

# CREATING A CULTURE OF DISCIPLE-MAKING

YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE NOT HESITATED TO PREACH ANYTHING THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO YOU BUT HAVE TAUGHT YOU PUBLICLY AND FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE. I HAVE DECLARED TO BOTH JEWS AND GREEKS THAT THEY MUST TURN TO GOD IN REPENTANCE AND HAVE FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS.

ACTS 20:20-21



 LikeJesus.church

## WELCOME TO LIKE JESUS.

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As we begin, we will focus on disciple making, not discipleship. The biblical mandate from Matthew 28:19 is to “Go and make disciples”. Disciple-making, as seen in Jesus’ life, demands the whole process of winning the lost, growing the new and maturing believers, equipping the few workers, and then sending out into the harvest field the proven multipliers to repeat the process. Discipleship historically focuses upon just one part of this process... growing the believers. This Like Jesus Initiative will focus on the whole process of disciple making, not just discipleship.

This Leader’s Manual was designed for use with the brief leader videos. This manual will then guide your team in some discussion questions. Our objective is for you and your leadership team to be aligned in terms of understanding the basic priorities of how Jesus made disciples.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dann', is written over a large, hand-drawn circular scribble.

DANN SPADER



# BUILDING A MOVEMENT OF MULTIPLICATION, **LIKE JESUS DID.**

“WHOEVER CLAIMS TO LIVE IN HIM  
MUST LIVE AS JESUS DID.”  
1 JOHN 2:6

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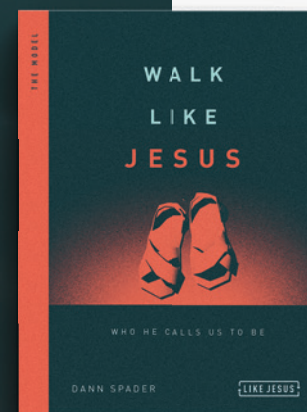
# In this Leader Manual, we want to give you an overview of the next three modules that will be presented to the whole congregation.

Each Module, presented over the next 18 months, will involve 6-10 weeks of sermons, small group study and discussion, and then practical application with measurements. While we are suggesting these three modules to be presented over an 18-month period, flexibility can be used in the order or length of each module, based upon the needs of your ministry.



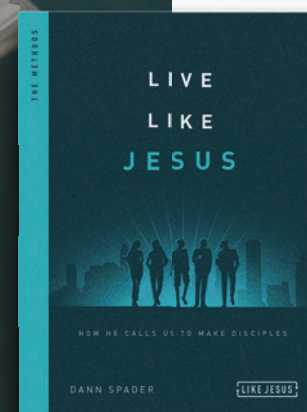
## MODULE 1 *THE MISSION OF JESUS*

The first congregational module will focus on the 'Mission of Jesus'. We will look at the four challenges Jesus used with His disciples as He masterfully developed them into reproducing disciple makers. This module will use the "4 Chair Discipling" book as both a study text and resource guide.



## MODULE 2 *THE MODEL OF JESUS*

The second congregational module will focus on the 'Model of Jesus' as we look at what it means to "walk as Jesus walked" (I John 2:6 ESV). This module will use the HS POWER acronym as explained in the "Walk Like Jesus" study and discussion guides. We will refer to these six priorities as the "foundational priorities" of Jesus.



## MODULE 3 *THE METHODS OF JESUS*

The third congregational module will focus on the 'Methods of Jesus' as seen in the seven "I" statements in John 17 stating in Jesus' own words how He made disciples. We will use the "Live Like Jesus" study book with the discussion guides. We will also refer to these seven "I" statements as the 'seven disciplines of a disciple-maker'.



# THE LIKE JESUS APP



The Like Jesus app was designed to both enhance the Like Jesus resource as well as help you as a church or ministry: go deeper with your people, provide content at no cost to them, and add real-time metrics and feedback digitally. The app provides book and video content, interaction & engagement, church assessment & metrics.

