

5 Missional Living Discipleship Cycles

John 1:29-51

Hear the Word

Jesus begins gathering disciples before He reveals His glory through Messianic signs in John chapters 2-11.

Notice that Jesus is given many titles

Notice that as Individuals are called to follow Jesus, they open up their relational networks and it creates a chain reaction of people discovering and following Jesus

Kingdom Value: To see the people you meet & know as networks to bring to Jesus, not just individuals. “What would happen if “___” encountered Jesus? They could bring their floor, their club, their major, their team to Jesus as well.”

Also, notice the incredible dynamism of Jesus. The disciples bring people to Him, and He knows them.

Active Response

Network Map

Invite a friend to SG, or a SG event

Pray for a friend AND their network

Challenge them to pick someone from their network map and replicate this discipleship cycle with them (For MC's becoming ML's).

Debrief & Interpret

How'd it go?

What did your friend think?

Let's pray for Jesus to meet them and reveal to them that He's real and He knows them.

What did they learn as the invited their friend, or as they led their friend through the Discipleship Cycle?

Did God open up any new doors for them to reach campus, or their friends?

What might God be calling them to next?

Mark 4:1-21

Hear the Word

You were meant to multiply, not add.

The farmer sows indiscriminately – not a seed sniper. Invite generously.

Soil reveals itself by the response – can't tell what kind of soil it is till the harvest.

Seed is potent & powerful if it can just take root.

What kind of soil do you identify with?

Rejection is expected, but abundant fruit is expected also. Multiplication is sowing seeds of the Word and seeing friends come to faith and reproduce new disciples in their friends.

The Kingdom of God will grow through multiplication, not through everyone accepting.

Active Response

Network Map

Who can you invite/ cast vision to? Go do it and then call & tell me how it went

Are you sowing seeds in your network? Who can you invite to SG/SG hangout/Halloween Party/Large group/to get lunch with you and me and some other small group people. This is what our small group is meant to be, a multiplying movement of God. Where you can multiply in your life? What is keeping you from multiplying? What thorns can we pull up so that you can?

Debrief & Interpret

Get ice cream to celebrate the risk they took to extend an invitation – whether it failed or worked!

Look at network map again and pray for the invitee & their network, maybe extend invitations again this week to them and one other person in the same network.

Luke 5:1-11

Hear the Word

Jesus calls Peter to a risk. Peter is the expert and it seems crazy to him, but he reluctantly obeys Jesus and experiences abundance.

Where might we be hesitant to respond to Jesus because we think, “This couldn’t work. I’ve done this before. I know this situation or this person and it’s not going to work.”

How might Peter be feeling – he’s tired, he’s done fishing & even washing his nets, it seems like Jesus is overstepping his boundaries (Peter is the expert at fishing, not Jesus)... and then totally shocked, and in awe of the presence of the work of God.

Active Response

Pray about where the Lord is asking us to cast our nets on campus

Pray that we would have enough faith to even reluctantly say, “Yes” to Jesus.

Network Map

Extend Invitations (cast your nets), to SG, to a GIG (Group Investigating God), to an event, to large group.

Share their testimony with one of their friends (not necessarily whole life story, but how Jesus has met them recently)

Invite a friend to a GIG, or to SG, even if they have been disinterested previously. (just like how Peter didn’t really want to cast his nets out again after experiencing failure, but he did anyways)

Debrief & Interpret

Celebrate the risks taken. If “casting their nets” didn’t result in anything, celebrate that they took a risk just like the disciple Peter... they’ve grown as a disciple.

Pray for the people they invited, or shared with.

What was it like to cast your net again even though you didn’t think it would work?

What would it look like to invite this friend one more time? (develops perseverance & faith)

Who else in their network map could they take a risk & invite/ or share something with them?

John 4:27-38

Hear the Word

The harvest is ripe even in places we don’t expect it (Samaritan villages!)

Jesus is Savior over all who would receive His love, even unlikely people who haven't yet encountered Him.

The harvest isn't just available, it's plentiful.

The love and forgiveness of Christ extends to even those who we think are too far from God (this woman had quite a past)

God's work feeds our faith.

The woman's testimony was pretty simple, "see the man who told me everything I ever did", and yet it's effect was powerful.

Jesus followed up the witness of the Samaritan woman, and many in the town believed.

Active Response

Prayer walk on campus, asking for God to give you eyes to see His Harvest instead of our pre-conceived ideas of people. (Go together, or each go separately and then meet up afterwards to debrief & Interpret)

Do you believe that God has a harvest on campus? If not, why not?

What might be a first step towards realizing this harvest?

Who could you move towards in love that you may have thought was previously too far away to be reached by God?

Debrief and Interpret

Who or what did God put on your heart as you prayer walked?

Did you see any groups of people or locations on campus differently with this passage of scripture in mind?

What could be our next step in reaching this harvest?

Let's meet next week and talk about one risk we could each take towards reaching this harvest.

Luke 14:15-24

Hear the Word

Inviting the poor & lame = extending God's invitations

Lots of room in God's house. God is the kind of God who wants more people, "So that my house will be full." Not satisfied with just a few holy saints.

God is a full house feasting kind of God.

There is a persistence in inviting demonstrated in this parable, rejection must be overcome.

Active Response

Go invite 5 people on your floor/dorm/life to SG/CHAPTER EVENT/FALL RETREAT/ lunch with you and some of your SG friends.

Who reminds you of the "undesirable people" in this parable? Let's invite them to something, whether that's small group, an event, large group, or even just to lunch with the two of us.

Share the vision of small group with a disengaged Christian on your hall and invite them to join and become a part of it.

Debrief & Interpret

Let's throw our own party (movie night in the dorm, dance party, baking party, etc) so that we can invite people to it. (Party is for others, not even for our own sake, what a thought!)

Celebrate and share invitations extended.
Pray for God's house to be full of people from dorm/campus/wherever.

Servant-hood D-Cycle

Mark 10:32-52

Hear the Word

Notice the disciples ask for places of honor right after Jesus' predicts his death (same pattern in 9:33)

Jesus repeats the same question he asked the disciples to the blind man "What do you want me to do for you?" (v. 36&51) - Jesus was taking the posture of a servant, trying to teach the disciples this even though they were so clueless and kept asking for positions of leadership.

Jesus asking that of the blind guy probably felt obvious, but it was a cue in for his disciples to listen & learn.

Jesus makes his disciples get the blind guy, again teaching them servant-hood through the process.

Jesus on his way to Jerusalem - where he's going to die, and He still stops to serve Bartimaeus. The mood of the scene is hectic & rushed until Jesus suddenly stops (in verses 46-52)

Respond Actively

Who can you "stop" to serve this week? Are there any "undesirable" people - like how the crowd felt about Bartimaeus - that you could stop to serve this week?

Deviate from your schedule at least once this week to meaningfully serve someone - not like holding the door, but something longer like helping someone with their homework, or eating lunch with someone lonely on your hall or in your class, etc.

Debrief & Interpret

How was your experience serving? Who did you serve and what did you do?

What parts of it were inconvenient or embarrassing to you?

What was really easy and fun about it?

Where did you encounter God as you did it?

How might you more regularly serve this person or this group of people?