

“ONE Challenge: TWO Lives”
One on One Discipling

***ONE Challenge: Make Disciples** (The Great Commission)
Matthew 28:19-20 *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

A “disciple” is learning to **know**, **love** and **follow** Jesus.

***TWO Lives: One on One Discipling**

2 Timothy 2:2 *And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

Eccles. 4⁹ *Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work:¹⁰ If one falls down, his friend can help him up. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.*

FFC VISION Statement: Restoring...Growing...Reaching
Restoring people to the Father’s heart, Growing disciples in Christ’s likeness, Reaching nations in the Spirit’s power.

“ONE” VISION: Imagine ONE life Restored eternally, Growing spiritually, and Reaching ONE more for Christ.

Our Job: PRAY & PREPARE!

Pray for ONE person whose heart is spiritually open.

Pray for the opportunities to share with them how they can trust in Christ for their salvation and spiritual birth.

Prepare yourself to love, serve, and mentor them to become a “disciple” of Jesus.

**** WHO IS YOUR “One”?**

ONE Challenge: TWO Lives
“The Word: Bread of Life”
9-13-09

In order to become a “disciple” of Jesus...learning to know, love and follow him...we need these essentials:

* Word, Witness, Worship, Service, Stewardship, Prayer, and Discipleship (www.ss.pd)

A. We call the Bible the “word” of God because it reveals Jesus, the Word of God. It’s purpose is to tell God’s redemption story and we are the “redeemed.”

Heb. 4:12 *The **word** of God is living and active. Sharper than two-edged sword it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

John 1:1, 14 *In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and **the Word was God**.² He was with God in the beginning. **The Word became flesh** and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

B. The Bible is not one book; it’s a “library.”
Old & New “Testaments” – (testimonies)

* Written from 1400 B.C. to 60 A.D., 66 books , 40 writers
* Contains history, law, prophesy, wisdom, poetry, eye witness accounts, letters, apocalyptic text, genealogy of Jesus.
* Our faith is grounded on history of real people and their spiritual journey.

C. How can we know that the Bible is the inspired word of God and not just men’s words?

*** Let's start with the four Gospels:**

1. Reliable manuscripts – hundreds of copies with earliest dating back to 1st century. More info on Jesus three years than any emperor of Rome. Copies found all over the world.

2. Reliable testimony - Historical accounts from several people covering three years of Jesus' life. Various detail differences and emphases but agreement in overall events and themes. "Apparent contradictions" are helpful. They did NOT collaborate lies but allowed differences to come out.

Matthew – eye witness / tax collector who left his vocation / chosen Apostle / wrote to Jewish audience to show Jesus as prophesied Messiah! (Luke 6)

Mark – not an eye witness / Peter's "son" in the faith who wrote down Peter's account to Roman gentile audience emphasizing Jesus as suffering servant. (1 Pet. 5:13)

Luke – not an eye witness / only Gentile writer / physician who collected accounts from eyewitnesses / includes more specific physical descriptions of Jesus / wrote to show the humanity of Jesus. (Luke 1;1-4)

John – eye witnesses / chosen Apostle / wrote his Gospel approx. 30 yrs. later than others / More of Jesus' words & teachings / filled in where others lacked detail

3. Reliable Source – Jesus quoted from the scriptures over 180 times and claimed to be the fulfillment of scripture.

He believed the scriptures were inspired by God, and he claimed to be God!

Examples:

Mt. 4:4 Jesus quotes Deuteronomy 8:3 *"Man will not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from God."*

Mt. 24:35 *Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.*

John 5:39-40 *You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.*

Luke 24:25-27 *He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*

Why read, study, meditate and memorize scripture?

D. God uses his inspired words to "feed" our spirits with all the spiritual nourishment we need!

John 6:28-35, 47-51, 63 **Jesus - the "Bread of Life"**

2 Tim 3:16 *All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, correcting, rebuking and training in righteousness.*

Ps. 119:11 *How can a young man keep his way pure? I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against thee*

Heb. 4:12 *The word of God is living and active. Sharper than two-edged sword it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

Are you being "fed" by the life-giving words of God? Is the "Bread of Life" sustaining you?

Action Steps - for more info check out: www.firstfriends.org

1. Join us: Read the 4 Gospels in 90 days – 1 chapter per day
2. Join a Wednesday or Sunday *Life Group* – see Directory

For more info on the reliability and relevance of the Bible:

www.startingpoint.com/audio