

Be Fruitful and Multiply

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I. Introduction.

A. The bottom line of human experience is the character of God.

B. We need focus. (II Timothy 2:1-2, John 17:4)

1. Jesus loved the world, helped thousands and invested in twelve.

2. We want to be able to say that we have finished the work God has given us.

3. God expects all of us to invest our lives and multiply other disciples. (II Timothy 2:1-2)

C. We must focus our ministry by committing to faithful men. (I Corinthians 4:14-16, Isaiah 58:10-12)

II. Three things we can do in discipleship.

A. Teach.

B. Pray.

C. Model.

III. Five characteristics one should look for in the person you are going to help.

A. Faithful.

1. This is a loyal and reliable man. (Luke 16:10-12)

2. We need some evidence of faithfulness.

3. Jesus knew much about the twelve before He chose them. (Mark 1:1-3:14)

B. Available. (II Timothy 2:3-4)

1. Men are entangled in things besides sin.

2. This includes financial and time decisions.

3. Jesus trims those things that are not essential. (John 15)

C. Interdependent.

1. This refers to a level of emotional stability.
2. Avoid two extremes: dependents and independents.
3. This person has a healthy relationship in the body of Christ. (I Corinthians 12:18)

D. Teachable. (Acts 18:24-28)

1. We first have to ask whether we are teachable.
2. We then have to ask God to bring us a teachable person.
3. Becoming teachable is a life-long process.

E. Committed to holiness. (II Corinthians 7:1)

1. We need to deal with both filthiness of the flesh and filthiness of the spirit.
2. Our communities are sustained with Christians who receive and give to others.

Application questions:

1. Why is it important to have some criteria for selecting men?

2. Which criterion do you think is the most important? Explain.

3. Which area would you like to work on the most personally? How can you go about doing this practically? Explain.
