

# FIRST THINGS FIRST

## Core Group Guide: Make Disciples

**Opening** Take 5 minutes to have each person briefly share a praise from their week & something that has challenged them. Minister to one another as necessary. Then have someone pray for for the group time.

**Core Questions** You will spend most of your time on the third value, so don't spend too much time on the first two.

### Value #1: Know & Love God

**Read 1 John 1:8-9 and answer the question below.**

Is there sin you need to confess or any area of compromised purity that you've participated in since we last met? Explain to bring it out into the light.

### Value #2: Love One Another

**Read John 13:34-35 and answer the questions below.**

How have you been using your time, talents, and treasure (finances, energy, etc.) in service to others in our church family? How is it going? Are there any ways you feel led to now?

### Value #3: Make Disciples

**Read Matthew 28:17-20 together.**

**Discuss the relevance of the Great Commission**

What are the apostles being commissioned to do?

**ANSWER:** Make disciples. It is worth pointing out that this is not the same as converts.

Do you think this commissioning also applies to us?

If unsure, ask "Does this fit under "everything I have commanded you?"

**Read Colossians 1:28-29 together.**

**Discuss the goal of the Great Commission**

What is the goal of making disciples?

What are key truths that we need to know in order to make disciples effectively?

From the passages, it is ultimately not our power, but the promises of Christ with us to the end of the age (i.e. His return) and that it is His power at work in us. You can jump to *Luke 24:45-49* and *Acts 1:1-9* to show how this played out for the apostles.

**LISTEN:** Spend time asking God to reveal any areas of unbelief. If anyone confesses any, have each person pray a prayer to renounce the associated lie and to ask God for the truth that should be believe in its place.

**Read 2 Timothy 2:2 together.**

**Discuss the practicals of the Great Commission.**

Pick a few questions to answer from this list. Make sure your time transitions into practical prayer and next steps.

**How do you know someone is acting as a disciple?**

**DISCUSSION POINT:** Remind people to answer the question from the verses, not just their own best idea.

For example, 2 Timothy 2:2 shows reproducing discipleship (four generations, teaching those who will teach others also).

Draw a discipleship tree to visualize that it starts with Jesus, shows 2 Timothy 2:2, and goes through history to today.

Do we want the passing on of Jesus' teachings to end with us, or for it to keep going?

How can we live more intentionally live out the Great Commission as disciples

**What hinders us from sharing the gospel with others the most?**

**Is there something we can do together in order to live this out?**

How can we hold each other accountable to sharing Jesus with those around us?

### Closing Ministry Time

End in ministering to one another, praying that each person would be filled with the Holy Spirit, which usually looks like boldness and obedience. Feel free to use *Acts 4:23-31* if you want to pray from Scripture.

Also pray according to *Matthew 9:37-38*, that God would empower and send laborers to the harvest.

Make space for each person to respond in faith by asking God for direction or practical steps to live out.

God may bring a specific person to mind for each them to share Jesus with or a clue for a divine encounter soon.