

8. Spiritual Multiplication

How would you answer the following?

Why Am I Here Instead of In Heaven?

- Because my home in Heaven is not finished yet.
- Because I must not be good enough yet.
- Because God is having second thoughts about me.
- None of the above.

The reason we are here instead of in Heaven is **to fulfill Jesus' final command to all Christians.**

- Read Jesus' *final command* below.

*"Then Jesus came to them and said,
'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptising them in the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and
teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.
And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."
Matthew 28:18-20*

The Great Commission

Christ's final instructions to His disciples in *Matthew 28:18-20* above is commonly called **The Great Commission** because in it, Jesus *commissions* them to *take the Gospel to the world*. The **main verb** in this command is "*make disciples*". *Three other verbs* that connect to the main verb explain *how* this is to be accomplished. See if you can find them.

- Circle each one.

Go ~ you can't reach people for Christ unless you *go* to them. This verb implies that God *assumes* we will go.

- Circle *where* we are to go according to Christ's Commission.

Baptising ~ the word 'baptize' symbolizes the *cleansing* and *new identity* Christians have in Christ when they place their faith in Him.

- Underline into what *new* identity Christians are *baptised*.

Teaching ~ making disciples involves *teaching*.

- Underline *what* we are to teach new disciples.



John 4:34
John 17:4
Acts 20:24



MEMORIZE!

- ▶ Why does Jesus begin the Great Commission with the declaration '*all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me*'?



John 17:2

The Plan

Where do you start when you're trying to "make disciples of all nations"? Acts 1:8 gives us the **The Plan** to follow.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

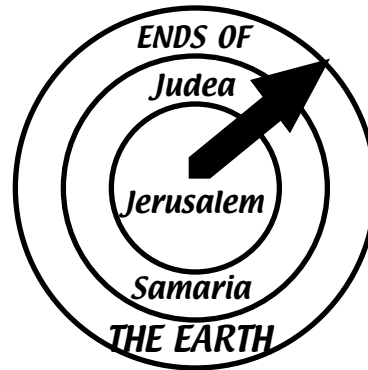
Acts 1:8

- Underline *three geographic areas* where we are to be Christ's witnesses.

Jerusalem ~ the city of Jerusalem represents the *disciples' home*. (ie. their family, friends, home town/city)

Judea & Samaria ~ these two provinces represent the *surrounding area*. (ie. State, Province, or Country.)

Ends of the Earth ~ this includes *everyone else* to be reached with the Gospel ~ to the farthest reaches of the earth. (all nations)



We can all witness to people in our **Jerusalem**, as well as *work with other Christians* to reach everyone in our **Judea & Samaria**. But to reach the **ends of the earth** requires Christians to *go and live among the people in other nations*. *Every Christian should be willing to go, but even if we do not, we must all support those who do go with our prayers and finances!*

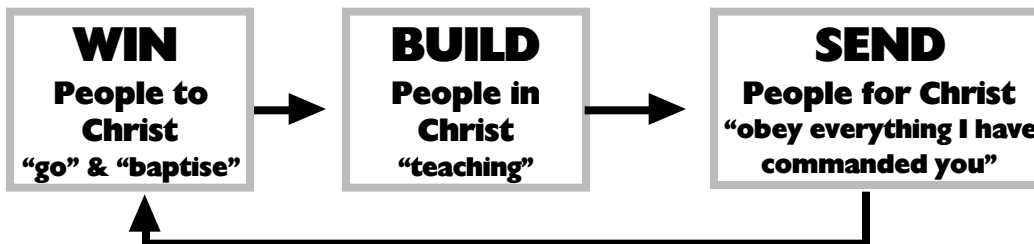
MEMORIZE!

Acts 2:14-42
Acts 8:1
Acts 22:17-21

- ▶ Where is your *Jerusalem*?
- ▶ Where is your *Judea & Samaria*?
- ▶ How do you plan to reach the *ends of the earth*'?

The Strategy ~ Discipleship

Now that we *know* our mission is to *make disciples of all nations*, the question is 'How?'. The **Discipleship Process**, developed by *Campus Crusade for Christ*, is outlined in *Matthew 28:18-20* and diagramed below.



