


MAKING DISCIPLES - LESSON 8 APPLICATION

Applying Truth to Fulfill God's Purpose

 **ACTION:** Take time to complete the following exercise you began in class.


1. Think about the various activities that are part of your life. These may include employment, appointments, responsibilities, recreation, hobbies, etc.
2. List each activity under the category heading of either "Get to Do" or "Have to Do" according to your view of each activity.
3. Next to each activity, explain your reason for placing a specific item under its particular heading.

"Get to Do" / Reason

"Have to Do" / Reason


 **READ: Colossians 3:2**


In order to fulfill God's purpose for our lives we must learn to set our minds on the eternal things of God, rather than merely temporal things.


 Practice by examining each activity in the prior exercise from God's point of view.


- For example, let's say under the heading "Get to Do", you wrote: Watch a baseball game. The reasons you provide are: You enjoy the game and the ballpark atmosphere. As a result, your focus may be on the players, the score, the food, etc. However, if your focus is on fulfilling God's purpose, you will view the game as He does: As an opportunity to reflect Christ to those around you. That means that as you enjoy the game, you will also be anticipating opportunities to demonstrate and communicate Jesus' love and truth.

- By changing your focus to the things of God and His potential purpose, your mindset is on the eternal rather than merely the temporal.

 **WRITE:** In what specific ways does examining daily life from the Lord's viewpoint change your perspective?

 Ask the Lord to show you in what specific ways your actions need to change to reflect a godly mindset and write those below.

 Ask God to help you to begin implementing such changes this week while relying on His power to do so.


 **FISHING FOR MEN:** You may find the exercise helpful in training those you disciple to see life from God's perspective. Encourage them to focus their thoughts and energy on fulfilling God's purpose rather than on merely performing each task.

Just as each disciple should find their complete identity in Christ by continually trusting in the power of His indwelling Spirit, they should also grow to rely on His power to correct undesired behavior.


Applying Truth in Choices and Consequences

 **1 Thessalonians 5:21-22**

TRUE | FALSE: To cling to what is good and avoid every kind of evil, a person must first discern what is genuinely good from what is evil, by testing everything.

 If testing everything has not been your practice, please begin implementing it in your daily life and asking God to enable you to be successful in recognizing truth.

- Listen carefully to what people say, weighing the information for truth.
- Closely examine information encountered through the media to evaluate for truth.
- Intentionally consider situations and the people involved to determine what represents God's character and His Word.
- Evaluate the words you speak to others, exchanging any personal opinion for God's Word.

 In each situation ask the Holy Spirit to help you distinguish genuine truth and to cling to it. In other words, only invest in or act upon what you recognize to be truth. In doing so, you will be avoiding evil.

1. Describe a situation you tested this week for truth.

2. Explain how you divided out, from the information presented, what represented biblical truth and what did not.

Aligned With Truth	Did Not Align With Truth

3. Explain how you chose to act only on truth.



John 17:15-17

As you make disciples, how will you explain that testing everything assists in the sanctification process?



TO ENCOURAGE: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun. (**Psalm 37:5-6**)