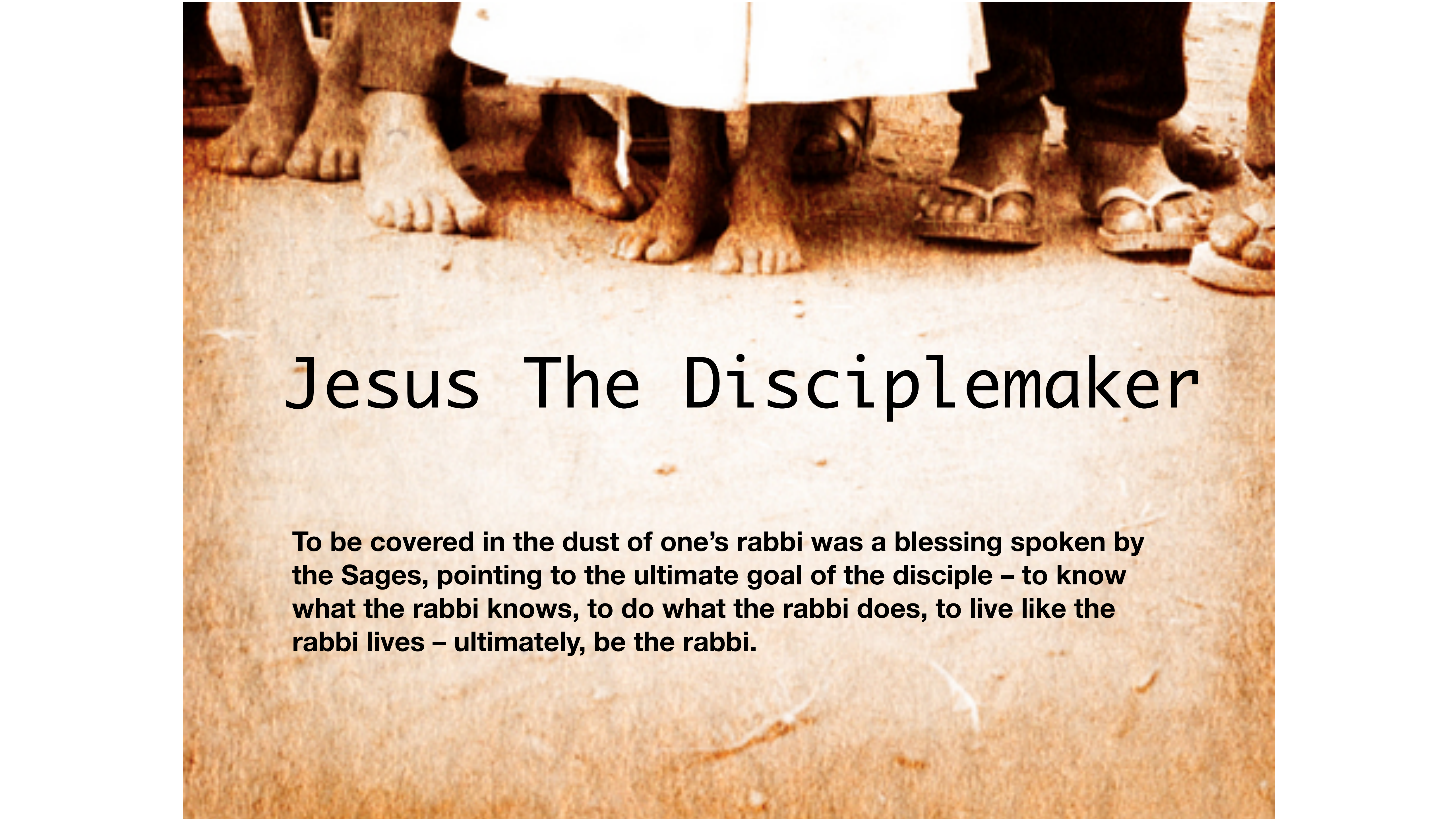




Jesus The Disciplemaker

To be covered in the dust of one's rabbi was a blessing spoken by the Sages, pointing to the ultimate goal of the disciple – to know what the rabbi knows, to do what the rabbi does, to live like the rabbi lives – ultimately, be the rabbi.

