

Discipleship Mosaic

Table Eight {God's Plan}

If someone asked you why you exist what would you say?

Read Isaiah 43:7. What does God's Word say as the reason we exist?

To glorify God is to reflect His heart and character.

What would this look like in your daily life?

We have our purpose, mission, uniqueness and current reality. But if these remain separate, we can feel like we are running crazy doing everything under the sun yet accomplishing little in terms of making multiplying disciples. The goal is to merge these together as much as possible. Let's use Jesus as our example of how to merge these. He used His uniqueness of being able to heal (so people would know He was God) to preach, and his current reality was traveling around to do it. In Mark 1:35, we see that His uniqueness was getting a little more attention, so He said, "Come let us go to the towns nearby so I may preach there also, for that is what I came for."

The law of entropy says things naturally go from order to disorder. So unless we are intentional about making disciples and making a plan to merge these circles in all reality it won't happen.

Here's a helpful acronym to help identify your unique blend God has given you to steward. The acronym is INVEST. Interests, Nature, Vision, Experiences, Spiritual Gifts and Treasure. Take a block and for each question share with the group and write your answer on the block.

Interests- What (types of things) and who (could be a people group, age group etc.) do you enjoy?

Nature/Personality-What are some strengths and weaknesses mentally, emotionally and socially?

Vision-What is something you would do in your lifetime for the glory of God if you knew you would not fail? What are you passionate about? What would others describe you as passionate about?

Experiences-What do you see going on around you and every time you experience it or think about it, it deeply effects you? What is happening that you desperately want to see different?

Spiritual Gifts- What do you enjoy doing? What thing(s) really refresh and encourage you after you do them? What have others noticed you were good at? What have spiritual gift inventory tests said your spiritual gift(s) were? What are some things you are confident in doing because of the ability God has given you?

Treasure-What has God entrusted to you? What resources are you a steward of?

And finally, the most important question:

How can you use your uniqueness to carry out the mission Jesus gave you of making multiplying disciples through the process of evangelism and discipleship?

Current Reality-Where do you live and what are the realities that surround that? Where do you spend the majority of your time?

How can your mission can tie together with your uniqueness and your current reality?

Everyone needs to add your block to the middle of the table to make a tower. There can only be four bottom base blocks. The rest need to be stacked on top. This is a reflection of how everyone is built uniquely by God. Each person is valuable and needed to accomplish His mission.

Believe it or not, reaching this world is very possible. Starting with 45 of us, multiplying once annually the whole world could be reached in 29 years. *“Let’s say for example that a gifted evangelist is able to lead 1,000 people to Christ every day. Each year he will have reached 365,000 people, a phenomenal ministry indeed. Let’s compare him with a disciple who leads not 1,000 people a day to Christ, but only one person a year. At the end of the year, the disciple has one convert; the evangelist, 365,000. But suppose the disciple has not only led this man to Christ, but has also discipled him. He has prayed with him, taught him how to feed himself from the Word of God, gotten him into fellowship with like-minded believers, taken him out on evangelism and showed him how to present the Gospel to other people. At the end of that first year, this new convert is able to lead another man to Christ and follow him up as he himself has been followed up.*

At the start of the second year, the disciple has doubled his ministry—the one has become two. During the second year, each man goes out and leads not 1,000 people per day to Christ, but one person per year. At the end of the second year, we have four people. You can see how slow our process is. But note, too, that we do not have only converts, but disciples

who are able to reproduce themselves. At this rate of doubling every year, the disciple leading one man per year to Christ, will overtake the evangelist numerically somewhere in the 19th year. From then on, the disciple and his multiplying ministry will be propagating faster than the combined ministry of dozens of gifted evangelists.” Walter Henrichsen

How can you be intentional this week about the mission God gave you of making disciples with your current reality and uniqueness?