



ANSWERS: Unit 2: Blessing Others

Bless others by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and making disciples

Lesson 3 Making Disciples

Day One

Time with God and Prayers

1. What is the most challenging witnessing situation that you have faced and why?

Personal Answer

2. Read Galatians 2:20. What does the apostle Paul mean when he says, “I have been crucified with Christ”?

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

The apostle Paul identifies with Christ in Christ’s death on the cross and His resurrection, leaving his old life behind and sharing in Christ’s resurrection life. This is for believers also—we die to sin’s ruling power and are led by Christ’s Spirit.

3. Read Luke 9:23. What instructions does Jesus give to those who desire to be His disciple?

Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.” Luke 9:23

To deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Jesus.

The phrase “take up your cross” means to die to oneself through total surrender to Jesus. In the first century, the cross was a means of death and so in carrying it, one was carrying their own execution device. It is a call to self-sacrifice and self-humiliation. A *disciple* is a born-again believer who submits, follows, and obeys Jesus.

4. Read Ephesians 4:22–24. How have you put off your old self and put on the new self?

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22–24

Personal Answer

5. Are you on the path to being all you were meant to be in Christ? Yes No (Underline One)

Personal Answer

6. Why or why not, are you on the path to being all you were meant to be in Christ?

Personal Answer

7. Why or why not do *you* spend quiet and alone time with God each day?

Personal Answer

8. List the ideas or steps in the paragraphs above for spending time with God daily?

- (1) Get up early or earlier than everyone else in your household.
- (2) Ask God for grace to keep your morning prayer time.
- (3) Prepare a permanent chair or place with Bible, notepad, pen, and clock.
- (4) Decide on a Bible reading plan.
- (5) Put your phone on silent and leave in another room.
- (6) Give God your undivided attention.
- (7) Write down anything you sense God wants you to do.

9. Which of these steps do you, or will you put into practice?

Personal Answer

10. What other ideas do you have regarding daily quiet times?

Personal Answer

—End Day One—

Day Two

Reasons for Making Disciples

11. What do you think would happen if one generation of Christians failed to make disciples?

Personal answer, but there would be fewer Christians and most people would be going to hell. The world would become even darker and more evil.

Read Matthew 28:18–20 and answer questions 12–17:

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and 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

12. How much authority does Jesus have in heaven and earth (v. 18)?

All, total, complete

13. Who is Jesus delegating His power to and for what reason (v. 19)?

Jesus is delegating His power to His disciples (followers) to make more disciples.

14. How many nations or groups of people does Jesus want to make into disciples (v. 19)?

All nations and all people

15. What does Jesus want His disciples to obey (v. 20a)?

Everything He has commanded. Jesus’ commands are written in the Bible.

16. If you are a disciple, how long will Jesus be with you (v. 20b)?

Always, to the very end of the age—eternity.

17. How are you taking Jesus’ command seriously to make disciples?

Personal Answer

Action Step (After praying, make notes of how Jesus answered your prayer.)

18. Pray and ask Jesus where He wants you to make disciples (Foreign or home country, or combination) and what His next steps are for you?

Personal Answer

Read John 14:15 and Luke 6:46 and answer questions 19–21:

“If you love me [Jesus], keep my commands.” John 14:15

“Why do you call me [Jesus], ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?” Luke 6:46

19. What does Jesus expect from those who say they love Him (v. 15)?

They will keep His commands and do what He says.

20. What question does Jesus ask His followers (v. 46)?

“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”

21. Why or why will *you* not obey Jesus’ command to make disciples (Matthew 28:19)?

Personal Answer

Read Romans 12:2 and answer questions 22–24:

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2

22. What are disciples *not* to conform to—but instead, how are they to be transformed (v. 2a)?

They are not to conform to the pattern of this world, but instead be transformed by the renewing of their minds.

23. As a disciple of Christ, what should *you* be able to discern (evaluate, determine) (v. 2b)?

God’s will

24. How is God’s will described (v. 2c)?

Good, pleasing, and perfect

25. Read Ephesians 4:22–24. What is a disciple’s new self like and how does it affect those around us?

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22–24

Created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Bring light into others’ lives.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:5–7 and answer questions 26–28:

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. ⁶I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. 1 Corinthians 3:5–7

26. Who were Apollos, Paul, and any other disciple according to verse 5?

Servants, whom the Lord has assigned tasks.

27. Who do disciples belong to and who assigns our tasks (v. 5b)?

God, the Lord

28. Who causes Jesus' disciples to grow (vv. 6–7)?

God

—End Day Two—

Day Three

Omission and Recruitment

Read Ephesians 5:15–17 and answer questions 29–30:

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Ephesians 5:15–17

29. According to the apostle Paul, if you are careful and wise, will you make the most of every opportunity to follow the Lord's will? **Yes** No (Underline One)

30. Is the Lord's will to make disciples (Matthew 28:18–20)? **Yes** No (Underline One)

Read Mark 8:38 and answer questions 31–32:

“If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

Mark 8:38

Definition: The English word *ashamed* in Mark 8:38 is translated from the Greek word *epaischunthē* (ἐπαισχυνθῆ). In this context and verse, *epaischunthēis* is defined as reluctance through fear of humiliation, *be ashamed*, be afraid (to), and lack courage to stand up for someone or something.

31. Considering the definition of ashamed above, do you lack the courage to stand up for Jesus and His words to make disciples? Yes No (Underline One)

Personal Answer

32. When Jesus returns, how will He react to those people who were fearful of humiliation (or what others think) and so they did not recruit and teach others to follow Him?

Jesus will not stand up or vouch for them. However, he will not be fearful or afraid.

33. Take time to confess any sins of missed opportunities, not following God’s will (Ephesians 5:15–17), or being ashamed of Jesus and His teachings (Luke 9:26). Ask and receive forgiveness in Christ.

Personal Answer

34. After praying, list the people the Lord has placed on your heart to either disciple or help them start a discipleship team of their own.

Personal Answer

—End Day Three—

Day Four
Faith for Discipleship

Read James 1:2–3 and answer questions 35–37:

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. James 1:2–3

35. What are we to consider pure joy (v. 2)?

Whenever we face trials of many kinds.

36. When our faith is tested, what result should be produced in our lives (v. 3)?

Perseverance

37. According to James 1:2–3, how should we approach the difficulties in both sharing the gospel and making disciples?

With joy and the knowledge that any difficulties that test our faith produces perseverance.

Read Hebrews 10:38 and answer questions 38–39:

“But my righteous one will live by faith. And I [God] take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.” Hebrews 10:38 (Compare Romans 14:23)

38. How is a person righteous? (See Romans 3:22–23; Philippians 1:11)

Through faith in Jesus Christ

Bible references in question 38:

This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
Romans 3:22–23

... filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. Philippians 1:11

39. If you are righteous in Christ, how are you supposed to live?

By faith in Christ and God the Father.

40. How does God feel about those who shrink back from their faith?

He takes no pleasure in those who shrink back.

41. Read Romans 10:17. In addition to praying for faith, how do we get and increase our faith?

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. Romans 10:17

Through the word about Christ.

Before closing our interlude and returning our five steps to recruiting and making disciples, I want to share a sobering thought. Our purpose on this earth and the reason we were created is to glorify God. We glorify God when we love Him. If we love God, we will obey Him and His Son. Jesus commands us to make disciples. So, when we obey and make disciples, we are glorifying God.

42. Read the above paragraph. What happens if we disobey Christ's command and do not make disciples?

Rob God of His glory. We fail to glorify God by obeying Jesus and making disciples.

43. Read Matthew 4:21–22. How did Jesus take the initiative when he saw James and John (v. 22)?

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, ²²and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Matthew 4:21–22

(Note: Jesus most likely already knew the brothers. According to some tradition James and John were Jesus' cousins.)

Jesus called them.

44. Review, study, and implement the first three steps of recruiting and making disciples (Days One, Three, and Four). Look at your list of potential contacts, decide on which option above (A–C) you will use and begin arranging times to meet. How did the Lord lead you and what was the result?

