

# dis·ci·ple

Disciple: Commissioned - Dr. Mark Batterson

August 28/29th

[Revelation 7:9-12](#)

“The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church.” - Tertullian

“If we don’t understand the SACRIFICES that were made by the OG disciples twenty centuries ago, we will devalue and distort and diminish what it means to be a DISCIPLE right here, right now.” - Pastor Mark Batterson

**Question: When did we start believing that God wants to send us to SAFE PLACES to do EASY THINGS at CONVENIENT TIMES with NICE PEOPLE?**

[Matthew 28:16](#)

Change of PACE + Change of PLACE = Change of PERSPECTIVE.

The way FORWARD is BACKWARD.

“Five gospels record the life of Jesus. Four you will find in books—MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE and JOHN—and one you will find in the land they call holy. Read the fifth gospel and the world of the four will open up to you.” - Saint Jerome

[Genesis 12:5](#)

**Change of PACE + Change of PLACE = Change of PERSPECTIVE.**

Why does God take Abraham on a two-foot field trip? THAT CHANGE OF PLACE resulted in a CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE. As long as he was INSIDE his tent, Abraham was staring at an eight-foot ceiling. God gets him outside his man cave, outside his comfort zone, outside his regular routine, and all of the sudden, the SKY IS THE LIMIT.

## **The way FORWARD is BACKWARD.**

*Retrace your steps - If God did it before He can do it again*

- If you're ABRAHAM, you go back to Mount Moriah where God provided a ram in the thicket.
- If you're MOSES, you go back to the burning bush.
- If you're DAVID, you go back to the Cave of Adullam where God gave you a song on the valley of Elah where you defeated a giant named Goliath.
- If you're PETER, you row, row, row the boat back to the spot on the Sea of Galilee where you walked on water.
- If you're ZACCHEUS, you CLIMB THE TREE where you got your first glimpse of Jesus.
- If you're PAUL, you giddy up on the road to Damascus to the mile marker where God knocked you off your high horse and you had a vision of Jesus.

*Go back to the mountain where Jesus called you, where Jesus commissioned you.*

### [Matthew 28:18](#)

What motivated Jesus' disciples? What was the catalyst for that kind of impact?

If you don't understand the authority that is yours IN CHRIST, there is no way you can EXERCISE that AUTHORITY. You will operate at less than full power, less than full potential.

Jesus says, "ALL AUTHORITY in heaven on earth has been given to me." How much authority? ALL authority. He even adds this little addendum—IN HEAVEN and ON EARTH. Jesus is asserting His authority, by virtue of CREATION and by virtue of REDEMPTION.

**"There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!" - Theologian and former Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Abraham Kuyper**

### **Jesus is Lord**

The only appropriate response to His sovereignty is the complete submission of my time, talent, and treasure, my past, present, to His Lordship.

**SPIRITUAL authority.** We have authority over powers and principalities. "The weapons we fight with are not carnal," [II Corinthians 10](#) "On the contrary, they have the divine power to demolish strongholds."

**RELATIONAL authority.** If you are a CHILD OF GOD, quit acting like an orphan. You need to remember who you are, and more importantly, WHOSE YOU ARE. You are a daughter, you are a son, of the king!

[Genesis 1:26](#) - image of God

[Psalm 17:8](#) - apple of God's eye

[Ephesians 2:10](#) - God's workmanship

[Haggai 2:23](#) - His signet ring

**POSITIONAL authority.** To cast out demons, to heal diseases, to bind things and to loose things in the spiritual realm. [Matthew 18:18](#) The authority to pronounce blessing. Rebuke the wind and waves, the authority to move mountains. How? With mustard seeds of faith.

HUMILITY minus AUTHORITY equals INCAPACITY. Living below who you really are in Christ.

AUTHORITY minus HUMILITY equals CATASTROPHE. Pride cometh before a fall.

Never let my gifts take me further than my character can sustain me.

[John 13](#) - Jesus washes the feet of the disciples. Jesus uses the authority given to him by God to wash feet.

[Matthew 28:19](#)

Will you commit to being a disciple of Jesus?

Will you commit to being a disciple maker?

Go. Set. Ready.

**The great commission...**

- **less about going somewhere and more about being fully present.**
- **less about ability and more about availability.**

**Discipleship is a team sport.**

[Acts 4](#)

**A PRAYER to PRAY:** Our Father in Heaven thank you for giving us the privilege of discipling others and being a disciple as well. Teach us to see this is a gift and an opportunity. Let us learn to look across the kitchen table for those we can love well, even before we look around the world. Discipling starts in our homes and overflows to the world. Let us continually be in communication with you Lord so that we know what to say and who to say it to, always presenting Your image to the world through acts of kindness and love. In Jesus' name amen

For more info about following Jesus, go to [ncc.re/followJesus](https://ncc.re/followJesus)

**---To dig deeper:**

Sermon Discussion Guide: [ncc.re/discuss](https://ncc.re/discuss)

NCC Daily: [national.cc/daily](https://national.cc/daily)

**---ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Sign up for a Group: [ncc.re/groups](https://ncc.re/groups)

Sign up for Commissioned: [ncc.re/commissioned](https://ncc.re/commissioned)