

Our Mission | Discipleship

Isaiah 61:1-4, Acts
2:42-47, Titus 3:3-5,
Luke 6:43-45

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I. Introduction

A disciple is someone who is engaged in the life-long process of becoming more like Jesus.

1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion- to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. 4 They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

—Isaiah 61:1-4

II. Becoming Oaks of Righteousness:

1. If you want to grow an oak tree, you've got to put an acorn in the dirt.
(Acts 2:42-47)

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of

bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

—Acts 2:42-47

The ___ **Discipleship Environments** ___ we prioritize:
Large Gatherings - Small Groups - Personal Relationship

1. Something always happens below ground before anything happens above ground.
(Titus 3:3-5)

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. 4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

—Titus 3:3-5

The ___ **Inner Transformation** ___ we pray for:
Salvation - Surrender - Sacrifice

1. If it really is an oak tree, it's going to produce acorns.
(Luke 6:43-45)

"For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a

bad tree bear good fruit, 44 for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. 45 The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

—Luke 6:43-45

The **Outward Expression** we practice:

Growing - Investing - Going

****III. Conclusion:**** A life of discipleship is the only life that's truly worth living. (Isaiah 61:1-4) ****Study Questions****

1. What are some words or phrases that immediately come to mind when you hear the word "disciple"? Do you agree that how discipleship is defined in the local church matters? Why or why not? How would you define, in your own words, what it means to be a disciple?
2. Does discipleship ever feel like an obligation to you? If so, why do you think that happens and how do you respond during those times? Read Isaiah 61:1-4. How does it impact you to see discipleship in the context of Jesus' work to restore your brokenness and include you in his purpose to reach the world?
3. What is your reaction to the statement "inward transformation is authenticated by outward expression"? How can we pursue the biblical expectation of fruitfulness while avoiding the pitfall of believing we can earn God's favor? Read John 15:1-8. What insights does this passage provide? What other scriptures can help us to maintain the right perspective on this?
4. Review the Discipleship Model at southbrookchurch.com/discipleship. How are you doing relative to each of the areas identified? Which area may God be leading you to focus on, and how specifically could you do that? What is one action you could take this week to help someone else grow in one of these areas?

5. Which of the four mission opportunities being highlighted during this series (Feed the Hunger, Operation Christmas Child, Mexico Roofing Project, Discipleship Group Activity) will you participate in? Take some time to pray over these and other opportunities to glorify God by making disciples.