



*Natural*  
DISCIPLESHIP

# **5 Keys to Building A SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**Student Guide**

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## **Introduction:**

These five lessons are to be read and questions answered *after* each Step.

The lessons in this Student Guide are designed to be used as a conversation. The assignment for each lesson is to read and answer questions for that lesson in the Student Guide.

The Leader should then Guide a Conversation with the Student, reading up to a question and discussing.

## **Key #1 Begin a Personal Ministry and Multiply Yourself.**

Natural Discipleship is a one-to-one Disciple Making strategy designed to multiply your personal ministry through a Leadership Team, to create a Disciple Making Movement.

### **Series Big Idea: Begin a personal Ministry and Multiply yourself.**

Building a personal ministry and multiplying oneself is a powerful concept in discipleship. Jesus serves as the perfect example of this principle in action. In Luke 6:12-16, we see Jesus spending time alone with God on a mountainside, praying fervently throughout the night. When morning came, He called His disciples to Him and carefully selected twelve of them to become His apostles. Among them were Simon (later called Peter), Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (called the Zealot), Judas (son of James), and Judas Iscariot, who tragically became a traitor.

This passage shows us that Jesus understood the importance of investing in others and multiplying His ministry. By selecting and pouring into a specific group of individuals, He was able to equip and develop them into influential leaders who would continue His work long after He was gone. This intentional approach is the essence of Natural Discipleship and sets the groundwork for creating a disciple-making movement.

To begin your own personal ministry and multiply yourself, it is crucial to prioritize prayer and seek God's guidance. Like Jesus, spending dedicated time alone with God allows you to align your heart, mind, and purpose with His will. Through prayer, you can discern the individuals whom God is calling you to invest in, just as Jesus did with his twelve apostles.

Furthermore, consider forming a leadership team that will work alongside you to advance your discipleship efforts. This team should consist of individuals who share your passion for multiplying disciples and are committed to growing and equipping others.

As you embark on this journey, remember that your ultimate goal is not only to influence those directly under your guidance but also to empower them to lead and disciple others. By fostering a culture of

multiplication, you can create a ripple effect that extends far beyond your own efforts, resulting in a powerful disciple-making movement.

So, take inspiration from Jesus and begin your personal ministry today. Dedicate yourself to prayer, intentionally invest in a select group of individuals, and form a leadership team to support and multiply your efforts. In doing so, you will play a key role in igniting a disciple-making movement that impacts countless lives for the glory of God.

**Q1. According to Luke 6:12-16, how did Jesus select his team?**

**Q2. Why do you think Jesus selected 12 disciples?**

**Q3. What steps can you take to build a Spiritual leadership team?**

## **Key #2 Build a Leadership Team: Identify your leaders.**

**(Student Read)**

**Big Idea: Identify your leaders.**

*“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.” 2 Timothy 2:2 NIV*

In addition to Key 1 how to begin a personal Ministry and Multiply yourself, another crucial aspect of building a personal ministry involves identifying individuals who demonstrate reliability and qualification to teach others. In 2 Timothy 2:2, the apostle Paul instructs his disciple Timothy to entrust what he has learned to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

The primary quality that Paul asks Timothy to look for in a disciple is reliability. It is essential to find individuals who can be trusted to faithfully pass on the teachings and values of the ministry.

While reliability is crucial, there are other qualities that are also critically important in choosing a disciple. These qualities may include a teachable and humble spirit, a strong commitment to their own personal growth and development, a genuine love for others, a passion for serving and reaching out to people,

and a solid understanding of the core principles of discipleship. These qualities are important because they contribute to the disciple's ability to effectively impact others and continue the ministry's work.

This approach to ministry, focused on discipleship and building a personal ministry, differs from a purely evangelistic approach in that it emphasizes not just reaching people with the gospel but also investing in their growth and development as followers of Jesus. While evangelism involves spreading the message of salvation, discipleship goes further by equipping and empowering individuals to become leaders and replicate the ministry.

