

## **Disciple Craft**

Matthew 28:16-20

### **Discover**

A disciple is someone who follows Jesus: seeking the kingdom of God and walking in the Holy Spirit. A craft is the hands-on skills necessary to create a beautiful masterpiece.

Abraham's devotion to God was beyond any other disciple. He obeyed God's command to sacrifice his only son in worship. God was testing Abraham's faith and sent an angel to stop Abraham from slaying Isaac. God sealed Abraham's future family line with awesome blessings. (Genesis 22:9-18)

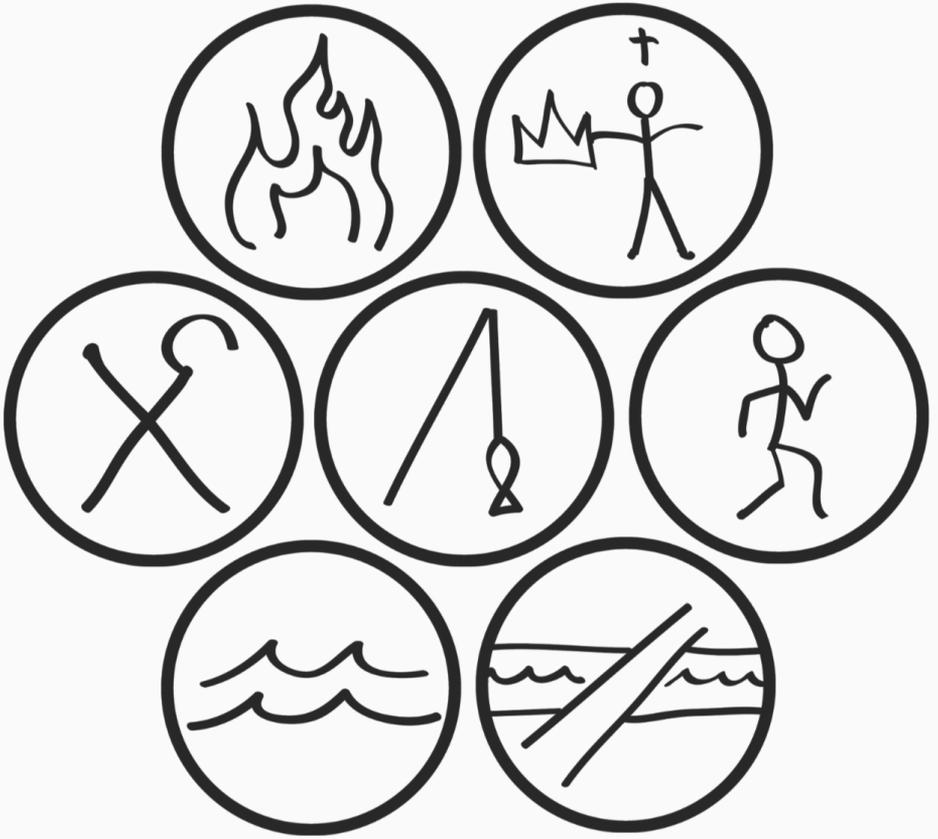
King David is a legend. He is renowned for being the disciple who ran after our Father's heart and danced in the crowded city streets, praising the Lord. His moral failures were devastating; yet, God chose to honor him and bring forth our Messiah through David's family. (Acts 13:21-23)

Elijah the prophet needed a successor, so God told him to find Elisha and anoint him. Elisha had no experience; he was a farmer. Elijah found him and brought him along as a companion to model faithful leadership. (1 Kings 19:16-21)

Jesus was brilliant at recruiting disciples. He created an environment where Peter and his companions could see God's kingdom for themselves. They listened to him teach, saw miracles, and left everything to follow him. (Luke 5:1-11)

Jesus was also deliberate in filtering his followers for truly dedicated disciples. He consistently challenged their resolve to absolutely trust and believe in him. (John 6:60-71)

This lesson is about discipleship: how to follow Jesus and invite others to join us on our worship adventure. We owe everything to Jesus who gives us life. (Romans 6:10-11)



# DISCIPLE CRAFT



MATTHEW 28:16-20

## **Draw**

Faith Challenge: fishing pole & fish - When the disciples first met Jesus, he invited each one to follow him and learn how to fish for people. After Jesus' resurrection, he met with them again and challenged their faith. Was their faith authentic? Would they wholeheartedly follow him? (28:16-17)

Messianic Authority: Jesus & crown - Jesus has now received all authority in heaven and on earth from our Father. Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of Lords. He is the Great I AM. He deserves absolute allegiance. (28:18)

Discipleship Lifestyle: athlete - Discipleship is a lifestyle; we make disciples every day as we learn to walk with Jesus. We do not take time off from worshiping our Father. We do not take a vacation from our salvation. As we go throughout each day, we develop Jesus' kingdom light in others. (28:19)

Worldwide Vision: bridge over water - Jesus' Church is one global family with a focused vision for reaching every tribe, tongue, nation, and people with the good news. We love everyone, and we pray for the whole world to hear. (28:19)

Baptizer Culture: water waves - Every disciple has a destiny to become a baptizer by experience. In our culture, we have esteemed pastors as the only baptizers. God's Word teaches every disciple to baptize new disciples. (28:19)

Protective Guides: shepherd's rod & staff - Disciple makers are shepherds: soul guardians of new believers, healers of moral weakness, compassionate caregivers, dependable counselors, faithful companions, and loyal friends. (28:20)

Inextricable Immanuel: flame - Jesus' name is Immanuel, which means "God with us." You cannot remove the Holy Spirit from a disciple. You cannot extract salvation from Jesus' followers. His presence is a hope bonfire. (28:20)

## **Discuss**

Read Matthew 28:16-20. What does Jesus ask his disciples to do? What is a disciple? How do we make another disciple? Why do you think some of Jesus' disciples doubted him after seeing him alive? Do you have doubts?

Read Matthew 9:9-13. Why was it important for Jesus to share a meal with Matthew's friends at his house? Why were the local religious leaders upset? How does Jesus explain his vision for reaching the lost in our communities?

Read Mark 8:34-38. How do we deny ourselves? What are some examples of the competition between the world and the kingdom of God? What are some signs that someone is ashamed of Jesus? Why is it difficult to be Jesus' disciple?

Read Matthew 7:21-23. Jesus taught us to pray for help with obeying the will of God. How can we call Jesus "Lord" and not be his disciple? Why are miracles and spiritual power not proof that we belong to Jesus? What is God's will?

## **Disciple**

Let's get practical. Read Colossians 3:12-17. How do Jesus' disciples behave? How are we supposed to treat one another? How can we practice peace in the ways that we speak to one another? What have you done recently that you wish you could go back and change? What is one next step we can take this week towards Jesus' way of living?

## **Dedicate**

Father, thank you for inviting us to make disciples. Please help us praise your name, practice peace, speak with love, show compassion, forgive our enemies, and treasure wisdom. Holy Spirit, please show us whom you want us to disciple, in Jesus' name and for his glory we pray, amen.