

These are written that you may . . .

# BELIEVE!

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## Making Disciples

Jesus' command for *all* believers is to make disciples. It is not optional.

MATTHEW 28:19-20 NKJ

19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

### Like Raising Children

Making disciples is much like assuming the responsibilities of being a parent:

- Until they learn to feed themselves, you make sure they are fed.
- You teach them how to feed themselves as soon as possible.
- If they get into trouble, you help them — even if it is inconvenient, because they are your top priority.
- You train them to do what they need to do.
- You teach them what you know.
- You help protect them from danger.
- Mostly, you must spend time with them because people learn best by example.

Your goal is to eventually reproduce yourself — another believer who can also stand on their own and reproduce.

### Who?

- 1) Pray for God's direction.
- 2) Who do you have opportunity to help?
- 3) Find a way to hook up with them.

Disciples are those God is entrusting to you, that He may train them though you.

### How?

- 1) Pray for God's direction.
- 2) Love them till they ask you why. (Romans 13:9)
- 3) Take someone with you.

- 4) Lead by example — not by command.
- 5) Keep Jesus central.

Training has not been accomplished until the desired action is being practiced.

LUKE 6:40 NKJ

40 "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

Although we cannot remove the inevitable human influence, we must strive to make disciples of Jesus, and not just followers of ourselves. Train them to trust in, rely on, and follow Jesus Christ.

### Made Disciples

JOHN 4:1 NKJ

1 Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus **made** and baptized **more disciples** than John

ACTS 14:21 NKJ

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city and **made many disciples**, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch,

### Let Jesus Build The Church

MATTHEW 16:18 NKJ

18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Beware of not seeing the trees (disciples) for seeing the forest (church). Jesus said *He* would build the church, but He told *us* to make disciples.

How do you plant a forest? You don't. You plant one tree at a time. Those trees then reproduce other trees and a forest develops.

Disciples cannot be mass-produced. Be faithful to help whoever God has given you opportunity to disciple, and Jesus will build His church. □