

DISCIPLING YOUR CHILDREN

A Guide for Christian Families

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Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is
old he will not depart from it. - Proverbs 22:6




Church of Christ
Marsalis Avenue

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Lesson 1 - What Is A Disciple

Read Matthew 10:24-25 John 8:31; Acts 4:13

Discipleship is a big deal! The call to be a Christian is the call to be a disciple of Christ. But what is a disciple? In simple terms, a disciple is someone who follows another person or another way of life and who submits to the discipline (teaching) of that leader or way. As disciples of Christ we follow Christ and His teachings.

Being a disciple of Christ means being a life-long learner and doer. In discipleship, the student grows to look like his or her teacher. We imitate Jesus, carry on His ministry, and become like Him in the process. Devoted disciples of Jesus are eager to know the mind of their Teacher and ready to embrace the beliefs and behaviors of their Master. A disciple of Christ is one who believes His doctrine, trusts in His sacrifice, embodies His spirit, and imitates His example.

Discipleship calls for discipline. A discipline is a consistent pattern of behavior taught to a disciple by his or her master. Discipline evokes the idea of commitment, regimentation, and structure. It is a devotion to healthy habits, which reflect and reinforce the teachings of the Master. Christian disciplines lead to the elimination of evil thoughts, harmful habits, and sinful speech. They provide the spiritual conduit through which God's power can flow into our lives so that we are gradually changed into the likeness of His Son.

Bottom line: as disciples of Christ we are striving to be, think, and love like Jesus.

Reflection Questions:

- What points from the lessons resonated with you?

- Compare and contrast the idea of being a Christian with that of being a disciple of Christ.

- How does viewing yourself as a disciple impact who you are and what you do?

- What do you think are some of the disciplines of a disciple? Which ones are you currently doing? How can you improve in the other areas?

Lesson 2 - The Cost of Being a Disciple

Read Luke 14:25-33

Jesus wants as many sinners saved as possible, but He cautions us not to take discipleship lightly. He shares three parables in Luke 14 that make it clear that there is a price to pay. To begin with, we must love Christ supremely, even more than we love our own flesh and blood ([Luke 14:26-27](#)). The word *hate* suggests "to love less" (see [Matt. 10:37](#)). At the same time, however, it should be noted that the Hebrew *sīānē* has the sense 'to leave aside, abandon', and this sense may be present^[1]. Our love for Christ must be so strong that all other love is like hatred in comparison. In fact, we must hate our own lives and be willing to bear the cross after Him. Here, Jesus asserts His divinity. The love for God is greater than the love for man (Matthew 22:37-38). To follow Jesus means to follow Jesus, not anyone or anything else.

A disciple is a learner, and the primary teacher in life is Jesus. This total loyalty is crucial, given the rejection and persecution that lie ahead. If His followers care more about family than about Jesus, when families are divided under pressure of persecution, they will choose against Jesus. This is what lies behind Jesus' remarks. Discipleship is not possible if Jesus is not the teacher.^[2]

What does it mean to "carry the cross"? It means daily identification with Christ in shame, suffering, and surrender to God's will. It means death to self, to our own plans and ambitions, and a willingness to serve Him as He directs ([John 12:23-28](#)). A "cross" is something we willingly accept from God as part of His will for our lives.

Jesus gave three parables to explain why He makes such costly demands on His followers: the man building a tower, the king fighting a war, and the salt losing its flavor. Disciples are represented by the man building the tower and the king fighting the war, and we had better "count the cost" before we start, lest we start and not be able to finish. How sad it is to start something and not finish it. The failure is evident to all. Verse 30 expresses the public response in very mocking terms, as all around belittle "*this fellow*." The shell of the building echoes the shell that remains of this man's reputation. The implication is that embarking on discipleship is just the same: we do well to reflect on what it will take to finish what we have started.

In the case of building the tower, all the options lay with the builder. In the case of potential war, the situation is forced on the king. Only a foolish king would try to take on a stronger foe when he is outnumbered two to one. So, it is prudent to seek peace with the stronger foe. There is a "more powerful one" than Satan to deal with in life: God. It is wise to count the cost of facing him. There are benefits in allying ourselves with God rather than having him as the decidedly stronger enemy.^[3]

Jesus had already told His disciples that they were "the salt of the earth" ([Matt. 5:13](#)). Salt was a valued item in that day. In fact, part of a soldier's pay was given in salt. Salt is a preservative, and God's people in this world are helping to slow the growth of evil and decay. Salt is also a purifying agent, an antiseptic that makes things cleaner. It may sting when it touches the wound, but it helps to kill infection. Salt gives flavor to things and, most of all, makes people thirsty. By our character and conduct, we ought to make others thirsty for the Lord Jesus Christ and the salvation that He alone can give.

