

Wait, WHAT?

What If ...

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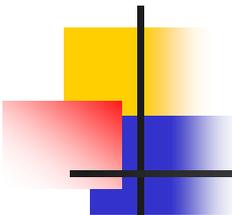
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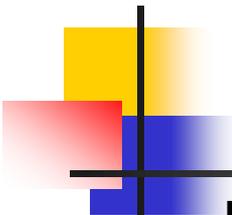
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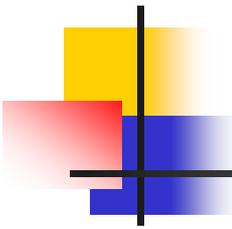
Reaction to Great Commission

- I have begun sharing with others my thoughts about the real focus of the Great Commission, and I almost always get that look, like “Wait, WHAT? ... Oh, right!”
- **19** [e]Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you [f]always, even to the end of the age.”



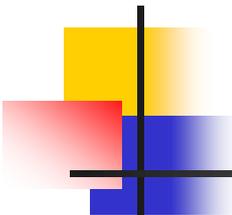
Break It Down

- MAKE DISCIPLES – not members, not just converts, not “get them to pray a prayer of salvation so they can go to Heaven”
- A Disciple is Someone who becomes like his master; people who carry/reflect and communicate the life of Jesus, so that when others are around them, they can TELL THEY HAVE BEEN WITH JESUS!
- Historically, the church has not done a good job with this most important assignment



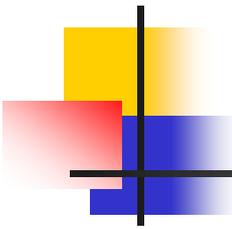
Process is Even Spelled Out

- Baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit – so they can experience full unity and intimacy with all aspects of God (John 17)
- But here is the MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE COMMISSION, THAT DEFINES AND ACTIVATES EVERYTHING ELSE:
- Teaching them to obey ALL I HAVE COMMANDED YOU



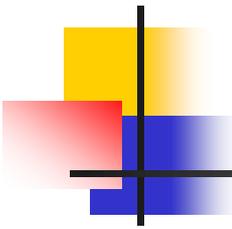
This is the Great Commandment

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **35** By this all men will know that you are **My disciples**, if you have love for one another." Jn 13:34



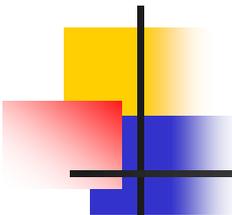
Refocus Our Identity

A **disciple** is someone who keeps this commandment – to love like Jesus loves, and live like Jesus lived, through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and fruit of the Holy Spirit - **this is our design, our ministry, our destiny**



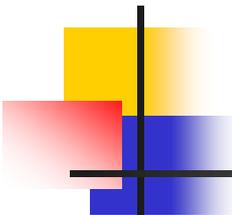
So, \$64 Trillion Question Is

How are disciples made?
How does one become a
disciple instead of just
remaining a convert or a
church member?



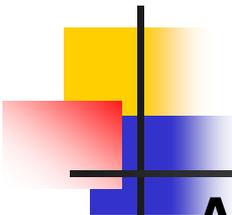
The Power of Blessing

Romans 14 **Bless those who persecute [m]you; bless and do not curse.** ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but [n]associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. ¹⁷ **Never pay back evil for evil to anyone.** [o]Respect what is right in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ **If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.**



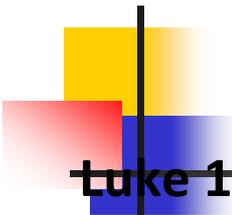
Release Burning Love!

19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but [p]leave room for the wrath *of God*, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. **20** "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



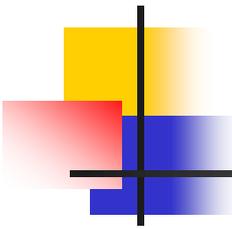
Just to Be Clear

- A Disciple is someone who loves like Jesus loves, by surrendering to His life within you and letting His love flow through
- Your motivation is changed from one of defensive condemnation of those who make you uncomfortable, to proactive blessing of them in a way that releases His love over them
- You literally called to become a Hunka Hunka burning, transforming, redemptive love!!!



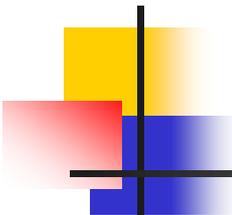
His Love in the Real World

~~Luke 10:25~~ And a [l] lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? [m] How does it read to you?” ²⁷ And he answered, “YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” ²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE.” ²⁹ **But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”**



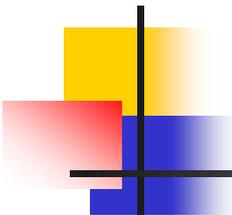
Do We Simply Pass By?

³⁰ Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and [n]beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. ³¹ And by chance a **priest** was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a **Levite** also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.



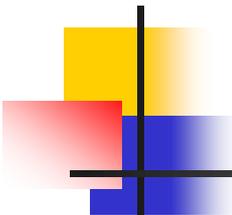
Feeling God's Compassion

³³ But a **Samaritan**, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, ³⁴ and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on *them*; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day he took out two [o]denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.'



THIS is a DISCIPLE OF JESUS

- ³⁶ Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' *hands*?" ³⁷ And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do [p]the same."
- What will this look today? Because I still don't think we get it. This is radical, extreme stuff.
- The Lord explained it to me like this: What If.....?



The Story Tellin' Man

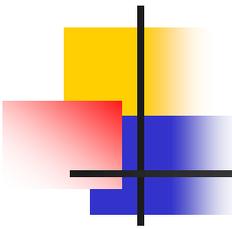
Friend, You Need A Hand

Friend, you need a hand I understand, and
I'll do what I can

'cause I know, I know you've been hurt,
and I know what it's like to be treated like
dirt

And like you, I've suffered wrong, hate is
so strong, please let me help you along.

Here's my hand, I understand, and I'll do
what I can.



Jesus + Nothing = EVERYTHING

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY