



# WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP?

## Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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FEBRUARY 18, 2018

**1. PRIMARY STATEMENT:** What does it mean to make a disciple? Well - it doesn't mean finding 12 guys to follow you around in robes and sandals! Jesus' famous final command can be summed up this way: form a relationship with someone, and use your words and actions to help them live a life devoted to God the way that yours is.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2 Timothy 2:1–2 [ESV] *"You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."*

Bible knowledge can be passed along in a ton of different ways, but Christian character can only be conveyed one way, learning by example, one to one.

Q. Ask a friend or family member to describe how you talk, what your body language is like when you're excited, how you sound when you're tired. Where did you learn things like that from - school, reading a book... or from the example of people around you?

Q. What one or two people in your life have had the biggest impact on your character?

## 3. CHALLENGE

Romans 6:1–4 [ESV] *"Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ... just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."*

It's not enough to know the Bible or believe in Jesus. We've got to teach people to do what He said. Successful discipleship produces visible life change.

Q. Name a few people in your life who look up to you or take their cues from how you live. How are your attitudes and actions pointing them toward a God-pleasing life?

Q. If you're setting an example for others by accident, how much more effectively could you influence them if you did it strategically? What could you start (or stop) today that would help you disciple someone more effectively?



## 4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for the example(s) who showed you how to live a God-pleasing life. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be that kind of an example for the next generation of believers.



# “BE HAPPY WHEN PEOPLE PICK ON YOU”

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### 1. POWER VERSE: **Matthew 5:10** *“God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.”*

#### Watts Up: **“Even When I’m Treated Bad, I Know God Will Bless Me Good!”**

This week, we start a brand new series called, “Ouch!”. In this series, we will learn about powerful truths Jesus taught when he preached the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus said some things that made his followers say, “Ouch!” because they knew what Jesus said was so true, and when they thought about how they were living compared to how Jesus said they should be, it stung a little.

### 2. BIBLE VERSE:

Read: Genesis 39-41



Q. What happened to Joseph?

Q. Did Joseph do anything wrong?

Q. Was Joseph treated fairly? How did he respond?

Everyone gets mistreated at one time or another. It’s a part of life, but how we respond is important. It’s natural to respond to bullies and mean words and actions by getting upset or even angry, but Jesus said that we shouldn’t respond that way.

### 3. DISCUSSION:

Jesus said that we should be **HAPPY** when people pick on us. Ouch! It stings a little when we realize the truth Jesus shared and how our behavior has differed from His instructions.



Q. Have you ever been mistreated by people in your life?

Q. How did it make you feel?

Q. How do you normally respond to people who hurt you?



### 4. PRAYER FOCUS

Pray for your child if they are being mistreated or bullied. Pray that they will continue to do the right thing. Pray that they will be comforted in knowing they are not alone in their situation - that Jesus knows how they feel. And pray that they will always stay faithful to God even when they are persecuted.