Our Mission

Substance Church exists to make disciple-makers. A disciple-maker is someone who has been transformed by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to live out the passions and priorities of Jesus, which we see as being: a Great Commandment Love, and a Great Commission Lifestyle.

Invite — We invite people of all ages and stages of life into our own lives. We do this as people who are indwelt by the Spirit of Christ, not just connecting them to a church building, but to the person of Jesus Christ (John 1:35–39).

Invest — We invest in these people, taking time to get to know their stories, helping them grow in their understanding of who God is and what it means to be transformed by the renewing of our minds and to be conformed more into the image of Christ together — serving one another as Christ has served each of us (John 1:43).

Ignite — We ignite these people to go out and do these very same things with others. This is the disciple-making model that Jesus gave us. If we don't reach the point of igniting, then we have not made an actual disciple-maker. Each of us has been called to “go and bear much fruit” (John 15:16).

Are You A Fisherman?

- If you read a book about fishing?
- If you watch a TV show about fishing?
- If you own a fishing pole but don't use it?
- If you go to a lake and watch people fish?
- If you know a fisherman?
- If you like to eat fish?

What makes someone a
Fisherman?



Are You A disciplemaker?

- If you read a book about being a disciple?
- If you attend church regularly?
- If you own a Bible and read it regularly?
- If you attend a community group?
- If you serve at church?

What makes someone a disciple?

What makes someone a disciple maker?



Matthew 28

Did they hear it like this?

“Guys, you know what I’ve done with you for the last three-and-a-half years? Repeat that in the exact same way over and over again! Starting right now as you go about your lives, do exactly what I did with you... with others... and help them do it with others without ever stopping. When you tell others about me, some will believe and follow me. Baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Be sure to pull them close—like I did with you—and show them how to love God, love people, and make disciples... until every ethnic group in the world has disciples who are making more disciples. As you live my disciplinemaking way of life, you can have full assurance of my presence, power, and provision—for I am always with you.”

Bill Allison of Cadre Ministries

John 14:6

“The Truth is a Person, the Way is a Person, the Life is a Person.”

Disciplemaking can only be done with Jesus at the center and as our model.

Disciplemaking is all about:

- Leading others in devotion to the truth (Jesus) = gospel understanding and establishing their identity as sons and daughters
- Modeling for others devotion to the life (Jesus) = living with the passions of Jesus to glorify God, Great Commandment relationships
- Directing them in devotion to the way (Jesus) = modeling the priorities of Jesus to bear fruit

Key Understanding = Being committed is not the same as being devoted.

Committed = Is tied to duty, task focused

Devoted = Is tied to love, affection and is relationship focused

Rabbinical Process at the Time of Jesus

- The Rabbi would call his disciples into both a relationship and a process
- The relationship: “Follow me, be with me, do what I do”
- The Process
 - Beit Sefer; age 6-10; memorized the Torah...at home
 - Beit Talmud; age 11-15; memorized the prophets and the writings, at home and in classroom settings
 - Beit Midrash; age 16-30; learned application to life, only the best disciples are chosen by the Rabbi for this step. Follow a way of life!

