

SAMUEL ODOH

# MAKE DISCIPLES



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# DEDICATION

This book is dedicated some of the people God used to make me a disciple of Jesus Christ.

I dedicate this book to Venerable Israel Felix Odit, a good example of excellence, simplicity, and integrity in ministry. Thank you for your love and patience with me.

To Arinze Achigbo who invited me to the Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion (EFAC) where I gave my life to Jesus. Thank you for being a good example.

To the Evangelist Innocent Okonkwo (of blessed memory) who taught me how to intercede and win the lost at all costs.

To Venerable Anthony Emeka Ukwu who in 1998 helped me write the sermon notes I used the first time I ever preached in a church. He gave me the navy-blue blazer I wore that day.

To Pastor Joseph Nwobodo who taught me how to deliver a sermon. Thank you for that day you took care of me when I was sick.

To Ndubisi and Ukamaka Okoye for not keeping me accountable in my walk with God. You both kept telling me, "You must glorify God with every part of your body." You made sure I did not give in to peer pressure. Thank you for believing in me.

To my role model Bishop David Oyedepo for your impartation of the Spirit of Faith and Wisdom. I draw passion and inspiration from your ministry. Thank you, sir.

## INTRODUCTION

**E**very child of God is called and anointed for a life of influence. God has appointed you as one of His end-time agents of spiritual and social transformation.

Inside you is something that God wants to reproduce in the lives of many around the world. You have been supernaturally programmed to be fruitful. You have within you right now, an anointing to bring life and lasting change to people's lives. These are not some motivational opening statements. Hear what Jesus said about you:

**"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."** John 15:16 (NIV)

Many people are wasting away without Christ, and without hope both in this world and in the world to come. They are under the cruel dominion of the devil and the powers of darkness. Some of them are members of your family, and some work with you. God has chosen and anointed you to rescue them from the pit of sin and put them on the path that leads to their glorious destinies in Christ. He has filled you with His wisdom and power to help them through the process of spiritual transformation, by renewing their minds with the word of God. Using you, He wants to teach them how to stand strong spiritually and be responsible for leading others to Christ and turning them into faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. This is what bearing enduring fruit means. This is your calling as a believer.

This book was inspired by God to equip believers for fruitful lives. You will learn practical ways of walking the road with a new-born Christian. Expect something to be stirred up in your heart and turn you into a man or woman of kingdom influence, in Jesus' name.

As you will learn in this book, 'The Great Commission' is twofold: winning the lost and making disciples. In my other book 'How to Win Anybody to Christ' I teach some proven and practical keys that have helped me win many to The Lord in my over 25 years of personal evangelism. In this book I will

focus on how to help any believer (especially one who just got saved) become a healthy and fruitful disciple of Jesus Christ. I also recommend the other books in this series: 'How to Win Anybody to Christ', 'Rescue: How to Restore a Backslidden Believer', and 'Grassroots: Making Disciples and Transforming Lives Through Small Group Fellowships'. I am strongly convinced that these books will empower you to fulfil your own part of The Great Commission. You will hear the words "well done you good and faithful servant" on that day when we stand before the Lord.

## CHAPTER 1

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# UNDERSTANDING THE GREAT COMMISSION

**A**fter Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, having fulfilled all the requirements of the law and obtained our eternal redemption, He appeared to His disciples and gave them what is known today as 'The Great Commission'.

**"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded**



you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen."

Matthew 28:18-20

**"And he said unto them, AS YOU GO into all the world, preach openly the wonderful news of the gospel to the entire human race..." - Mark 16:15 (TPT)**

The disciples were to continue the works of Jesus Christ on the earth, witnessing to both great and small, teaching them to practice all He had commanded them. The summary of all He had taught them is 'love'.

**"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." - Mark 12:30-31**

The whole essence of discipleship is to teach people how to love God and their neighbours.

But one may ask, "If Jesus was talking to His disciples in those two scriptures, how does this command concern us

today?" The answer can be found in the found in Matthew 28:20 **"teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..."** Part of the things He commanded them to do is **"make disciples of all nations."** So, one disciple taught another disciple to make disciples, and the disciple taught another, until it got to you and I. We are commanded to teach everyone how to develop a love-relationship with The Heavenly Father and our earthly neighbours.

It is important to note that the Great Commission has two stages to it: we are to PREACH THE GOSPEL to the entire human race and MAKE THEM DISCIPLES of Jesus Christ. So, if we stop at the first stage - telling them that Jesus died and rose from the dead for their salvation, we have only done half of the job. We must then teach them how to lead the Christian life. We must walk the journey with them until they are spiritually mature and can take care of themselves. Our job is not done until that disciple is able to make disciples himself.

Another point I want you to note is that we are not getting ready to go into all the world; we are already going into all the world. All the world includes your neighbourhood, where you work, where you shop, where you school, where you fix your cars and cell phones, where you visit on holiday, your social media platforms (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, LinkedIn, Telegram, etc.), or wherever you

are in contact with human beings. Stop waiting for the day the Lord sends you to Cambodia or Australia to GO and make disciples. You are already on the go, so make disciples on your way! May God open your eyes to identify potential disciples around you. God wants you to partner with Him in building His nature and character of love into people. Jesus has finished His work and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. He received all power in heaven and on earth and gave His body the authority to use that power to carry on with His work, enforcing His reign on earth. We are now in partnership with Him as the Head of the body, carrying out His orders. Now He calls 'Peter, James and John' through us. With the help of His Spirit, we can identify ordinary people and turn them into disciples of Jesus. He has given us His Word and His Spirit to accomplish this. All the things that He has commanded us are contained in His Word. Through the words contained in the Bible, we can make mighty apostles and great men and women out of ordinary people. The word of God in our mouths is as powerful as it would be if Jesus was the one speaking.

People are in need of the Gospel. People are tired of sin. They want to live the right way, but they simply do not know how, so they feel helpless and defeated. Some have given their lives to Jesus but do not know what to do next. Please

always remember that no newly born baby can care for himself. Imagine if a woman gives birth to a baby in a hospital and rushes home to announce to everyone that God has blessed her with a beautiful baby. She then posts the baby picture all over social media and gets many likes. Then she leaves the baby in the hospital, believing it will grow up. She then prepares for another baby. She may be arrested or have the baby taken from her and taken to an orphanage. As unreasonable as that sounds, a lot of believers do this. We lead people in salvation prayers and record their names, contact addresses, and phone numbers. Then we return to our church group and testify about how many 'souls' we led to Christ. We post it on Facebook and get many likes and comments. And then we do nothing to feed and nurture the spiritual newly born babies. Like that woman, we pray and believe that the child will grow up. This is one of the reasons we have many carnal believers. Nobody took time to disciple them.