Our modern salt is pure and does not lose its flavor, but the salt in Jesus' day was impure and could lose its flavor, especially if it came in contact with earth. Once the saltiness was gone, there was no way to restore it, and the salt was thrown out into the street to be walked on. When a disciple loses his Christian character, he is "good for nothing" and will eventually be "walked on" by others and bring disgrace to Christ.

Discipleship is serious business. If we tell Jesus that we want to take up our cross and follow Him as His disciples, then He wants us to know exactly what we are getting into. He wants no false expectancy, no illusions, and no compromises. He wants to use us as stones for building His church, soldiers for battling His enemies, and salt for bettering His world; and He is looking for quality.

Following Jesus isn't difficult to understand, but it can be very costly. Jesus's teachings are often difficult to stomach. Jesus said: "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours" (John 15:18-20). It's easy enough to understand, but it can be extremely costly.

Reflection Questions

- How do most people react to Jesus' terms of discipleship?
- How possible do these conditions of discipleship seem to you now?
- If you choose to obey Jesus's call to follow, what might it cost you?(Avoid being vague. If following Jesus would cost you specific possessions, comforts, or relationships, list them below.)
- What costs of following Jesus seem especially high to you?
- Why is it worth paying the price to follow Jesus?
- *What might hold you back from following Jesus at this point? Are you willing to let go of these things if necessary?*

Lesson 3- The Call to Make Disciples

Read Matthew 28:16-20

Think about what it must have been like for the disciples when Jesus died. Three years earlier they were working their everyday jobs when a mysterious teacher asked them to follow Him. As they followed, they saw Him challenge religious leaders, embrace sinners, heal the sick, and even raise the dead. They knew that He was not an ordinary man. At various times and to varying degrees, people saw Him as the Messiah who would bring salvation for God's people. But He never quite fit anyone's expectations of what the Messiah would do or say. The disciples walked beside Jesus through all of this. They watched as the blind were given sight. They heard Jesus forgive the hopelessly unrighteous and restore the lives of the broken. They helped pass out bread and fish as Jesus miraculously fed huge crowds. The disciples seem to have been more aware of Jesus's true identity at some points than at others, but they followed Him until the end, believing that He was the one who would restore the fortunes of God's people.

And then He died. Just like that. It was over. It seemed that Jesus could do absolutely anything, that He had power over sickness, death, every person, and everything. By this power, Jesus was bringing the healing and redemption that the world so desperately needed. But the disciples' hopes of a better world died as Jesus was nailed to a Roman cross. And so the disciples spent three days in confusion and disillusionment. Everything they had hoped for was gone. Perhaps they had wasted their time following this mysterious person for three years.

Then it happened. He came back from the dead! When Jesus reappeared on the third day, all of their hope came rushing back! Now there could be no doubt! Now that Jesus had conquered even sin and death, He would certainly fix this broken world. Jesus would accomplish what everyone was longing to see. There could be no stopping Him. Then once again, He surprised everyone. Instead of telling them that He would immediately transform the earth, Jesus gave His disciples one final command and ascended into heaven. Just like that, out of nowhere. What was the command? Essentially, He told them it was their job to finish what He started. They were to take the message that Jesus declared and exemplified in and around Jerusalem and spread that message to the very ends of the earth:

Stop for a minute and read Matthew 28. Try to place yourself in the disciples' shoes as they witnessed these things and heard these words from Jesus. How do you think you would have reacted?

The Great Commission and the Church

What comes to your mind when you think about Jesus's command to make disciples of all nations? Many read these words as if they were meant to inspire preachers or missionaries on their way out to the mission field. But have you ever considered that Jesus's command is meant for you?

As we read the rest of the New Testament, we see God's people working together in obedience to Jesus's command. They reached out to the people around them, calling them to obediently follow Jesus. The disciples went about making disciples, teaching them to obey everything that Jesus had commanded and baptizing them. Some of them even moved to different areas or traveled around so

that they could tell more people. They took Jesus's words seriously—and literally. Reading through the New Testament, it's not surprising to read that Jesus's followers were focused on making disciples.