The Rabbinical Way of Jesus

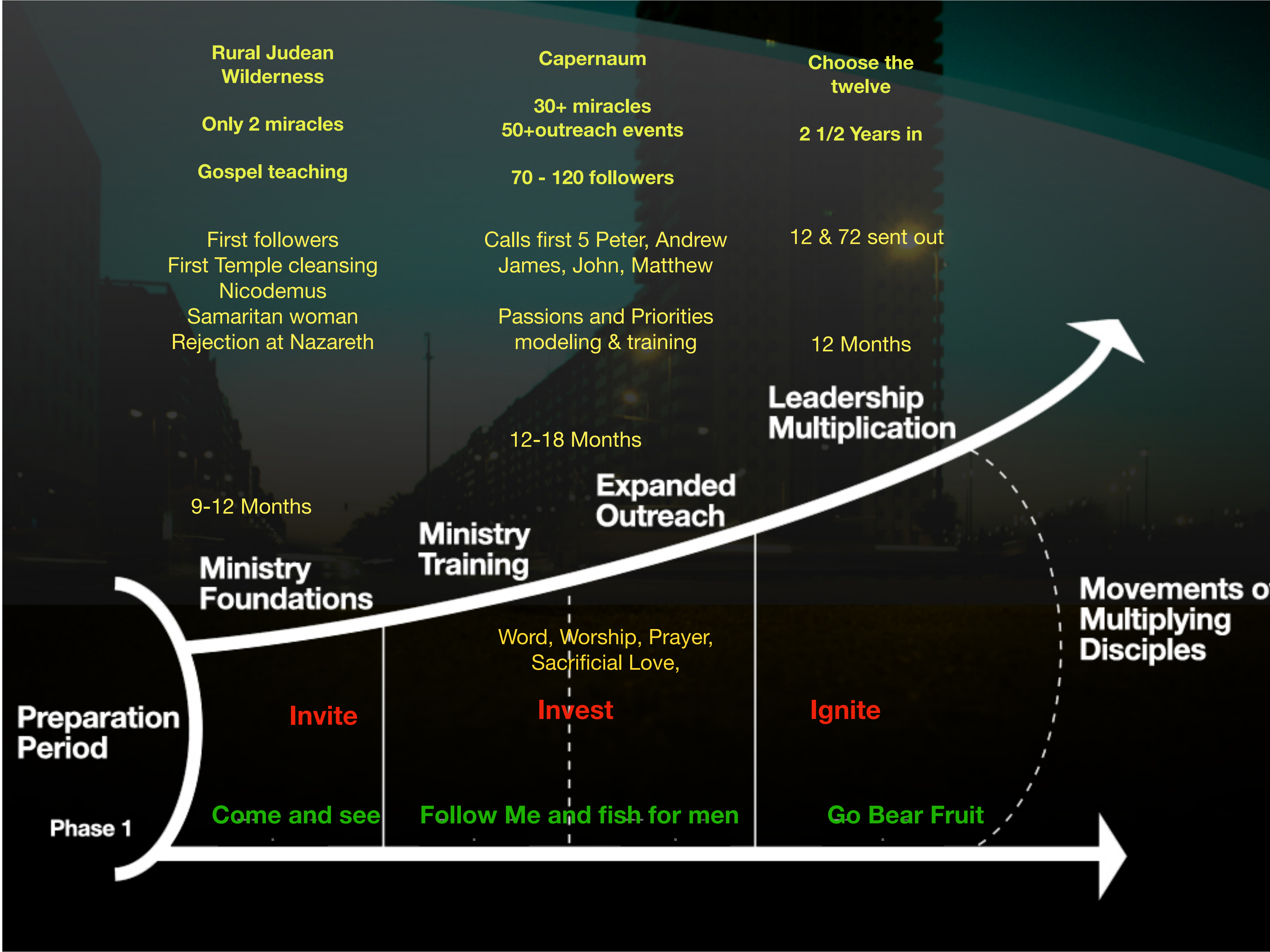
- He called disciples and formed a community
- He taught them His “Yoke” (“Gospel”)
- He explained and modeled it to them (Midrash)
- He lived the way together with them - everyday life, watch me
- He involved them in the doing - join me
- He commissioned them to make more disciples - Go do it now

The Rabbinic Model of Jesus

- Follow, or to literally walk after me....1 John 2:6
- Jesus chose most of his disciples from those who were not Beit Midrash material. He chose fishermen, tax collector, etc.
- **4 fold method**
 - Instruction – with interaction...parables
 - Imitation – in every area of life...teach us to pray
 - Examination – assignment and accountability....sending of the 12 & 72
 - Ending – do the same thing with your own disciples.....Matthew 28
- **Jesus spends 3 1/2 years modeling and equipping his followers to do what he had been doing.**

Equipping Process

- I do, you watch
- I do, you join me
- You do, I join you
- You do yourself



The Essence of Disciplemaking



Relationally walking with believers to help them:

Grow in **devotion** to Christ

- By focusing on loving God in Great Commandment love....Mt 22:37-38
- By establishing their identity through gospel understanding, sons and daughters of God

Grow in **devotion** to His People

- By living in loving relationships with His Church, Great Commandment love...Mt 22:39
- By modeling what the Way looks like with others

Grow in **devotion** to His Mission

- By intentionally living with his passions and priorities, Great Commission....Mt 28:19-20
- By reproducing what Jesus taught them



What questions or observations do you have so far?

