

**Discipleship.** That word seems to be a “buzzword” around churches and ministries over the last few years especially. There are podcasts, talks, assessments, books, studies, videos, sermons, and more that focus on discipleship. **But what is “discipleship” really?**

From a layperson’s point of view, I knew it was something that pastors, leaders and teachers did. They disciplined us. They disciplined others. So to me that meant, I just needed to be a student and learn. So for many years, that is what I did. I read and learned as a student would. I could tell you the “what” and the “why” behind so many things in the Bible, but when it came down to truly “disciplining” someone I didn’t know what that meant or how to do it.

Several years ago, while at an indoor playground, I was folding and stuffing a prayer letter similar to this one, while my child played. I found myself talking to the lady sitting near me. She asked if she could help me and she started stuffing envelopes with me. This led to a conversation about God and church planting. I was so nervous about how to answer her, I sent a text to Mark for help!

What I didn’t realize at the time was that my Bible knowledge was something I never intended to use with others! I did tell her about Jesus that day, despite my insecurity, but I left feeling like I failed.

A short time later, while attending a conference at church about “Spiritual Disciplines” I sought out yet another book to read. However, this one truly changed my view on moving outside of myself and looking at people as God does every second of every day. **Once we step outside of our own insecurities and talk to someone about Jesus Christ and His gift of salvation, we then begin to live out our purpose and follow the command that Jesus left us in Matthew 28:18a “Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life.”** I love the way the Message Bible paraphrases it, they use the word **“Train.”** Most translations refer to it as **“disciple”** but to me, train seems so clear.

Jesus’ command doesn’t specify that only pastors, leaders, and teachers are the ones who have to “go.” Discipling is for everyone who calls Christ our Lord and Savior. Me! You! Not just those that go to seminary! I am sure there are some that can relate to me—you have the knowledge, but when it comes to using it, you feel inadequate and ill-prepared. If this is you, I can tell you without hesitation that the lessons/journeys that **Discipleship Journeys with Jesus** offers, are written in such a way that you are able to help others develop a deeper relationship with God.



You don’t have to have all the answers in order to open up a journey and begin. It’s almost like having your own Dr. Mark Alan Williams on text like I did that day at the playground, but better! You will know how to grow deeper with Christ and have others join you. That becomes discipleship. No matter if it is 1, 5, 20, 100 or more people, **you can fulfill Christ’s command and “make disciples!”**

If you haven’t started your own journey yet, please prayerfully consider starting **Discipleship Journeys with Jesus** today. Invite a friend or two to go on the journey with you.

**All For His Glory,**  
Patty Hansen, Administrator



## Prayer Team

Each month, a group of prayer warriors meet at our home church, New Song Community Church in Oceanside, to pray over the ministry. Some on the team have been meeting for over 20 years to pray with Mark and Carolyn! If you are in the area and would like to join us, please email Mark or Patty and we can give you more information.

**We would love to have you join us!**

## Prayers and Thanksgiving

1. Thank God that people in 48 countries have downloaded materials and the leaders using them in their churches and organizations.
2. Thank God for the translations being developed in Portuguese, Chichewa, Chinese, Spanish, Bangla, Hindi and French.
3. Thank God for the faithfulness of our donors.
4. **Thank God for the many lives changed as a result of going through the discipleship lessons.**
5. Pray for the pending release of English Quarter 3, Spanish Qtr.1, Portuguese Qtr 1 and Hindi Qtr 1, updated Partnership Training and QuickStart.
6. **Pray** that we are good stewards of what God has trusted in our hands.
7. Pray for additional donors to partner with us.
8. Pray for a ministry partnership that will bring exposure in the next few months via their large web presence.
9. Pray for health and spiritual protection for all involved in the ministry: staff, donors, subscribers and volunteers.
10. Pray for opportunities to share the ministry with other organizations, churches, pastors, leaders and more.
11. Pray for additional staff to meet the growing needs of this ministry.
12. **Pray for the vision of taking 100 million people on Discipleship Journey with Jesus.**



## Ways to Donate

### Visit our website:

djjministry.org and use the "donate" button to set up an online donation. Links for Paypal and online stock donations are available on donate page.

### Mail a donation to:

DJJ  
P.O. Box 2975  
Vista, CA 92085-2975

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