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# WHAT IS MISSIONAL DISCIPLE-MAKING?

The world is lost in spiritual darkness, separated from God by sin, and this lostness is the root cause of the pain, brokenness, and destruction we see in the world and in every human life. The Bible reveals that apart from Jesus, there is no hope for true peace or restoration (Romans 3:23; John 14:6). Yet in His great mercy, God has provided the solution to this lostness through His Son, Jesus Christ, who offers salvation, healing, and eternal life to all who believe (John 3:16; Acts 4:12). God, in His sovereign plan, has chosen to use His people to bring this life-changing message to the world (2 Corinthians 5:18-20).

MISSIONAL DISCIPLE-MAKING is the process of following Jesus Christ by embodying His mission to the world and discipling others to do the same.

Rooted in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39), it calls believers to live as ambassadors of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20), making disciples by proclaiming the Gospel and demonstrating God's love.

Missional disciple-making is not just about personal transformation but about multiplication—helping others become followers of Jesus who live on mission. As Paul exhorted Timothy, "The things you have heard from me... entrust to faithful people who will also be able to teach others" (2 Timothy 2:2). In this way, disciples are called to both be transformed by Christ (Romans 12:2) and participate in His redemptive mission (John 20:21), passing on what they have received by discipling others in faith, obedience, and mission.

### BECOMING A MENTOR

At WMU of Texas, our mission is to empower God's people to advance the Gospel through missional discipleship. Becoming a mentor is an opportunity to join not only WMU of Texas's mission, but God's mission. God invites us all to join him in the most significant and profound adventure in the world: To make disciples of all nations.

As a mentor, you have been entrusted with a sacred and vital responsibility to guide others toward spiritual growth and equip them to live out their faith in everyday life. Your purpose is not simply to share information but to walk alongside those you disciple, helping them experience genuine transformation through a deep relationship with Jesus Christ. This transformation, which touches every area of life, leads to a life of mission and purpose, where disciples mature in their faith and learn to help others do the same.

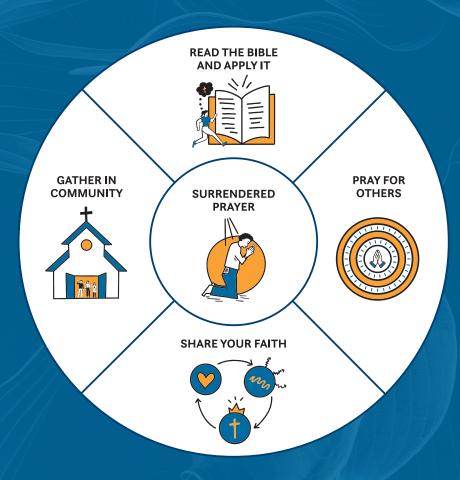
#### Being a Mentor Includes...

- Building relationships with those in need of discipleship
- Meeting with them regularly to explore, discuss, and practice the missional discipleship model
- Praying, guiding, and encouraging disciples to provide the support they need for spiritual growth

In this guide, you will be equipped with principles and practices to help you fulfill your calling as a disciple-making mentor. As you grow in this role, remember that your greatest resource is the grace and guidance of Jesus Himself, who walks with you every step of the way. Through your faithful investment in others, you become part of a multiplying movement of disciples, bringing hope, healing, and transformation to the world.

## OUR MODEL FOR MISSIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

There are five elements to WMU of Texas's model for missional discipleship. Each element represents a transformational spiritual practice that will produce life change and Kingdom fruitfulness.



#### The Five Spiritual Practices of Missional Discipleship

Each Bible study includes a Bible passage, short commentary, and a practical tool to help a person practice what they have learned.



#### 1. SURRENDERED PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11: 1-4)

- Goal: To deepen intimacy with God and submit every aspect of life to His will.
- **Practical Application:** Learning to use God's Word to pray.



#### 2. READ THE BIBLE AND APPLY IT

(2 Timothy 3:16-17, James 1:22)

- **Goal:** To renew one's mind and gain wisdom for living in His truth.
- **Practical Application:** To study God's Word and put it into practice.



#### 3. PRAY FOR OTHERS

(1 Timothy 2:1-4, Colossians 4:2-4)

- **Goal:** To partner with God in intercession, asking for His work in the lives of others.
- Practical Application: Identify people to pray for and include them in your prayer time each day.



#### 4. SHARE YOUR FAITH

(Matthew 28:19-20, Romans 10:14-15)

- **Goal:** To boldly and lovingly proclaim the hope and salvation found in Jesus Christ.
- Practical Application: Practice sharing your testimony and the Gospel with others.



#### 5. GATHER IN COMMUNITY

(Hebrews 10:24-25, Acts 2:42-47)

- Goal: To grow as disciples within the Body of Christ and be equipped for missional living.
- Practical Application: Gathering with other believers for worship, study, fellowship, and service.

## PRINCIPLES OF MISSIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

There are four principles that WMU of Texas's missional discipleship strategy is built upon — mission, mentorship, metamorphosis, and multiplication. Each of these principles work in harmony to fulfill God's plan for missional disciple-making. Together, they help believers move from personal transformation to a life of purpose, community impact, and Gospel expansion.

#### 1. MISSION: Embrace Your Call to Live on Mission

Living out missional discipleship begins with embracing the mission God has given to all believers—to be His witnesses in the world (Acts 1:8). This mission is not reserved for a select few; it is the responsibility of every follower of Jesus. As the Father sent Jesus, so He now sends us (John 20:21). To live on mission, we must develop an awareness that we are called to represent Christ wherever we are. Whether at work, in our neighborhoods, or with friends and family, we are to live as "salt and light," bringing God's truth, grace, and hope into every situation (Matthew 5:13-16).