What are some thoughts you have about current day disciple making efforts?

Disciplemaking Process

- What we believe

Gospel Faith

- Forms the values we hold

Passions of Christ formed in the heart

- Which are seen in the actions of our lives

Priorities of Christ lived out

There is no disconnect in what we value and our beliefs

Values are always observed in peoples actions

Disciplemaking Process Misunderstood

- What we Know

Religion based
(knowledge based over relationship)

- Forms the Leanings we hold

Moral lives
(behavior modification over transformation)

- Which are seen in the Choices of our lives

Pragmatic living
(fitting Jesus into life when it's convenient)

When knowledge replaces belief, Biblical values are not formed

Without Biblical values, actions become formed around cultural norms

Disciplemaking Picture

- What we believe

Gospel faith forms our Identity in Christ

- Forms the values we hold

Living as Imitators of Christ

- Which are seen in the actions of our lives

Priority of the Mission of Christ

Knowing and Loving God
Mt 22:37-38

Loving and Serving Jesus and
others like Jesus did
Mt 22:39-40

Devotion to Disciplemaking
Mt 28:18-20

Key Understanding = Being committed is not the same as being devoted.

Committed = Is tied to duty, task focused

Devoted = Is tied to love, affection and is relationship focused

Disciplemaking Barriers

- Discipleship is the focus - when you focus on discipleship you rarely get disciple makers, when you focus on disciple making it will always include discipleship.
- We focus on curriculum rather than life application, transformation.
- We focus on teaching people how to live in the church instead of how to live on mission in the world.
- We try to make disciple making formulaic over flexible.
- We follow an academic model that leaves most people feeling unqualified.
- We focus on teaching more than equipping.

The honest truth is disciplemaking is messy, takes time, can't be reduced to buying materials to study. It requires you to sacrifice your time and life for the Kingdom.

Cultural challenge of disciple making today

Rabbinic

- Forms Character
- Wisdom Focused
- Know how to live
- Loving God to obey
- Anchored in knowing and loving God
- Rooted in Scripture
- Life on life model
- Forms the heart

Western

- Forms Behavior
- Knowledge Focused
- Know how to answer
- Knowing how to conform
- Anchored in knowing about religion
- Rooted in pragmatism
- Classroom model
- Forms thinking

Let's Talk

What are your thoughts about the Western Vs Rabbinical?

What are the positive and negative affects you observe in Western Christianity?

How does understanding these differences relate to the challenges we face in making disciplemakers?

What questions do you have?

A Disciple IS IDENTITY

- *A son/daughter of God. They understand: I exist to love God with everything I am, and to be loved by Him with everything He is.*
- *"Before all things, I will seek first His Kingdom and righteousness, trusting Him with my life."
(Matthew 6:33)*
- *You have a rooted identity in Christ!*
- *"Knowing and loving God is my first priority."*