## **MY TESTIMONY**

Every generation needs Jesus. Nobody is too young or old to disciple. I am a product of the Anglican Children Ministry. Two

of our Sunday school teachers, Brother Joseph Nwobodo and Brother Emeka Ukwu invested their time, energy and resources to teach me, encourage me, and develop the gift of God in my life. They taught me how to lead a holy life, pray and read the Bible. Brother Joseph taught me how to preach. In 1998, I gave my first sermon at a Methodist Church in Gusau (a city in northwest Nigeria). Brother Emeka prepared the sermon notes I used. Another brother, Innocent Okonkwo (of blessed memory) began to disciple me, together with two of my friends, Arinze Achigbo and Emeka Aniebo. We had prayer meetings every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evening from 4pm to 6pm. He gave us opportunities to preach and lead prayers. He would take us along with him to evangelism. These three mentors were all members of the Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion founded by John Stott. They made sure we went through the Follow Up (discipleship) classes that ran for a year. Our spiritual roots were getting stronger by the day. By thirteen, I co-founded the Fellowship of Christian Students in our high school. Emeka was the President, Arinze was the Vice President, and I was the Prayer Coordinator until we graduated from High School in 2002. We made many disciples and took our high school for Christ. We handed the fellowship over to another set of leaders who took it to another level. Today, I am 38 years old

and 27 years old in the Lord. To the glory of God, I have never looked back since I received Jesus at the age of eleven. This is because some people taught me. They sacrificed their time and money. All three of them did not do well in their businesses because they spent more time with us than in their businesses. But over 20 years later, I and many other kids they disciplined are actively multiplying disciples around the world. Brother Innocent has gone home to be with Jesus, but before that he was an Evangelist with the Diocese of Gusau (Church of Nigeria, Anglican Communion). Brother Joseph and Emeka are still very active in the ministry today, still making abiding disciples for Jesus.

I was 11 years old when someone identified and nurtured me. Imagine if he thought "this boy is too young, he cannot understand 'the deep things of God'. Let me focus on the older people." You probably would not be reading this book today. Today God is using me to bring many into His kingdom and to equip believers for the work of the ministry. If I was left to sort myself out myself, after I was born again, I would have gone back to the world and destroyed my life. Thank God for Brother Joseph, Emeka and Innocent. May God bless them.

In the next chapter I will help you understand what discipleship means and some dynamics of effective discipleship. I believe you will learn a lot from this next

chapter. Your days of bearing fruit that abide are about to begin in Jesus' name.

## CHAPTER 2

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# DYNAMICS OF DISCIPLESHIP

If you have been trying to discover the call of God for your life, let me help you here, "you are called to tell as many people as possible that Jesus died and rose again so can be saved, and to help them become mature believers, who will do for many others what you have done for them." This is the number one calling of every believer. This is your ministry. How we go about fulfilling this may differ but the end result is the same - making disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that Jesus has commanded you (love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength and love your neighbor as yourself). Some



people will do it on a full-time capacity, meaning that they will earn a living by making disciples, working with a Christian organization as Pastors, Evangelists, etc., others will be in the marketplace, making disciples for Jesus. The marketplace is the combination of business, education, and government. Many have been talking about 'the end time revival'. You have a major part in it. It will happen when we produce many believers who are deeply in love with God and their neighbors, men, and women whose lives have been transformed by the word of God through the process of discipleship. Most of the people God will be using in the end time revival will be 'ordinary people' working in the marketplace. The few who will be in the four walls of the church will be fulfilling the main purpose of the (five-fold) ministry gifts (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers) - equipping the believers who God has deployed into the market place, for the work of the ministry of reconciliation (bringing people into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and helping them to become mature believers who can lead others into becoming disciples of Jesus Christ). We are called to make disciples of all nations, one person at a time, and we shall get the job done, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## WHAT MAKING DISCIPLES MEANS

Making disciples simply means mentoring another believer with the word of God. It usually involves an older believer and one who has recently received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. It is walking the road with a new believer until he finds his footing in his walk with God. It is a process of renewing the mind and transforming the life of a believer with the word of God.

Making disciples is partnering with the Holy Spirit to form the nature and character of Christ in the life of a new believer. It is a system of capacity building in which spiritual values and virtues are transferred from the Holy Spirit to a believer through a more mature believer. It is a platform for the transference of grace.

Making Disciples is a process of watering the seed of God planted in a new believer at new birth (1 John 3:9).

**"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase."**

1 Corinthians 3:6

It is God's wisdom for the preserving of the harvest of souls from destruction. It is the only way to get a believer rooted and grounded in the Lord so he can withstand the

trials and temptations the devil will organize to cause get him to be discouraged and backslide.

## THE GOAL OF DISCIPLESHIP

The goal of our discipleship endeavours should be to empower the believer to walk with God on his own. The disciple should not depend on the one discipling him for the rest of his life. Your goal should be to raise your disciple to a point where he can do without you.

Another goal of discipleship is to empower the believer for a life of dominion over the world, sin, and the devil. The new believer should be taught how to overcome every temptation that the devil may bring his way. He should be taught that he will surely be tempted by the devil because even our Lord Jesus Christ was tempted. He must know that it is not a sin to be tempted, it is only a sin when he yields to the temptation. He must know that God will allow the devil to bring his way, only temptations he has capacity to overcome.

**"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may**

**be able to bear it."**

1 Cor. 10:13

The disciple gets an opportunity to observe the character of the older believer and his walk with the Lord and patterns his life after it. The older becomes a role model to the younger. This is lacking in the Christian world today. There is a shortage of role models. New believers are like children, they observe what you do and do the same. They are always looking for whom to copy.

The disciple also is also positioned to receive and maximise the ministry of the Holy Spirit in his life. Through the process of discipleship, he gets to discover the unique call of God for his life.

Finally, the disciple is equipped for the work of the ministry. He learns how to win souls and disciple other people from his relationship with his spiritual mentor.

## **MODELS OF DISCIPLESHIP**

There are two models of discipleship: the *Direct* and the *Indirect* Model. Jesus used the Direct Model in His ministry.

