

# UNSYSTEMATIC DISCIPLESHIP

## GRACE CENTERED DISCIPLESHIP

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[b]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

## Reframing Discipleship

### What it is not: DISCIPLESHIP HIERARCHY

- discipleship is not a hierarchy in which a more experienced person teaches a less experienced person all the information that they know about God
- Discipleship is not just merely proclaiming what the gospel is. It's not this idea we have more inherent value because of our knowledge or revelatory understanding or life conclusions
- It is not behavior monitoring, in which a person who abstains from more stuff monitors a person who abstains from less stuff
- **It is not a hierarchy**
- **These type of ideas fueled some of the immoral actions of the church that we talked about in previous weeks. Fuel's a supremal system of evangelism and mission**
- **It becomes reinforcement of powers and principalities opposite of God's heart or void of God at all and produces disciples of a system or a person but not of Jesus**

### What it is: GRACE CENTERED

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

- **A disciple is a learner who seeks to become like the one whom he is following. By this definition that makes a discipleship, helping people to become progressively like Christ in character, conduct, attitude, and actions**
- **Tony Evans says that when human beings take over discipleship we make it about everything that it's not, information and behavior change but it is actually not centered on either. It is about transformation.**
- **Transformation can not be instilled by man it can only be affirmed by him**
- **Discipleship is and should be grace centered.**
- **Grace considers capacity and is 3 fold (Ephesians 4:7) grace is unmerited favor, (2 Corinthians 12:9) sufficient in our weaknesses/ power is made perfect, (Acts 13:42-43) divine, Holy Spirit influence on the heart.**
- **This is what we affirm**
- **How we disciple is that we walk with and give grace. We walk with and extend unmerited favor in the same way we received it. We walk with and we give grace in peoples weaknesses and struggles and don't write them off. We walk with and help them discern, learn, and obey what God is doing to their heart.**

**Grace centered Discipleship is the key element of God's Kingdom agenda. it is the visible manifestation of God's comprehensive rule over every area of life.**

**The effectiveness of the church therefore is evaluated - not in the number of it's members- but by its disciple-making. It's the absence of discipleship that keeps the church impotent and ineffective, because by not taking up Christ's mission of discipleship, it's people can not draw on Christ's authority.**

- **He says in verse 20 "teach to observe everything" not to impart knowledge but to help people to apply. a disciple/learner also obeys, teaching does not produce a disciple.**
- **We are helping to develop learners of Christ and not students of ourselves or students of a systematic way of thought**