

So...Who Is a Disciple-maker? Leaders' Guide

Scripture: "...go and make disciples of all nations"
(Matthew 28:19).

Purpose: The purpose of this *Leader's Guide* is to provide you with the basic resources to lead a child through the booklet, *So... Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

What Is a Disciple?

Throughout my life, I have had some wonderful teachers. Brilliant doesn't even begin to describe them. They have all been very knowledgeable about their chosen fields. Some taught the material better than others, but all of them were good at giving the information away.

The best teachers, however, taught me more than what was in the book. These were the teachers who invested their lives in helping me become a better person. It was about more than just giving me information; they wanted me to become a better person. They recognized that true education is more than information it is about transformation.

Contemporary models of education do no justice to the concept of being a disciple. A disciple is a student, but our concept of student is skewed by modern classroom experience. This is not an indictment against the modern system or against teachers; it simply recognizes there are different ways of approaching the learning experience.

When we think of a student, we often think of sitting in a classroom, listening to a teacher, and taking notes as fast as we can. This is an information-based model. It has as its core

Resource List

So...You Want to Follow Jesus? Student Booklet

So...You Want to Follow Jesus? Leader's Guide

So...You Want to Be Baptized?
Leader's Guide

So...You Want to Take Communion?
Leader's Guide

The Bible

Church of the Nazarene Manual. Be sure it is current.

How to use this guide:

Prepare by reading the suggested materials and the introductory information. This will help prepare you for questions that may arise during the class session.

Create an open environment. Allow the children to ask any questions they may have.

If the pastor is not teaching the class, invite him or her to participate.

Have fun. You are part of an important spiritual event in the lives of the children in your class.

the transfer of information from the teacher to the student. The effectiveness of this system is based on the students' grades as determined by the amount of information they acquire and maintain. The goal is for a student to increase in information.

Being a disciple is about more than gaining information, it is about transformation. The difference between a modern student and a disciple is the difference between listening to a teacher and working alongside a craftsman. The craftsman expects the disciple to gain knowledge, but both the information and the experience are meant to change the student. The goal is to make that student a craftsman. The teacher wants the disciple to *become*.

Disciples of the ancient world followed their teachers *everywhere* because they were afraid the teacher would say or do something that would be valuable and they did not want to miss it. They lived with the teacher because they were intent on patterning their lives after the teacher. Studying and living with a master craftsman led to more than just information.

Our society suffers from information overload. We have more information available at the click of a mouse than at any other time in history. Words like gigabyte and terabyte were created to describe the mass amounts of information available. All that information has not made us better or smarter. It simply reminds us information alone does not improve a person; it is not the end all of true learning and education.

Jesus called His disciples to leave everything they owned and knew to follow Him. The disciples lived with Him, and He expected them to become different people by the end of their time together. It wasn't about giving out more information; the Pharisees could do that. In fact, Jesus chastised those who simply wanted more information without the transformation. Jesus wanted His disciples to become craftsmen; to be like Him.

Today, Jesus continues to call disciples. He wants us to follow His example, to pattern our lives and thoughts after Him, and to live out a transformed life. He is not interested in giving more religious knowledge. He is seeking true disciples.

Unfortunately, some modern followers have not realized the difference between information and transformation. They mistakenly believe that growing closer to God is about gaining

Who has been an influence on me?

Write the names of a few people who have given you not only information, but have also invested their lives in your transformation:

more information. They have tons of knowledge about Jesus, they know lots of Bible verses, they have been a Christian for years, and yet there is something missing. We can't always put a finger on it, but something is missing. The answer is the difference between knowing about God and actually knowing God. It is the difference between information and transformation.

What Is a Disciple-maker?

“Disciple-maker” may be a new term to you. It was chosen both because of its newness and because of the implications it has for us as Jesus’ followers. The emphasis needs to be on the transformation of the person and not adding more information. We are called both to BE a disciple and to MAKE disciples.

Making disciples happens in three ways:

Classic: This is discipleship through curriculum such as Sunday School, Children’s Worship, and mid-week classes. This form of discipleship is important in the overall Christian education and discipleship of children because it brings the child into contact with others in the faith. While information is not the sum of discipleship, it is part of discipleship. Classic Discipleship does provide a solid informational foundation.