**"Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons."**

## Mark 3:14

The Direct Model has the following characteristics:

1. It is a formal relationship.
2. The discipleship goals are clear to both parties.
3. There is usually a schedule for meetings.
4. There is a structured curriculum or manual for teachings.
5. There is physical contact with the disciple.

Jesus identified the potential disciples and called them to follow Him, and they all left their professions and followed Him for about three and half years. He taught them regularly, they spent time with Him, observing His way of life and how he went about His ministry.

My personal experienced that I shared in the previous chapter is a typical example of the Direct Model of Discipleship.

The Indirect Model on the other hand is mostly informal. This model has worked for me over the years as many people are reluctant to commit to anything nowadays. Many times, the person only realizes that I am discipling him when he notices that he is beginning to sound, think and seek God like I do.

When I see a younger believer and sense that he has a need for spiritual development, I begin to build friendship with him and pray for him. Prayer opens the door for me. I begin to indirectly influence the person in the direction I sense he needs to go. These are some strategies I use (this is not necessarily in a sequential order):

1. I share books with him.
2. I recommend some audio/video sermons I know would help him and I will motivate him to listen to them.
3. I call him regularly and in between our conversation, I chip in some messages. I ask him some questions and make him ask me questions.
4. I share my writings with him and ask for his comments.
5. I introduce him to my friends who also become his friends, thereby increasing his circle of influence.
6. I begin to intercede for him for the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, and for the needs I perceive he has.
7. I become his greatest cheer leader. I cheer him up any time I see him going in the right direction. I talk about whatever he does right when he is around. This builds his confidence and trust.

Usually, by doing these, the Indirect Discipleship

relationship eventually becomes a Direct one because the person comes to trust me and opens his heart to learn from me. Then I begin teaching him from the word of God myself. He sees me pray, sees me study the word, and sees me talk to people about Jesus. I begin to give him tasks to accomplish and encourage him in the process. This has worked for me.

## **SOME THINGS TO TEACH YOUR DISCIPLE**

I will share with you some ideas about what to teach your disciple. Some of these topics are the ones that helped to give me a good foundation in my Christian life, and I believe they will do the same for any other person. These are fundamental things every believer needs to know.

### **NEW BIRTH**

Have you noticed that there seems to be two types of 'born again people' in the world today? It is not supposed to be that way. There are some who claim to be born again but still live like unsaved people do. One of the reasons for this, which I have observed in some ministries is a lack of teaching of what it means to be born again. Let me give you an example. I am sure you will be familiar with this: a preacher preaches a very good sermon on 'The Favour of God' for example, and gets

everyone inspired to experience it in their lives. Then he closes his sermon with a point like this, "the favour of God is exclusively reserved for the righteous according to Psalm chapter 5 verse 12, so for you to qualify for the favour of God you must be born again. Then he gives an altar call for people who want to become born again and the altar is full people. They say the prayer and the Altar Workers take their names, and the congregation shouts and claps their hands for the multitudes that have received Jesus.

The problem with this is that most of the people did not really come to receive the salvation that Jesus died to purchase for them on the cross, they came forward because they need the favour of God, and the preacher said that the condition for receiving this favour is that they must be born again. They did not respond to the message of the gospel; they simply need this rain of divine favour. Their motivation is not a change of life. Can you see the problem here? If you ask any of them if they are born again, they will tell you "Yes, I came out for the altar call". There is zero commitment to God. They go home after the service to their girlfriend they are co-habiting with and continue living in sin. They continue with their old lifestyle, still believing that they are born again. If you have not seen this, I have seen a lot of it in my twenty-seven years of being a believer.



Your disciple deserves to understand what happened in his spirit when he made Jesus Christ the Lord of his life. He needs to understand that he has passed from death to life (John 5:24). He needs to understand that his past life of sin is dead and gone. He needs to understand he is a new creature in Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:17). You need to open the bible and explain to him exactly what took place the moment he became born again. He must understand his new nature and all that came with it. He needs to understand how to walk in the newness of life. I recommend you study the scriptures yourself to gain a proper understanding of this subject yourself.

## **THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

Your disciple will definitely be tempted by Satan and will fall into sin several times. Satan will come to accuse him and condemn him (Revelation 12:10) because he is still carnal (largely influenced by his five senses more). Sometimes he will not 'feel' saved, especially when he does something wrong. He will try to do good works to convince himself that he is really saved. You need to open the scriptures and teach him what the bible says about his redemption. Teach him that we are saved by grace and not by our good works. He needs to understand that if he confesses his sins when he falls into

temptation, that God is faithful and just to forgive him and cleanse him from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). You need to teach him how to resist the devil when he comes to accuse him (James 4:7). If he does not understand his right standing with God, he may soon be discouraged and feel defeated.

## THE INTEGRITY OF WORD OF GOD

Your disciple needs to understand that the bible is the very word of God written for him as an individual. That holy men were inspired by the Holy Spirit to put it in writing.

**"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-**

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The bible is not a 'white man's idea.' It was not written by some colonial master. The bible is God speaking to us now. The bible contains answers to all of life's challenges. The word of God is infallible because God is not a man that He should lie.

**"God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" - Numbers 23:19**

You must encourage him to read the bible every day and teach him how to study the bible to get a good understanding of it. You need to keep him accountable. Ask him what he read and what he understood from it. Spend some time studying the bible with him. Teach him about the difference between the Old and New Testament. Help him understand how to read the bible in context. If you succeed at getting him excited about the bible, then you have done the best thing for him.

## **PRAYER**

Your disciple needs to know what prayer is and how to maximise its power in his Christian adventure. He needs to understand why we pray as Christians. He needs to understand the various kinds of prayer and what kind of prayer to say in given situations. He needs to understand how to use the word of God in prayer. He needs to know what to do after he has prayed. He needs to understand that prayer is a two-way communication between him and God, so he needs to learn how to listen to God in a time of prayer.

Your disciple also needs to learn the benefits of fasting. From the beginning, both of you should begin to schedule days of fasting. Let him know that fasting is not an optional spiritual discipline. Teach him how to fast.

## **THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Your disciple needs to understand the person and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. He needs to understand how to relate with Him. You need to teach him about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how to receive and use them. You must also make him desire the baptism in the Holy Spirit. He has to understand its purpose and benefits. You must teach him how to receive it. You should teach him why we speak in tongues and what speaking in tongues does in the life and ministry of a believer. You should be able to help him receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. If you think you cannot help him yourself, take him to another believer or your pastor. You can also learn about it with him as you play a teaching on the subject together with him on YouTube.

