



everyday discipleship making

Taking the mystery out of
making disciples at home

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introduction.

As a church, we exist to make disciples. However, the Great Commission does not envision programs and pulpits as the only means by which disciples are made. The simple truth is that disciples make disciples. People – not programs or places – are God’s plan to bring revival and redemption to our family, our friends, our coworkers, our neighbors, and ultimately the nations. Found people go find people and show them the Way, the Truth, and the Life; they show them Jesus and what a surrendered life to Him looks like.

And this must happen in addition to the time individuals and families are involved in at the church. This is the wisdom and direction of Deuteronomy 6:4-9, which in part reads

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

This is why we have created this resource. Our hope is that it will serve you as a means to show you simple, practical ways to make disciples in everyday contexts beyond traditional bible study times. You will find the description of each idea is written in an outline format far different than a typical devotion. This is intentional so that you can more easily internalize the concepts and the lesson is conveyed more naturally in the flow of the event rather than the formality of a devotion. Have fun with it. Let the Holy Spirit guide your time, and always bring it back to Jesus.

This is the first edition of this resource, and our plan is to expand it regularly. Would you help us in that endeavor? Email us or message us with your everyday discipleship stories. And we would love to hear from you how we can make this resource better.

In Ephesians 5:16, God tells us to make the most of our time. Let’s do that as individuals and families at home as we make disciples together!

starry starry night.

» scripture.

Psalm 147:4, He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

Psalm 8:3-5, When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a little lower than God, And You crown him with glory and majesty!

» plan.

Make it a night out under the stars. Of course, a clear night is best with very little light around from things like porch lights and streetlights. Lay back and simply look up. Try to point out the various star formations, the brightest star, and the smallest star. You may even want to visit <https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/night/> to discover what is visible where you live. The longer you look into the night sky the more stars seem to become visible. Now try to count the stars together. Eventually you will lose count. There are so many of them!

» truth.

We may not be able to count all the stars, but God who created them knows how many stars there are, and He has given each star a name (Psalm 147:4). God knows the name of each star, and He knows our names too. Underneath a big, starry sky we can seem so small, but we are a big deal to God (Psalm 8:3-5). God takes care of us. He loves us. And He showed us how much He loves us by coming down from Heaven to take the punishment for our sins by dying on the cross and then three days later rising up from the grave. God loves us so much He sent His Son Jesus for us so that when we turn our life over to Jesus, we are forgiven, and we will live forever with Him.

Psalm 147:4

**He counts the number of the stars;
He gives names to all of them**

“

Psalm 8:3-5

**When I consider Your heavens, the
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the stars, which You have ordained;
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“

02.

at the movies.

scripture.

Various

This will depend on the movie you watch and the idea you are trying to bring out

plan.

Sometimes, the fictional stories in the movies mimic the true stories and ideas of Scripture and other times they express ideas that are directly contradictory. The purpose of this fun idea is to see beyond the movie magic and hear, maybe for the first time, the messages our culture is sending through the cinema and learn how to compare that to what we know is true in the Scriptures.

The plan is simple. Pick out a movie that is both age appropriate and fun for the whole family. Then plan for ice cream or some other scenario where everyone is gathered around afterward so you can talk about the movie. Of course, you should begin with the movie itself, what you liked and what you didn't. Then here are four faith forming movie moments, from blogger Christina Embree¹, that you can utilize:

Every movie tells a story and many times the plot has something to do with good vs. evil. The original good vs. evil story took place in the narrative of Scripture and is repeated in all of the small stories we read over and over again, not the least of which was the resurrection of Christ. Some examples of questions you could ask:

01. Where does the idea of good and evil come from?

02. Who was the good guy in the movie? Who is the ultimate good guy?

03. Can you give an example of the Bible where good beat evil, like in the movie?

¹ Christina Embree, 4 Faith Talks for Family Movie Night, Refocus (March 2, 2015)

Most movies have a message or moral they are trying to get across to their audience. Before you watch the movie make a plan to try to figure it out. Here are a few questions to help you get started:

01. What is the main message this movie is telling you about life? love? relationships? friendship?

02. Do you think the message is true or false?

03. Do you think that is the same message Jesus would give you?

Movies try to paint a certain reality, but movie reality is not actually real. Here are a few thoughts you might want to share before and after the movie:

before the movie. Look for things in the movie that are different from your reality.

after the movie. What did you think was unrealistic? Why? How has that been different from your experience? As a Christian, what would you have done in that situation?