In the verse from 2 Timothy 2:2, we can see multiple generations represented. Paul is the first generation, Timothy represents the second generation as Paul's disciple, the reliable people mentioned would represent the third generation, and the others they will teach represent subsequent generations. This verse emphasizes the importance of multiplication and the ongoing passing on of knowledge and faith from one generation to another.

**Q1. What was the primary quality Paul asked his disciple Timothy to look for in a disciple?**

**Q2. What other qualities do you think would be critically important in choosing a disciple? Why?**

**Q3. How does this approach to ministry differ from a purely evangelistic approach?**

## **Key #3 Multiply through your leaders.**

**(Coach Read)**

Jesus was very intentional about multiplying through His Disciples.

Natural Discipleship is based on Jesus' Purpose of bringing the love of His Father to all of mankind, The Great Commandment, (Matthew 22:36-40) and fulfilling His Mission of having us join Him in The Great Commission, Go make Disciples of all nations. (Matthew 28:19,20) and (Acts 1:8.)

The only hope of fulfilling The Great Commission is individual Disciple's making Disciple's and building Multiplying Teams.

Here is the impact Jesus team of disciples had on the world. "But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too." Acts 17:6 NKJV

**Q1. How could 12 men have such a dramatic impact on the world?**

**(Student Read)**

The concept of Natural Discipleship is deeply rooted in Jesus' purpose of spreading the love of His Father to humanity, as outlined in the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40). Moreover, Jesus aimed to fulfill His mission through the Great Commission, which instructs us to go forth and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8). The key to accomplishing this mission lies in individual disciples making disciples and building multiplying teams.

When we consider the impact Jesus' team of disciples had on the world, it becomes evident how influential they were. As mentioned above, Acts 17:6 recounts how the disciples were described as individuals who had turned the world upside down. It's remarkable to think about how just 12 men were able to make such a dramatic impact on a global scale.

To understand the power of multiplication, let me provide you with an example. If an effective evangelist were to win 10 people to Christ each year for 10 years, they would have successfully reached 100 individuals—an admirable accomplishment through addition. However, let's consider an alternative scenario where one Christian discipled one person in the first year, and then both of them discipled one person in the second year. In the third year, the four of them continued discipleship, each discipling one person. By following this pattern for ten years, the total number of individuals that would be discipled is a staggering 1024—a powerful demonstration of multiplication.

This example highlights the effectiveness and exponential growth that can be achieved through discipleship and multiplying teams. It showcases the transformative potential when individuals invest in others, equipping them to carry the message of Jesus forward.

**Q2. Do you think God would call Christians to reach the whole world for Christ if the task was impossible?**

**Q3. Do you believe The Great Commandment and The Great Commission could be fulfilled in your generation? Why or Why not?**

**(Coach Read)**

By multiplying disciples, a person's personal ministry can have a wider and deeper impact on society as a whole. Here are a few reasons why multiplying disciples is significant:

1. **Perpetuating knowledge:** Multiplying disciples ensures that valuable knowledge and teachings are passed down from one generation to the next. As God leads you, you lead your disciples. By replicating your disciple-making process, you can preserve the teachings of Jesus long after you are gone, leaving a lasting legacy.
2. **Building a sustainable movement:** When disciples multiply, they can form a network of like-minded God-fearing individuals who share a common purpose or values. This network can grow

and evolve into a sustainable Spiritual movement, working towards a shared goal or vision even after the original leader is no longer present.

3. **Addressing large-scale challenges:** Multiplied disciples can work together to tackle complex challenges and make a greater impact. By empowering others to become leaders and change agents, the Holy Spirit can lead your team to address societal issues on a larger scale, bringing about meaningful and lasting change.
4. **Personal growth and development:** As a leader or mentor, multiplying disciples can enhance your own personal growth and development. Through the process of guiding and nurturing others, the Holy Spirit can refine your own knowledge, skills, and leadership abilities.

It's important to note that multiplying disciples goes beyond simply increasing the number of followers. It involves investing time, effort, and resources into equipping and empowering individuals to become leaders and influencers for Jesus in their own right.