One of the most important things you will teach your disciple is how to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and how to be led by Him in every aspect of life. You also need to teach him how to fellowship with the Holy Spirit.

## **FAITH**

It is your responsibility to teach your disciple what faith is, how faith comes, how to use faith, how to feed his faith, how to develop his faith, and make him understand what he

can accomplish in his Christian life with faith. When he steps out in faith to do something and it does not work out like he anticipated, you must be there to make sure that he is not discouraged and quit.

You have to guide him on what spiritual information to 'consume' in his quest to build his faith. New believers and babies have one thing in common, they put whatever they find in their mouth. You need to watch what preacher your disciple listens. Until he is old enough to know what is good for him, it is your responsibility to recommend what teaching or preacher to listen to. You as a spiritual mentor must be well grounded in the word of faith.

## **THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

You must teach your disciple about the fruit of the spirit, how to develop it and how to allow them to manifest in his character. He must understand that it is not enough to confess that he is a new man in Christ, he also needs to know how to walk in the newness of life. There is a way to live as a believer. You have to teach him how to put the flesh in subjection to his born-again spirit.

You must help him develop godly character and help him in areas of weakness in his character.

## TEMPTATION

Your disciple must know that he will be tempted in every way, every day of his life on earth. It is important for him to understand that God will not allow him to be tempted beyond what he has capacity to overcome, and that God will always provide him a way of escape from every temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13). Help him develop an 'overcomer-mentality', being assured that he can overcome every temptation that Satan throws at him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Help him understand how to use the word of God to overcome temptations. Also teach him what to do when he falls into temptation.

## PERSECUTION

Let your disciple know that he will definitely be persecuted as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Remind him what Jesus told His disciples:

**"If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, `A servant is not greater than his**

**master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also."** - John 15:18-20 (RSV)

It is part of the cross we must carry to follow Jesus.

**"Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."** - Luke 9:23

Satan hates every follower of Christ and will unleash every force at his disposal to persecute him. Let your disciple understand that Satan is behind every persecution he faces, so he should not fight a spiritual battle with carnal weapons. Teach him how to love those who persecute him and how to handle persecution.

If your disciple is facing persecutions, you must be there to encourage him. He needs to also understand that being persecuted does not mean that he has done something wrong.

## **THE AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER**

It is very important for your disciple to know that he has rights and privileges as a child of God. He must also

understand that he is seated in heavenly places in Christ, far above all the principalities, above powers, above the rulers of the darkness of this world, and above spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 1:20-23; 2:6). He must understand that he has authority over the devil and every demon in this world (Luke 10:19). He must also understand that he can resist the devil and stop him from operating around his territory (James 4:7). It is your responsibility to coach him into living a life of victory, through a deep understanding of his divine nature. Every believer has been given the right to exercise dominion over sin, sickness, and poverty. We however must be taught to do that effectively. It is through the process of discipleship that we gain the spiritual understanding that puts us in command of the affairs of our lives.

If after a year of discipleship, your disciple still calls you when he has a nightmare you have not been successful in discipleship. Your goal is to raise him up to a point where he 'does not need you' to take care of himself spiritually.

## **FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

We are stewards of the finances God brings into our lives. Our success in the area of finances will be dependent on how we manage the resources He brings into our lives. Mismanagement will always lead to scarcity while prudent



management of His resources always brings an increase. There is always what to give, what to use and what to save. Your disciple needs to understand this 'Kingdom Economics' to be able to enjoy increases in finances.

It is your responsibility to teach your disciple about giving to the Lord. You must encourage him to be faithful in giving his tithes, offerings, and other forms of giving prescribed in the scriptures. You are not just responsible for teaching him how to give, you are also responsible for showing him how to receive and increase the inflow of financial blessings into his life. He needs to know what to do with the remaining 90% of his income after giving his tithes. If your disciple is unemployed, you need to teach him about the dignity of working with his hands to earn a living. You should help him to put together a good CV and Cover Letter and prepare him for job interviews. To be effective in disciple making you must be able to prepare people for gainful employment. Jesus taught a lot about business and finances; we also should endeavour to position ourselves to do the same. If your disciple is unemployed, he might become a burden to you. You should prepare him to be employable. You should also help him to excel at his workplace after he has gotten a job. Teach your disciple how to stay out of debt and if he is in debt, help him to get out of it.

God wants us to prepare His children for the financial blessings He desires to give them. You are not allowed to have a broke disciple. Place a demand on the wisdom of God in you to empower him for financial prosperity.

## PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLESHIP

There are some principles that make discipleship successful when diligently applied. If you engage these principles, you will be able to say like Jesus,

**“While I was with them in the world, I kept them in your name. Those whom you gave me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled.” - John 17:12**

Study these principles carefully and apply them diligently, and with time the level of results you will get in your pursuit of the fulfilment of the Great Commission will amaze you.

### 1. DIVINE COMMANDMENT

Making disciples is a ‘divine commandment’ not a ‘divine

suggestion'. It is not something we do only when our pastor assigns someone to us to follow up on. Instead, it is Christ's personal mandate for you as a believer. If you see it as a divine commandment given to you by Jesus Christ Himself, you will approach it seriously. One day you will account for how much of this commandment you obeyed.

## 2. SENSE OF URGENCY

Life is short and time is running out. Jesus is coming soon. The earlier you start investing your life into the Great Commission the better for you and for the Kingdom of God. When God brings disciples your way, do not waste time on things that do not matter. Feed them the word of His grace, which is able to build them up and give them the blessings God has for all His people.

**"And now I commend you to God [placing you in His protective, loving care] and [I commend you] to the word of His grace [the counsel and promises of His unmerited favor].**

**His grace is able to build you up and to give you the [rightful] inheritance among all those who are sanctified [that is, among those who are set apart for God's purpose— all believers]."**

Acts 20:32 (AMP)

Give them the best of your time, energy, and resources, knowing that you may only have a short time to pour into their lives. Do the best you can while you can. Pour your entire being into them. You never know the greatness of your disciple's destiny until he manifests. The great men and women that are mightily used by God today are all products of men and women who took discipleship seriously. You do not know how long your disciple will be with you, so do your best while you still have the opportunity. Build quality. Give it your all.

### 3. PATIENCE AND PERSISTENCE

Making disciples is hard work. The Apostle Paul understood this principle of hard work. He said,

**"My dear children! Once again, just like a mother in childbirth, I feel the same kind of pain for you until Christ's nature is formed in you" - Galatians 4:19 GNT**

Discipleship is the process of forming Christ's nature and character within another believer. This takes hard work and patience. Having received the grace to do so, you must engage it and work hard.

**“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”**

1 Corinthians 15:10

You will have to be patient with your disciples as they learn how to live the new Christian life. It is a long process of renewing the mind daily with the word of God. Like newborn babies, they will make a mess, and you have to help clean them up. Some will struggle with sinful habits for a while after they get saved. You must not give up on them. Always remember that you also did not become the mature believer you are today overnight. It took some time. The same way you expected others to be patient with you while you were growing, you should extend the same grace to your disciple. You may have to repeat the same thing a dozen times before he gets it. Many times, just when you are celebrating his remarkable spiritual attainments, he will make what you may consider a silly mistake and mess everything up, and you will have to clean up after him and continue where you stopped. I once had a disciple that would be so enthusiastic about the things of God, praying and sharing the word of God with me from Monday to Friday. From Friday evening to Sunday night,

he would succumb to the pressure from his friends, and go drinking and partying with them. He would then return on Sunday night or Monday morning feeling guilty for messing up over the weekend and apologising to me. I would have to comfort him and get him back on his feet, and we would begin the journey again. The same cycle continued on and on. One of my disciples would fall back into fornication after his old girlfriend visited, and after she is gone, we would begin again. Another time he would smoke or drink and feel guilty, and I would have to restore him again. Thank God today he is living in victory. I remember hearing the 'giant of faith', Kenneth Copeland, talk about how he struggled with cigarettes for a few years after being born again. God does not condemn us when we fall into sin, although He dislikes sinful behaviour. Just like a parent would be patient for his child to grow and become a responsible adult, we also must be patient and persistent. We refuse to give up on our disciples until they become mature believers.

#### 4. SACRIFICE

Jesus says, **"This is my commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."** - John 15:12-13

Making disciples will require the greatest level of commitment from you. It will not be a walk in the park. You literally must lay down your life for another believer. It will require a lot of dying to yourself. Your ego will be crushed. It will cost you time, energy, and money. Sometimes you will have to run after your disciple. If he does not show up at church, you will have to make a phone call or drive to his place. The most interesting thing about the discipleship relationship is that the disciple usually does not see what you see. There is this great son of God you see in him who you are trying to bring out of him, but he does not realize it. Sometimes he would wonder "what does this person really want from me?" Why is he running after me like this?" I remember when I ran a cell group in a university students' residence in East London, South Africa. I would visit the guys several times a week to see how they were doing. I gave some of my clothes and shoes to some of them who I felt needed them. I contacted them frequently. On Friday evenings, I would knock on their doors to remind them of the Young Adults fellowship and wait for them to dress up so we could go together. On Saturday night I would call or send them text messages to remind them of church the next day. Early on Sunday morning, I would knock on their doors to wake them

up and get ready for church. One time I offered to iron the clothes of one of them while he took a shower. Sometimes I would knock on their doors, and they would not respond and switch off their phones. It was so discouraging and annoying. Many times, I felt like giving up. I would think to myself, "do these guys think I am getting any material benefits from this thing I am doing?" Several times I had to walk several kilometers to visit them because I was going through some hard times financially at that time. The truth is that your disciple does not see what you see. They are like little children. They do not understand why daddy wants them to eat their food and go to bed early. They think daddy is being 'too difficult', but one day they will thank daddy for not taking it easy with them.

I remember when one of my mentors was discipling my two friends and me. Many times, he would rather take us out on evangelism or have a prayer meeting with us rather than going to his shop. I remember one morning I came to his house so we could go out on evangelism with him. His wife grabbed his shirt by the collar, yelling at him "useless man, you can't even take care of your family...man of God...all you do is walk up and down preaching..." He was so embarrassed, but he had to smile. He quickly dressed up and we went out for the day's ministry business. Even though I would not



recommend neglecting your business and responsibilities as the head of the home for the sake of making disciples, I still appreciate all his sacrifices. What happened that morning made a lasting impression on me. The other two brothers, Joseph and Emeka also did the same. They owned and operated local pharmacies. Many times, their shops were closed because they were busy running the children's ministry. Their businesses suffered, but one of their disciples wrote this book you are reading over two decades later. Both of them taught me how to preach the Gospel. Brother Innocent taught me about seeking first the kingdom (Matthew 6:33). They modelled a life of sacrifice, which I emulate today. God bless their souls. Today, they are no longer those poor children's church teachers. They both have happy families and flourishing ministries. You can never out-give God. Whatever you sacrifice while running after the men and women who have been purchased by the precious blood of Jesus will surely be given back to you in a multiplied fold.

**"So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel's, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time – houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and**

**children and lands, with persecutions – and in the age to come, eternal life.” - Mark 10:29-30**

Making disciples is challenging, but the rewards are priceless. I encourage you to spare no effort. Give your best and give your all. Diligence is giving your best while sacrifice is giving your all in the pursuit of the Great Commission. Sacrifice will require going the extra mile and paying the extra price until Christ is formed in them. The Apostle Paul endured hardships and persecutions. He was beaten many times, imprisoned, and caught in riots. He endured many troubles, had sleepless nights, and was hungry. He suffered dishonour and was slandered. He was treated like a criminal, a deceiver, and an impostor in the process of discipling believers (2 Corinthians 6:1-11). My brothers and sisters, this discipleship business will cost you days and nights of fasting and prayers. It will cost you convenience. It will cost you time and money. Your disciples will despise you and take you for granted sometimes. It is even possible for some to lie against you and falsely accuse you. Don't give up until Christ is formed in them, keep your eyes on the goal.

#### **4. HUMILITY**

Jesus says, **“Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn**

**from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest.” – Matthew 11:29 (GNT)**

Remember that your disciples will understand what the Bible says by observing your life. Pride is one of the greatest enemies of a believer’s destiny. God Himself is against a proud man (1 Peter 5:5). You will have to model humility for your disciples. Humility requires admitting when you don’t know something. Just like small children, your disciple will ask you many questions. You must be humble enough to say, “I do not have an answer to this question. I will have to get back to you on that.”

If you desire to be successful in making disciples, you must never treat your relationship with your disciple as that of a master and a servant. The scriptures admonish us not to be domineering over our disciples.

