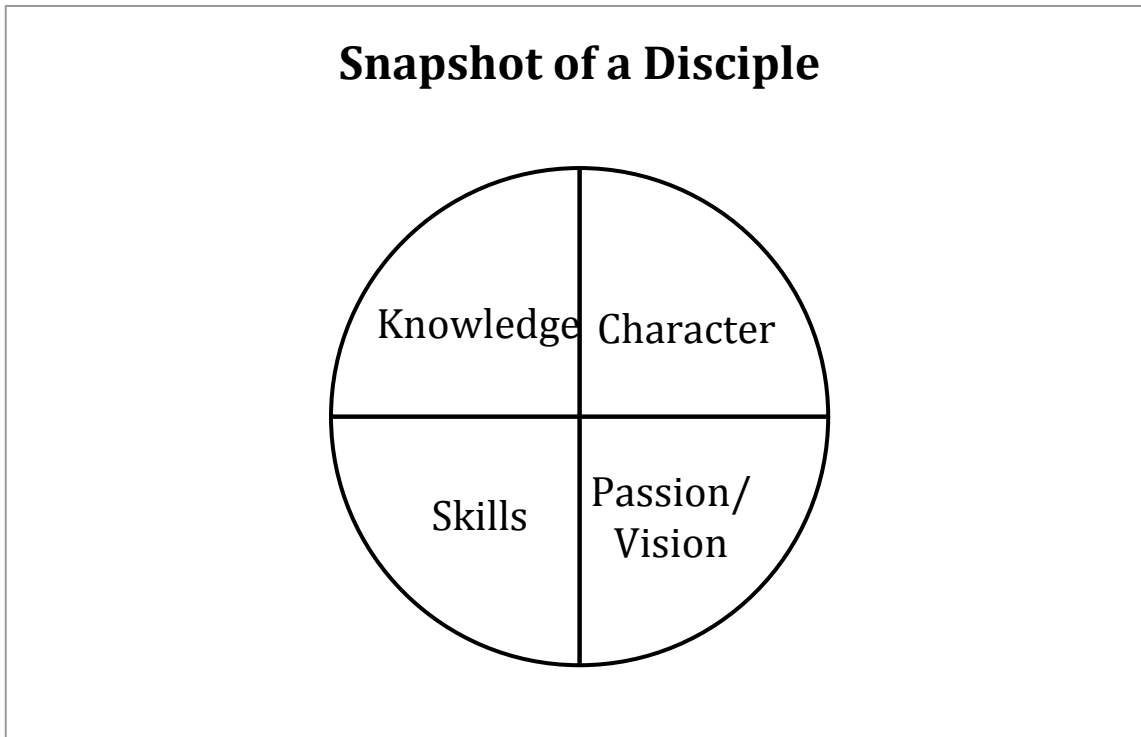


As believers, our final marching orders from Jesus before leaving this earth were to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20). This is the binding order for each and every one of us. This brings us to an important question...what is a disciple?