Christian Spiritual Formation: This form of discipleship focuses on education through spiritual disciplines as children grow in their relationship with Christ. Children grow spiritually through the spiritual disciplines such as prayer, Scripture, baptism, communion, membership, and more. Spiritual disciplines help children develop habits of faith that foster their own spiritual maturity.

Community: Discipleship does not happen in isolation. The Body of Christ and the workings and actions therein serve to disciple children. God founded the Church as a means of helping us bear each others burdens, find comfort, and confess sin. The Church must be one of the places where children can find honest, wholesome relationships.

Notes:

Faith Words  are words that help you in your Christian life. They are important faith concepts for children. These words are emphasized using the Faith Words' logo. Look for definitions on pages 3 and 5 of the student booklet, *So... Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

The Lesson

Introduction

Say, **Before leaving His disciples, Jesus said, "...go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). He gave us the responsibility to tell others about Him and then help them grow closer to Him. This booklet is going to help us discover our place in helping others grow closer to God.**

Being a Disciple

Pages 2-3 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

If you have not done so before the class, distribute copies of *So... Who Is a Disciple-maker?* to each student.

Say, **To begin with, we are going to discuss some things you will need to know about being a disciple. Take a moment to write down a few words you would use to describe what being a disciple means.**

Have the students read John 12:26, then say, **A disciple is a person who follows the teachings and example of another person. Jesus calls you to be a follower of His teachings. Jesus' disciples love Him, learn from Him, and obey Him. They live their lives the way Jesus lived His life.** 

Let's look at some other Scripture passages together.

Have the students read the assigned passages from page 3 and answer the questions. Be available to help them with any questions they may have. When they are finished take a few moments to review their answers with them.

Say the following using your own words:

1. A disciple is a follower of Jesus.

Jesus called His first disciples by saying, "Come follow me." That is all they were required to do...drop everything and follow. They left their homes and their way of life to learn how to be like Jesus. Today, we are still called to make Jesus the center of everything we do.

Notes:

Being a follower of Jesus is a lifelong process. You are not expected to be perfect, just to keep following and learning. As you follow, you will continue to grow closer to God.

2. A disciple is a friend of Jesus.

Jesus' friendship indicates more than just "hanging out" with someone. There is an expectation of obedience. If we are following Jesus, we are expected to be obedient.

Who Has Discipled You?

Page 4 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, We cannot grow closer to God alone. We need others to help us grow. There are many people who have helped you grow closer to God and learn more about Him. Who helped you become a better disciple of Jesus? Take a moment to think of the names of a few people who have helped you grow. Give your students a few quiet moments to consider possible names. Then ask the children to call out a name they thought of. Be sure to share about a person who helped you grow closer to God.

Say, The Apostle Paul was a great follower of Jesus. He wrote many of the books included in the New Testament, started many new churches, and told thousands of people about Jesus. But before he did all of those things, there were people who helped him become a better disciple. We are going to learn about some of those people.

Have one of the students read Acts 9:10-12, 17-19. Then ask, **Who was the first person to help Paul/Saul become a better disciple?** You may have to explain that Saul's name was later changed to Paul because he changed so much after becoming a follower of Jesus. It was like he was a different person. Give the children time to write their answers, and then have them answer aloud.

What did Ananias do to be a disciple-maker for Paul? Give the children time to write their answers, and then have them answer aloud.

Have the students read Acts 9:26-28 and answer the questions. When they are finished ask, **Who was the next person to disciple Paul?** Give them time to respond, then ask, **Why do you think he was so willing to help? What did Barnabas do to help Paul?**



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Later in their lives, Paul and Barnabas worked together as disciple-makers for other people. Barnabas not only helped Paul grow closer to God, but he also worked with him to help others grow closer to God. Barnabas was a true disciple-maker!



Say, As Christians,  we need people who pray for us, listen to us, teach us, correct us, love us, and are brave enough to tell us if we have done wrong. When you became a Christian, you chose the road to follow Jesus. This choice led you down the discipleship path. Discipleship is a life-long trip.

Benefits and Blocks

Page 5 in *So... Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, Being a disciple-maker is a rewarding and challenging experience. There are benefits (good things) for both the disciple and the disciple-maker. There are also roadblocks (tough things) for the disciple and the disciple-maker. Let's look at a few of the benefits and blocks.

Have students read the following verses aloud, and then tell you what the benefit is.

