

**Week 3: A Purpose We Must Pursue – The Church Multiplied**

**Day 17: Your Astounding Potential**

**The Passage:** 2 Timothy 2:1-13

**The Focus:** “You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful people who will be able to teach others also.” (2 Timothy 2:1-2, NASB)

**The Meditation:** “Entrust these to faithful people who will be able to teach others also.”

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**Empowering Truths:** Ordinary folks have incredible kingdom potential when they minister Jesus' way!

In today's passage Paul is encouraging Timothy to major in multiplication, not addition. He seeks to catapult Timothy's ministry effectiveness in an exponential way. If Timothy will teach others “truth and transmission,” then a movement will start. The truth is God's Word. Transmission is teaching others to teach what they have been taught. When this happens to the fourth generation, multiplication is unleashed, and a movement may begin.

Most Christians understand addition fairly well. The results of addition or the lack of addition are proudly or painfully visible. But multiplication is less understood and less visible. It is not common in the American church. We seek power for addition more than multiplication.

How many of you believe, with the Spirit's empowerment, you can disciple one person a year for the next twenty years? Absolutely! You may be shocked to realize this means potentially one million disciples could come out of your ministry in twenty years! How can this be? Spend a year making a disciple and equipping them to do the same the following year with someone else. Then if you both repeat the process during year two, there will be four. The next year if each of the four disciples' disciple one disciple-maker, there will be eight. Repeat that pattern in year four, and there will be sixteen, and then thirty-two in year five.

Thirty-two disciples in five years . . . seems slow, time-consuming, and unimpressive. But wait, the power of multiplication changes everything! Keep following this pattern and your disciple-making becomes 64; 128; 256; 512; 1,024; 2,048; 4,096; 8,192; 16,384; 32,768; 65,536; 131,072; 262,144; 524,288; and by year 20 it is 1,048,576!

Many of you may be arguing, “That's nice math theory, but try applying that to ministry reality.” Very true. So let's say the theory is only actuated 1/500th or .002 percent in reality. Guess what? That would still result in over 2,000 people being disciplined. Bigger than a megachurch.

When you use Jesus' method of multiplication with the empowerment of the Spirit, you can have amazing kingdom impact! Throw out your small-mindedness about what you can do for God!

Jesus is seeking to empower you to identify, invest in, and train a disciple who will become a disciple-maker. You can unleash an exponential chain of disciple-making.

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**Power Truth:** My kingdom impact is astounding when I major in training disciples to do multiplicative generational disciple-making.

**Our Prayer:** Lord, forgive me for wanting fast results that lack multiplying impact. Help me to see by faith and logic the power of doing multiplication Jesus' way. Empower me to see whom you want me to multiply myself into. Empower me to patiently go deep with a few like you did.

