

Making Disciples As We Go
ABF Lesson Three: Breesport Basics
Serve and Multiply

I. Introduction:

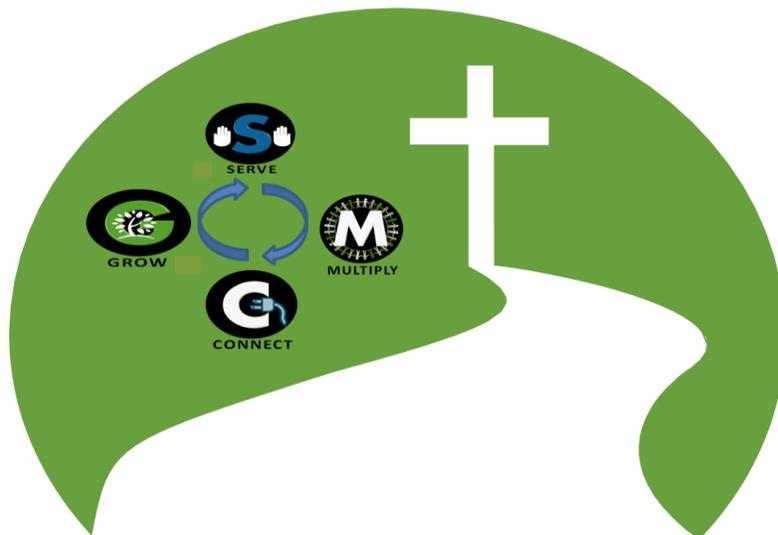
Last week we considered the process that we have adopted here at Breesport Baptist Church to help us be effective at the Great Commission command to make more and better disciples of Christ. The place to begin is with a definition. We have to know what it means to be a disciple of Christ so that we can create a process to make them.

A Biblical definition of a Disciple of Jesus Christ:

A Disciple of Jesus Christ is one who is relationally **CONNECTED** Christ (Matthew 16:24), is **GROWING** in Christ-likeness (Luke 6:40), **SERVES** Christ (John 14:15), and is on mission with Christ (Matthew 28:18-20) to **MULTIPLY** more and better disciples of Christ.

Notice the following graphic:

Our **VISION** is to have every disciple fully engaged
in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ



Our **MISSION** is to glorify God by making
more and better disciples of Jesus Christ

II. Serve:

Definition:

Equipping and releasing people to active engagement in Gospel service both inside and outside the church.

➤ See Ephesians 4:11-16

The Bible says that the primary role of pastors is to **EQUIP** the saints for the work of ministry so that we **ALL** come to spiritual maturity together.

Q. How many ministries can you name that primarily function inside the church? How many ministries can you name that primarily function outside the church?

And God has given every believer at least one **SPIRITUAL GIFT** to enable them to do their part in the Body to contribute to the work for the benefit of the whole.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.
(Romans 12:4-8)

⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:9-11)

Let me say this before we jump into our text: not only does God command us to serve but we **NEED** to serve God and others.

Q, What would you say to the person who says they don't know how to serve? They don't know where to serve? Or they don't have time to serve?

III. Multiply:

Definition:

Equipping believers to be disciples who make disciples through the intentional application of Biblical truth within the arena of redeemed relationships.

➤ See 2 Timothy 2:1-2

A "Redeemed Relationships" is a relationship that is about more than just fun it's about **MISSION**. It's about recognizing that God has His own set of desires for this relationship.

To "Entrust" something to someone means to give it to them in **TRUST**. It not so much about ownership as it is about **STEWARDSHIP**. Everything in the Christian faith is like that.

Q. Multiplication requires us to intentionally redeem our relationships for the higher purpose of making disciples. What about this scares you and why? What are some practical things you can do to make your relationships more intentional?

IV. Conclusion:

Consider these facts concerning the state of the church in America today:

- We are the fourth largest unchurched country on the planet.
- No county in America has a greater church going population than it did 10 years ago.
- Each year some 4000 churches close and only about 1500 new ones are started. Of those 1500 church plants about 500 of them will fail within four years of launch.

The mission of the church of Jesus Christ is to make disciples. We ought to be excellent at making disciples and after 2000 years we're not. Connect, Grow, Serve, Multiply is a step toward becoming excellent at carrying out the work that Jesus has given to us.

V. Homework:

Memory Verse for the week:

¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:
¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:10-11)