

The background is a detailed architectural floor plan of a house, rendered in a light blue color. The plan shows various rooms including a Dining Room, Kitchen with an oven, a Pantry, a Family Room, and a Staircase. Dimensions and room numbers are visible throughout the drawing. A white pencil is positioned diagonally across the lower-left portion of the blueprint, pointing towards the central text.

The Blueprint of Jesus: *Making Disciples*

Dave Buehring
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Measuring Fruitfulness

“It doesn’t matter how big the organizations are that you will lead, or the size of the groups that you will teach – the way that God will measure the fruitfulness of your life is have you invested to the third and fourth generation (2 Tim. 2:2)?”

*Loren Cunningham, Founder of YWAM
to Dave Buehring, April 1980*

Checking in with Reality

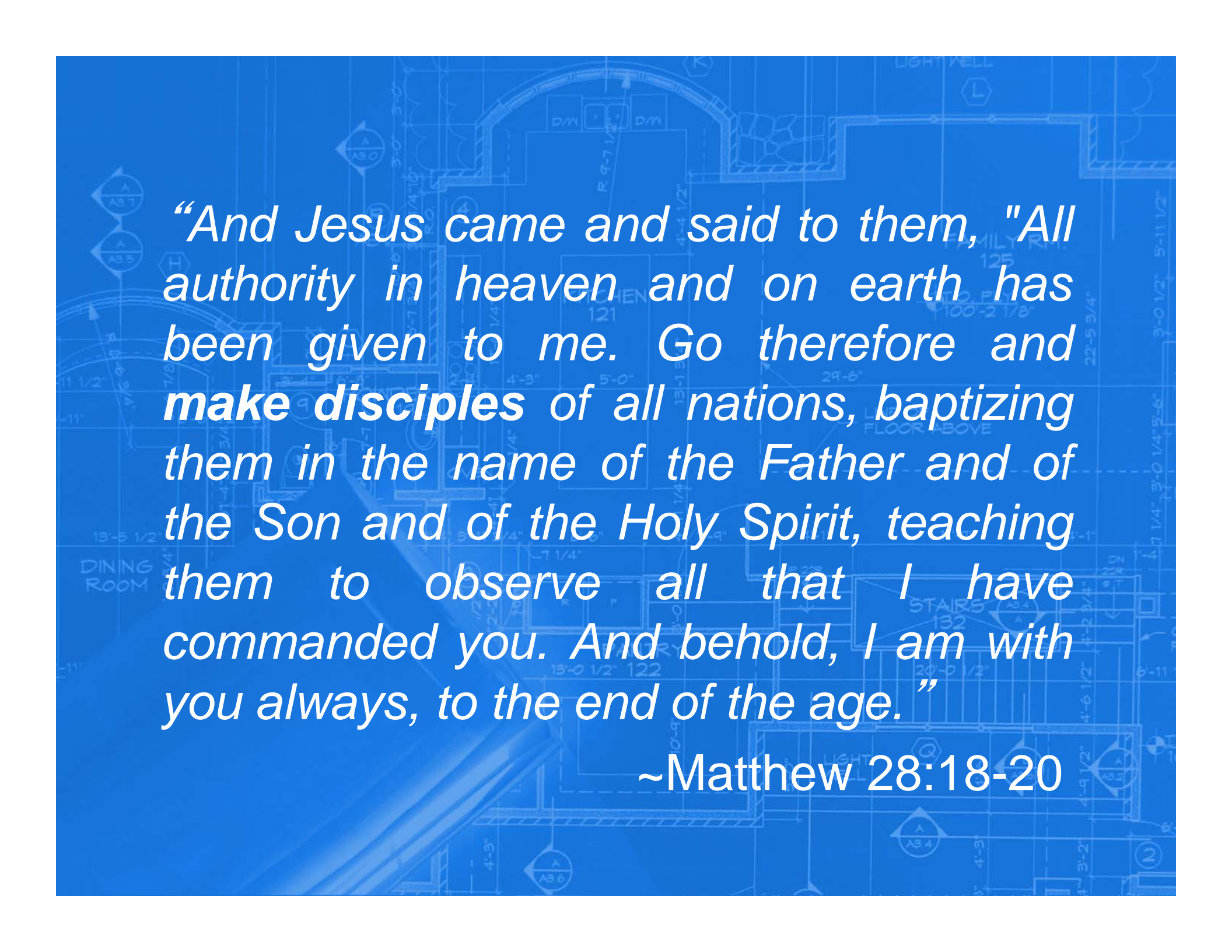
- According to George Barna's research...
 - Only 9% of adult Christians in the USA make their decisions based on a biblical world view.
 - That means that only 9% of those who have 'given their lives to Jesus' actually think like Jesus, have attitudes like Jesus, live out of the values of Jesus, and consistently demonstrate the love, obedience and priorities of Jesus in their daily lives.
 - 91% of those claiming to be followers of Jesus don't accurately reflect Him!

