



SESSION 7 CHAPTER 3

THE WAYS OF THE ALONGSIDER

How did things go this week? Does anyone have something you want to share?

Prayer

Last week I commented how the triangle is presented differently among the various chapters. The author does this to give you a 'heads up' on what area of discipleship that chapter is most specifically related to. If you noticed which one of the 'triangle' items was highlighted, you knew that the focus would be the 'bull's eye'. Recall that the bull's eye represents what Bill Mowry refers to as 'the New Testament' portrait of a disciple. You might want to expand on his reference to include that sheet of definitions I gave you on the meaning of a 'D3 Culture'.

One of the VIM components is the topic this week in Chapter 3. Intentionality.

To be intentional means you already have a clear picture of where you want to finish and you are focused on making that vision a reality. We are here, in Christ, and in this group here at Heritage Church, because generations of followers of Jesus going back over 2,000 years saw God's vision for making disciples and were intentional in doing whatever it took to keep paying forward the blessing of that same vision. They did what it took and one by one made a disciple, who made a disciple, and so it goes... Our challenge is to see that same vision. Perhaps this week's material allowed you to hang a new picture on your mind's wall - one describing "generations of disciples". What does it look like now?

What is your reaction to the idea "alongsiders think big but start small"?

- ▶ What does going small mean to you? Why do you think this is important?
- ▶ Do you recall the difference between multiplication and addition?

Going small is defined by Bill as "investing intentionally in people by coming alongside them in order to encourage application, love through accountability, and bless by affirmation".

(top paragraph on page 26)

What did you learn about Jesus' intentionality in making disciples (questions 1-4)?

As you turn your thoughts of "Go" move to "as you go" in the Great Commission; how does this change how you think about engaging in what Jesus told us to do?

Place yourself with the disciples as they listened to Jesus issue the Great Commission. What do you believe would be going through their minds and emotions?

- ▶ What fears or concerns do you have about making disciples?

What do you think about the idea of generations? Is this a new or old concept for you?

- ▶ Was there anyone who helped you in your walk with God?
- ▶ Why is thinking in terms of generations important?

How would you define a "Disciple"? Why is it important to have a picture in your mind of what a disciple looks like?

- ▶ Matthew 4:19 Committed to:
 - ▶ Following - John 8:31-32
 - ▶ Transformation - John 13:34-35
 - ▶ Mission - John 15:8

Why is the process of selection important?

- ▶ How would you engage in selection of someone to come alongside?
 - ▶ Fishing pond
 - ▶ Co-labor
 - ▶ Challenge them
- ▶ What would you look for in people? (page 34 (**Do not excuse or accommodate**))!
 - ▶ People of peace (people who have a Heart for God 1 Samuel 16:7).
 - ▶ Faithful
 - ▶ Available
 - ▶ Teachable

What is the most important truth or discussion point that has stood out from either your study or our discussion on this chapter?

- ▶ How can you apply this to what you are doing in the next week?