

DISCIPLING FROM YOUR GIFTS

RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP • Renae Roehrs July 5, 2026

THE BIG IDEA

You don't need to be finished to be a discipler. You just need to be willing to say “Yes,” and bring someone along into what God is already doing in your life.

SCRIPTURES:

Matthew 28:16-20; Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Peter 4:10; 2 Timothy 1:6-7; Ephesians 2:10; 2 Peter 1:3; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:11; John 4:1-42; Luke 8: 26-39.

POINT ONE — WE ARE ALL CALLED TO DISCIPLE

Jesus gave His disciples instructions before He left, and He's given us the same: go, make disciples, teach them (Matthew 28:19-20). While we wait for His return, we're each entrusted with talents to invest — not bury (Matthew 25:14-30).

Four reasons we bury our gifts instead of using them:

- ☐ Fear — “God wouldn't use me. I'll just keep it safe.”
- ☐ False Humility — “I don't want to draw attention to myself.”
- ☐ Laziness — “Nobody's really asking me to.”
- ☐ Comparison — “Someone else is more gifted than me.”

The master doesn't come back asking what excuses you have. He comes back asking what you did with what He gave you.

POINT TWO — WE ARE ALL EQUIPPED TO DISCIPLE

We're not equipped by our own strength, seniority, or credentials. We're equipped by what's already living in us:

Matthew 28:20 — “I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

2 Peter 1:3 — “His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life.”

Acts 1:8 — “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you.”

Romans 8:11 — “The same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead is living in you.”

You're not burying the gift because you have too little — you're burying it because you haven't grasped what's already in you. The woman at the well (John 4:1-42) and the delivered man of the Decapolis (Luke 8:26-39) both discipled others straight from their own testimony. Your mess is your message. Your test is your testimony.

POINT THREE — YOUR YES CAN CHANGE A WORLD

The gift doesn't wait for perfection. It just says yes. Every yes in this room — Kingdom Kids, VBS, worship team, prayer team — is already changing the world around it.

"We are God's masterpiece, created anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."

— Ephesians 2:10 NLT

Your Yes Matters. You were not created to bury your gift. You were created for good works — prepared in advance, waiting for your yes.

Where Is Your Yes?

You don't have to be finished to be a discipler. You don't need a title. A platform. A degree. You just need to open your hands with what's already in them — and bring someone along.

"This is why I remind you to fan into flame the spiritual gift God gave you... For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline."

— 2 Timothy 1:6-7 NLT

Fan it into flame. Stop saving it. Someone is waiting for your yes — waiting for what's already in your hands.

Obedient, Not Perfect

You don't need to be perfect to be a discipler. Just obedient.

- Jonah didn't have the right heart — but he was obedient, and a whole city repented.
- The woman at the well wasn't perfect — but she changed a city.
- The demonized man became the one who changed the entire Decapolis.
- The disciples each had their issues — yet they changed the world.

They overcame by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony — not by a perfect life, credentials, or willpower.

The biggest inhibitor to discipling others is us.

Don't bury your talents. Let your mess be your message.

FIND YOUR YES — DISCOVERING THE GIFTS YOU ALREADY HAVE

Most of us disqualify ourselves before we even look at the options. We think discipleship requires a seminary degree or a pulpit. It doesn't. Read through the list. Check the gifts you already have. Then ask God who He's already placed in your life that those gifts are meant for.

REFLECTION — TAKE THIS HOME

- ☐ What gift has God placed in me that I've been sitting on — afraid to use it?
- ☐ Who has God already placed in my circle that I haven't been paying attention to?
- ☐ What does my yes look like in this season of my life?
- ☐ What are the people around me — my children, my neighbors, my coworkers — learning about God just from watching me live?

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WHERE IS YOUR YES?

FIND YOUR YES

Discovering the Gifts You Already Have to Disciple Someone Else

Most people disqualify themselves before they even look at the options. They think discipleship requires a seminary degree or a pulpit. It doesn't. Read through the list below. Check the gifts you already have. Then ask God who He's already placed in your life that those gifts are meant for.

The moment someone senses you're trying to fix them, the door closes. You're not coming with a project — you're coming with a pie. Or a wrench. Or a book. The relationship does the work that a curriculum never could.

