

# Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

## Core Strength - Part 5

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### Introduction

The vision of Jesus has always been to change the world. He does this not only by His words, but by showing His disciples how it's done. He asks them to follow Him and intentionally spends time with them. He shows them how to live lives of significant impact. The fact that such impact from thousands of year ago has made it through to us here today tells us that His way of multiplying disciples is so effective it breaks through location and time. So, why are we not seeing more changes across our nation and the nations? Dave Ferguson offers three practical steps that are missing today: apprenticeship, hero making and kingdom building.

**Read** Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:6-8

### Discuss

1. If time, money and resources were not an issue, how would you change the world together as a group? If you were to meet Jesus physically and He asked you to follow Him, what would go through your mind?
2. What do you have in mind when you hear the word "discipleship"? Do you know anyone who is currently discipling or being disciplined? What do they do?
3. Dave teaches that in Western culture, the term 'discipleship' is often understood as simply learning knowledge, whereas 'apprenticeship' (where, for an example, a carpenter is simultaneously being a carpenter and helping someone else to become a carpenter) has more practical weight. How do you personally differentiate the two? Share your own (good and bad) experience of discipleship and/or apprenticeship.

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4. Read John 3:22. The Greek word for 'spent some time' in this passage is 'diatribo', which means to rub against. It suggests that during that time, the disciples started to look and become like Jesus. How have you allowed Jesus to rub off on you? Who do you spend your time with?
5. Dave tells the story of Shalane Flanagan, from whom is derived the term "Shalane Effect". Where you serve as a rocket booster for those who work alongside you, whilst catapulting forward yourself? Now read John 14:12. Where do you see "Hero Making" from the Shalane Effect and this verse? Why might it be challenging for you to continue the work and make someone else the hero?
6. Read Matthew 6:33. According to Dave, the third missing practice is kingdom building. Christians and churches need to be more concerned about building the Kingdom than building their own comfortable castles. Where and how can you put your hands to help build God's Kingdom on earth?

### **Respond**

Jesus invests in His disciples so they can reach more people than could ever be reached during the time of His earthly ministry. He shows them how they can take the Good News to more places. The ball is now in your court. Do you want to follow Jesus and change the world? Who is that one person you know that you can rub off on, do life with, and boost as the hero? Who is your apprentice?