Read John 13:35

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

Love is an important part of being a disciple. Those who follow Jesus are to love each other. That doesn't mean we will always get along, but it should mean we care for each other and want the best for each other. People outside the Church should be able to recognize we have a different kind of love that wants God's best for others.

Read Romans 15:14

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

Notes:

Romans says that disciple-makers are “full of goodness... complete in knowledge...competent to instruct one another.” Disciple-makers should have a connection and relationship with God that allows them to teach others. Our teaching should be filled with a deep knowledge of God and knowledge of how He works in our lives. Sometimes, we don’t know what to tell others. We have to trust God to lead us when that happens.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

One of the best benefits is being able to depend on others to help us. We are not alone. God has given us the Church to help us when we face hard times.

Read James 5:16

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

Sometimes, it is hard to tell others if we have done wrong. We feel the need to hide our problems and sins from others. But God wants us to share our sins with others we trust in the Church because we know that they will pray for us. Through prayer and repentance, we are forgiven of our sins.

Have students read the following verses aloud, and then tell you what the block is.

Read Galatians 6:9

Then say, **What block is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this.

The right thing can be hard to do. Sometimes, we are teased by our friends. Sometimes, we actually lose an opportunity to do something fun. We can become tired of doing the right thing all the time, and feel tempted to just quit or give up. At those times, we need to trust that God will make everything work out. We do not always get to see the results of our obedience right away.

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Then say, **Bad choices can block you.**

Then say, **How can bad choices block your ability to be a disciple-maker?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this.

Making bad choices not only hurts you, it hurts others. As a disciple of Jesus, people look to us to see what Jesus is like. If we make bad choices, we are not following Jesus as His disciple. This not only hurts our relationship with Jesus Christ, but it also hurts how other people see Jesus.

Read Hebrews 10:25

Then say, **What block is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this.

It is important for Jesus' disciples to stick together. Attending and participating in church is important because it is where we learn, grow, and worship God together. Being together is the key here. God wants us to learn to follow Him *together*. Remember we can't do this alone.

Ask, **Can you think of other things that might be a block to being a disciple-maker?** Give the children time to answer, and then say, **God wants you to be a disciple-maker.**

How Can I Be a Disciple-maker?

Page 6 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, **What are some ways you can be a disciple-maker to those around you?** Give the children time to answer.

Say, **One of the best ways to be a disciple-maker is to share with others how you became a disciple. In your booklet, take a few moments to describe how you became a disciple of Jesus.** Give the children a few minutes to write their answers. Then ask for volunteers to share their stories.

Say, **Another way to be a disciple-maker is to tell others what God is doing in your life right now! This may take some practice because it means we have to take notice of all the things God is**

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doing for us. Take a moment to share a way God is working in your life right now. **In your booklet, take a few moments to describe a way God has helped you recently.** Give the children a few minutes to write down their answers. Then ask for volunteers to share their stories.

Say, **Being in a small group will help you grow as a disciple-maker. Your Sunday School class is a great example of a small group. You get to pray together, read the Bible together, and grow closer to God. What are some other things you do in your Sunday School class to show you are a disciple-maker?** Give the children a few minutes to write their answers. Then ask for volunteers to share their ideas.

Philip, the Disciple-maker

Page 7 in So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?

Ask for a volunteer to read Acts 8:5-6, 12. After the child finishes reading, ask, **Where did Philip go first to be a disciple-maker?** Give the children time to respond, then ask, **What did the people do when they heard Philip?**

Have the children read Acts 8:14-17 on their own, and answer the question in their booklets. Ask for volunteers to share their answers with the class.

Then read Acts 8:26-39 aloud to the class. Say, **Philip was a disciple-maker because he obeyed God. Who told Philip to go to down the road from Jerusalem?** Allow the children time to respond.

Then ask the following questions for discussion:

Who did Philip meet on the way?

Where had this man been?

What was the man doing in the chariot?

What did the Holy Spirit tell Philip to do?

Ask, **How was Philip a disciple-maker to the Ethiopian?** Give the children time to answer, and then have them write the answer in their booklets. Ask, **How did the Ethiopian feel about being a follower of Jesus?** After the children have answered, have them write the answer in their booklets.

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Who Can I Disciple?

