

newark united pentecostal church**Lesson Title:** ALL Making Disciples of ALL through Learn

Key Concept: Our local church has a unique calling within the worldwide body of Christ. We are striving to fulfill our mandate of *ALL making disciples of ALL*. This is **what** we do. In our local assembly we make and are made disciples through four primary actions: we worship, we learn, we serve, and we play. This lesson examines learn and how it contributes to our discipleship. Through learn we pursue truth unflinchingly.

**Scriptures:**

²⁸ Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”

(Matthew 11:28–30 *New Living Translation*)

¹⁵ If you love me, you will obey my commandments. ¹⁶ Then I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever — ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. . . . ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and will cause you to remember everything I said to you.

(John 14:15–17, 26 *New English Translation*)

Context Scriptures: Matthew 7:24–25; Matthew 28; Mark 16; Acts 5:42; Acts 20:20–21; Colossians 3:16–17; Titus 2:1–8; 2 Timothy 2:15

**Lesson Thoughts:**

In a moment of gentle entreaty, Jesus extends the offer of rest to anyone weary and carrying heavy burdens. His offer is an invitation to learn—let me teach you (Matthew 11:28–30). He further promises through his Spirit of truth to teach us everything (John 14:15–17, 26). The life of a disciple is characterized by an unflinching pursuit of truth through learning. It is here—in learning—that we

newark united pentecostal church

will find rest for our souls as our master teaches us. In learning we take on his easy yoke and his light burden. We are made disciples through teaching.

Jesus describes the person who listens to his teaching and follows it as wise, “like a person who builds a house on a solid rock.” Jesus claims that the life built on his teachings will not collapse because it is built on bedrock (Matthew 7:24–25). It is no surprise then that Jesus’ prescription for making disciples is to go, preach the gospel (good news), and make disciples, baptizing and teaching them all that he has commanded (Matthew 28; Mark 16).

Jesus’ disciples understand and obey him. “And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: ‘Jesus is the Messiah’” (Acts 5:42). One of the greatest disciple makers of all time, the apostle Paul, describes his work among the Ephesians: “You know that I did not hold back from proclaiming to you anything that would be helpful, and from teaching you publicly and from house to house, testifying to both Jews and Greeks about repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus” (Acts 20:20–21 *New English Translation*). We are made disciples through learning. This is why teaching is so essential in Jesus’ plan for disciple making.

This environment of learning and unflinching pursuit of truth is the responsibility of all. All are learning and all are teaching. Paul encourages the church of Colossae to “let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father” (Colossians 3:16–17). Paul emphasizes to both Timothy and Titus that this teaching is to be wholesome and accurate and that everyone is involved (Titus 2:1–8; 2 Timothy 2:15).

Teaching only works if the person is committed to learning. Every disciple must be determined to pursue truth unflinchingly through learning. Every act of worship creates an atmosphere and example by which other disciples are also called into their own worship of the one true God. Likewise, an atmosphere of learning is essential so that all disciples are both making and being made disciples through learning. We worship! We learn!

**Discussion Questions:**

- 1) Jesus is called Rabbi (teacher) in the gospel accounts of his ministry. Why is this significant?
- 2) Jesus' followers are called disciples (learners, pupils) in the gospels. Why is this significant?
- 3) How do we learn from our fellow disciples?
- 4) How do we teach our fellow disciples?

Next Lesson: ALL Making Disciples of ALL through Serve

Notes and Reflections

- 1) Using netbible.org, look up all the passages where teach is mentioned. Read the passages slowly.
- 2) Using netbible.org, look up all the passages where preach is mentioned. Read the passages slowly.
- 3) Using netbible.org, look up all the passages where learn is mentioned. Read the passages slowly.
- 4) Based upon the above study, what distinguishes teaching and preaching? How are they similar or different?
- 5) Based on the above study, what have you learned about the importance of learn in the life of a disciple?

newark united pentecostal church

Notes and Reflections, cont.