Personal Answer

—End Day Four—

Day Five

Recruiting Steps 4 and 5

45. What is the most critical tool or material that disciples and disciplemakers need?
(See Psalm 119:8; Matthew 7:24; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; Hebrews 4:12)

God's Word, the Bible

Bible references in question 45:

I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me. Psalm 119:8

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. Matthew 7:24

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16–17

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

Read Proverbs 3:5–7 and answer questions 46–49:

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight. ⁷Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil. Proverbs 3:5–7 NAS (The NAS English Bible correctly uses the word acknowledge (v. 6) rather than the NIV's word selection, submit.)

Definitions: The Greek word *gnōrizó* (γνώριζε), translated *acknowledge* in the NAS and various other English Bibles means to make known, reveal, and declare. *Make your paths straight* is a metaphor or symbolic phrase meaning the way, journey, or wherever one is going is made successful or free from obstacles.

46. How are we to trust in the Lord (v. 5)?

With all our hearts, not leaning on our own understanding.

47. In how many ways are we to acknowledge the Lord (v. 6)?

All

48. How is making disciples an act of acknowledging the Lord?

We make the Lord known by revealing or declaring the good news of His Son and His plan for people to follow Jesus. People can only come to God the Father through Christ the Son.

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John. 14:6

49. When we make God known or reveal Him to others, what is His promise to us (v. 6b)?

He will make our paths straight.

50. Read 1 John 4:4. If false prophets or Satan throws obstacles in a believer's path, what is God's promise to us?

You, dear children, are from God [born again or born of God] and have overcome them (false prophets), because the one [Jesus] who is in you is greater than the one [Satan] who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

We overcome because Jesus is in us and is greater than Satan.

51. Read Isaiah 49:6b. What thoughts come to mind when you read the "Great Commission of the Old Testament?"

I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth. Isaiah 49:6b (Great Commission of the Old Testament)

Personal Answer

Thoughts from the lesson:

Jesus is the light who was born through the Jewish line of King David. He was born to be the light and salvation to the ends of the earth. We, who have received the light, are to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to this dark and ungodly world. We should do this gladly because we love God and love our neighbor.

Read Mark 12:29–31 and answer questions 52–56:

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29–31

52. What is the most important command (v. 30)?

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

53. What is the second most important command (v. 31)?

Love your neighbor as yourself.

54. Jesus said: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.* How much do you love God?

Personal Answer

55. How will you increase your love for the Lord your God? (See also Romans 5:5.)

Personal answer, but based on Romans 5:5 we should pray for more of God's love to be poured out into our hearts through His Holy Spirit.

Bible reference in question 45:

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:5

56. Meditate on Mark 12:29–31. How does loving God and loving your neighbor override all your fears, insecurities, reluctance, and even unwillingness to make disciples?

Loving God moves us to action. We want to please God and follow Jesus' command to make disciples. Our love for God and our neighbor becomes our overriding motivation and we are able to set other negative emotions aside.

57. Read Acts 8:4. Those disciples who were scattered because of persecution preached the word wherever they went. What can we learn from their actions?

Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Acts 8:4

We are to share the gospel and make disciples wherever we are and wherever we are going.

58. Write down today's date in a notebook, computer, or on an index card. Pray and ask God what your goal should be in obeying Jesus' command and making disciples.

Write your goal and the time limit under today's date, along with this explanation of your goal: Making one disciple[student and follower of Jesus] by either (1) leading the person to Christ and then discipling them, (2) discipling a newer Christian, or (3) being instrumental in getting a Christian to start or join an IJS discipleship team.

Personal Answer

Read Mark 8:34–36 and answer questions 59–60:

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Mark 8:34–36

59. According to Jesus, if anyone wants to be His follower, what must they do (v. 34)?

They must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Jesus.

60. How does one *not* forfeit their soul, and save their life (vv. 35–36, See also John 3:16; Romans 10:9–10)?

Ones saves their life by losing it for Jesus and for the gospel. That is, by trusting Jesus as Lord and Savior and thus—surrendering one's life to follow and obey Him.

Bible verses referenced in questions 60:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

if you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Romans 10:9–10

—End Answers Day Five and Lesson 3—

Next—Unit 2: Blessing Others, Lesson 4: Spiritual Gifts

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