



## Acts 2:37-41

### Making Disciples (Part 1)

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Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and **make disciples**" - Matthew 28:18-19a

#### 3 Primers on Making Disciples:

##### Primer #1 – Defining what a “disciple” is:

A “disciple” is a disciple of Jesus / a follower of Jesus / a believer in Jesus / a Christian / someone who has been born again / a child of God.

##### Primer #2 – There are 2 distinct phases involved in the disciple making process:

**Phase 1** is the initial phase, and this phase involves leading someone who isn't a disciple to becoming a disciple for the very first time.

**Phase 2** comes next, and it begins the moment after a person becomes a disciple. This phase involves leading someone who has become a disciple in the process of growing as a disciple.

##### Primer #3 – There are both essential and nonessential ingredients to making disciples.

**V. 37** A person MUST be presented with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ BEFORE they can become a  
disciple of Jesus.

#### The Gospel is a good message

Gospel = Good News

#### The Gospel is a specific message

Now I want to make clear for you, brothers and sisters, **the gospel** I preached to you, which you received, on which you have taken your stand and by which you are being saved, if you hold to the message I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that **he was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. - 1 Corinthians 15:1-5

“Fellow Israelites, listen to these words: This Jesus of Nazareth was a man attested to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did among you through him, just as you yourselves know. Though he was delivered up according to God's determined plan and foreknowledge, you used lawless people **to nail him to a cross and kill him. God raised him up**, ending the pains of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by death... **God has raised this Jesus**; we are all witnesses of this.” - Acts 2:22-24, 32

#### The Gospel is a confrontational message

“Though he was delivered up according to God's determined plan and foreknowledge, **you used** lawless people to nail him to a cross and kill him.” - Acts 2:23

“Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, **whom you crucified**, both Lord and Messiah.” - Acts 2:36

#### The Gospel is a supernatural message

For I am not ashamed of **the gospel**, because it **is the power of God for salvation** to everyone who believes. - Romans 1:16a

#### The Gospel is a necessary message

How, then, can they call on him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing about him? And how can they hear without a preacher? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news. - Romans 10:14-15

**V. 37** The gospel message makes people feel \_\_\_\_\_ before it makes them feel \_\_\_\_\_.

*For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. No creature is hidden from him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give an account. - Hebrews 4:12-13*

### **3 broad categories of responses to the Gospel:**

#### **Persecution**

*“Remember the word I spoke to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.” - John 15:20*

#### **Indifference**

*“Anyone who is not with me is against me, and anyone who does not gather with me scatters.” - Luke 11:23*

#### **Humility**

*God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. - James 4:6*

**V. 37** A person MUST respond in \_\_\_\_\_ to the gospel message BEFORE they can become a disciple of Jesus.

**V. 38** A person MUST \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel message BEFORE they can become a disciple of Jesus.

*For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who **believes** in him will not perish but have eternal life. - John 3:16*

### **Part 1 of belief is Repentance**

### **Part 2 of belief is Baptism**

*“If you love me, you will keep my commands.” - John 14:15*

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. - Galatians 5:22-23a*

*“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - Matthew 28:20b*

**V. 38** \_\_\_\_\_ those who believe the gospel message will receive forgiveness of their sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**V. 39** \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ who hears the gospel message can become a disciple of Jesus.

**V. 40** Be prepared to \_\_\_\_\_ people to believe the gospel message (if necessary).

*Therefore, since we know the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade people. - 2 Corinthians 5:11a*

*Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly over a period of three months, arguing and persuading them about the kingdom of God. - Acts 19:8*

**V. 41** \_\_\_\_\_ those who \_\_\_\_\_ after they hear the gospel message.