**“Nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” – 1 Peter 5:3**

You must never treat your disciples like children. You must humble yourself to speak to them with respect. Unconditional regard is a requirement for successful discipleship. When your disciple makes a mistake, you must correct him gently and lovingly. Always let the fruit of

meekness manifest. If you are arrogant and bossy, your disciple will leave you. Remember that many times he does not fully understand how much he needs you in his life. Be ready to serve your disciples just like Jesus taught by washing his disciples' feet. You must treat him as a friend and a fellow believer. Remember that a student may grow up to become more successful than his primary school teacher. Keep that in mind. Being able to disciple another believer is a privilege and an election of grace.

## 5. ROLE MODELING

You are expected to be a good role model for your disciples. You must be a worthy example to his disciples. The Apostle Paul understood this concept of being a good example to his disciples. He told his disciples the following:

**"Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ."**

1 Corinthians 11:1

**"You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we have behaved ourselves among you who believe." - 1 Thessalonians 2:10**

Every believer who desires to be effective in making abiding disciples of Christ should be able to say words like

these to his disciples. This does not mean that you should act 'perfectly'. It simply means that you should model the Christian life as much as possible before your disciples in your words and actions. The Apostle Paul admonished Timothy to do the same.

**“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in the spirit, in faith, in purity.” - 1 Timothy 4:12**

The greatest need in the body of Christ today is good examples. There is a lot of 'preaching' but not much 'living'. Your disciple reads the Bible for instruction, reproof, and doctrine, but looks up to you for examples. When he looks at you, he understands what he reads in the Bible.

I will never forget what happened about 18 years ago. I brother in our church began to visit me almost every day and I did not know why. Later he told me that after he received Jesus, one of the priests in the Anglican Church I was attending told him, "If you want to last in your new Christian life, follow that guy". This is why he kept coming to my house and always wanted me to visit him. He copied everything I did. He began to wear the kind of suits I wore, listen to the preachers I loved to listen to, buy the books I loved to read,

etc. He copied me. I did not know that he had a very bad past of sexual immorality. According to him, he ran to the pastor for help because he could not control his sexual urges anymore. He got involved with a demon-possessed lady who always wanted sex with him. This lady would call him anytime of the day to come have sex with her and he would not be able to resist her. He would leave whatever he was doing and drive to wherever she was. This continued until he also became demon possessed. He began visiting prostitutes regularly. With the strong influence of that demon on him he got any lady he wanted to have sex with him. When the brethren cast the demon out of him, he saw a huge being walk out of him and he was instantly set free. It was after this incident that he was asked to follow me. I did not know any of this happened.

When we became friends, he observed that I was in a relationship with a lady. I wanted to marry her. We were not involved in any sexual activity. We were both saved and trusted the Lord to get married as soon as possible. The brother told me nine years ago that when he saw that his 'mentor' also had a 'girlfriend' he likewise found one for himself. Because he was still recovering from his old life of sexual immorality, he easily fell into the temptation of the devil. Within a very short time, he became worse than before

he was saved. When I met him about 14 years later, he was very deep into sin. He was restored to the faith. He told me something I will never forget in my life, "God sent you to repair what you destroyed." When I saw that you also had a girlfriend, I assumed that a believer can also have girlfriends, so I got one for myself." That was how he went back into sexual immorality and returned to his old life of sin after a short while.

I was so heartbroken after hearing that and vowed that I would never allow myself to influence another disciple in a negative way. I will never forget this experience. I was not a very good example. When you're not ready to get married, I discourage the idea of hanging out with someone of the opposite gender. I would rather encourage believers to wait until they are ready for marriage, before getting into a relationship. This would help them avoid the temptation of sexual immorality and be a positive example for others looking up to them. If there is no plan for marriage soon, it is very easy to fall into the temptation of fornication.

Please do not be the reason another believer misses the way. The Apostle Paul admonished us not to cause a brother or sister with a weak conscience to stumble because of our 'freedom in Christ' (take some time to read 1 Corinthians 8). May God help you to be a good example in conduct, in love,

in the spirit, in faith, and in purity. Be humble before your disciples. Apologise when you are wrong. Do not pretend to know everything. Do not be ashamed to acknowledge that you do not have an answer when he asks you a question. Learn together with your disciples. Serve him. Jesus set an example for us to follow. He washed His disciples' feet. Be honest and transparent before your disciples. Do not lie to them. Let them hear you confess and repent if you make a mistake. Do not claim to be who you are not or have what you do not have.

## **6. RESPONSIBILITY**

We are not called to raise irresponsible disciples of Jesus Christ. This is why one of the proofs that you are succeeding is that your disciple has a sense of spiritual responsibility. He has a responsibility to develop himself spiritually and to disciple other believers. You must instill that in him from the beginning. He must know that God expects him to take care of himself and to care for other members of the body of Christ. You must give him tasks to accomplish and make him accountable. For example, you must set soul winning goals for him. He should reach out to a particular number of people each month or week. You should also instruct him to have a scheduled and structured devotional life. He should make



time to study the Bible and pray every day. One of the most important things you could do for your disciple is to encourage him to find another person to teach whatever he is learning from you.

**"And the things you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." - 2 Timothy 2:2**

This is how we can see society transformed: when disciples, men, and women whose lives have been transformed by the word of God are multiplied in the community, the light of God starts shining brighter and the powers of darkness lose their hold on them. Encourage your disciple to do for others what you are doing in his life.

You must also teach your disciple how to get results with their faith in the Word of God. Your disciple should not run to you for prayer each time he is being challenged. You must teach him to stand in faith and receive answers from God, both for himself and for others. When you go on evangelism with your disciple, make him pray for the sick. Allow him to experience the joy of leading people to salvation. Let them see God use them to heal the sick and cast out demons. That would build their faith in God because faith grows as we use

it. Do not do everything for your disciple. This is what this Principle of Responsibility is all about - raise disciples that will make other disciples.

## 7. IDENTIFICATION

One of your duties as a disciple maker is to help your disciple identify his potentials, his areas of gifting, and his calling. You can see things he cannot see about himself. If you notice an area when he is gifted, you should encourage him to develop it and use it. Apostle Paul did this with Timothy.

