

WEEK FIVE, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapter 3, "The D Group: A Blueprint" *Growing Up*

Robby clarifies the purpose of *Growing Up* in Chapter 3. He writes, "The driving purpose of this book is to help you become a disciple who makes disciples" (Page 34). That resolution lines up perfectly with what we are seeking to accomplish in our D groups.

One of the measures in our vision frame statement, "Make Disciples" is "**I am multiplying disciple makers.**" At BBC, we are committed to model the biblical imperative of disciple making. **Multiplying disciple makers** is a New Testament teaching that has been overlooked in many American churches. Because the practice is still somewhat novel to many, it will take intentionality and prayer to make **multiplication** a common spiritual reality. Pray for and encourage the people in your D-group to begin to embrace this challenge.

The following questions are given to aid you as you lead the discussion this week and apply the truths from Chapter 3. It is not imperative for you to use these questions or to cover all of them.

- Multiplication. "**How many people have you personally discipled who are now repeating the process in others?**" (Page 36). This is the ultimate question that every Christian must ask himself or herself; it is the culmination of "I am multiplying disciple makers." **Is it possible to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant," if you have ignored or neglected the imperative of the Great Commission to make disciples?**
- Evangelism. Let me expound upon one statement Robby makes in describing the differences between a Sunday School class and a D group. He writes, "A D-group, in contrast [*to a Sunday School class*], consists of believers who desire a deeper walk with Christ. It is not evangelistic in its form or function, but in its fruit; it makes disciples, who then make disciples" (Page 37).

The mandate of the Great Commission is to make disciples “of all the nations.” The truth we must keep before us is reaching the world with the gospel. If believers are not being disciplined to be soul-winners, we are failing to equip them to become Christ-like—and we are failing at fulfilling the Great Commission. The initial command Jesus gave His first two disciples, Simon and Andrew, was, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men” (Mark 1:17).

Therefore, while we believe our disciple making process will produce soul winners, we also have soul winning as a part of the form of our discipleship process. We will focus more on equipping people to be soul winners when we reach Weeks 16-21. One of the prayer requests we have for our groups is that each person in every group will win one person to Christ this year. As we keep this vision before us in prayer and as we equip people to be soul-winners, we will see a great yield from the fields that are “white unto harvest” (John 4:35).

Please ask your group to discuss the following: **Describe your experience and feelings about becoming a soul winner.**

- **Accountability.** Robby writes about nine pages on accountability in Chapter 3. I believe in and am committed to the discipline of accountability. I am personally accountable to people. One of our measures under “Make Disciples” is, “I am personally accountable to other Christians.” I support and agree with the questions in Appendix 7. However, accountability is not something that can be forced; it must grow. You can’t make someone accountable--to be vulnerable or open with you. If people are forced to be accountable before they are ready, they will do what people have done since the Garden of Eden, they will hide. They may talk some, they may even confess a shortcoming, but it will come from a heart of performance, not deep spirituality.

Accountability grows in an atmosphere of love. Model it yourself. Be honest and open. Walk into accountability firmly, but carefully, being sensitive to the Holy Spirit and the people God has brought into your life and group. People hunger for truth and intimate relationships with one another and God. Given the right soil, accountability will, in time, grow and prosper.

Please discuss the following questions. **Why is accountability important? Have you ever been or are you now accountable to someone? What are the fears and the benefits of accountability?**

Our verse next week is 1 Timothy 4:7, 8.