The Like Jesus app is versatile as it has a web portal that can be implemented into your current church app platform as well as a stand-alone app for iOS and Android.

LEARN MORE:

[Manage.LikeJesus.Church](#)



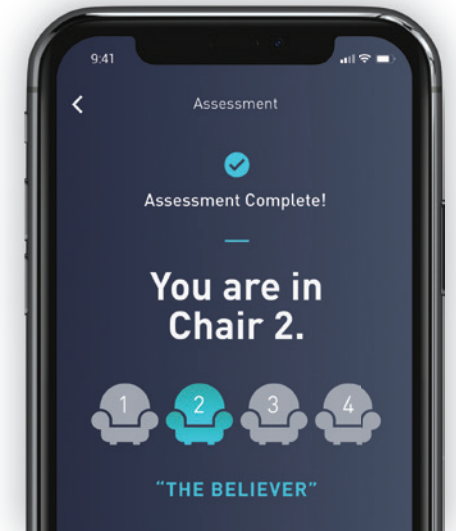
## Circles

Enter in unbelievers to pray for, believers they are pouring into, and be reminded to pray and have spiritual conversations.



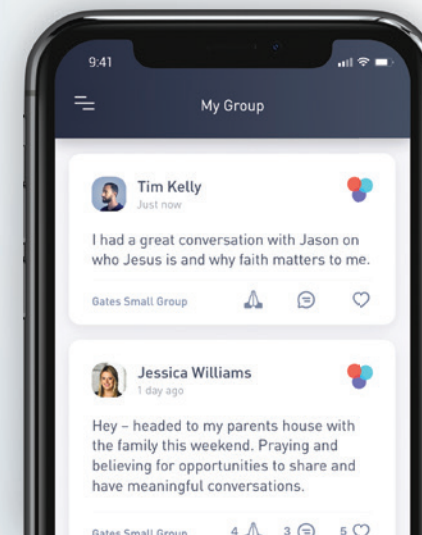
## 4-Chair Assessment

Assess which chair you are currently in and see the church-wide assessment data for leaders to review.



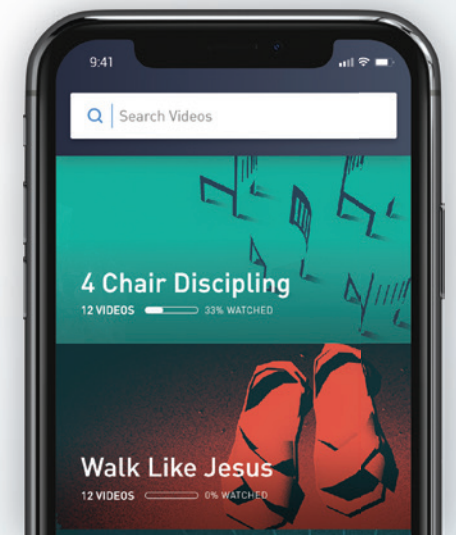
## My Group

Connect with those in your small group – ask for prayer, share stories of spiritual conversations and encourage each other.



## Video | E-Books

Full E-Book content of every book and videos for each chapter/session within the app.





# LEADER TRAINING OVERVIEW

The Like Jesus resource is a culmination of Sonlife and Dr. Dann Spader's lifelong work and study of the life and ministry of Christ, learning to live and do ministry as the real Jesus did. Dr. Spader has intensely studied Jesus' mission, His model, and His methods during His ministry on earth. This learning from the life of Christ has equipped over 1 million leaders around the world in the last 30-40 years as well as created movements of disciple making in various ministries in over 100 countries.

## HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL

We believe a few things are imperative for this culture of disciple making to be successfully developed in your church or ministry:

1. The leadership must be fully on board and ready to implement at all levels of ministry.
2. This needs to be preached from the pulpit, discussed in small groups or classes, and studied on a personal level.
3. It shouldn't be done too quickly, but will be best in a 1 to 2 year integration, with each module having 8-10 sermons.
4. We've designed this resource to be 60-70% about Jesus and 30-40% about the methods. We recommend a similar ratio to be reflected in sermons and study to keep Christ as central as possible.



