



Course Name: SALT Discipleship Lesson 5 - Living as a Disciple and Serving
By Mike Vaughn

Course description:

This course covers the Biblical commands related to serving others as a disciple of Christ. Serving others is a key component of making disciples.

Course Objectives: By the end of this class students will have:

- A. Examined and discussed the Biblical view of how we are called to serve others.
- B. Clarified specific ways we can serve and influence others for the cause of Christ.

Outline of the class: Divide the class into three groups. After reading the passages below, ask each group to spend about 10-15 minutes discussing the questions at the end of the lesson related to the text read below. Ask them to write out their responses. Then, discuss their responses with the entire group.

A. The Great Commandment

Matthew 22:37-40 “And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’”

B. An example from Jesus

Matthew 25:34-36 “Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”

C. Was this a new concept? Why was Sodom destroyed?

Ezekiel 16:48-49 “As I live, declares the Lord God, your sister Sodom and her daughters have not done as you and your daughters have done. Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.”

D. Was loving your neighbor a new concept?

Ezekiel 18: 5-9 “If a man is righteous and . . . does not oppress anyone, but restores to the debtor his pledge, commits no robbery, gives his bread to the hungry and covers the naked with a garment, does not lend at interest or take any profit . . . walks in my statutes, and keeps my rules by acting faithfully—he is righteous; he shall surely live, declares the Lord God.”

E. Hebrews 10:24 “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.”

1. James 2:17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
2. Hebrews 13:1-2 “Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”

F. How did Jesus make disciples?

1. Were Jesus’ disciples interns or apprentices?
 - a. Interns spend a few months testing a role out.
 - b. Apprentices learn a skill or a career under the mentorship of someone who knows the craft.
 - c. The apostles apprenticed with Jesus for 3 years.

Group 1: Discussion Question: What examples of “loving your neighbor” are you or the congregation currently demonstrating? What ideas could you do that will fulfill this command from our Savior?

Group 2: Discussion Question: Reflect on the servanthood displayed by 1st century Christians and “consider how” the congregation can be stirred up to love and good works. What additional works should you do?

Group 3: Discussion Question: Are we apprentices of Jesus our Savior learning how to make disciples? -Or- Have we just been dabbling as an intern? Are we just fans or authentic disciples? Describe your reasons. What can be done to demonstrate authentic discipleship in our community?

Conclusion:

- A. We can make disciples by living as servants of Christ.
- B. Living as servants of Christ requires loving others as we love ourselves.