Checking in with Reality

- Barna also found only 51% of pastors live and lead out of a biblical worldview (**49% do not!**).
- And, more than six out of seven congregants (**85%**) in the typical church do not share the biblical worldview of their pastor.
- This implies that merely preaching good sermons and offering helpful programs does not enable most believers to develop a biblical foundation of discipleship for how they live and lead their lives.

Checking in with Reality

- Barna's research among people who do have a biblical worldview showed that it is a long-term process that requires a lot of purposeful activity: relationship, conversation, teaching, prayer, accountability and modeling to develop disciples that reflect the *life, values and priorities of Jesus*.
- **Question:** *How much 'purposeful activity' – deliberateness and intentionality – are you investing to 'grow as a disciple' of Jesus' and in 'making disciples' within your sphere of relationships and influence?*

The background is a blue-tinted architectural blueprint. It features various technical drawings, including floor plans, elevations, and sections. Labels such as 'DINING ROOM', 'KITCHEN', 'STAIRS', 'LIGHT WELL', and 'FLOOR ABOVE' are visible. Dimensions and alphanumeric codes (e.g., A3.5, A3.6, A3.7, A3.8, A3.9, A3.10, A3.11, A3.12, A3.13, A3.14, A3.15, A3.16, A3.17, A3.18, A3.19, A3.20, A3.21, A3.22, A3.23, A3.24, A3.25, A3.26, A3.27, A3.28, A3.29, A3.30, A3.31, A3.32, A3.33, A3.34, A3.35, A3.36, A3.37, A3.38, A3.39, A3.40, A3.41, A3.42, A3.43, A3.44, A3.45, A3.46, A3.47, A3.48, A3.49, A3.50, A3.51, A3.52, A3.53, A3.54, A3.55, A3.56, A3.57, A3.58, A3.59, A3.60, A3.61, A3.62, A3.63, A3.64, A3.65, A3.66, A3.67, A3.68, A3.69, A3.70, A3.71, A3.72, A3.73, A3.74, A3.75, A3.76, A3.77, A3.78, A3.79, A3.80, A3.81, A3.82, A3.83, A3.84, A3.85, A3.86, A3.87, A3.88, A3.89, A3.90, A3.91, A3.92, A3.93, A3.94, A3.95, A3.96, A3.97, A3.98, A3.99, A3.100) are scattered throughout the drawing. The overall style is technical and precise.

*“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

~Matthew 28:18-20

Disciple-Making

‘Reproducing the *character*, *ways* and *mission* of Jesus in those God brings around you, expecting them to *multiply* the same in others’

Breaking Down Mt.28:18-20

- ‘All authority has been given to me’ (*source of authority*)
- ‘Therefore, go...’ (‘go’ means a change of location)
- ‘make disciples’ (*Gk: means ‘as you are going’*)
- ‘of all nations’ (*Gk: ‘ethnos’ – people groups*)
- ‘baptizing’ (*public declaration of allegiance change*)
- ‘in the Name of Father, Son, Holy Spirit’ (*God’s stamp*)
- ‘teaching them to observe’ (*instruct/demonstrate = obey*)
- ‘all I have commanded you’ (*not what you don’t know*)
- ‘I am with you always...’ (*His Presence empowering us*)