A Disciple IS Imitator

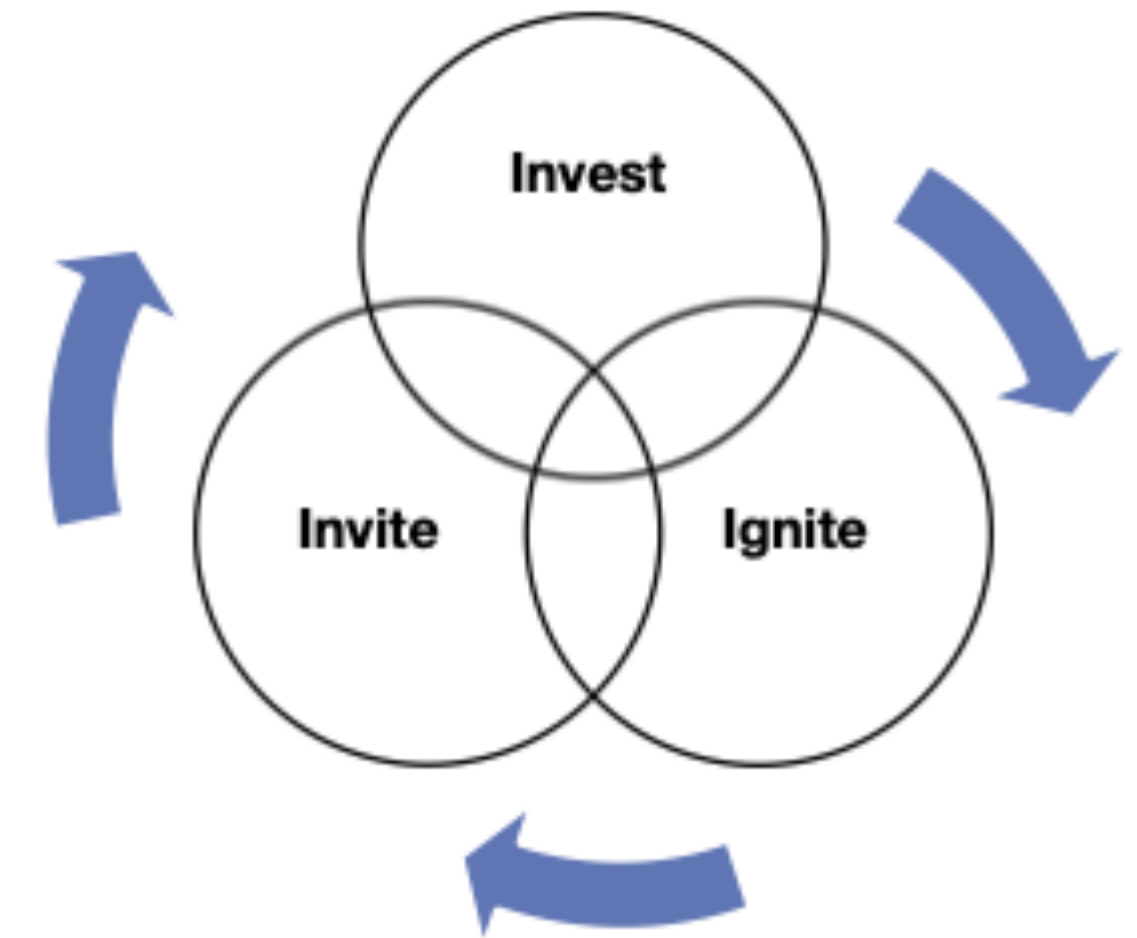
- *An imitator of Christ. I will love others with the love of Christ, and live with his passions and priorities.*
- *Mark 10:45, 1 John 2:6 – living as Jesus lived*
- **You have a rooted purpose in Christ.**
- **"Loving and serving others like Jesus is my second priority."**

A Disciple IS....

A Disciplemaker

- *A Messenger. My mission as a disciple of Jesus Christ is to make more and better disciples for Him everywhere I go. It is the outworking of my loving devotion to Christ and His Church.*
- *John 14:12 – “whoever believes in me will do the works I do”*
- You have a rooted priority in Christ’ mission.
- "Making disciples/disciplemakers is my third priority."