Every good movie has a great hero who always rescues the needy ones, loves the unloved ones, and saves the lost ones. It's as though they had a prototype to model, an ultimate Hero that could change the whole world. Here's some ways to start that conversation:

01. Who in the movie needed rescued and who was the hero?

02. How did we know that he/she was the hero? What makes a hero heroic?

03. Who is the ultimate Hero of the world? Who has He rescued?

truth.

From beginning to end, the Bible tells a story. It's the story of how God perfectly created everything including us, but then how we fell into the curse of sin and were separated from God. But the gratefully the story doesn't end there. God promised a rescue plan to save us from our sins, reunite us with Him, and ultimately restore everything back to the way God created it. The Rescuer is the big hero of the whole story. His name is Jesus! We learn all about Jesus and God's rescue plan through the Bible. The Bible tells the truth at every turn. The truth about God, the truth about the world, the truth about us, the truth about life, and the truth about our purpose.

truth.

The Bible tells the
truth at every turn.



03.

take a hike.

scripture.

Genesis 1:1, 26-27, 31, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ... Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ... God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.


Psalms 139:13-16, For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.

plan.

Set out for a family hike and take your phones along – not to take calls with but to take pictures of all the beautiful things you see along the way. After your hike, go back as a group and pick your favorite pictures from all the photos of the wondrously beautiful things of God's creation.

truth.

All of creation owes its existence to God's incredible work. As He spoke the heavens and the earth and all that is in them were created. As beautiful and unique as things like flowers, bugs, wildlife, and landscapes are, God created people in an even more beautiful and special way. We are created in the image of God (Genesis 1). God's Word tells us that we are uniquely made by the very hand of God (Psalm 139). And we have something that no other thing in Creation has. We have a soul. Only people can have a relationship with God and live with Him forever. And that relationship comes by grace through faith, that is trusting in Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins and the leadership of our life.



**Here are
some
nearby
easy to
moderate
places you
can visit:**

- » **Lake Junaluska Walking Trail**
- » **Juney Whank Falls**
- » **Tom Branch Falls**
- » **Catawba Falls Trail**
- » **Max Patch Trail**
- » **Asheville Botanical Garden**

**Psalm 139:13-16, For You formed
my inward parts; You wove me
in my mother's womb. I will give
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04.

are you ready for some football.

scripture.

Revelation 7:9-12, After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

plan.

As we are writing this resource, football season is kicking off. So, make some unhealthy snacks and some healthy ones too and watch a game together, on TV or in person. The bigger the teams, the bigger the crowds generally will gather. Notice how everyone is facing the same direction. Everyone's focus is on the same thing. Everyone is cheering and everyone is all in. And often your happiness level is completely dependent on if your team wins or loses.

truth.

Some stadiums sit more than 100,000 people. There are people from all over and every kind of background, and most of them purchased their ticket to be there. As exciting as that environment is, it is only a shadow of what is to come. The greatest gathering that will ever be gathered isn't watching a football game, it is praising the Lord Jesus in heaven. And these multitudes who number so many that no one could count, are not waiting to see who will win, they know Jesus has already won. What did Jesus win? He won salvation from our sin. He won life over death. He won victory over our Enemy. That's the kind of gathering I want to be a part of, but there are no ticket sales. We can't purchase our way into that gathering, Jesus has already paid our way there. We have to surrender our lives to Him so He can carry us into His arena.

Revelation 7:9-12

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen, blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.”

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god's big story.²

» scripture.

Luke 24:44-47, Now He [Jesus] said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

» plan.

Going down the road or around a campfire are great times to tell a story. Be creative and make up a story together. Have someone begin the story and let everyone contribute by adding an idea. As the story unfolds, write down the main points or draw pictures to help your family remember your pretend adventure. When finished, talk about God's bigger story that is true.

» truth.

- God created the world and everything in it
- God made the first family, Adam and Eve
- God placed them in a perfect garden called Eden
- Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve's disobedience
- Adam and Eve's perfect relationship with God was now broken
- God promised He would restore His relationship with people by bringing a Savior into the world
- God brought His Son Jesus into the world through a family
- Jesus came to die on the cross, but God brought Him back to life and defeated sin and death
- Jesus offers freedom from sin and death for those who put their faith and trust in Him

2 Family Summer Guide, Faith at Home, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina

truth.

God created the
world and
everything in it



THE END

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