



And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

- \* Pursuing intimacy with God delights God. And when God is delighted with us, we will experience His presence in our life.
- \* In His presence, we are protected and provided for thus making us distinguished. Setting us apart for His purpose.
- \* His purpose for us is Relationship. A relationship with Him and a relationship with others who also have been distinguished and set apart. This is **Friendship with a Vision**.
- \* DISCIPLESHIP is our marching order. To be discipled and to disciple.
- \* Discipleship is the process of bringing people to Jesus Christ (BELIEVE) and building them up (GROW) in the faith towards Christ-likeness (DISCIPLE), for the purpose of spiritual multiplication (MULTIPLY) resulting in the glory of God.

### SUPREME LOVE OF GOD

- \* Matt 22:37 commands us to "Love God with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our mind"
- \* God's love language is OBEDIENCE.
- \* Supreme love of God is about pleasing God. To please God we must obey Him in everything.
- \* God's love for us is selfless and unconditional. He knows our sins will condemn and destroy us so He sent us a Savior, His only son Jesus — so that we can freed from the bondage of sin.
- \* The only thing He wants from us is for us to love Him. To obey His commandments. To surrender our lives to His will.

### STUDY & DEVOTION TO GOD'S WORD

- \* Jn 8:31 tells us that for us to become Jesus' disciples, we must abide in Him
- \* The Bible is God's love letter to us. It gives us an understanding of His nature, His character and His love. It also tells us what He requires from us so that we can please Him.
- \* When we study and live out the Word of God in our lives in OBEDIENCE to His commands, we are pleasing
- \* Abiding is to live moment by moment in OBEDIENCE to God's word

### SELF DENIAL

- \* Lk 9:23 tells us that for us to be able to follow Jesus, we must deny ourselves and take up cross daily
- \* Self denial is relinquishing control of our lives over to God. To deny our human desires and nature and allowing the Spirit to take control, to transform us so that we bear fruits that is edifying to those around us and pleasing to God.
- \* Who we are is defined not by what is innate in us, but rather we should be defined by who we are in Jesus Christ.

### CHRIST-LIKE LOVE

- \* Matt 22:39 commands us to "love our neighbor as yourself"
- \* We look at Jesus' illustration in the story of the Good Samaritan. In the story, the Samaritan chose to be different. He chose to stop, be inconvenienced and to use his resources to help them man. He even went the extra mile to make sure that the man was cared for until he was fully recovered.
- \* This is what is expected of us: that we are able to deny ourselves and be able to share Christ's love to our neighbors. This is what God commands us to do.
- \* When we do what is out of character for us, when we go out of our comfort zones to do the Lord's bidding — we are able to share the blessings, the grace and the love we have received from the Father to those around us, even to we think are unlovable and deserving. When we OBEY in this, we are pleasing God . . . and when God is pleased, He is with us. When He is with us, we are protected, we are provided for. . . And this will set us apart and make us distinguished. So that all those who look at our lives will see Jesus' love and know that we are His children.