Invite, Invest, Ignite



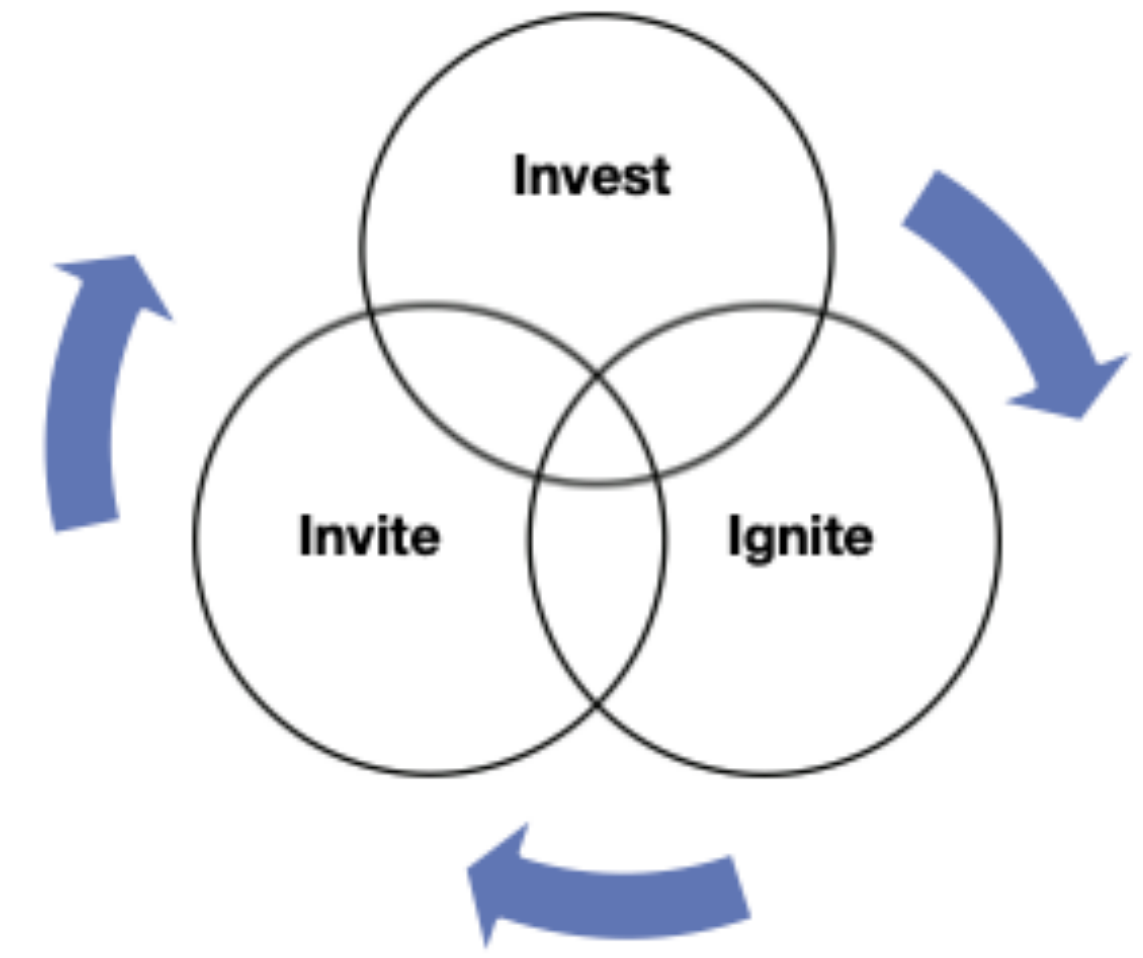
- **Invite** - come and see, come discover
 - For the unbeliever = Discover who Jesus is, why he came, what he accomplished
 - Read John together asking who is Jesus, what did he say, what did he do
 - For the believer = Join me in discovering how to love God with everything
 - What does being a son or daughter of God mean
 - Join me as we explore what it means to pursue Great Commandment love

What is required = Opening the door to your life and asking people to go on a spiritual journey with you.

