



BE THE BODY

MULTIPLICATION

Spiritual Outcome Defined:

Intentionally seek opportunities to help others Discover faith and to humbly train them in the outcomes associated with both Develop and Deepen.

Spiritual Outcome Described:

Consider the weight of final words. When a person is moving, changing jobs, or at the end of one's life, the words they say carry special significance. No longer are they at the periphery of what matters. They speak the words that matter most. At the end of Jesus' time on earth he pulls his closest followers together and gives what would be his final exhortation: *"All authority in*

heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, 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 29:18-20). Considering Jesus' love for God and people, these words are not surprising. The most loving thing one person can do for another is to help him or her reconcile and walk with God.

*"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed."
-- Hudson Taylor*

Jesus exhorts his followers to reproduce themselves—to multiply—by making disciples throughout the entire world. This exhortation is not simply an exhortation to indoctrinate others. It is an exhortation to bring hope, healing, freedom, and grace to a world in desperate need of all of this and more. To do this, though, one must be willing to get involved in the messiness of life. Discipleship does not happen at a distance. It happens when we are in intentional relationship with those hungry to love God and love people. The intentional aspect of this is critical to multiplication. Yes, we can make a difference in the lives of others in countless ways, and we can help people spiritually in countless ways. To truly multiply, though, is when a person walks intentionally with others to train them in walking the way of Christ. We will all have varying capacities to do this, which is why we make an important distinction in multiplication between doing this *"as your ministry"* or *"alongside your ministry"*. For some, their main ministry may be leading a relief effort for the impoverished or being an advocate for refugees. With these ministries a person will look for ways to multiply oneself, but it will likely be done with 2 or 3 people *"alongside their ministry"*. Others, though, will make multiplication their primary ministry, work with 10 or 15 people, and do this *"as their ministry"*. Either way, the cause of Christ must multiply, and to do so, we must be intentional about inspiring and training each other to authentically walk the way of Christ.

Evidence of this Spiritual Outcome in a Person's Life:

- Knows and is intentional about multiplying oneself either "*alongside their ministry*" or "*as their ministry.*"
- Has identified people they are actively helping walk the way of Christ or is daily asking God to bring these people into their lives.
- The people they are helping walk the way of Christ have given verbal commitment to be fully engaged.
- Has an intentional and holistic plan to help people walk the way of Christ.

Guidance

Read each passage multiple times. Then write your observations about the passage and any thoughts you have from the discernment question. What do you notice in the passage, and what does this reveal about your life?

Matthew 28:19-20

Observations:

Discernment Question: What are you currently doing to lead people to Christ and grow people in Christ? How is it going?



Mark 1:17

Observations:

Discernment Question: In your pursuit to impact others, are you following Jesus or hoping he will follow you? How is this played out in your life?

John 21:15-19

Observations:

Discernment Question: How are you currently looking out for Christ's sheep? Do the sheep sense Christ's care through you?



Romans 10:14-15

Observations:

Discernment Question: Who are you praying for opportunities to share the gospel with?
If you're not currently, who could you begin to pray for?

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Observations:

Discernment Question: How effective are you at meeting people where they are? How could you increase your effectiveness?



2 Timothy 2:2

Observations:

Discernment Question: How are you multiplying your ministry by raising up others who are raising up others? How is it going?

1 Peter 3:15

Observations:

Discernment Question: Do you know how to explain the gospel compellingly? Do you know how to answer common questions? Can you tell your own faith story? If not, what could you do to strengthen yourself in this area?



Next Steps

What are practical next steps you will do from what you have discovered in this survey of Scripture on multiplication? Include insights offered from others in your group that could be applied in your own life as well.



Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™

