

## Discipleship Sermon Notes

### July 20, 2014

For those of you who did not have the opportunity to hear this message from Kris Stire, missionary to Albania, here is a synopsis of the message, but I hope you will go online and listen to it.

Introduction: Discipleship is essentially a spiritual friendship, and all about Spiritual Reproduction (Matt 28; Acts 1; Col 1:28-29; 1 Thess 1 & 2; Heb 10:19-25; the life of Christ investing into His disciples; His apostles taking the baton and investing into others).

5 Basic Elements of Effective Discipleship:

- 1) **Impartation** (1 Thess 2:7ff) – We build relationship with others so that we may mutually impart truth, motivated by love, into one another, genuinely, from the heart, so that we mutually become more and more like Christ. Impartation through Relationship.
- 2) **Instruction** (Matt 28) – If you are a Christian, your mission on earth, and why you are here, is TO MAKE DISCIPLES. Once a believer comes to know Christ, it is time to invest into them, imparting teaching, which involves character that glorifies Christ. Look for people who are teachable and hungry.
- 3) **Inspiration** (Heb 10:24-25) – If you are a Christian, you should be investing into someone and someone should be investing into you. We should be seeking to inspire others toward love and good deeds (Heb 10:19-25).
- 4) **Imitation** (1 Thess 4:16) - Can we say: “follow me as I follow Christ” to someone? People are always watching, including our kids, and others in the church. Discipleship requires modeling for someone else the Christian life. This requires that we truly walk with integrity. “Who we are in private is truly who we are, irrespective of what we portray in public.”
- 5) **Intercession** (Eph 6 on prayer, Jesus’ teaching His disciples to pray) – We need to teach and model prayer for those we are investing into. Pray for them, and pray with them.

Discipleship, beloved, is not the latest “Christian fad.” It is what Christianity is all about. We are followers of Christ, and we are called as such to be “making other disciples.” Simple church, if you will, is all about Evangelism (witnessing about Christ in Word and deed, so that people may come to know Christ), and Edification (building up Christians by using our gifts and abilities, so that they may grow to love and obey Christ), all for the glory of God, and Exaltation of Christ, by the power and enablement of the Spirit of God.

Onward Christian soldiers! Let’s be engaged in spiritual warfare until the return of our beloved King Jesus.

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