

How to Influence Our World for Christ

Scriptures from the NIV

Our Character:

1. Prov 22:11 He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious will have the king for his friend.
2. Prov 22:29 Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.

Our Plan:

1. Luke 9:13-14 He replied, "You give them something to eat." They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish-unless we go and buy food for all this crowd." (About 5,000 men were there.)
2. 1 Cor 15:3-8 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than 500 of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.
3. Acts 1:15-18 In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about 120) and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus - he was one of our number and shared in this ministry."
4. Luke 10:1-4 After this the Lord appointed 72 others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.
5. Matt 10:1 He called his 12 disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.
6. Matt 17:1-2 After six days Jesus took with him (3) Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. There he was transfigured before them.

Matt 28:19 - 20 NLT

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Why Jesus Commanded Us to "Make Disciples?"

Example #1: Jane at age 34 introduces two friends to Christ and devotes her life to them. She diligently teaches them Jesus' commandments and models His character to them through her own behavior. She prays for her students fervently. At the end of three years they are *both* able to introduce two new friends to our Lord and begin this powerful process. Jane does the same. This geometric progression continues until Jane joins the Lord in Heaven at age 70. How many people will she have influenced significantly for Christ at the time of her death?

1. Number of People Discipled Per Session (Number of Years Total) = Total Number Discipled
(Number of Years per Session)
2. 2 people per session, 36 years total, 3 years per session
3. 2 raised to the 12th power (or on an HP12 C calculator --- 2 enter 12 yx)
= **4096**

Example #2: Imagine the same scenario above except John begins at age 26 and serves the Lord until his death at age 80. He is blessed to disciple 4 at a time, but it takes 6 years before they are able to disciple others. How many souls would he influence? **262,144** (*if one of the original 4 fails to become a disciple maker, this number is reduced by 65,536 souls)

Example #3: Bill, age 54, lives to be 78. Because he is retired, he is able to spend time with 6 friends and co-labor with God in discipling them so that in 3 years they are able to do the same for 6 friends each. How many people will Bill influence in his "winter" years if he continues this process?

1,679,616

2 Tim 2:2 NLT

You have heard me teach many things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them on to others.

