

KICK THE TIRES

Mission Conference

An Introduction to Mission, Discipleship & Multiplication

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The agenda for the day:

- 9:00-10:15 | Framing Today's Conversation
- 10:15-10:30 | Break
- 10:30-11:45 | Practical Steps for Joining Jesus on His Mission
- 11:45-12:15 | Lunch
- 12:15-1:15 | How the Congregation Supports a Missional Lifestyle
- 1:15-1:30 | Break
- 1:30-2:30 | Joining Jesus in Discipling Our Family & Friends
- 2:30-3:00 | Connecting in Relationship for Discipleship & Multiplication

Framing Today's Conversation

- The mission of our congregation: Are we accomplishing what Jesus wants us to accomplish?
- We are perfectly calibrated for the results we are currently getting in mission, discipleship and multiplication. Our way for our results. Jesus' way for Jesus' results.
- What is happening to U.S. churches?
- Our strategy needs to return to Jesus' strategy: From, "Y'all come!" To, "Let's go!"

We have the heart for mission, but not yet the habits for mission.

- We need to be re-discipled or re-trained in the ways of Jesus.
- Today we will see...
 1. How to join Jesus on His mission in everyday life
 2. How to disciple our family and friends to do the same
 3. How to multiply this missional lifestyle and training throughout the congregation and out into the community

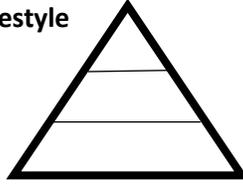
We agree reform is needed. However, before we craft a plan, let's gain clarity:

- 1) What is the mission of God, according to God?
- 2) How does God intend for us to participate in His mission?
- 3) In the gospels, what is Jesus' goal for those He is discipling?
- 4) According to Jesus, what is a disciple and what does a disciple do?
- 5) In the gospels, what process does Jesus use to train His disciples?
- 6) How can we optimize current groups and gatherings to accomplish Jesus' discipling goals?
- 7) How can we connect our congregation for relationship, discipleship and multiplication?

We are Considering Engaging a Re-Training Process in the Ways of Jesus

As we consider engaging a re-training process with Jesus, it is important to realize that re-training isn't accomplished with information alone but with participation. That's why Jesus says, "Come, follow Me." We need information, but we also need the experience which only comes through **putting information into action.**

From Mission Program to Mission Lifestyle



Best: Make a _____

Better: Make a _____

Good: Make a _____

- What's the difference between studying mission and engaging mission?
- What's the difference between a mission program and a mission lifestyle?
- Is being a follower of Jesus a hobby or an identity?
- Have we become comfortable delegating to others what Jesus has given us to do?

Part 1 | "Joining Jesus on His Mission"

The Mission of God

- The mission of God, according to God, is to redeem and restore all things to His Kingdom through Jesus. (John 3:16, Colossians 1:19-20, Revelation 21:5)
- And He invites us to join Him.

Mission Mindset | What Can I Anticipate Each Day?

Jesus is on a mission. He was sent by His Father on a grand adventure to redeem and restore ALL THINGS to His Kingdom. And we get to help.

- We don't go *for* Jesus. We go *with* Jesus.
- We aren't Jesus-salespersons. We are Jesus-followers.
- He does all the heavy lifting of redeeming and restoring human lives. We do the very simple work of loving our neighbors. (Matthew 4:19, Luke 19:10, John 4:35, 2 Corinthians 6:1, John 13:35, Galatians 5:6)

Mission Practices | What Can I Do Each Day?

The **5 Mission Practices** are particularly effective at positioning us to join Jesus on His mission every day:

- 1) **Seeking the Kingdom** | Look for the good the Father has prepared in advance for me to do.
- 2) **Hearing from Jesus** | Reading the gospels, what is Jesus giving me to do for the good of others?
- 3) **Talking with People** | What's their name? What's their story? What's Jesus up to in their life?
- 4) **Doing Good** | How can I be a way something good happens in their day?
- 5) **Ministering through Prayer** | Praying for people daily and with people as God gives opportunity.

Keep It Simple: To join Jesus on His mission all we really have to do is

- Enjoy People
- Seek, Recognize and Respond to what Jesus is already doing in the lives of the people we are enjoying.

Mission Friendship | What's My Plan for Being with My Neighbors?

We join Jesus on His mission in two ways:

- 1) **Generally**, by putting the 5 Mission Practices into play **along life's way**
- 2) **Specifically**, by investing in one or two **friendships with people** who need Jesus' grace and truth

My Small Part of God's Great Big Mission

- How many unbaptized people are there for every baptized person on the face of the earth?

What's Missing These Days? | The Context for Friendship to Form

To know and love our neighbor, we need to be with our neighbor. Creating the context where friendship can form is called "neighboring." Neighboring can happen in groups or one-on-one.

- **Share some meals, share some laughs, share some stories.**
It has worked for thousands of years around the world!
- **Is knowing, enjoying and blessing our neighbors for introverts or extroverts?**

Share a time when you have done some "Neighboring." Write down new ideas for next time:

How to Get Started | We Get to Know Our Neighbor So We Can Better Love Our Neighbor

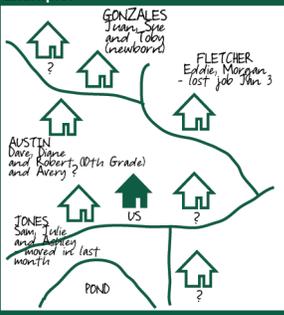
1) Pray for your neighbors. Create a Neighborhood Prayer Map for your "neighborhood."

