

DiscipleShift - Week 3



Introduction

We have defined a disciple as “*A transformed follower of Jesus.*” The image above illustrates three key areas of a disciple of Christ. Today we are going to discuss what we mean by “**Invests in People.**”

If investing in people is so important, what makes it difficult to disciple/ invest in others?

Study

We are going to focus on three aspects of *Investing in People* - being a **Paul (discipler)**, a **Barnabas (partner)**, a **Timothy (disciple)**.

Paul (Discipler)

Read Mark 3:14-15. What key elements does this passage teach us about discipleship?

Pastor Paul described the pattern of Gospel faithfulness and fruitfulness in the following ways: Settled on Jesus, Collapsing on Jesus, Growing in Jesus, Worshipping Jesus, Looking like Jesus. What do these descriptions mean to you? Which do you find most challenging and why?

Read John 3:30. How would you describe John the Baptist's Gospel humility? Why is it important to have Gospel humility when we disciple others?

Barnabas (Partner/Colleague in ministry)

Read Acts 9:26-27 and Acts 11:22-24. How would you describe Barnabas' character? Why was Barnabas so important to Paul's ministry?

Barnabas means “son of encouragement.” We all need advocates in our lives. Who are people who have encouraged you and what did they do to help you?

Some of our colleagues will become a confidante - someone we can be vulnerable with. Why might it be important to be vulnerable with someone? What cautions should you consider in choosing this person?

Timothy (Disciple)

Timothy was a disciple of Paul. What was Paul's admonition to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:1-2?

In the church at Corinth, Christians were bragging about who they were disciples of - Apollos, Peter, Paul, etc; however, we are called to be disciples of Christ. We see it today when people boast about what church they go to, or pastor they follow. Why do we have a tendency to divert our attention to people rather than Christ?

What helps you to keep your eyes on Christ rather than a person?

Reflection

Who are you investing in? Who is investing in you? If being a disciple means to invest in people, what is holding you back?

Prayer

Take some time to pray about “Investing in people.”

Take time to share prayer requests and pray for one another.