**"I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. Therefore, I remind you to stir up the gifts of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given you the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." - 2 Timothy 1:3-**

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There are several spiritual impartations that happen each

time you meet with your disciple. As you talk to him and pray for him, certain spiritual gifts are imparted. As you begin to see them manifest, you make your disciple aware of what you see in him and teach him how to cultivate it. Remember that at every stage, you are either planting or watering spiritual seeds in your disciple. As you commit to doing it, God will give the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6). Recommend books and teachings in the areas of their gifting and calling which you perceive. This also places a demand on you to keep improving yourself, building capacity to continually have something to impart to your disciple. You cannot give what you do not have, and you cannot take someone where you have not been. Your level of impact will be dependent on the level of your spiritual capacity. As you grow, your disciples grow.

I pray for a continuous impartation of the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation over you, in Jesus' name.

## **8. PROTECTION**

I jealously protect my disciples from anything that would destroy that which God and I are building in their lives. Do not watch your disciple fall into temptation. You must watch over him spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Apostle Paul did not only care about Timothy's spiritual wellbeing, but he also

cared about his health and vitality. He once advised him to take a little wine for his constant stomach problems.

**"Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses."**

1 Timothy 5:23 (NIV)

He also warned him about some evil people to avoid. You should also encourage your disciple to avoid people like that.

**"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:**

**For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also**

**was." - 2 Timothy 3:1-9**

If you read Paul's letters, you will learn a lot of principles of successful discipleship. He kept his eyes on every aspect of his disciples' lives. He instructed them about how to manage their homes. He even taught them about sex in their marriage. He taught about their employment security, how they should conduct themselves at their workplace to keep their jobs and enjoy promotions. He taught them about taking care of their body. He did not leave any aspect uncared for. He warned them about the dangers of wrong association, and a lot more.

**"Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."**

1 Corinthians 15:33

Your disciple is your spiritual child, and you will give an account of how you raised him. Help him get rid of sinful habits and relationships that would destroy his Christian testimony. Help him stay out of trouble. Protect him from wrong doctrine and false brethren. Make yourself available whenever he is in need. Do not allow sin, sickness or poverty get a hold of him. Use every spiritual weapon at your disposal to fight for his wellbeing.

God expects excellence from you. He does not accept any for mediocrity. He has called you to a life of glory and excellence and has given you everything you need to have it.

You have been programmed to succeed in your pursuit of the Great Commission.

**"For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue)." - 2 Peter 1:3 (AMPC)**

I pray right now that the zeal of The Lord would consume you. I pray that your fruitfulness in making disciples will be accelerated in Jesus' name. Receive the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding for greater impact, in Jesus' name. Amen



## CHAPTER 3

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# GET TO WORK

**N**ow that you have an understanding of what it means to make disciples, it is time to put it to work. Remember knowledge is useless if it is not applied. It is only the doer of the word that is blessed, not the hearer or the reader.

**“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.” - James 1:22**

God wants to use you beyond what you can imagine at this moment. There are some people only you can reach with the Gospel. As you yield yourself to God's leading, He will



strategically position you in certain places to reach certain people with the Gospel. God will use 'ordinary church people' to do extraordinary things in these last days. They will be 'no name' believers who are in love with God and committed to doing His will. Many of them will not even be church leaders. As a matter of fact, the ministry work is supposed to be done by the saints not the Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, or Teachers. God put them in the church to equip believers to do the work.

**"And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed and gave men to us] some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers. His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church), [That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the**

**Christ and the completeness found in Him." - Ephesians**

**4:11-13**

Our job as those called to what we call "the Five-fold Ministry" is to help believers learn how to do the work of the ministry. When people hear of 'ministry' they think 'preaching on a pulpit', 'quitting my job and moving to Madagascar as a missionary.' Let me help you here, you are already in the ministry. You received your ministry the day you made Jesus the Lord of your life.

**"Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh and new has come! But all things are from God, Who through Jesus Christ reconciled us to Himself [received us into favor, brought us into harmony with Himself] and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation [that by word and deed we might aim to bring others into harmony with Him]. It was God [personally present] in Christ, reconciling and restoring the world to favor with Himself, not counting up and holding against [men] their trespasses [but cancelling them], and committing to us the message of reconciliation (of the restoration to favor)." - 2 Corinthians**

## 5:17-19 AMPC

You are already in ministry. You have been called to bring people back to God. You do this by sharing the good news with them. Tell people that God sent Jesus to die for their sins, and He rose from the dead. If they believe it, they will be saved and become children of God. They will be reconciled to God. This is the ministry you received as a believer. You are called to preach the gospel where you live and work.

**“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15**

God expects you to use every opportunity you get to share the good news. Use social media, send emails, WhatsApp, Telegram, Tweets, etc., distribute gospel tracts to people you meet on your way to the grocery shop. You can download some gospel tracts from my website [www.samuelodoh.org](http://www.samuelodoh.org). Make yourself fruitful and productive. God expects you to win the lost and make disciples. It is not optional. One day you will stand before Him, and He will ask you to account for how many people you reconciled with Him. **“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He**

**may give you.” – John 15:16**

God sent me to remind you that He has appointed and equipped you to bear abiding fruit. You have been anointed for this. You are expected to help people become genuine followers of Jesus Christ. Abiding fruit refers to disciples who stand until Jesus returns. One who will make it to heaven. You can do it. You have been anointed to do this. Start with your family. Begin with one child. Turn the people who come to you for assistance into disciples. Your domestic assistant, your driver, and your gardener are all potential disciples. God has given you influence over them. Start a Bible study group. Your colleagues are potential disciples. If you are a teacher, God has given you a great opportunity to make disciples. You have a great influence on your learners. Take advantage of it and turn them into Jesus' disciples. In my book 'How to Win Anybody to Christ', I delved into details on how to win different categories of people to Christ. Please get it. You can download it from my website for free. Also get my book on how to start and run a small group fellowship. It will teach you how to disciple people in a group setting. If you do not know what to teach, contact me and I will help you. I have materials you can use to teach other people.

## YOU CAN BE ANOTHER PHILIP

When early the church began to grow, the Apostles appointed some disciples to help them oversee the daily distribution of food. One of the people appointed was Philip (Acts 6:1-7). He was neither an Apostle, a Prophet, an Evangelist, nor a Pastor nor a Teacher. He was an 'ordinary' Spirit-filled believer like you. All he did in church was make sure everybody got food. Nothing spectacular. You are probably an usher or serving in the parking unit at your local church. You are in the same league as Philip and the other guys chosen to oversee the early church soup kitchen.