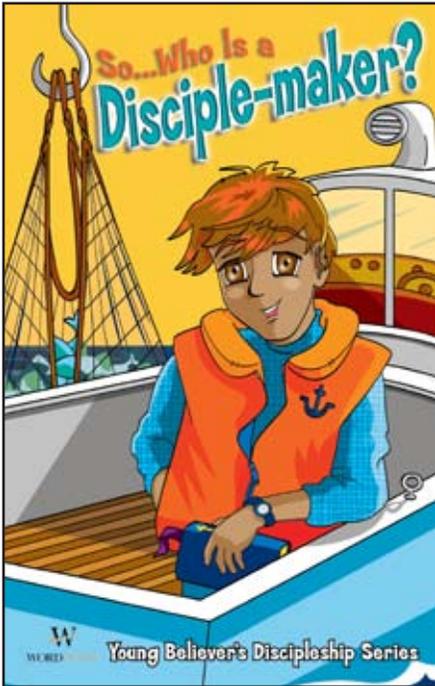
Page 8 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, **Each one of us can be a disciple-maker. Jesus said, "...go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19). We call this the Great Commission, and God expects us to live this out today. Jesus' disciples are to be disciple-makers. Take a few moments and write the names of three people you could disciple.** Give the children time to write the names. Be ready to give them some broad ideas for people whom they can disciple. Ask the children to share some of the people they have chosen as they are comfortable doing so.

Now What?

1. Pray for the people on your list. Ask God to help you find ways to disciple them.
2. Share your story with them. You wrote about how you became a disciple. Find a time to share this with the people on your list.
3. Study and pray with them. Find a time when you can meet with them to grow closer to God together. You might want to ask an adult to help you form a small group to read the Bible and pray together.
4. Keep growing as a disciple. It is important for you to continue growing closer to God while you are a disciple-maker. What are some ways you can grow closer to God?

Close the class with prayer. Ask God to help the children be disciple-makers in their homes, their schools, with their friends, and at church. Thank God for giving His people the privilege and ability to lead others closer to Him, and for giving us the knowledge when we don't know what to say.



So...Who Is a Disciple-maker? Parents' Guide

Scripture: "...go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Purpose: The purpose of this *Parents' Guide* is to provide you with the basic resources to lead your child through the booklet, *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

A Word to Parents

As parents, we have the responsibility to train our children in the Christian faith. At times, it may seem easier to wait for the Church or some other entity to provide spiritual direction, but ultimately we realize we are responsible. The best part is that God blesses our efforts and provides opportunities for us to help our children grow closer to Him.

In Exodus 12:25-27, God instructed the Israelites to teach their children the significance of all they had seen. He told them to celebrate feasts, sacrifices, and special celebrations, and then provided instructions on how to tell the children their significance. These explanations were to take place throughout the normal course of the day.

You have the opportunity to partner with God in the spiritual development of your children. Your everyday interactions serve as an opportunity to share lessons of faith with your child. Your child's questions will open opportunities to share about God's love, your own experience of His grace, and how God promises to work in your child's life.

It can be nerve-wracking to think of the responsibility. It can seem like a very daunting task, but don't worry; God promises

Resource List

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So...You Want to Follow Jesus? Leader's Guide

So...You Want to Be Baptized?
Leader's Guide

So...You Want to Take Communion?
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The Bible

Church of the Nazarene Manual. Be sure it is current.

How to use this guide:

Prepare by reading the suggested materials and the introductory information. This will help prepare you for questions that may arise during your study session.

Create an open environment. Allow your child to ask any questions.

If possible, invite the pastor to visit and talk with your family.

Have fun. You are the leader in your child's spiritual development. When you enjoy yourself, your child is more likely to do so.

to be there and help you. Just look for simple opportunities to share thoughts about God and to answer questions your child may ask. A guide like this should be used as a tool, not necessarily a step-by-step instruction manual. If used as a manual, it can seem wooden and more like a classroom.

To get the best use from this guide, read through it several times to get a feel for its content and flow. Make a few notes, and keep them with you when you talk with your child. Share from your heart, and walk your child through each question and activity in the workbook.

Rest assured God will bless you as you train up your child in the way he or she should go. His grace will guide you.

What Is a Disciple?

Throughout my life, I have had some wonderful teachers. Brilliant doesn't even begin to describe them. They have all been very knowledgeable about their chosen fields. Some taught the material better than others, but all of them were good at giving the information away.

The best teachers, however, taught me more than what was in the book. These were the teachers who invested their lives in helping me become a better person. It was about more than just giving me information; they wanted me to become a better person. They recognized that true education is more than information it is about transformation. And this is what you do as you guide your child's spiritual education.