Neighborhood Prayer Map

Instructions:

1. Draw a map of the streets and homes around yours.
2. If you know the occupants, write their names beside their home.
3. If you don't know the occupants, write "?"
4. As you get to know your neighbors better, write additional details you can include in prayer.

Example:



2) Get to know your neighbors.

Who has God already placed nearby? What's their name? What's their story? What's Jesus already up to in their life? How can I join Him?

Utilize the Neighboring Formula:

Unhurried Time
 + Proximity
 + Activity (food) = Conversation
 x Over Time + Grace = Friendship

3) It's not about the fun but the friendship | What's your next step?

We grow from being acquaintances to sharing stories to investing in friendships.

Mission Support | How Can the Congregation Support Such a Lifestyle?

To stay intentional and consistent with a mission lifestyle, we need a little help from our friends. We support each other by doing “**Take-10**” during **family meals**, in existing **church groups**, or with Jesus-following **friends in our neighborhood, workplace or school**.

- “Take-10” is **taking ten minutes** to give us time for reflection and conversation about how life on mission with Jesus is going.
- We use **the 5 Question** (see below) to prompt our reflection and conversation. The 5 Questions are based on **the 5 Mission Practices** which we seek to put into practice each day with Jesus.
- These conversations provide the **encouragement, insight, accountability and practice** we need to further develop our skills for joining Jesus in everyday life.

1) How did you see God at work in your life this week?

We are especially interested in what He seemed to be showing you in the lives of people around you. Who has He been bringing across your path? Who is He inviting you to pay attention to?

2) What has God been teaching you in his Word?

As you followed Jesus around in the Gospels this week, what did he invite you to believe or do? What happened when you put it into practice for the good of others?

3) What kind of conversations are you having with your pre-Christian friends?

A conversation with anyone God brings across your path is important. But a conversation with someone living without the grace and truth of Jesus is especially important. What did you learn about the person’s story? What might be the next step in your interactions?

4) What good can you do around here?

As you reflect on last week’s observations and conversations with the people around you, how can you serve, bless, or encourage someone next week? How can we help?

5) How can we help you in prayer and what do you want us to ask you about next week?

Prayer for and with each other is powerful and effective (James 5:16). Identifying insights and being accountable for putting them into action is key to the re-training process.

Best Practices for Leading “Take-10” Conversations | Focus on 3 Things

- 1) Focus on helping them remember what actually happened last week, then ask, “What was Jesus up to?”
- 2) Focus on the progress/challenges they are experiencing as they invest in friendships with people living without Jesus. What’s working? What’s not? What’s next?
- 3) Focus on helping them to self-identify personal action-steps for next week.

Part 2 | “Joining Jesus – Show Me How”

In the gospels, Jesus “disciples” (or “trains”) His followers by having them join Him on His mission. He is “showing them how” to participate in the Father’s mission as a daily lifestyle. Let’s go back to the gospels in order to see how Jesus disciples His followers. Then we will be able to craft a discipling plan modeled after Jesus’ plan, and use it with our family, friends and congregation.

What is Discipling?

What are modern synonyms for the word “Discipling”?

Matthew 9:9

Luke 6:40

John 13:35

John 13:15-17

Matthew 11:28-30

1 John 2:6

1 Peter 2:21

1 Corinthians 11:1

Philippians 4:9 and 3:17

1 Corinthians 4:16-17

Hebrews 13:7

What is a Disciple? | If we're supposed to make disciples, what is one?

According to Jesus in the gospels, a disciple...

- follows Jesus (why?)
- in order to become *like* Jesus (how?)
- through baptism *into* Jesus and training *by* Jesus (to what end?)
- so that he/she can participate *with* Jesus on his mission as a daily lifestyle (is that all?)
- and show others how to do the same.

What does a Disciple Do?

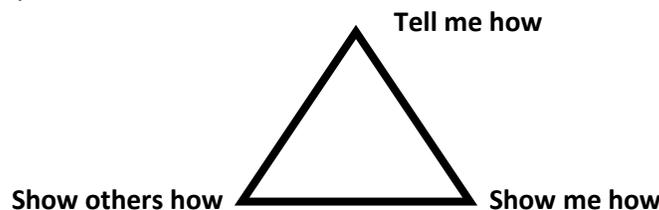
A disciple imitates Rabbi Jesus' lifestyle practices to make them his own.

Jesus' 5 Lifestyle Practices:

- 1) Remember your True Identity and Mission
- 2) Look for what the Father has prepared in advance for you to do (seek the kingdom)
- 3) Submit to the Father's timing and purpose in the moment (humble yourself)
- 4) Freely offer a little of what you have already received in abundance from the Father
- 5) Show others how to do the same

How does Rabbi Jesus Disciple People?

Jesus' process has three parts:



Crafting a Discipling Plan that Reflects Jesus' Discipling Plan

- Utilize both daily life and our regular gatherings with family or friends
- How to facilitate "Tell Me How"
- How to facilitate "Show Me How"
- How to facilitate "Show Others How"

Connecting in Relationship for Mission, Discipleship & Multiplication

What if we re-organized our congregation to prioritize relationships for the sake of mission, discipleship and multiplication? The "Connect" Strategy has two goals:

Two congregational goals:

- 1) Connect the whole congregation for relationships
- 2) Connect the willing for mission and discipleship

What's Next? | From Mission Heart to Mission Lifestyle

- Dwelling 1:14 can take your congregation through a 12-month process which re-trains the willing to join Jesus on His mission, disciple family and friends to do the same, and then multiply their missional lifestyle and training throughout the congregation and out into the community. The name of the process is "**The Missional Lifestyle Training Process**" (MLTP)

The MLTP includes the following:

- 1) Two on-site training weekends
- 2) Monthly Navigation Calls