SPIRITUAL & MINISTRY GIFTS

- ☐ Prayer — praying WITH someone regularly, not just for them
- ☐ Intercession — committing to be someone's consistent prayer covering
- ☐ Prophetic encouragement — speaking life and identity over someone
- ☐ Scripture memory — building a verse-by-verse practice together
- ☐ Bible study — leading or co-exploring a book of the Bible one-on-one
- ☐ Worship leading — inviting someone into the experience of leading worship
- ☐ Preaching/teaching — mentoring someone through sermon preparation
- ☐ Evangelism — taking someone with you when you share your faith
- ☐ Faith storytelling — sharing your testimony in ways that open theirs
- ☐ Spiritual direction — listening deeply to where someone is with God

EMOTIONAL & RELATIONAL GIFTS

- ☐ Active listening — being the person who actually hears what's under the words
- ☐ Encouragement — consistent, specific, written or spoken affirmation
- ☐ Empathy — sitting with someone in hard seasons without trying to fix it
- ☐ Conflict resolution — walking someone through a relational rupture
- ☐ Grief support — showing up and staying through loss
- ☐ Emotional processing — helping someone name what they're actually feeling
- ☐ Loyalty — simply not leaving when life gets complicated
- ☐ Humor — bringing lightness to someone carrying too much weight
- ☐ Perspective-giving — helping someone see their situation from the outside

- ☐ Accountability — being the safe person someone checks in with honestly

PRACTICAL & PHYSICAL GIFTS

- ☐ Cooking / meal prep — bringing meals, cooking together, teaching recipes
- ☐ Gardening — working side by side in the dirt
- ☐ Home repair — fixing things together, teaching skills
- ☐ Car maintenance — oil changes, basic repairs as relationship builders
- ☐ Building / carpentry — working with hands on a shared project
- ☐ Sewing / quilting — creating something together over time
- ☐ Painting / home improvement — working on someone's space alongside them
- ☐ Cleaning — showing up to help someone get their environment under control
- ☐ Organizing — helping someone bring order to a chaotic space
- ☐ Moving / physical helping — being present for the hard, unglamorous moments
- ☐ Lawn and yard care — working outside together
- ☐ Canning / food preservation — a lost art that creates natural conversation
- ☐ Hunting or fishing — extended time in nature with nothing but patience and talk
- ☐ Farming / animal care — shared responsibility that builds trust over time
- ☐ Car rides — consistent transportation that becomes consistent conversation

CREATIVE GIFTS

- ☐ Art / painting / drawing — creating alongside someone
- ☐ Photography — teaching someone to see beauty intentionally
- ☐ Journaling together — sharing written reflections back and forth
- ☐ Scrapbooking — preserving stories and memories together
- ☐ Pottery / ceramics — working with hands in a slow, patient medium
- ☐ Knitting / crocheting — side-by-side work that frees conversation
- ☐ Music — playing instruments together or just sharing what moves you
- ☐ Songwriting — collaborating on something that comes from the heart
- ☐ Writing — helping someone tell their story or develop their voice
- ☐ Graphic design / art — building something visual together

LEARNING & GROWTH GIFTS

- ☐ Book club — two people, one book, honest conversation
- ☐ Podcast listening — sharing an episode and debriefing together

- ☐ Online course — going through something new together and processing it
- ☐ Documentary watching — a film that opens a door to real conversation
- ☐ Language learning — tackling something new together builds humility and laughter
- ☐ History exploration — visiting historical sites or studying a period together
- ☐ Debate / discussion — thinking through hard questions in a safe relationship
- ☐ Research projects — digging into a topic one of you cares about
- ☐ Theology study — working through a doctrine or theological question together
- ☐ Personal development reading — a book on identity, habits, or calling

SOCIAL & GATHERING GIFTS

- ☐ Hospitality — opening your home regularly to the same person or small group
- ☐ Game nights — consistent, low-stakes time together that builds familiarity
- ☐ Movie nights — watching and discussing films with intention
- ☐ Dinner parties — gathering people around a table as a discipleship environment
- ☐ Coffee dates — the simplest, most underestimated discipleship container
- ☐ Walking together — a regular walk is one of the most honest conversations you'll ever have
- ☐ Hiking — extended time in creation with nowhere to be
- ☐ Running / working out together — shared physical discipline builds real trust
- ☐ Sports — playing together, watching together, processing wins and losses
- ☐ Cooking classes — learning something new in a group setting
- ☐ Craft nights — making something while talking about everything
- ☐ Holiday traditions — inviting someone into your family's rhythms
- ☐ Birthday celebrations — making someone feel seen and known on their day
- ☐ Neighborhood gatherings — becoming the house where people land
- ☐ Fire pit nights — there is something about a fire that opens people up

