



## **“What Does A “Disciple” Look Like and How Do We Make Disciples?”**

*A Communique from Dr. Jay (Summer 2021)*

Let’s unpackage the HOW of our mission statement in the Evangelical Church--“Making Disciples and Walking in Holiness”. Of course, we were charged by Jesus to, “...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19-20, NIV)

**What does a disciple look like, anyway?** We learned in seminary that disciples are “learners on the way” which implies being a “follower” of Jesus Christ. Typically, we use terms like “believers” or “converts” but the original definition would not only include conversion, but also baptism, filling with the Holy Spirit, obedience, sanctification, and TRANSFORMATION.

Growth is an expectation of every disciple! This is visible for all to see because a true disciple grows in “Christlikeness”. John 15 says people will be able to recognize spiritual fruit in us a follower of Jesus. A Christian who is not growing is stunted and stuck on baby’s milk!

**How do we make disciples?** In a recent Council of Superintendents meeting, we discussed disciple-making is best accomplished through COMMUNITY. This could be one-on-one, in a small group, and from the pulpit (through teaching and mentoring). The COS also stated this is a process that is both organic and ongoing. We don’t believe discipleship is a program, though God works thru programs like the Navigators, daily devotionals, and Wesley’s holiness models.

Disciples must be in the WORD and in PRAYER, or they’ll stagnate and backslide.

So, I ask you two critically important questions:

**Who are you discipling?**

**Who is discipling you?**

Next quarter in this *Communique*, we will cover the “Walking in Holiness” part of our mission. This might be very interesting...