Week Three

Discipleship

POWER ON

The key verse for this entire quarter is the Great Commission found in Matthew 28. We have already looked at making disciples in the previous weeks. But before that “make disciples” verb comes up, Jesus says, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth” (v. 18). The word for authority in Greek is exousia which denotes power to act, jurisdiction, liberty, right, and domain. Throughout the four Gospels, Jesus used this exousia to cast out demons (Matt. 10:1; Mark 3:15), to heal the sick (Matt. 9:8; Luke 5:24), and to teach (Matt. 7:29; Mark 1:27). It was this same authority that His enemies questioned (Matthew 21:23–27; Mark 11:28–33, Luke 20:1–8).

This exousia is also the same power that Christ gives to humanity to become the children of God. In other words, the reason we can make disciples is that Jesus has been given authority to use His power to help us. The power of discipleship does not come from programs or even spiritual people and mentors. It comes from Christ, who continues to cast out evil from our lives, heal our diseases, and teaches us to live as He did on this earth.

Though people are called to make disciples, the power of discipleship is from God. In the next three weeks, we will look at the three means by which the power of God is manifested in discipleship: prayer, Bible study, and witnessing for Christ.

Read This Week’s Passage:
Write out Luke 11:1–13 from the translation of your choice. If you are pressed for time, you may write out Luke 11: 1–4. You may also re-write the passage in your own words, outline, or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?


Why aren’t our prayer lives more raw, bold, authentic, and real?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc03-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

Are you more relational or more persistent? How can your prayer life involve more of both?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc03-4

What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

1 John 5:14, 15
Ephesians 6:10–18
Luke 18:1–8

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Jesus’ teachings and prayer?
Where do you see Jesus in Luke 11:1–13?

How is your new man breathing?

What is Jesus saying to you through the main text?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/disc03-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week's study of the chapter, what personal applications are you convicted of in your life?

What practical applications must you make in your prayer and devotional life?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at wwwVERSEBIBLE.org/disc03-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

How often do you pray?

Where is spiritual power specifically needed in your life?

What kinds of shame prevent us from having a powerful prayer life with God?

How can prayer become dangerous when only persistent?

What are assumptions that we make about prayer that make it inert?

How would one diagnose a lack of prayer in the spiritual life?

How many of your prayers have been based on promises that God has given through Scripture? How many of them were answered? How many of them do you remember?

How close are you with the Holy Spirit in prayer?

What’s the longest you’ve held your breath spiritually?

The Power of Discipleship: Prayer