#### 2. MENTORSHIP: Invest in Missional Relationships

Missional discipleship thrives through intentional relationships. Jesus modeled this principle by investing deeply in His disciples, walking alongside them in life and faith. Mentorship is about investing in others with the goal of helping them grow in their relationship with Christ and in their ability to live on mission (1 Thessalonians 2:8). To mentor others, we must commit to building relationships that prioritize spiritual growth. Mentorship is not just about imparting knowledge; it is about guiding others in practical ways to live out their faith, encouraging them to take ownership of their spiritual development and calling.



### METAMORPHOSIS: Life Transformation is the Goal of Missional Discipleship

The heart of missional discipleship is **metamorphosis**—the complete transformation of a person's life through the power of Jesus Christ. This principle emphasizes that true discipleship leads to a new way of thinking, living, and loving, marked by increasing Christlikeness (Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 3:18). To live out this principle, we must submit to the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, allowing Him to shape our character and priorities (Galatians 5:22-23). Additionally, as we disciple others, we encourage and challenge them to pursue this same life transformation, trusting that God will continue His work in their lives (Philippians 1:6).

#### MULTIPLICATION: Make Disciples That Make Disciples

The mission of Jesus is not just about making disciples; it is about making disciples who will multiply by making more disciples. This principle of multiplication is central to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). Jesus' vision was for a movement of disciplemakers who would continue His work across generations and nations. Multiplication ensures that the mission does not end with us but continues to expand and transform the world. Living out the principle of multiplication requires an intentional focus on equipping others to disciple others. As they take ownership of this process, they become leaders in their own right, passing on what they have learned and creating a ripple effect of spiritual transformation across communities and generations.

These four principles clarify what makes missional disciple-making unique. Missional disciple-making is a call to live on **mission**, to invest in the lives of others through **mentorship**, to participate with God in the **metamorphosis** of people's lives, and to see disciples bear fruit through **multiplication**.

HOW TO

FACILITATE A

**DISCIPLESHIP** 

CONVERSATION

#### **PREPARATION**

- Pray for your disciples by asking God to reveal Himself to them in new ways
- Remember the four principles of missional discipleship as you prepare for the discussion

#### INTRODUCTION

- Life Update: Each person shares a high and low since your last discussion
- **Discipleship Update:** Updates on applying what we learned in the last meeting
- Prayer: Thank God for the highs, offer requests for needs, pray for today's discussion
- Read: Introduce today's scripture passage

#### **DISCUSSION**

- Prayer: God, will you help us understand your Word?
- Observation: What does the passage say?
- Interpretation: What does the passage mean?
- Application: What does the passage mean to me?

#### PRACTICAL APPLICATION

- Introduce or review the discipleship tool
- Role-play and practice the tool together

#### **CONCLUSION**

- Pray and ask God for grace to put what has been learned into practice
- Schedule your next conversation

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Who should I meet with?

Pray and ask God to bring people to your mind that need discipleship. Refer to the "Pray for Others" Bible study for guidance. Once you have one or a few people in mind, reach out and ask if they would like to get together from time to time and talk about God and study the Bible together.

#### Can I do this with a group?

You can meet one-on-one or with a group. If you meet with a group, it will be better to keep it small so that you can effectively care for those you are discipling. Remember, missional disciple-making is best done in intimate relationships. If your group grows, consider this as an opportunity to practice our fourth principle, multiplication!

#### How do I prepare?

Begin your preparation with prayer. Ask God to reveal Himself to the ones you are discipling in new ways, to guide your discussions, and to transform their hearts and yours. Be sure to read through the Bible passages before your meetings and to remind yourself of the principles and meeting agenda ahead of time.

#### Where should we meet?

The best meeting place will be one that is conducive to an intimate and engaging conversation. This can be a coffee shop, your favorite



lunch spot, or someone's living room. Consider the people you are meeting with, and which place will make everyone most comfortable.

#### Where do I start?

You can go through the missional discipleship model in any order you choose. Think about who you are meeting with and start where you think is best. If you are unsure, you are free to go through the model in order.

#### Where can I find the tools?

The five Bible studies can be found on our website at this link: wmutx.org/resources. Feel free to download them, share them, or print them out if you like.

#### What's next?

Once you have gone through all five Bible studies, consider taking advantage of the new content we are posting each month on our blog or letting the group decide what to study next. You can use the agenda in this guide for any Bible study discussion you want to facilitate.

## YOUR FIRST MEETING

Your first meeting with a disciple is a great opportunity to assess where they are spiritually. Take this opportunity to talk about your spiritual journeys, how God is moving in your life, and the ways you hope to grow in this season of life.

#### **PREPARATION**

- Pray for your disciples by asking God to reveal Himself to them in new ways.
- Remember the four principles of missional disciple-making as you prepare for the discussion.

#### **DISCUSSION**

- **Spiritual Journey:** Describe your spiritual journey and your current relationship with God.
- Spiritual Goals: In what ways do you want to grow spiritually in this season of life?
- **Prayer:** Pray for one another and ask God to help you both grow spiritually together.
- Read: Based on the discussion, choose which Bible study to start with.

#### CONCLUSION

- · Schedule your next conversation.
- Provide the Bible study that you will start with.

The goal of assessing your disciples' spiritual journey is to identify a relevant starting point for your discipleship discussions and make these discussions relevant to their life. Listen to their responses, how they describe their relationship with God, and the ways they want to grow spiritually. Then, choose the Bible study that best fits their spiritual journey and goals.