Look for this action icon throughout the manual and watch the corresponding video teaching online (*LikeJesus.Church*) or in the app.

- INTRODUCTION** (Optional)  
Three ways to study Jesus: His message, methods, and model  
Two ways to analyze Jesus: As a Disciple Maker and as a Movement Leader
- 1 OUR MISSION AND MOTIVE**  
#1a. Two commands and three verbs of the Great Commission in Matthew 28  
#1b. Three conclusions about the Great Commandment in Mark 12
- 2 THE DISCIPLE-MAKING PROCESS PART 1**  
A simple overview of the 4 challenges of Jesus as seen in the 4 chair metaphor
- 3 THE DISCIPLE-MAKING PROCESS PART 2**  
Going deeper in the 4 challenges
- 4 JESUS FULL HUMANITY AND DEITY**  
The powerful implications of Jesus' full humanity
- 5 OUR MODEL**  
A summary of six foundational priorities modeled by Jesus... HS POWER
- 6 OUR METHODS**  
A summary of Christ's seven "I" statements in John 17...7 disciplines of a disciple-makers
- 7 OUR DISCIPLE-MAKING PATHWAY** (Optional)  
Developing your own disciple-making pathway
- 8 EVALUATING YOUR PROGRAMS** (Optional)  
How to design your activities to help achieve your disciple-making priorities



# INTRODUCTION

VARIOUS WAYS OF UNDERSTANDING  
THE LIFE OF CHRIST



▶ WATCH "PART A" OF THE LEADER VIDEO, AN INTRODUCTION

## 1. THREE WAYS OF STUDYING THE LIFE OF CHRIST

### FIRST: STUDY HIS MESSAGE

This approach focuses attention on the message of Jesus. Most of the books about Jesus address this aspect of Christ's life. This is a profound way to study Jesus and one we will be doing for eternity.

### SECOND: STUDY HIS METHODS

This approach focuses on looking intently at what and why Jesus did what He did. A clear grasp of Jesus' methods helps deepen your appreciation of His message.

### THIRD: STUDY HIS MODEL

This approach begins to look deeper at the "real Jesus" of the Scriptures, who was fully human while being fully God, and asks the "how" behind the "what" questions. Not only "what did Jesus do" but "how did Jesus do" what He did?

In this study we want to weave all three of these approaches together, helping our people understand in a fresh way the "real Jesus" of the New Testament.

“  
**AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, WE BELIEVE WE ARE CALLED TO FOLLOW THE RESURRECTED CHRIST AND IMITATE THE INCARNATE CHRIST.**

Biblically, throughout the ages, Jesus has taken on various forms (the Greek word is morphe in Phil 2:6-7). We have the Pre-Incarnate Jesus who created everything we can see and who in the Old Testament appeared as an ‘Angel of the Lord’ (Joshua 5, Gen 18). We also have the Resurrected Christ who is the God-Man in Heaven as ‘Head of the Church’ and our ‘Advocate’. The Incarnate Christ added humanity to His Deity and “became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:14), becoming “like us in every way” (Heb 2:17), “yet without sin” (Heb 4:15).

As disciples of Christ, we believe we are called to follow the Resurrected Christ and imitate the Incarnate Christ... both His character and priorities. To be able to do this well, we will need a fresh understanding of both the Resurrected Christ and Incarnate Christ. This will be the purpose of this Initiative.

**DISCUSSION**

1. How can the methods of Jesus impact your understanding of His message?
2. If we assume that Jesus was only able to do what He did because He was God, how would this impact our understanding of “walking as He walked” and “doing what He did”?