A great wave of persecution erupted the day Stephen was murdered which swept over the church in Jerusalem. All the believers except the Apostles were scattered through the regions of Judea and Samaria. As the believers ran to different places, they began to good news about Jesus Christ (Acts 8:1-4). Philip went to the city of Samaria not as a missionary sent officially by the church, but as an 'ordinary believer' escaping for his life. When he got there, he began to tell people he met about Jesus Christ. Suddenly some remarkable things began to happen.

**"But the believers who were scattered preached the Good**

News about Jesus wherever they went. Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city...But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized" - Acts 8:4-8, 12.

Whenever a believer begins to tell people about Jesus Christ, He begins to manifest Himself to prove that what is said about Him is true. He begins to cause people to be healed and delivered. Miracles, healings, deliverances, and all kinds of supernatural things happen when we tell people about Jesus.

**"And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with**

new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.

**Amen.” – Mark 16:15-18**

The same way God used Philip, he can use you to win an entire town, city, or village to Christ. You already have the minimum requirement - you are a believer. Jesus Christ, the Anointed One is not only with you, but He is also in you.

**“...Christ in you, the hope of glory.” - Philippians 1:27**

Everything He is, everything He has is in you because He lives in you, and you are in Him. He can do everything He did while He was on earth through you today. Everything that makes the Godhead (God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit) powerful is in you right now.

**“For in Him the whole fullness of Deity (the Godhead) continues to dwell in bodily form [giving complete expression of the divine nature]. And you are in Him, made**

**full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ you too are filled with the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and reach full spiritual stature]. And He is the Head of all rule and authority [of every angelic principality and power].”**

Colossians 2:9-10 (AMPC)

Child of God, you are loaded with God's wisdom and power. Because Christ lives in you, your words are powerful. When you speak the word of God, anointing flows and angels get to work. All you need to do is find someone and start talking, and Christ will take care of the rest. The next time you see a sick person, put your hand on them. As soon as you make contact with them, Jesus will release His power into them and heal them. Tell people what Jesus can do for them and watch Him do it to prove to them that what you are saying is true. God just told me that somebody reading this will raise somebody from the dead very soon. All you need is to believe, and you have done that already. You are a believer! Expect signs and wonders to follow you as you win the lost and make disciples.



# FINAL CHARGE

**M**y brothers and sisters, God has taught you a lot through this book. If you put the things you learn from this book to work, you will be the fruit-bearing believer Jesus Christ has anointed you to be. He will use you to raise disciples who will win many more people to Him. Do not despise yourself.

Here is some closing advice. Please take praying for your disciples seriously. Prayer is still one of the most powerful tools for effective discipleship. The Apostle Paul is one of the most fruitful believers in church history. He still discipling believers today through the letters he wrote to his disciples. At the root of the success of his ministry is prayer. He prayed for his disciples always. If you don't know what to pray for your disciples about, you can say Paul's prayers over them.

Below are some of his prayers for his disciples:

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you..." Romans 1:8-10

"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of

God that was given you in Christ Jesus..." - 1 Corinthians 1:4

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers..." - Ephesians 1:16

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy..." Philippians 1:3-4

"We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you..." - Colossians 1:3

"We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers..." - 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right..." - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

"I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day." - 2 Timothy 1:3

"I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers..." - Philemon 1:4

He prayed that God would give them wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

"...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him..." - Ephesians 1:17

"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in

all spiritual wisdom and understanding..." Colossians 1:9

He prayed that they would be full of Hope.

"...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints..." - Ephesians 1:18

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Romans 15:13

He prayed that they would be endued with spiritual power.

"...that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being."

Ephesians 3:16

"...that you may know...what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might."- Ephesians 1:18-19

"May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might..." - Colossians 1:11

He prayed that they would learn how to abide in Christ.

"...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith..."

Ephesians 3:17

"...that you...may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." - Ephesians 3:18-19

He also prayed that they would grow to love others.

"...that you, being rooted and grounded in love..." Ephesians 3:17

"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more..."

- Philippians 1:9

He prayed that they would be empowered to lead a holy life.

"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." - Philippians 1:9-11

"...so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him..." - Colossians 1:10

"But we pray to God that you may not do wrong..."

2 Corinthians 13:7

"Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it." - 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Make a list of all your disciples and intercede for them as often as possible. I recommend praying for them in the language of the spirit. Sometimes you may not know the exact thing they need prayer for, but if you depend on the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pray in tongues, you will pray the perfect will of God for them.

**“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” - Romans 8:26**

Like Epaphras, you must wrestle in prayers until your disciples stand strong. If you notice any areas the devil is trying to take them out, you put up a fight against him.

**“Epaphras, who is one of yourselves, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, sends greetings to you, always wrestling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand firm-Christians of ripe character and of clear conviction as to everything which is God's will.” -**

Colossians 4:12 (Weymouth New Testament)

I pray that on that day when you stand before Jesus, you will hear the word, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord”. That shall be your testimony in Jesus’ name. Amen

# PRAYER FOR SALVATION AND BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST

**T**he Bible says "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Rom. 10:9-10).

If you want to receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be born again say this prayer from your heart:

**"Jesus, you are my Lord. I believe you died to take away my sins and God raised you from the dead. I receive your salvation right now and I believe that I am now a child of God."**

That's it! You have become a brand-new man; your old life of sin is dead and gone (2 Corinthians 5:17).

If you want to receive this baptism in The Holy Ghost right now, lift up your hands, close your eyes and say this prayer aloud,

**“Jesus, I ask you to baptize me with The Holy Ghost and Fire right now and give me the ability to speak in other tongues. I believe I receive it right now and I thank you.”**

Now open your mouth and begin to speak in tongues loud and fast. Don’t allow Satan to lie to you and discourage you. You have asked and you have received.

Contact me if you just said these prayers and I will send you some publications that will help you stand strong and grow spiritually. Jesus is Lord!

If you are led to give to my ministry to enable me bless more people around the world, click [HERE](#) use the QR code below



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**SAMUEL ODOH** is the President of Dominion Commission. His ministry is focused on equipping believers for a life of victory through the teaching of the Word of Faith. His passion is to raise an army of believers who will make disciples and transform nations with the Word of God. He

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**Other books Authored by Sam include:**

**Other Books Written by Samuel Odoh**

1. How to Win Anybody to Christ
2. Rescue: How to Restore a Backslidden Believer
3. Make Disciples
4. What to Do When You Need a Financial Miracle
5. Prospering in These Hard Times
6. It's Your Turn: Rise Up and Take Your Place in Leadership
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