Invite, Invest, Ignite

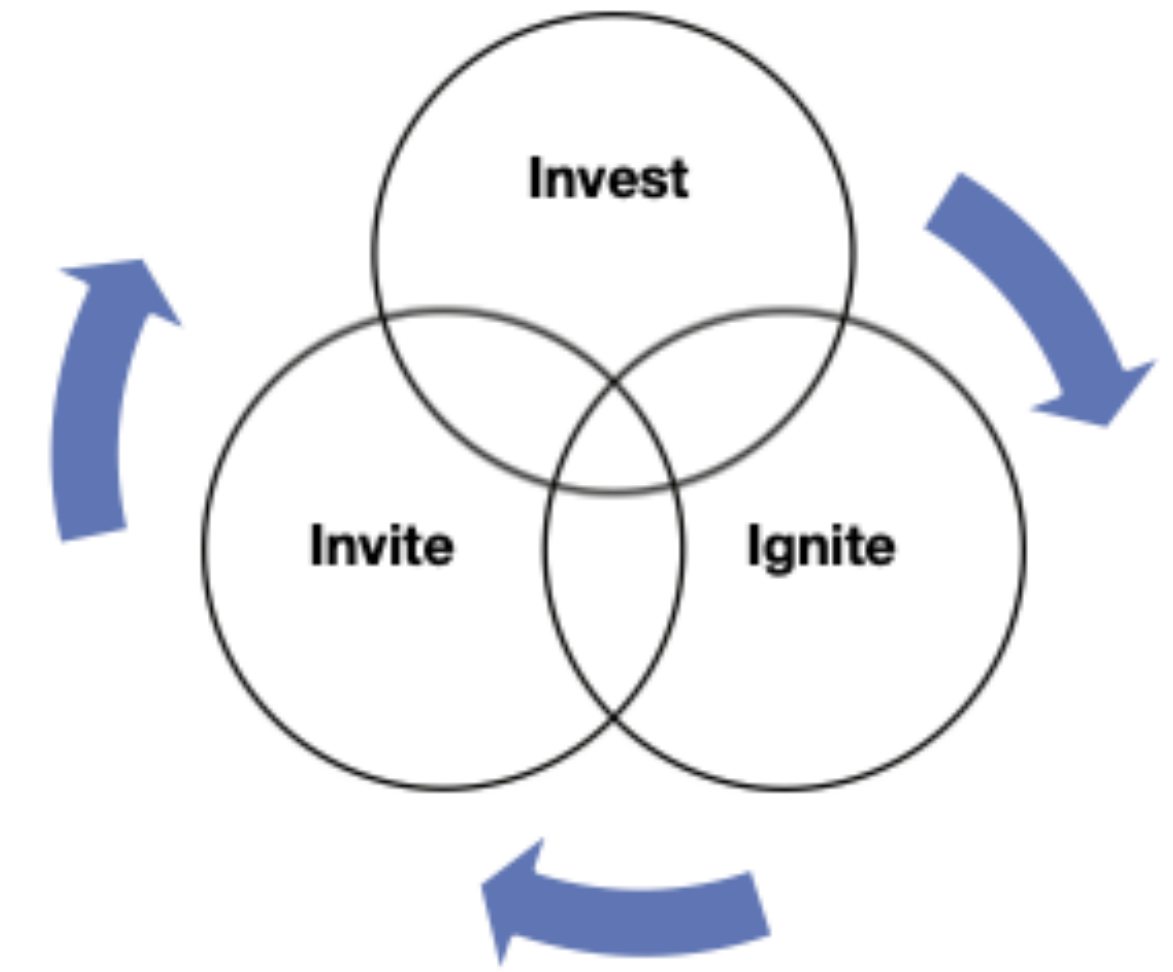
- **Invest**- come be with me, join me in discovering the Way together
 - For the unbeliever = Discover the gospel with me
 - Read Ephesians together, revealing the Truth/gospel
 - For the believer = Join me in discovering how to live the passions of Jesus
 - What does it look like to love God, serve and love others like Jesus
 - Join me as we live out the Life together, developing a Christ centered life.
 - Modeling prayer, gospel worldview, reading Scripture, sharing our faith stories

What is required = Developing a relationship that focuses on Jesus and his values. Modeling how you develop the passions of Jesus in your life.



Invite, Invest, Ignite

- **Ignite**- Go bear fruit, live on mission
 - For the believer = Intentionally living on mission
 - Who is in your circle of influence you can invite....non-believer & believe
 - Invite 1-2 people to explore the disciple making lifestyle of Jesus with you
 - Teach them Invite, Invest, Ignite the way you were taught



What is required = Sending your disciples out to start the process with their own disciples.
Intentionality to send and coach them in Great Commission priorities.



SUMMARY OF THE MULTIPLICATION PROCESS in Acts

Within 2 years... filled Jerusalem Acts 5:28
... multiplying disciples Acts 6:7

4 1/2 years later... multiplying churches Acts 9:31

19 years later... they turned the world upside down Acts 17
... all over the world Acts 24:5

28 years later... all over the world... bearing fruit Col. 1:5-6
... proclaimed to every creature Col. 1:23

A TRUE MOVEMENT OF MULTIPLICATION