**WATCH “PART B” OF THE LEADER VIDEO, AN INTRODUCTION**

**2. TWO METHODS OF EXEGESIS OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST**

We are convinced that there are at least two major methods of exegesis (analysis) of the Life of Christ.

**FIRST: JESUS AS A DISCIPLE-MAKER**

In this approach, we analyze how Jesus as the Master disciple-maker, developed His disciples.

This approach looks specifically at how Jesus, as a Master-teacher, made fully trained (Luke 6:40) disciples capable of making other disciples.

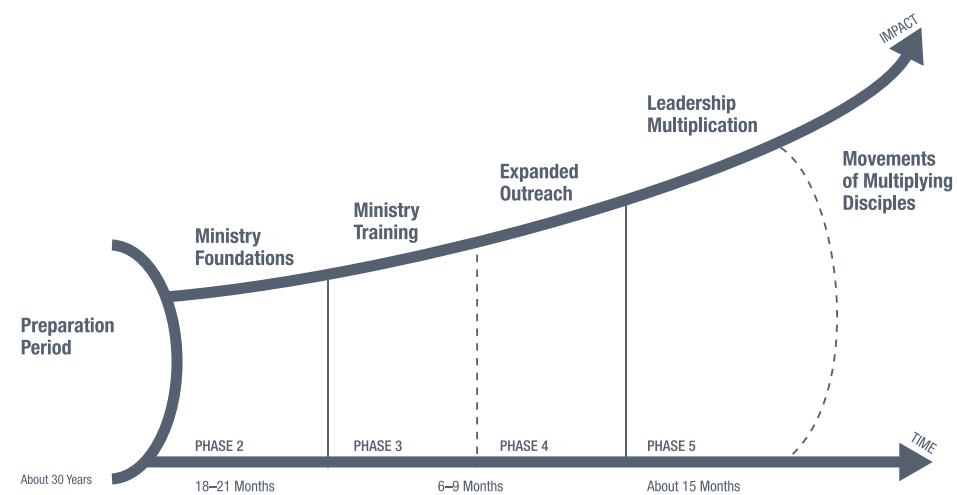
For this we will focus mainly on the four challenges Jesus gave as He developed His disciples: “Come and See” (John 1:39), “Follow Me” (John 1:43), “Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19), and “Go and Bear Fruit” (John 15:16). (For this, we will use the “4 Chair Discipling” book as a resource.)



## SECOND: JESUS AS A MOVEMENT-BUILDER

In this approach we look at how Jesus, as a leader, created a movement of multiplying disciples.

This approach looks through the lens of Jesus as a leader committed to building a movement of disciple-makers. This approach focuses on 5 phases of building that movement as seen in Christ's life: The Preparation Period, Ministry Foundations, Ministry Training, Multiplied Outreach, and then Leadership Multiplication Phase.



### DISCUSSION

1. How is the typical person helped when they understand the process Jesus used in developing disciples?
2. What are some of the problems that occur when we fail to fully understand that disciple-making is a process that takes time and intentionality (like Jesus understood)?

## FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

Read carefully the words below by Robert Coleman. Underline the statements that really stand out to you. Take some time to share what you underlined and why.

### The Son's Strategy

*"The Master disclosed God's strategy of world conquest. That is why it is so important to observe the way Jesus maneuvered to achieve His objective. He had confidence in the future precisely because He lived according to that plan in the present. There was nothing haphazard about His life—no wasted energy, nor an idle word. He was on business for God (Luke 2:40). He lived, He died, He rose again according to schedule. Like a general plotting his course of battle, the Son of God calculated to win. He could not afford to take a chance. Weighing every alternative and variable factor in human experience, He conceived a strategy that would not fail."*

*"That strategy is worth careful consideration. It is tremendously revealing to study it. Serious reflection at this point will bring the student of Christ to some profound and perhaps shattering conclusions, though the realization will likely be slow and arduous. In fact, at first glance it might even appear that Jesus had no strategy."*

