

Paul wrote to Timothy and told him that he should train these faithful men to find other younger Christians to train. In this way the gospel spreads rapidly!

Questions:

1. What is this story saying?
2. What do you not understand?
3. What does it teach you about God?
4. What should you obey?

Memory Verse:

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 2 Timothy 2:2

Assignment

Use the insert to identify people from among your circles of influence (relatives, friends, co-workers and acquaintances), people through whom you could spiritually reproduce yourself. Once identified, make a commitment to teach this lesson to them.



You Can Start A Movement of God

Lesson 1: Every Believer a Discipler



***Following Jesus Christ. . .
From Dallas to the ends of the Earth***



Lesson 1: Vision for Spiritual Reproduction

Three Verses

Matthew 4:19

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" NLT

Matt 16:24-25

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. NLT

John 8:31

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. NLT

Matthew 28: 20

Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

One Story

Scriptures for the story:

- Acts 4:36-37
- Acts 8:1-3
- Acts 9:1-30
- Acts 16:1-5
- 2 Tim 2:2 (memory verse)

Introduction to Story:

Listen to the following story and try to find out how many "generations" of believers you can find.

Story:

One of the first followers of Jesus after he rose from the dead was a man named Barnabas. We don't know how he first believed. Most likely he heard the gospel from Jesus or from one of Jesus' 12 followers and was eventually trained by them. They called him "The Encourager" because he encouraged many people.

While Barnabas and the other Christians were growing in their faith a great persecution broke out against the believers. Many Christians had to flee from Jerusalem. However, wherever they went they preached the gospel to others.

One of the fiercest persecutors was named Paul. For a long time he persecuted the church. One day as he was traveling on a road to persecute some Christians, Jesus appeared to him in a vision. Paul began to follow Jesus and was very excited about his new faith. But other Christians were afraid of him. However, Barnabas found Paul and encouraged him. He believed God could change his life. He trained Paul to become a great apostle in the church.

Several years later, Paul was preaching the gospel in another country. He found a young man named Timothy who believed in Jesus. Paul believed that Timothy could be useful servant in God's kingdom even though he was a young Christian. Paul took Timothy with him in his travels and trained him to be a preacher of the gospel.

Later, Paul left Timothy in the city of Ephesus, where the gospel was spreading rapidly. Timothy began to look around and draw to himself faithful men who were newer believers than himself. He trained them to begin lead God's people in His kingdom.