**Q4. How does multiplying disciples help in addressing large-scale challenges and making a greater impact on society?**

**Q5. Why is it important to leave a legacy for Jesus with your disciples after you are gone?**

## **Key #4 Reach your target area.**

*"And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 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."*  
Matthew 28:2, 16, 18-20 NKJV

To reach your target area for Jesus, it is important to follow the teachings and instructions given by Him in the Bible. The passage from Matthew 28:2, 16, 18-20 provides guidance on how to effectively fulfill this mission.

First, it emphasizes the significance of Jesus' authority, declaring that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Him. This highlights the belief that Jesus is at the center of our efforts and that we must rely on Him for guidance and strength.

Next, Jesus instructs his disciples to go forth and make disciples of all nations. This emphasizes the importance of spreading the message of Jesus to people from different backgrounds and cultures. It is a call for inclusivity and a reminder that the message of Jesus is meant for everyone.

The passage also mentions the act of baptizing believers in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Baptism is a symbolic form of initiation into the Christian faith and signifies a commitment to following Jesus. By baptizing individuals, we help them establish a personal connection with Jesus and strengthen their faith.

Furthermore, Jesus instructs his disciples to teach these new disciples to observe all the things He has commanded. This highlights the significance of ongoing discipleship and instruction in the Christian faith. It is not simply about conversion but also about nurturing and guiding new believers to grow and mature in their relationship with Jesus.

Lastly, Jesus assures his disciples that he will be with them always, even to the end of the age. This promise provides comfort and encouragement as we embark on the mission to reach our target area for Jesus. It reminds us of the constant presence of Jesus in our lives and underscores the importance of relying on Him for success in our endeavors.

By incorporating these teachings into your efforts to reach your target area for Jesus, you can be guided by the scriptures and fulfill the mission of sharing His message with others. Remember, it is not just about reaching people, but also about lovingly guiding them towards a deeper relationship with Jesus and helping them become disciples themselves.

**Q1. What was the target area Jesus gave to his disciples in this passage?**

**Q2. How realistic is it that God could use you to make disciples in all the nations?**

## **Key #5 Continue to build your team.**

In today's interconnected world, the possibilities for building disciples and multiplying movements have expanded greatly. With the invention of social media, texting, and video conferencing, you now have even more tools at your disposal to connect with and influence others. These technological advancements allow you to reach people from different corners of the globe in lightning speed, enabling you to share your vision of discipleship with a wider audience.

By investing in those individuals who share your vision, and possess the qualities of being Faithful, Available, and Teachable, you can build strong relationships and guide them spiritually in the long term. The goal is to multiply through these individuals and their teams, just as Jesus did through His disciples two thousand years ago. By embracing these modern communication tools, you have the potential to nurture and multiply a movement that can reach the ends of the earth, just as Jesus commanded.

There will come a time when you need to decrease the time spent on coaching new Disciples, to allow more time to develop your Team Members. Then, your focus will become equipping the Team How to Build a Spiritual Movement, through training, encouragement, casting vision, accountability, meeting needs, and incorporating their ideas into the plan. When the time is right, you will need to shift your Leadership Responsibility/Authority to the most faithful, available, and teachable member of your Team.

Your ministry with your Team is to help each member build their own Team!

### **Leader's role in a Disciple's Life**

#### **HOW DO I:**

Help them continue to grow?

Help them use technology?

Help them lead by example?

### **Three stages in a Discipleship Relationship**

1. Mentor - Relationship-Trust, Accountability
2. Trainer - Direction, Knowledge, Equipper
3. Coach - Manage, Motivate, Lead by example

Professor Howard Hendricks said, "If God gave me ten people to (lead), I would accept them with fear and trembling, because that is ten more people than I want to be responsible for at the judgment." He said, "I would pour my life into those ten people and train them to become multiplying disciples of Christ and we would change the world."

As you are going, make Disciple's...

**Q1. What are some ways in which technology has expanded the possibilities for building disciples and multiplying movements in today's interconnected world?**

**Q2. How can a leader support disciples in their growth and utilization of technology, while also leading by example?**



The power of multiplying Discipleship is that it leads to Team Building, Movement Building, and Exponential Growth!

Don't ask God to bless your plan, join Him in His.

*18 "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

*Matthew 28:18-20.*