*"Another approach might discover some particular techniques but miss the underlying pattern of it all. This is one of the marvels of His strategy. It is so unassuming and silent that it is unnoticed by the hurried churchman."*

*"But when the realization of this controlling method finally dawns on the open mind of the disciple, he will be amazed at its simplicity and wonder how he could have ever failed to see it before. Nevertheless, when His plan is reflected upon, the basic philosophy is so different from that of the modern church that its implications are nothing less than revolutionary."*

- Robert Coleman: *The Master Plan of Evangelism*



# 1

## MISSION AND MOTIVE

THE GREAT COMMISSION AND THE GREAT COMMANDMENT



We'd encourage you to read Chapter 3 of "4 Chair Discipling" in preparation for this training video. Also, see Appendix 1, page 62 for additional details on the Great Commission.

[WATCH LEADER VIDEO 1, MISSION AND MOTIVE PART 1](#)

### SESSION 1: THE MISSION

#### WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

Our purpose for existence directly and indirectly affects our plan of action.

A slight shift in purpose can greatly alter our actions. An airplane flying across the country can completely alter its destination by shifting a few degrees from the original flight plan. Though this shift is slight, it has radical implications.

Our ministry is no different. Its ability to succeed and measure success is directly tied to a clear and focused understanding of our mission. A clear grasp of what our mission is will be the first critical step to becoming all that He intended for us.

#### The Great Commission:

*Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

#### Matthew 28:16-20

These last words of Christ are simply a summary of the mission of His life. They include two commands and three participial phrases (verb forms).



## THE FIRST COMMAND IS TO “MAKE DISCIPLES”

A disciple was simply a “follower or student”. A Christian disciple is a follower who would imitate both the character and priorities of Christ. Jesus’ focus was upon developing disciples who could make other disciples. The one time you find Jesus “full of joy” by the Holy Spirit, was in Luke 10:21. After 3 ½ years of training His disciples... Jesus sends them out and they return full of joy and the text tells us that Jesus also was “full of joy”. Why? For over three years, Jesus’ focus was not to reach the world, as much as it was to make disciples capable of reaching the world. He was about creating a movement of multiplying disciples. Then He told us to do the same.

Wrapped around this command are three verb forms that help us understand how Christ did this.

### 1. “GO”

This could be literally translated “Go and as you are going”. This emphasis brings to this command the everyday aspect of living like Jesus, being a friend of sinners. “As you go” to work, “as you go” to school, “as you go” into the community... walk like Jesus and be a friend of sinners. This is an everyday “evangelism” mandate.

### 2. “BAPTIZING”

To be baptized was to identify with the work and cause of Christ. Baptism was an external expression that followed the internalizing of a new life style. Colossians 2:7 speaks of new believers being “rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith”. This verb form brings to the Great Commission the element of building new believers up in their faith. This aspect speaks of the everyday discipling of new believers in the basics of being a Christ-follower.

### 3. “TEACHING THEM” TO OBEY

This emphasis is not just teaching, but teaching new believers to obey (observe) all that Christ commissioned them to do. There are about 405 commands in the Life of Christ and over 200 of these are discipling commands. In other words, our goal is to equip disciples to walk and live like Jesus. In every way, this involves learning to be equipped in Christ’s character (to walk like Jesus) and His priorities (to live like Jesus). This equipping involves training these believers to multiply their lives in others resulting in a true movement of multiplying disciples.

“

**FOR OVER THREE YEARS, JESUS’ FOCUS WAS NOT TO REACH THE WORLD, AS MUCH AS IT WAS TO MAKE DISCIPLES CAPABLE OF REACHING THE WORLD.**

## THE SECOND COMMAND IS SIMPLY TO “BEHOLD” OR “LO” (IDOU).

In the Greek, this second imperative mood is used to emphasize that, while we are making disciples, it is critical (emphatic) that we “keep our eyes on Jesus” to “behold” Him as our source of strength and leadership. This command brings to disciple- making the focus on following daily the resurrected Christ. We follow the risen Christ while we seek to imitate the Incarnate Christ in both His character and priorities.

