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| Radiant Church, March 4, 2018  David Ogilbee  **Make Disciples #Like Jesus** |

* Past sermons (Life, grow, Mission, Pray, Serve, Give, Evangelize)
  + Many, if not all of these sermons feed into Discipleship
    - Life - how we do life with one another, Jesus' example of coming along side those in different life stages, difficulties
    - Grow - how we grow into our newness of life in community with one another
    - Mission- how we live out our lives as examples of Jesus and the bibles teachings as evidence of the Living God and the gospel
    - Pray - How we see the blessings of God's word and thank him for those blessings and not simply telling him our wish lists
    - Serve - How our newness of life allows us to understand and use our talents not to further our own gain, but the gain of the kingdom.
    - Give - How our money is seen as another material blessing from the Lord, and that our giving is an act of worship which brings us joy
    - Evangelize -
* What is Discipleship?
  + Definition: A follower of a student, teacher, or philosopher.
  + Root Discere (Latin) to "learn", discipulus "learner"; we don't blindly follow
    - Interestingly, this is where we also get "discipline" from, which itself has a different connotation to it, doesn't it?
    - Psychology defines learning as: "a relatively lasting change in behavior that is the result of experience"
    - Minions:  enamored with their (evil) master.  They follow whoever is the biggest baddest boss they can find.  Until they land on Gru.  Gru is mean at first but turns out to be a pretty descent guy and soon they build a relationship with him.
    - When we learn from someone (our parents, teachers) we build a relationship with that person as well.  We become involved in who they are and how they live; this effects us. (minions hugging Gru)
    - Faith in God: we learn about him continually: experience, this shapes us, disciples us.
* We are all disciples of something
  + Inundated with influences
    - Our environment, culture shapes us, whether we are aware of it or not.
      * Example: Following celebrity on social media
      * If we fall prey to the worldly things, we begin to be disciples of them
    - Isa 50:4 (ESV) The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are **taught**, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.  Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are **taught**.
    - Isa 50:4 (NASB) The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of **disciples**, That I may know how to sustain the weary one with a word. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear to listen as a **disciple**.
      * The Lord passes down teaching and discipleship from generation to generation
      * Isaiah was taught/discipled by someone.
      * The Lord awakens our ear to those who are of Him.
    - Isa 50:5-6 (ESV)  The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.
      * We can rebel; hear what God is calling us to and decide to turn away
      * What's more, v.6 draws allusion to Jesus
      * The world will mock when we turn to God
* Who were the original disciples?
  + Simon Peter, Andrew, James, John, Phillip, Thaddeus, Bartholomew, Thomas, James, Matthew, Simon, and Judas
  + Of these, Jesus "disciples" 3 (Peter, James, John)
    - witnessing of miracles, the transfiguration of Jesus (Matt 17)
    - these guys were the ones closest to Jesus
  + Similarly, we can draw examples of this in the methods of discipleship we use today
    - GC model (family aspect)
      * who do we relate to on a deeper level?  Cry with? Share joy with?
    - There are many ways that we might disciple one another; there is no clear answer to the "how", the "why" is what we must focus on (get to that in a moment)...
* Jesus is a disciple of God
  + John 7:14-18:  **14**About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. **15**The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has **learning**,[[**d**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+7#fen-ESV-26332d)] when he has never studied?” **16**So Jesus answered them, “**My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me**. **17**If anyone's will is to do God's[[**e**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+7#fen-ESV-26334e)] will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. **18**The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory; but **the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood**.
  + The marvel of Jesus was that while being a part of the trinity, his entire purpose was that of the Father.
    - When we look back at what a disciple is/means, Jesus is telling us here that his learning is from God, not of himself.
    - Not only that, but he (and we in our discipline/teaching/learning from one another) tells us that the glory of our great teacher is the focus.
      * As soon as we make discipleship about how we undermine or make others feel small, we are trying to take the place of God.
      * Our "why" is in the "glory of him who sent him".
  + Isa 50: Jesus was sustained by his love of the father, though he endured reviling.
  + Separation from God was agony for Jesus (verse)
  + Through that agony, which was to be our agony, we have salvation.
  + This sacrifice is honored when we meet through communion.
    - "Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19)
    - We need continual reminding of what it means to follow Jesus, learning from him in order that we may be disciples and make disciples.