- ▶ How does teaching disciples to *obey everything Christ has commanded us* result in them winning and building others for Christ?

The **Discipleship Process** results in *growing numbers of Christians becoming involved in discipleship* as they are built up and sent out for Christ. This results in **"Spiritual Multiplication"**.

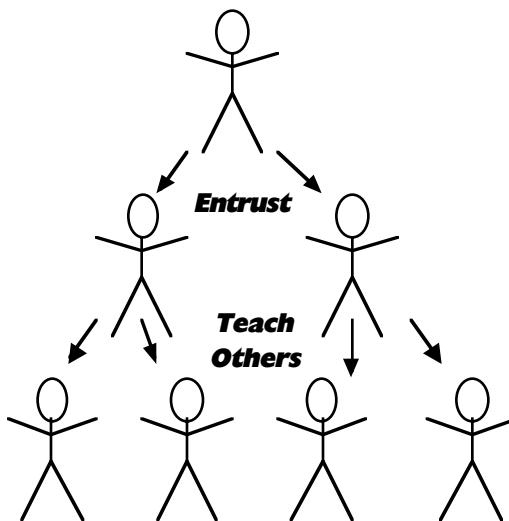
Spiritual Multiplication

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”
2 Timothy 2:2

The principle of **Spiritual Multiplication** is found in 2 Timothy 2:2.

- Underline what *we* are to do with the things we are taught.
- Underline what ‘*reliable men*’ are supposed to do with what they have learned.

Spiritual Multiplication is diagramed at right.



Compare the numerical results between **Spiritual Addition** and **Spiritual Multiplication**.

Spiritual Addition <i>(Reach 100 People for Christ Each Day)</i>	Year	Spiritual Multiplication <i>(Win, Build & Send One Person Every 6 Months)</i>
(thousand) 36,000	1	4
72,000	2	16
108,000	3	64
144,000	4	256
180,000	5	1,024 (thousand)
216,000	6	4,096
252,000	7	16,384
288,000	8	65,536
324,000	9	262,144
360,000	10	1,048,576 (million)
396,000	11	16,777,216
432,000	12	67,108,864
468,000	13	268,435,456
504,000	14	1,0736,741,824 (billion)
540,000	15	4,294,967,296
576,000	16	17,179,867,184

One Person CAN Make a Difference!

God Wants YOU To Be That Person!

MEMORIZE!

► How would you define a ‘reliable’ person?

1 Corinthians 4:2
Luke 6:40
Luke 14:26

Notice that each succeeding generation grows as those who have *learned* now *teach* others. This is the magic of **Spiritual Multiplication**.

Spiritual Addition
Winning people to Christ but never *Building* them up or *Sending* them out to Win and Build others.

Spiritual Multiplication
Continually *Winning, Building and Sending* others to Win, Build and Send still others.

If we are to reach the world, we must move from *Spiritual Addition* to *Spiritual Multiplication*!

The Chart

The chart represents how many people are reached for Christ by the end of a year. Notice that by *continually* discipling 1 person every six months, who will then continue discipling others, it is possible to reach the entire world in only 16 years! Through *Spiritual Multiplication*, one person can reach the entire World!

A Significant Life

If you have ever wanted to do something significant with your life, you will not find a more significant work than *Winning, Building and Sending* people for Christ. Your efforts will not only result in *Abundant Lives*, but *Eternal Lives*!

Commit yourself to be part of God's movement to reach the world for Christ by completing the Discipleship Covenant on the following page.

Discipleship Covenant

*“Only One Life Will Soon Be Past,
Only What’s Done for Christ Will Last!”*

*In Obedience to the Great Commission of
My Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,*

I, _____,

Pledge Myself to Help

*WIN People to Christ,
BUILD People In Christ and
SEND People for Christ,*

*In Order That the Whole World May Know
Jesus Christ is Lord!*

*I Make This Covenant
On This _____ Day of _____, _____!*

GOD is My Witness!