## AN AMAZING PROMISE

Around these two commands and three verbs is the promise of the active Manifest Presence of the Lord, for “all authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Me” and “I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (literally the ‘whole of every moment’). Any family, any business, any person, any Church which prioritizes the making of disciples like Jesus can fully expect and claim the active Manifest Presence of the Lord to make this happen!



## DISCUSSION

1. *From your perspective, what is the hardest part of Matthew 28?*
2. *What is your church’s mission statement? Can you write it down from memory?*
3. *Does your church mission statement reflect all the elements of Matthew 28? (win, build, equip, and multiply)*





▶ WATCH OF LEADER VIDEO 1, *MISSION AND MOTIVE PART 2*

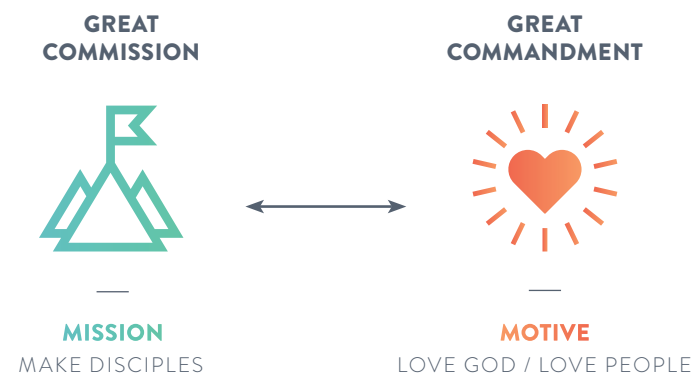
## SESSION 1B: OUR MOTIVE

### WHAT IS OUR MOTIVE?

"One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, 'Of all the commandments, which is the most important?' 'The most important one,' answered Jesus, 'is this: "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself."' There is no commandment greater than these.'" Mark 12:28-31

### ***Our motive is clearly stated: Love God and Love People***

Jesus declared that the most important command was to love God and love others. As we look at Christ's life and ministry we see a loving person from start to finish. Jesus was the fulfillment of that Law. He was a model of what true love should look like. In the same way, Jesus said we are to love as He loved. Without this type of love, it will be impossible to produce true disciples whose motive is similar to Jesus.



### THREE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT OUR MOTIVE:

#### 1. The motive must never be separated from the mission

Christ's Great Commandment passion resulted in Great Commission priorities. His heart of love shaped how His hands ministered to people and how He ordered His everyday lifestyle. In the same way, our Great Commandment heart is what helps us maintain our Great Commission passion. It is the heart behind the hands, the motive behind the mission, the passion behind the priorities.

#### 2. It is impossible from God's perspective for us to say, "I love you God" but I just can't stand people.

The Great Commandment is one command, expressed in two ways-- loving God and loving people. "If anyone says, 'I love God,' yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And He has given us this command: Whoever loves God must love his brother" (1 John 4:20-21)

#### 3. Our mission and motive can be summarized in six simple words: "Love God. Love People. Make disciples."

We cannot say our mission is to just love God. Nor can we say our mission is to just love God and love people. It must include all aspects of the Great Commission and Great Commandment... loving God, loving people, and making disciples.

### DISCUSSION

1. What was your initial reaction to the statement Doug made "You love Jesus as much as the person you love least"?
2. Which is the greater challenge for you to live out... the Great Commission or the Great Commandment?
3. From your perspective, why is the Great Commandment critical to long-term success in Great Commission living?
4. Luke 10:1-24 is about Great Commission living; Luke 10:25-37 is about a Great Commandment heart. Why do you think Luke 10 ends with the story of Mary and Martha (In other words, why would Jesus add this simple story of Mary and Martha to help us live out the Great Commission and Commandment)?