Contemporary models of education do no justice to the concept of being a disciple. A disciple is a student, but our concept of student is skewed by modern classroom experience. This is not an indictment against the modern system or against teachers; it simply recognizes there are different ways of approaching the learning experience, especially within the context of home.

When we think of a student, we often think of sitting in a classroom, listening to a teacher, and taking notes as fast as we can. This is an information-based model. It has as its core the transfer of information from the teacher to the student. The effectiveness of this system is based on the students' grades

Who has been an influence on me?

Write the names of a few people who have given you not only information, but have also invested their lives in your transformation:

as determined by the amount of information they acquire and maintain. The goal is for a student to increase in information.

Being a disciple is about more than gaining information, it is about transformation. The difference between a modern student and a disciple is the difference between listening to a teacher and working alongside a craftsman. This model is much more suited to the home environment. The craftsman expects the disciple to gain knowledge, but both the information and the experience are meant to change the student. The goal is to make that student a craftsman. The teacher wants the disciple to *become*.

Disciples of the ancient world followed their teachers *everywhere* because they were afraid the teacher would say or do something that would be valuable and they did not want to miss it. They lived with the teacher because they were intent on patterning their lives after the teacher. Studying and living with a master craftsman led to more than just information.

Our society suffers from information overload. We have more information available at the click of a mouse than at any other time in history. Words like gigabyte and terabyte were created to describe the mass amounts of information available. All that information has not made us better or smarter. It simply reminds us information alone does not improve a person; it is not the end all of true learning and education.

Jesus called His disciples to leave everything they owned and knew to follow Him. The disciples lived with Him, and He expected them to become different people by the end of their time together. It wasn't about giving out more information; the Pharisees could do that. In fact, Jesus chastised those who simply wanted more information without the transformation. Jesus wanted His disciples to become craftsmen; to be like Him.

Today, Jesus continues to call disciples. He wants us to follow His example, to pattern our lives and thoughts after Him, and to live out a transformed life. He is not interested in giving more religious knowledge. He is seeking true disciples.

Unfortunately, some modern followers have not realized the difference between information and transformation. They mistakenly believe that growing closer to God is about gaining more information. They have tons of knowledge about Jesus,

Notes:

they know lots of Bible verses, they have been a Christian for years, and yet there is something missing. We can't always put a finger on it, but something is missing. The answer is the difference between knowing about God and actually knowing God. It is the difference between information and transformation. As a parent, you are your child's spiritual guide. Your child is learning by observing you. Live out your life in obedience to Christ and teach your child to do the same.

What Is a Disciple-maker?

"Disciple-maker" may be a new term to you. It was chosen both because of its newness and because of the implications it has for us as Jesus' followers. The emphasis needs to be on the transformation of the person and not adding more information. We are called both to BE a disciple and to MAKE disciples.

Making disciples happens in three ways:

Classic: This is discipleship through curriculum such as Sunday School, Children's Worship, and mid-week classes. This form of discipleship is important in the overall Christian education and discipleship of children because it brings the child into contact with others in the faith. While information is not the sum of discipleship, it is part of discipleship. Classic Discipleship does provide a solid informational foundation. In what **classic** form of discipleship is your family involved?

Christian Spiritual Formation: This form of discipleship focuses on education through spiritual disciplines as children grow in their relationship with Christ. Children grow spiritually through the spiritual disciplines such as prayer, Scripture, baptism, communion, membership, and more. Spiritual disciplines help children develop habits of faith that foster their own spiritual maturity. Help your child understand what he or she is doing when participating in spiritual disciplines.

Community: Discipleship does not happen in isolation. The Body of Christ and the workings and actions therein serve to disciple children. God founded the Church as a means of helping us bear each others burdens, find comfort, and confess

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sin. The Church must be one of the places where children can find honest, wholesome relationships. Your home is also a community where your child sees faith lived out through your example.

The Lesson

Introduction

Say to your child, **Before leaving His disciples, Jesus said, "...go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). He gave us the responsibility to tell others about Him and then help them grow closer to Him. Let's talk about our place in helping others grow closer to God.**

Being a Disciple

Pages 2-3 in *So... Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Make sure your child has a copy of *So... Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, **What words would you use to describe what being a disciple means.** Share with your child the words you would use.