PROFESSIONAL & LIFE SKILLS GIFTS

- ☐ Financial coaching — helping someone build a budget or get out of debt
- ☐ Career mentoring — walking alongside someone in their professional life
- ☐ Resume and job help — practical assistance that opens a relational door
- ☐ Business coaching — sharing what you've learned the hard way
- ☐ Time management — helping someone get margin back in their life
- ☐ Parenting support — walking with a younger parent through the trenches
- ☐ Marriage enrichment — sharing tools and experience with a couple coming up behind you
- ☐ Pre-marital preparation — investing in a couple before the hard seasons hit

- ☐ College prep — guiding a student through decisions and transitions
- ☐ Technology help — meeting someone where they are with patience and presence

HEALTH & WELLNESS GIFTS

- ☐ Fitness accountability — showing up together, consistently
- ☐ Nutrition and cooking — building healthier habits side by side
- ☐ Mental health awareness — being someone who normalizes the conversation
- ☐ Rest and Sabbath — modeling and inviting someone into intentional rest
- ☐ Nature and outdoor time — creation as a discipleship environment
- ☐ Medical navigation — helping someone find resources and not face it alone
- ☐ Addiction recovery support — being present in the long, unglamorous middle
- ☐ Chronic illness support — showing up for someone whose hard season has no end date
- ☐ Sobriety accountability — consistent, non-judgmental presence
- ☐ Caregiver support — walking with someone who is carrying someone else

CHILDREN & FAMILY GIFTS

- ☐ Childcare — giving a parent breathing room and building trust
- ☐ Tutoring — investing in someone's child as a way into the family
- ☐ Mentoring teenagers — showing up for the age group most adults avoid
- ☐ Foster care support — surrounding a family doing hard, holy work
- ☐ Grandparenting wisdom — sharing what you've learned across the generational gap
- ☐ Family systems knowledge — helping a family understand how they're wired
- ☐ Storytelling — reading to children, telling family stories, preserving history
- ☐ Play — getting on the floor and being present with someone's kids
- ☐ Youth sports coaching — consistent presence in a child's development
- ☐ Rite of passage — intentionally marking a young person's transition into adulthood

Now look at your checks. You already have more to give than you think.

Where is your “yes?”

REFLECTION — TAKE THIS HOME

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SERIES: DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship isn't a program — it's a way of life. This summer, our teaching team explores what it truly means to follow Jesus: how we read the Word, pray, use our gifts, stay accountable, walk in holiness, and carry our faith beyond Sunday into every part of our lives. From foundations to the marketplace, this series will challenge and equip you to grow as a fully devoted follower of Christ.

DATE	TEACHER	TOPIC	WHAT'S IT ABOUT?
May 17	Rory	Intro to Discipleship	What is discipleship?
May 31	Lauren	Walk Through the Bible	Understanding the Bible layout
June 7	Renae	How to be a Disciple	Bicycle analogy: Identity, disciplines, intimacy, fear of the Lord, the Word, gratitude, Holy Spirit, obedience & faith
June 21	Rory	Sons and fathers	By living in both sonship and fatherhood our whole life, we can change our world.
June 28	Mark	Organic Discipleship	Organic discipleship reaches beyond an organized structure.
July 5	Renae	Discipleship from your Gifting	Be willing to say, “Yes” to using your gifts and bring someone along.
July 12	Rory	Discipleship in church vs. the Marketplace	Discipleship outside the church
July 19	Justin	Prayer	A conversation with God
July 26	Justin	How to read your bible	You're not just studying an ancient text; you're meeting the Author.
August 2	Justin	Hermeneutic	Understand what the Bible means, not just what it says.
August 9	Renae	Holiness	Discipleship is not the path <i>to</i> holiness — it IS the path <i>of</i> holiness.
August 16	Mark	Relational accountability	The connection between accountability and discipleship
August 23	Rory	Fear of the Lord	The Fear of the Lord is the soil — discipleship is what grows in it.