Hindrances to Disciple-Making

- Disciple-Making Illiteracy
- Building our Empires instead of His Kingdom
- Cultures of Religion vs. Cultures of Obedience
- The Pastor / Flock Dichotomy
- The Poisoning of the Well
- The Hebrew vs. Greek Model of Learning
- A Maintenance vs. Missional Mentality
- The Pride of the Human Heart: 'a better way'

Staggering Consequences!

The church, our country and the world have reaped the consequences: a *'thin' church as a result of few living biblically; a loss of shaping culture via the ways of God through godly leaders; and currently a very limited number of active disciple-makers!*

Jesus, Disciple Maker

- Context - Rabbinic Model

- Jesus, like all Rabbi's, would have had the clear intention that his teaching and mission was to be *replicated exactly* by His followers - *'Just as I...so you'*
- Teacher-disciple relationships were characterized by the concept of *mimetes (an imitator)*: they were bound together by a certain *practice of life and instruction*, and the student was recognizable in his *imitation of the way of life and manner* of the teacher.
- Ben Sira (175 BC) cites the goal of a rabbi is to train his student to such an extent that, *"when his father (teacher/mentor) dies, it is as though he is not dead. For he leaves behind one like himself"*.

Jesus, Disciple Maker

- Consider:
 - Jesus taught the multitudes – *and He invested in the 12*
 - ‘Generational Fellowship’: (2 Timothy 2:2)
 - Jesus
 - 12 Disciples
 - Barnabas
 - Paul
 - Timothy
 - Faithful Men
 - Others
 - Measuring the fruit: *the Gospel is still present and being advanced because of the deliberate discipleship of Jesus and the generations of believers after Him!*

A New Testament Way of Life

- “For though you have countless guides in Christ, ***you do not have many fathers.*** For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, ***be imitators (mimetes) of me.*** That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ***ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere*** in every church.” ~ 1 Corinthians 4:15-17
- “You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.” ~ 2 Timothy 2:2 (NLT)

A New Testament Way of Life

- Disciple-making was an active part of NT life and is God's primary way of advancing His Kingdom! Take a look at the results in the book of Acts:
 - *A praying and empowered church*
 - *A united 'one heart, one mind' church*
 - *A church that operated out of God's ways by following the Scriptures and the lead of the Holy Spirit*
 - *A maturing and obedient church*
 - *A missional and culture impacting church*
 - *An enduring church that feared God above all else*
 - *A church that was committed to the glory of God*

Questions to Consider

- 1) Does your church currently have a game plan in place enabling you to obey the command of Jesus to 'make disciples'?
- 1) Are your current members actively engaged in making disciple-makers?
- 1) Do you have a scripturally sound, proven and practical resource to aid you in the multiplying of disciple-makers process?

A Few Helps to Get Started

- Whose discipling you?
- We must be convinced biblically – revelation
- We must examine our values, priorities and calendar
- Ask ‘in whose ears are your words big?’
 - Look for people who are FAST – faithful, available, servanthearted and teachable
 - Pray about it like Jesus
- *Teach – demonstrate – replicate*

The Big Picture:

Disciple-Making in The Dozen Domains

‘God glorified – People honored and served’

- 1) Family
- 2) Church/Missions
- 3) Government/Law/Security
- 4) Education/Students
- 5) Business
- 6) Media
- 7) Arts/Entertainment/Sports
- 8) Science/Technology
- 9) Health/Med/Wholeness
- 10) Environment/Agriculture
- 11) Non-Profit/Service Orgs
- 12) ‘Peoples’

Our NetDMC ‘2020 Vision’

To reproduce one million disciple-makers as catalysts in domain transformation locally and globally.

So, How Are You Measuring Epicenter's Fruitfulness?

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