Read John 12:26 with your child, then say, **A disciple  is a person who follows the teachings and example of another person. Jesus calls you to be a follower of His teachings. Jesus' disciples love Him, learn from Him, and obey Him. They live their lives the way Jesus lived His life.**

Let's look at some other Scripture passages together.

Read or have your child read the assigned passages from page 3 and answer the questions. Be available to help with any questions he or she may have. When your child is finished, take a few moments to review the answers.

Notes:

Be prepared to say the following in your own words:

1. A disciple is a follower of Jesus.

Jesus called His first disciples by saying, "Come follow me." That is all they were required to do...drop everything and follow. They left their homes and their way of life to learn how to be like Jesus. Today, we are still called to make Jesus the center of everything we do. Being a follower of Jesus is a lifelong process. You are not expected to be perfect, just to keep following and learning. As you follow, you will continue to grow closer to God.

2. A disciple is a friend of Jesus.

Jesus' friendship indicates more than just "hanging out" with someone. There is an expectation of obedience. If we are following Jesus, we are expected to be obedient.

Who Has Discipled You?

Page 4 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say to your child, **We cannot grow closer to God alone. We need others to help us grow. There are many people who have helped you grow closer to God and learn more about Him. Who helped you become a better disciple of Jesus? Take a moment to write down the names of a few people who have helped you grow.** Be sure to tell your child about the people who have helped you grow closer to God.

Say, **The Apostle Paul was a great follower of Jesus. He wrote many of the books in the New Testament, started many new churches, and told thousands of people about Jesus. But before he did all of those things, there were people who helped him become a better disciple.**

Read Acts 9:10-12, 17-19. Then ask, **Who was the first person to help Paul/Saul become a better disciple?** You may have to explain that Saul's name was later changed to Paul because he changed so much after becoming a follower of Jesus. It was like he was a different person.

Ask, **What did Ananias do to be a disciple-maker for Paul?**

Read Acts 9:26-28 with your child, and have him or her answer the questions. Then ask, **Who was the next person to disciple Paul? Why do you think he was so willing to help? What did Barnabas do to help Paul?**

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Faith Words  are words that help you in your Christian life. They are important faith concepts for children. These words are emphasized using the Faith Words' logo. Look for the definition for "Christian" on page 5 of the booklet.

Later in their lives, Paul and Barnabas worked together as disciple-makers for other people. Barnabas not only helped Paul grow closer to God, but he also worked with him to help others grow closer to God. Barnabas was a true disciple-maker!

Say, As Christians,  we need people who pray for us, listen to us, teach us, correct us, love us, and are brave enough to tell us if we have done wrong. When you became a Christian, you chose the road to follow Jesus. This choice led you down the discipleship path. Discipleship is a life-long trip.

Benefits and Blocks

Page 5 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say to your child, **Being a disciple-maker is a rewarding and challenging experience. There are benefits (good things) for both the disciple and the disciple-maker. There are also roadblocks (tough things) for the disciple and the disciple-maker. Let's look at a few of the benefits and blocks.**

Have your child read the following verses aloud, and then tell you what the benefit is.

Read John 13:35

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

Love is an important part of being a disciple. Those who follow Jesus are to love each other. That doesn't mean we will always get along, but it should mean we care for each other and want the best for each other. People outside the Church should be able to recognize we have a different kind of love.

Read Romans 15:14

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

Romans says disciple-makers are "full of goodness...complete

Notes:

in knowledge...competent to instruct one another.” Disciple-makers should have a connection and relationship with God that allows them to teach others. Our teaching should be filled with a deep knowledge of God and knowledge of how He works in our lives. Sometimes, we don’t know what to tell others. We have to trust God to lead us when that happens.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

One of the best benefits is being able to depend on others to help us. We are not alone. God has given us the Church to help us when we face hard times.

Read James 5:16

Then say, **What benefit is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this benefit.

Sometimes, it is hard to tell others if we have done wrong. We may feel the need to hide our problems and sins from others. But God wants us to share our sins with others we trust in the Church because they will pray for us. Through prayer and repentance, we are forgiven of our sins.

Have your child read the following verses aloud, and then tell you what the block is.

Read Galatians 6:9

Then say, **What block is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this.

The right thing can be hard to do. Sometimes, we are teased by our friends. Sometimes, we actually lose an opportunity to do something fun. We can become tired of doing the right thing all the time, and feel tempted to just quit or give up. At those times, we need to trust that God will make everything work out. We do not always get to see the results of our obedience right away.

Notes:

Bad choices can block you.

Then say, **How can bad choices block your ability to be a disciple-maker?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this.

Making bad choices not only hurts you it hurts others. As a disciple of Jesus, people look to us to see what Jesus is like. If we make bad choices, we are not following Jesus as His disciple. This not only hurts our relationship with Jesus Christ, but it also hurts how other people see Jesus.

Read Hebrews 10:25

Then say, **What block is there to being a disciple according to this verse?**

Say the following in your own words. Be willing to share a personal experience that illustrates this.

It is important for Jesus' disciples to stick together. Attending and participating in church is important because it is where we learn, grow, and worship God together. Being together is the key here. God wants us to learn to follow Him *together*. Remember we can't do this alone.

Ask, **Can you think of other things that might be a block to being a disciple-maker?** Give your child time to answer, and then say, **God wants you to be a disciple-maker and He wants me to be a disciple-maker too.** Share ways that you can be a disciple-maker with your child.

How Can I Be a Disciple-maker?

Page 6 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, **What are some ways you can be a disciple-maker to those around you?** Give your child time to answer.

Say, **One of the best ways to be a disciple-maker is to share with others how you became a disciple.** Share with your child how you became a disciple of Jesus. Then say, **In your booklet, take a few moments to describe how you became a disciple of Jesus.** Give your child a few minutes to write his or her answer, and then discuss it.

Notes:

Say, **Another way to be a disciple-maker is to tell others what God is doing in your life right now! This may take some practice because it means we have to take notice of all the things God is doing for us.** Take a moment to share a way God is working in your life right now. Say, **In your booklet, take a few moments to describe a way God has helped you recently.** Give your child a few minutes to write his or her answer, and then discuss it.

Say, **Being in a small group will help you grow as a disciple-maker. Your Sunday School class is a great example of a small group. You get to pray together, read the Bible together, and grow closer to God. What are some other things you do in your Sunday School class to show you are a disciple-maker?** Give your child a few minutes to write his or her answers, and then discuss it. Talk about ways your Sunday School class helps you.

Philip, the Disciple-maker

Page 7 in So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?

Read Acts 8:5-6, 12. Then ask, **Where did Philip go first to be a disciple-maker?** Give your child time to respond, then ask, **What did the people do when they heard Philip?**

Next, have your child read Acts 8:14-17 and answer the question in his or her booklet. Discuss the answer.

Then read Acts 8:26-39 aloud. Say, **Philip was a disciple-maker because he obeyed God. Who told Philip to go down the road from Jerusalem?** Allow your child time to respond.

Then ask the following questions:

Who did Philip meet on the way?

Where had this man been?

What was the man doing in the chariot?

What did the Holy Spirit tell Philip to do?

Ask, **How was Philip a disciple-maker to the Ethiopian?** Give your child time to answer, and then have him or her write the answer in the booklet. Ask, **How did the Ethiopian feel about being a follower of Jesus?** After the child has answered, have him or her write the answer in the booklet.

Notes:

Who Can I Disciple?

Page 8 in *So...Who Is a Disciple-maker?*

Say, **Each one of us can be a disciple-maker. Jesus said, "...go and make disciples of all nations..."** (Matthew 28:19). **We call this the Great Commission, and God expects us to live this out today. This means we are to go and do something with what we know to be true. Jesus' disciples are to be disciple-makers. Take a few moments and write three people you could disciple.** Give your child time to write the people. Be ready to give the child some broad ideas for people whom he or she can disciple. Share some people whom you have discipled or would like to disciple. Then, ask your child to share some of the people he or she chose.

Now What?

Read and discuss as a family the four points from booklet page 8. Close with prayer. Ask God to help your child be a disciple-maker. Thank God for giving you and your family members the ability and knowledge needed to lead others closer to Him.

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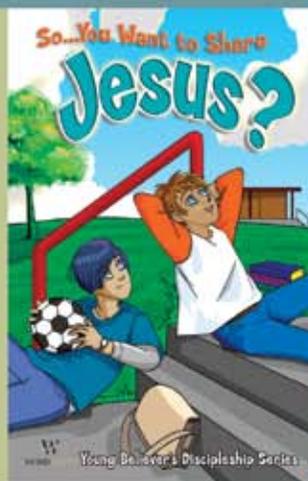
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