

Five Characteristics of a Disciplemaker

1. Walking with God

Howard Hendricks once said, “You cannot impart what you do not possess!” Jesus makes it clear that only as we are connected to Him will we experience a healthy spiritual life: “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5 NIV).

- **Matthew 22:37-40**
- **Luke 9:23**
- **John 15:4-5**
- **2 Corinthians 3:18**
- **Galatians 4:19**
- **Galatians 5:22-23**
- **Colossians 2:6-7**
- **Hebrews 4:16**
- **1 Peter 1:15-16**

2. Living among the lost

Every believer is called to engage with people in our broken world, where they live, work, study, and play. Each day opens opportunities for us to be salt and light among those yet to know Jesus and to bring hope found only in Him. As they taste our communities of grace they are drawn to Jesus.

- **Matthew 5:13-16**
- **Acts 1:8**
- **2 Corinthians 5:17-20**
- **1 Thessalonians 2:8**
- **1 Peter 3:15**

3. Knowing and living from the Scriptures

The Scriptures are God's means to bring guidance and wise counsel to the lives of each believer. The Holy Spirit guides us into knowing and living the truth of the Scriptures. As the psalmist said, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105 ESV). Our relationship with Jesus and the Spirit's influence through the Scriptures are God's means for transforming us.

- **Joshua 1:8**
- **Psalm 1:1-3**
- **Psalm 119:105**
- **John 14:21**
- **2 Timothy 2:15**
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17**
- **Hebrews 4:12**

4. Engaging in community

The life of discipleship is not meant to be experienced alone. God has designed us for community. We can only grow spiritually and be used by God as we are connected to others who love Him.

- **Proverbs 27:17**
- **Galatians 6:2**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:11**
- **Hebrews 3:12-13**
- **Hebrews 10:24-25**
- **1 John 1:3**

5. Reproducing spiritual generations

As we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, who invested in a small group of disciples, we aim to raise up others who will follow Christ, and who themselves will help others as well. Psalm 145:4 assures us that “one generation shall commend your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts” (ESV).

- **Psalm 145:4**
- **Matthew 9:35-38**
- **Matthew 28:18-20**
- **1 Corinthians 4:15**
- **1 Corinthians 11:1**
- **2 Timothy 2:2**