

AUGUST 25-31

"What's In A Name?" Multiply: Disciples Make Disciples

MONDAY 8/25

JOSHUA 4:1-9

When Israel crossed the Jordan River which parted mircaulously like the Red Sea had during their flight from Egypt, God instructed Joshua to have twelve men gather stones from the riverbed and set them up as a memorial. These stones were to serve as a lasting reminder of God's faithfulness, so that future generations would ask, "What do these stones mean?" and be told the story of how God brought his people across. Discipleship is not only about personal faith but also about leaving visible reminders of God's work for others to see and learn from. Like the memorial stones, our lives and stories can point others to God's power and faithfulness.

- 1. What "stones of remembrance" have you or can you set up in your life to help others see how God is working in and through your life?
- 2. Who in your life might benefit from hearing how God has carried you through difficult waters?

2 KINGS 2:1-14

Elijah's final moments with Elisha show the power of relational discipleship. Elisha had walked closely with Elijah, learning from his faith and ministry. When Elijah was taken up, Elisha received a "double portion" of his spirit, continuing the prophetic work with even greater power. Discipleship is about relationships with one another, but discipleship is not about clinging to a leader but, rather, about being equipped to carry on God's mission. True spiritual mentoring prepares others not only to walk with us but also to walk faithfully with God after we are gone.

- 1. Who has invested in your spiritual journey the way Elijah did for Elisha, and how have you carried forward their influence?
- 2. How do you think you will respond when God calls you to step into greater responsibility for his mission?

WEDNESDAY 8/27

ROMANS 15:1-9

Paul reminds believers that the strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not please themselves. Instead, we are called to build each other up, following the example of Christ, who did not live to please himself but bore the weight of others for their sake. Relational discipleship means living in harmony, encouraging one another, and seeking God's glory together. This kind of selfless love and mutual support reflects the heart of Jesus and demonstrates the gospel to the world.

- 1. What does Paul mean that we sould "bear with the failings of the weak"? How might we, rather, "please ourselves"?
- 2. In what relationships is God calling you to be more patient and willing to bear with the weaknesses of others?

PHILIPPIANS 3:15-17 1 CORINTHIANS 11:1

Paul encourages believers to "follow my example" and keep their eyes on those who live according to the pattern given in Christ. He also boldly tells the Corinthians, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." This reminds us that, just like children learning by imitating their parents and others around them, discipleship is relational: we learn by watching, walking alongside, and imitating those who faithfully pursue Jesus. While Christ is always the ultimate model, God gives us mentors, leaders, and fellow believers whose lives point us toward him.

- 1. Who in your life has modeled Christlike faith for you, and how have you been shaped by their example?
- 2. Who might God be calling you to invest in relationally, so they can grow by watching your walk with Jesus?

FRIDAY 8/29

PSALM 145

This psalm celebrates the greatness of God and his mighty works, with a special focus on one generation declaring God's deeds to the next. The psalmist envisions a community of faith where God's goodness is spoken of, shared, and remembered together. Relational discipleship flows from this rhythm of worship, telling the stories of who God is and what God has done, so that praise continues from one life to another and from one generation to the next.

- 1. How does worship together with others strengthen our discipleship relationships?
- 2. What are some of the great works of God that you want to share (or are already sharing) with the next generations?

SATURDAY/ SUNDAY 8/30-31

ACTS 11:19-30

Looking back to when persecution scattered the early believers, they preached the good news wherever they went. Philip went to Samaria and had such a powerful impact that some of the Twelve had to come to experience what God was doing among the Samaritans, a people many Jews at the time looked down on. In Antioch, the message reached Greeks as well as Jews, and many turned to the Lord. Barnabas was sent to encourage them, and he sought out Saul to help teach and build up the church. Their partnership in discipleship and mission led to a thriving community where believers were first called "Christians." This passage shows that relational discipleship multiplies: encouragement, teaching, and shared ministry all strengthen the body of Christ.

- 1. There is power in worshiping together and ministering together. How do you see the value of partnering with others in ministry and discipleship?
- 2. What does it mean to you that believers were first called "Christians" in the context of shared mission and growth? What does it mean to you to call yourself a Christian?

VERSE OF THE WEEK

"All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom."

(Psalm 145:10-12)