



HANOVERDALE CHURCH

GO Series:

An Intentional Discipleship Making Strategy

DEVOTIONALS FOR THE WEEK OF : January 9, 2022

This year is the year of encouragement. And what better way to encourage someone than to help them grow spiritually. This week we remind ourselves about what Scripture has to say about mentoring (disciple-making) someone spiritually.

Monday, January 10: Matthew 28:18- 19A

What is the first word in this vs. 19? When you see the word "therefore", you have to look back to see what the "therefore" is there for. What had happened to Jesus Christ in earlier chapters? What unique occurrence was happening at the beginning of chapter 28, before this passage? In your opinion, what is the "therefore" there for? What is the significance of Jesus rising from death? Where did the disciples meet up with Jesus? This was His last encounter with His disciples before leaving for heaven. Why is that significant? What would your last words to loved ones be if you had a chance to say something to them? What were Christ's last words? Why is it important that He has all authority? What is He doing with that authority? What did He tell them to do? As you are going through your day, who are you going to be seeing? By what authority do you dare tell someone about Jesus? Today, think about to whom Christ wants you to be a witness of Christ. Ask God to show you how to encourage that person. Now go and let them know that you care about them and would like to tell them your story of faith.

Tuesday, January 11: Matthew 28:19-20

There are some key words about what it means to make disciples. In verses 19 and 20 what are the key words after the word 'go'? To whom are we to go? What are we supposed to do with those we are discipling? When do we baptize someone? Before or after they begin following Christ? What does that tell you needs to be part of your discipling before baptism? What other word stands out in vs. 20? What should we be teaching those who are following Christ? Does this sound like a quick process? Today, commit yourself to spending quality time with someone who you would like to mentor or be mentored by. Go and ask them to begin in a mentoring friendship.

Wednesday, January 12: John 8:1-11

Discipleship does not always start with those who are already committed Christ-followers. With whom was Jesus confronted in this story? What sort of woman was this? Think about someone in your sphere of influence who has a bad reputation. Why is this person unlikely to come to faith? Have you ever spoken to them about your story of coming to faith? What should have been the role of the religious leaders? The Bible calls them shepherds. What did they do with this woman? Should a shepherd malign the sheep? What did Jesus do? While it does not say, do you have any thoughts on what He might have written in the sand? What did He ask the woman? Did He then condemn her? What was His plea? Our job is not to condemn. Our job is to love people. How can you encourage and build up that person in your life who is far from perfect?

Thursday, January 13: John 8:12-18

Everyone has sin and is in some form of darkness. Jesus was teaching about who He is. What did He say about Himself in vs. 12? What is the lesson about Him being the Light? For whom is Christ the Light? Is anyone left out of that? Anyone too far removed from God's touch? Why did the religious leaders knock Christ in vs. 13? In that culture, it took two witnesses to condemn or declare someone innocent. Who was the co-witness with Christ? Why is that a good thing for a follower of Christ? Is there ever a place to judge someone? What happens when someone begins to follow Christ? Today, don't fall into the trap of judging. Let God do that. Instead, commit to encouraging and offering a hand of friendship to someone far from God. Who knows? They might just begin following the Light.

Friday, January 14: John 3:14-18

Does God just love those who are already in the church and loving Him? How has He shown His love to the unsaved world? "He did not come to condemn the world, but that through Him the world might be saved." How does someone gain eternal life? What is the key to eternal life? Part of discipleship is what some church leaders call pre-evangelism. Before helping someone to believe, what can you do to encourage them along spiritually? Does that include condemning them because they sin? What is our role according to vs. 18? Today, look into your heart and determine whether you have a heart that easily judges others in their sin, or whether you love the one with sin in order to bless them with glimpses of the one who will give them eternal life.

Saturday, January 15: John 8:28-31; Romans 10:9-10

How do these two passages and Matthew 28:18-20 go together? What really makes a disciple? In Scripture, what two practices need to happen to be a disciple-maker? So to be a disciple both believe and then tell someone what you believe. According to Romans 10:13-15, why is it important to tell others about your faith? Whom do you want to rescue from darkness? Ask God to open a door for you to witness your coming to the Light.