

## Lesson 5

## GOD'S CALLED-OUT ASSEMBLY THE CHURCH

### Church Members Were Called "Disciples"

According to Acts 13:52 and Acts 20:7, what were the members of the church called?

\_\_\_\_\_ The word "**disciple**" means "one who learns, a **learner**." In Matthew 11:29 the Lord Jesus **invites** us to become His disciples (learners): "Take my yoke upon you, and \_\_\_\_\_ of (from) Me." Have you accepted this invitation? Those who have accepted this invitation are called "D \_\_\_\_\_ (LEARNERS) of the L \_\_\_\_\_" (Acts 9:1).

Read Matthew 10:24. Just as a servant (slave) must have a \_\_\_\_\_ (master), so also a disciple (learner) must have a \_\_\_\_\_ (teacher). A disciple must **learn** from a teacher. Are there learners and teachers in your school? Do you have learners and teachers in your Sunday School? Who is your Sunday School teacher? \_\_\_\_\_ Therefore you can say, "I am a disciple of \_\_\_\_\_ because he/she teaches me and I learn from him/her!"

In Bible times, the teacher/disciple relationship was much more than classroom instruction. Often the disciple would work with his teacher, walk and travel with his teacher, eat with his teacher and spend much time with his teacher. The disciple learned not just by what his teacher said to him (verbal instruction), but he also learned by observing his teacher. The teacher was an **example** to the student by the way he lived. The disciple would learn from his teacher's **lips** but also from his teacher's **life**.

According to John 3:2 who is the Teacher who has come from God? \_\_\_\_\_

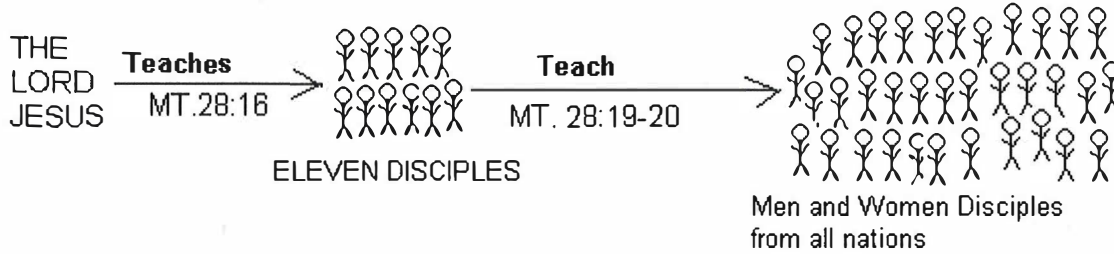
Read Matthew 5:1. Who came to this teacher? \_\_\_\_\_ (**His learners**). And thus He opened His mouth and \_\_\_\_\_ them (Matthew 5:2).

***Disciples must be taught by a teacher!***

As we study the New Testament we discover that **disciples** can also be **teachers**. In Matthew 28:18-20 the Lord Jesus spoke to whom? (The answer is found in verse 16)

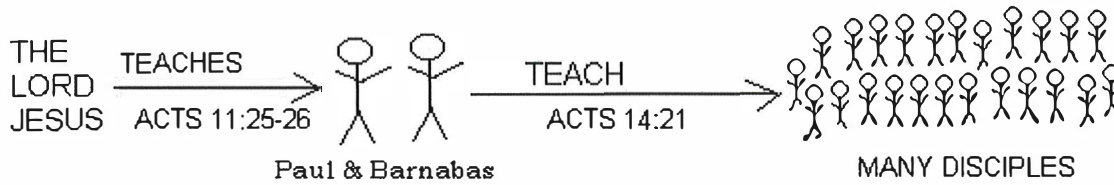
\_\_\_\_\_ He told these **disciples** to "GO, therefore, and \_\_\_\_\_ all nations" (v. 19). The word "**teach**" in this verse means "make disciples of." The Lord told His disciples to make disciples (learners) of all nations! And the only way to make disciples is to **teach** them: " \_\_\_\_\_ them to observe \_\_\_\_\_ things" (v. 20). This is explained by the diagram.

**MAKE DISCIPLES!!**



This is exactly what the early church did. They made disciples. In Acts 14:21 we read, "And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had \_\_\_\_\_." The expression "**taught many**" means that Paul and Barnabas "**made many disciples**" as shown on the diagram below:

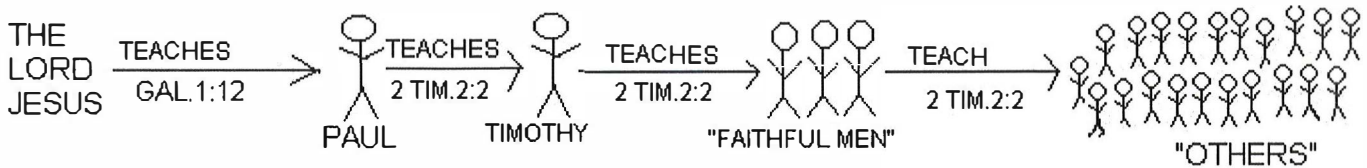
**MAKE DISCIPLES!!**



This same disciple making program is described in 2 Timothy 2:2. In this verse the pronoun "me" refers to what person (see 2 Timothy 1:1)? \_\_\_\_\_ The pronoun "thou" refers to what person (see 2 Timothy 1:2)? \_\_\_\_\_ With this in mind we can illustrate 2 Timothy 2:2 as follows:

**MAKE DISCIPLES!!**

**(MAKE LEARNERS WHO WILL THEN BE TEACHERS OF OTHERS!!)**



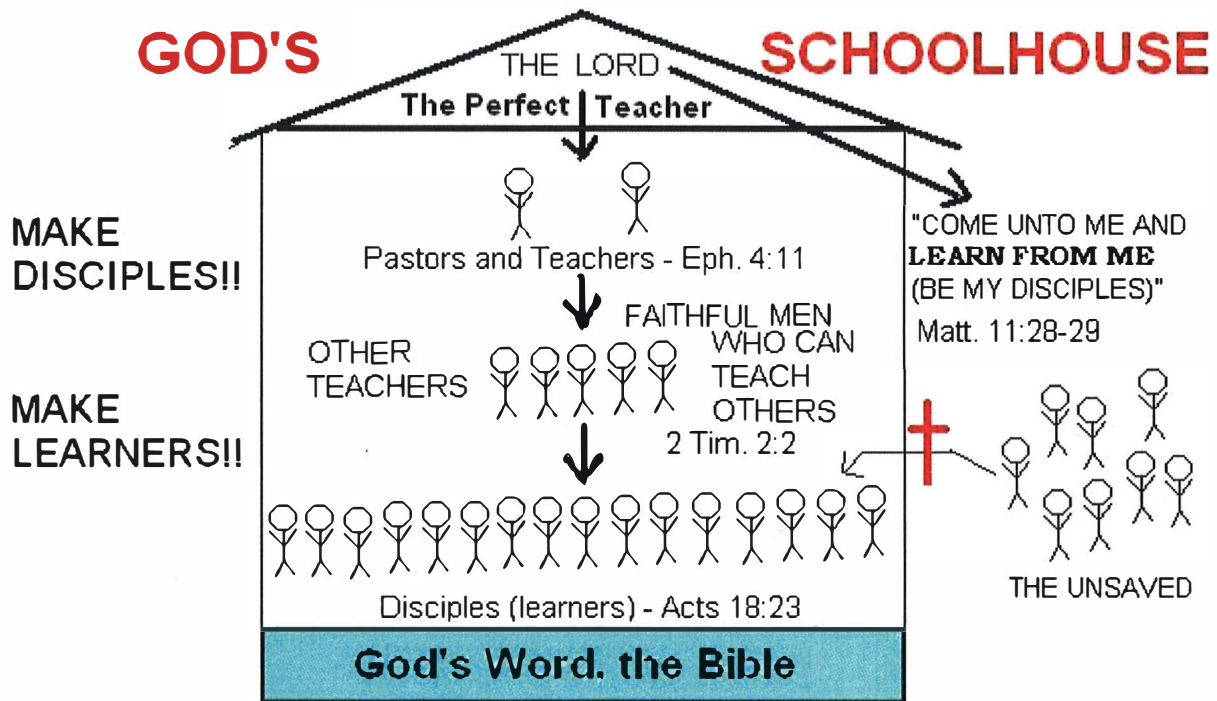
The above diagram shows us that **disciples can also be teachers**. For example, the Apostle Paul was a **disciple** of the Lord Jesus, but he was also a **teacher** of Timothy. The following matching problem will help you to understand the teacher/disciple relationship. The diagram above will help you as you answer the following matching problem.

**MATCHING PROBLEM:**

Correctly identify the following:

- |          |   |    |                  |
|----------|---|----|------------------|
| 1. _____ | Teacher of Paul (Gal. 1:12)   | A. | The Apostle Paul |
| 2. _____ | Disciple of the Lord Jesus and Teacher of Timothy (Gal. 1:12; 2 Tim. 2:2) | B. | "others"         |
| 3. _____ | Disciple of Paul and Teacher of "faithful men" (2 Tim. 2:2)               | C. | "faithful men"   |
| 4. _____ | Disciples of Timothy and Teacher of "others" (2 Tim. 2:2)                 | D. | The Lord Jesus   |
| 5. _____ | Disciples of "faithful men" (2 Tim. 2:2)                                  | E. | Timothy          |

Therefore we can think of the local church (the local assembly) as a **schoolhouse** where there are teachers and learners and where disciples are being made.



**True or False:** Every believer must be a disciple of God (John 6:45). \_\_\_\_\_ Does **every** single member of the church need to be taught (Col. 1:28)? \_\_\_\_\_ The Pastor must be a teacher (Eph. 4:11), but should he be a **learner** also (see 2 Timothy 2:7 and 2:15)? \_\_\_\_\_ Who is the only Person who does not need a teacher (Isaiah 40:13-14; Romans 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 2:16)?

\_\_\_\_\_

When you assemble together in God's Schoolhouse, the church, do you come with a desire to learn? Do you pray and ask God to teach you? Are you **learning** so that you will be able to teach others also or are you still a "baby disciple" who needs someone to teach you the ABC's of God's Word (see Hebrews 5:12-13)? If a person walks and lives just as the unsaved do (see Ephesians 4:17-19), then has that person really **learned** his lesson (see Ephesians 4:20-21)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer the following TRUE (T) or FALSE (F):**

1.	_____	The word "disciple" means "one who teaches."
2.	_____	The Lord Jesus has invited all men to come unto Him and be His disciples (Matthew 11:28-29).
3.	_____	Just as a slave must have a master, so also a disciple must have a teacher (Matthew 10:24).
4.	_____	Disciples can never be teachers.
5.	_____	The Lord Jesus Christ commanded His disciples to "teach" or "make disciples" of all nations (Matthew 28:19).
6.	_____	We learn in Acts 14:20-21 that Paul and Barnabas disobeyed the Lord's command in Matthew 28:19-20.
7.	_____ _____	The Apostle Paul was a disciple of Timothy. Timothy was a disciple of the Apostle Paul (1 Timothy 2:2).
8.	_____	The Pastor must be a teacher (Ephesians 4:11).
9.	_____	Every single member of the Church needs to be taught except for the Pastor.
10.	_____	The Lord expects us to learn and to grow up so that we will be able to teach others also (Hebrews 5:12).