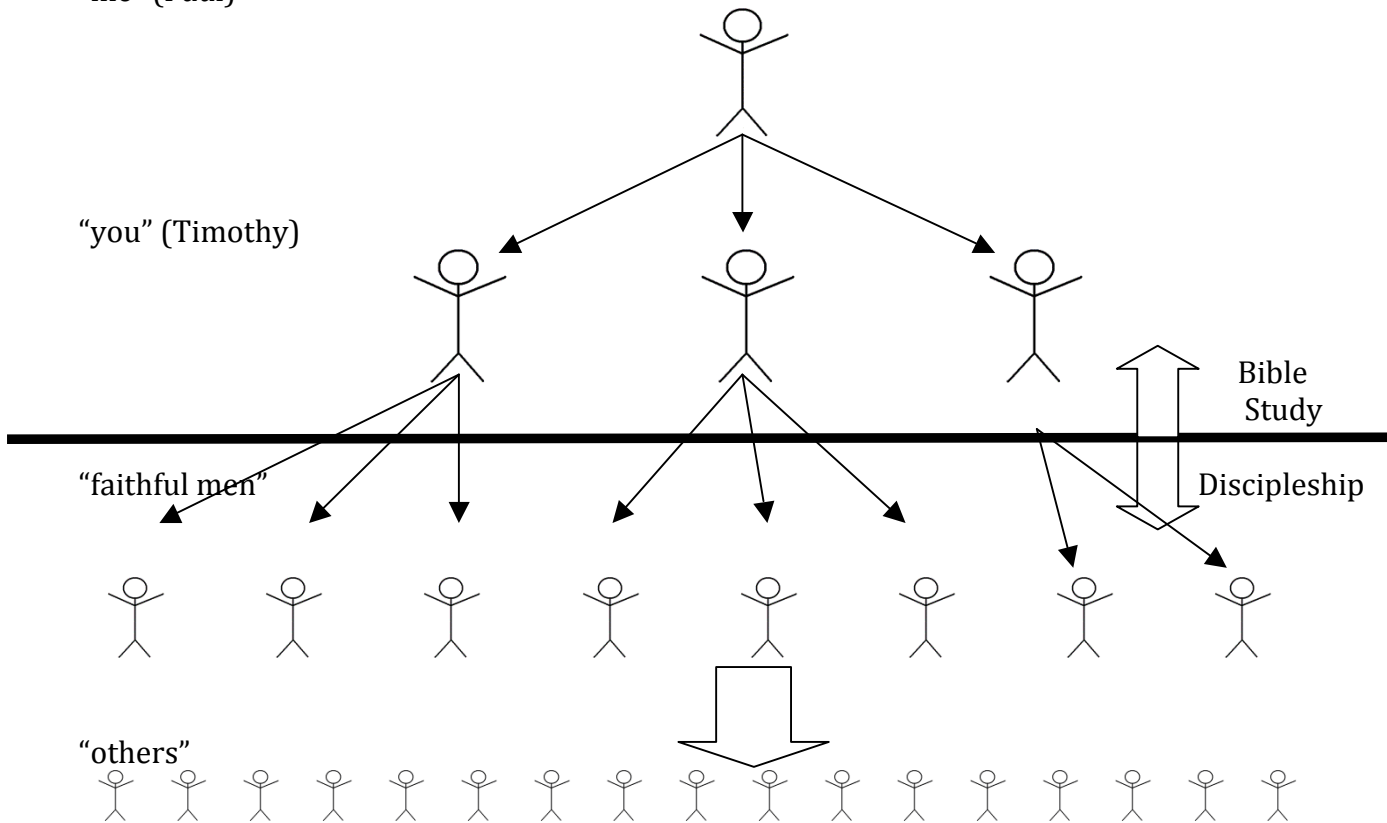
1. **Knowledge.** You have to know certain things about God to be a disciple of Jesus. For example, you need to know that Jesus has paid the penalty of your sin on the cross. You need to know that Jesus is the divine Son of God and not just a mere man. There are many things we should know as disciples of Christ. (2 Tim. 4:1-5)
2. **Character.** A disciple walks in a manner worthy of the Gospel. I always say it this way, what would it say about a person who is discipling you if you found out they had been having an affair for years? We walk with character, in light of the Gospel. We don't live to perform for anybody, but because of what Christ has done we should walk with character. (Phil. 3:15-16)
3. **Skills.** A disciple possesses certain skills that he/she will need in ministry: the skill to study the Bible, the skill to evangelize and share your faith, the skill to teach, the skill to lead a Bible study, the skill to defend your faith. These and many others are skills that we as believers should be cultivating always in our effort to minister and serve the Lord and the church.
4. **Passion/Vision.** If you don't have passion, it'd be difficult to be a true disciple. If Jesus is a mere checklist or a to-do list or something that you've just "done for years," it will be hard to be a follower of Jesus. We have a passion for Jesus and for what He's done for us and a vision to see the people in our life and the nations come to know and see Him as the savior.

So if that is a picture of what a disciple is, we still haven't truly figured out what **discipleship** is.

The heart of discipleship is "follow." We are to "be with" someone we trust and respect in the faith so that we may be "sent out" by them to do the same (Mark 3:14). We follow the example of faithful men and women all the way back to the Apostles who followed Jesus (1 Corinthians 11:1). But still, what does this look like?

2 Timothy 2:2- *the things you have heard from me, in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

“me” (Paul)



- 2 Timothy 2:2.** This gives us a perfect picture of what it looks like to “make disciples.” We take the commandments and the truths of God, the snapshot from above that has been passed down to us, and we entrust it to faithful men and women. To note: there is nothing wrong with Bible study, but everything above that black line above is called Bible Study. The intention of Bible study is to learn, grow, and mature in our faith without the intention of passing it along. There is nothing wrong with that, but there is something more intentional about discipleship. Discipleship is the process by which you will take the things you learn and the maturity that is happened in your life, and you teach it to others. It requires you to follow someone and learn and then develop men and women that will follow you and learn from you.
- End goal.** There is no greater adventure in life than giving your life in a discipleship relationship to someone. Can you imagine standing before Jesus one day and pointing to the line of people behind you that love the LORD because of your faithful ministry of discipleship? This is the goal and aim of our life.
- Occasion.** The best part about it is, we can do this anywhere. You don’t have to be a church pastor or a “small group leader.” You can disciple people on your team, in your class, in your family, older, younger, bigger, or smaller. Your discipleship can begin now. Just find someone you trust in the Lord, a person you would say, “I want to be like that person spiritually,” and ask them to make you like them.