determine what part of Acts 1:8 we see becoming a reality in Acts 2.

Request half the group silently read Acts 8:1-8 and the other half Acts 8:26-40. Invite volunteers from each group to share how believers continued living out Acts 1:8. State the remainder of the book of Acts details how Spirit-empowered disciples were Christ’s witnesses to the ends of the earth. State these first Christians did what all Christians should do naturally—reproduce other disciples.

Read Matthew 4:19 from the poster. Discuss Day One, activity 2 (p. 172). Consider why some ways people complete Jesus’s invitation prevents them from making disciples.

Step 3. A Personal Disciple-Making Plan

Invite a volunteer to read 2 Timothy 1:1-7. Evaluate how these verses can encourage participants as they consider their own struggles with sharing the gospel and making disciples. Declare Paul’s words of encouragement to his (sometimes) fearful son in the faith can encourage and motivate us as well.

Discuss Day Two, activity 1 (p. 173). Read the Day Two paragraph (pp. 173-174) beginning with “So are you reproducing?” Consider what people who have no desire to reproduce should do. State that all those who desire to reproduce can follow the author’s example of making a “personal disciple-making plan.” The remainder of Session 13 walks learners through a similar process by asking six straightforward questions.

Step 4. Questions 1 and 2

Request a volunteer read Question 1 (p. 175). Consider why the author would start with this.

Invite a volunteer to read 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Invite volunteers to share what steps they take to read, memorize, and learn God’s Word from others. Point out reading God’s Word chronologically helps readers see the overarching story of all of Scripture. Websites such as Biblegateway.com and Biblerecap.com provide helpful chronological plans.

Ask a volunteer to read Question 2 (p. 176). Use remarks in Day Three (pp. 176-177) to explore how believers can grow in their love for God.

Invite a volunteer to read Colossians 3:16-17. Evaluate how those verses speak to both Questions 1 and 2.

Step 5. Questions 3 and 4

Read Question 3 (p. 177). Encourage adults to complete Day Four, activity 1 (p. 178) if they haven’t already. Guide a discussion on how participants can share the gospel every day.

Read the Day Four paragraph (p. 178) beginning with “As you identify the who . . ..” Consider what participants may experience when they share the gospel with unbelievers. Point out the apostle Paul faced much opposition and persecution for being Christ’s witness. Ask: Why do you think he kept at it? Invite a volunteer to read 2 Timothy 2:8-10.

Request a volunteer to read Question 4 (p. 178). Invite another volunteer to read Hebrews 10:24-25. Analyze how being committed to a local body of believers empowers participants to answer Jesus’s call of Matthew 4:19.

Step 6. Questions 5 and 6

Ask a volunteer to read Question 5 (p. 179). Ask: Is this a question every ordinary disciple should ask, or just those few extraordinary Christians? Explain. Explore ways participants can impact every nation, tribe, and people in the world. Read the Day Five paragraph (p. 180) beginning with, “Can we realistically help spread the gospel . . ..”

Request a volunteer read Question 6 (p. 180). Explore specific ways believers can: 1.Identify and bring in others to disciple; 2. Teach them to obey without being “preachy”; 3. Model obedience to them.

Discus Day Five, activity 1 (p. 181). Finally, explore ways disciple makers can send out others to be disciple makers.

Discuss Day Five, activity 2 (p. 181).

Step 7. Practical Application – Live Out the Lesson

Distribute the blank checks and read the blank check challenge from Day Five (p. 180). Urge adults to write on that check two or three actions they will take to strengthen or begin their disciple-making call.

Close in prayer.

