



What was Jesus' approach to making disciples?

Jesus said, "Go and make disciples of all nations ..." Matthew 28:18-20.

Jesus tells us to make disciples. The best way to do this is to do what Jesus did. A chronological reading of the Gospels indicates that Jesus's approach to making disciples involved five-steps:

Step 1 - I do, you watch

Step 2 - I do, you help

Step 3 - You do, I help

Step 4 - You do, I watch

Step 5 - You do

When we work with children, each step takes about 2 years.

Ages 1-3 begin with I do, you watch. For example, the mum or dad reads a Bible story to their children.

Ages 4-6 progress to I do, you help. For example, a child helps the mum or dad serve as a greeter at a church service.

Ages 7-9 participate in You do, I help. For example, the mum or dad make the arrangements for a child to pray with and for a sick friend.

Ages 10-12 practice You do, I watch. For example, a child leads the family devotions.

Age 13 are more You do. For example, a child teaches a Sunday School class.

Each step must be biblically informed, Jesus-centred, Holy Spirit-empowered, goal-oriented, and prayerfully undertaken.

Most importantly - Jesus intentionally injected Himself into the heart of the process. We must likewise inject Jesus into everything we're doing to help children learn to trust and follow Him.

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