What does disciple making look like? We have to be careful about how we answer this question. For some of us, our church experience has been so focused on programs that we immediately think about Jesus's command to make disciples in programmatic terms. We expect our church leaders to create some sort of disciple-maker campaign where we sign up, commit to participating for a few months, and then get to cross the Great Commission off our list. But making disciples is far more than a program. It is the mission of our lives. It defines us. A disciple is a disciple maker.

So what does this look like? The Great Commission uses three phrases to describe what disciple making entails: go, baptize people, and teach them to obey everything Jesus commanded. Simple, right? It's incredibly simple in the sense that it doesn't require a degree, an ordination process, or some sort of hierarchical status. It's as simple as going to people, encouraging them to follow Jesus (this is what baptism is all about), and then teaching them to obey Jesus's commands (which we find in the Bible).

The concept itself is not very difficult. But the simplest things to understand are often the most difficult to put into practice. Let's start with baptism. For many of those who attend church, baptism may not seem like that big of a deal. But in the early days of the church, baptism was huge. Baptism was an unmistakable act that marked a person as a follower of Jesus Christ. As Jesus died and was buried in the earth, so a person is plunged beneath the surface of the water. As Jesus emerged from the tomb in a resurrected body, so a person comes out of the waters of baptism as a new creation, a Christian.

When first-century Christians took this step of identifying themselves with the death and resurrection of Jesus, they were publicly declaring their allegiance to Christ. This immediately marked them for martyrdom—all of the hostility that the world felt toward Jesus would now be directed at them. Baptism was a declaration that a person's life, identity, and priorities were centered on Jesus and His mission. This act of identifying with Christ is essential.

Just as baptism is significant, teaching people to obey Jesus's commands is an enormous task. It requires a lifetime of devotion to studying the Scriptures and investing in the people around us. Neither of these things is easy, nor can they be checked off of a list. We are never really "done." We continually devote ourselves to studying the Scriptures so that we can learn with ever-greater depth and clarity what God wants us to know, practice, and pass on. We continually invest in the people around us, teaching them and walking with them through life's joys and trials. We never "finish" the discipleship process. There will always be times when guidance and encouragement are still needed. In addition to that, God continually brings new people into our path, giving us fresh opportunities to start the discipleship process all over again.

Being a disciple maker means that you will begin to look at the people in your life differently. Every person in your life is created in the image of God, and Jesus commands every one of them to follow Him. God has placed these people in your life so that you will do everything you can to influence them. Following Jesus means that you will be teaching other people to follow Jesus. In our pursuit to make disciples, we must not neglect ground zero for disciple making, the home.

Reflection Questions

- How were you disciplined in Christ? Who was involved in assisting in your growth as a Christian and what did they do?
- What are some of the apprehensions that you have when it comes to making disciples?
- Who has God placed in your life right now that you can begin making into a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Lesson 4 - Disciple Making: It Starts At Home

Read Deuteronomy 4:9-11; 6:4-9

The Oxford Universal Dictionary defines success as the prosperous achievement of something attempted; the attainment of an object according to one's desire. The look of success varies based on the object that is succeeding.

An ink pen is successful if it writes. A calculator is successful if it accurately adds, subtracts, multiplies and divides. A watch is successful if it accurately keeps time. A sports team is successful if it wins championships. We can look at almost any object and define what success is for that object. Which leads to the question, "What does success look like for a Christian parent?"

Is success raising your child so that she grows up to be an upstanding member of society? Is success rearing a child so that he avoids jail and run ins with the law? Perhaps, it is getting them off to college so that they can get a job making big bank. What is it that makes a parent successful?

SUCCESSFUL PARENTS MAKE DISCIPLES! The Christian home is the place where disciples of Christ are made. In making disciples, we must not overlook the potential disciples that are in our homes: our children. Parents have an incredible influence on their children. Children are mirrors that reflect back to parents their words, attitudes, and behaviors.

The more like Christ parents are, the easier it will be for children to see what it means to be a disciple of Christ. Principles for discipling children can be found throughout scripture. Some of the greatest insights on passing the faith to one's children can be found in the book of Deuteronomy.

Reflection Question: As you read the passages in Deuteronomy 4 and 6, what discipling principles do you see?

There are several key insights to discipling our children that are found in these two passages. As we highlight some of them, think about practical ways that you can integrate these principles into your parenting.

- Parents have to guard their own hearts in order to effectively disciple their children. Do not be mistaken: we still have to guard our hearts as adults. There is so much that can influence us. We have to guard our time against busyness and distractions. We have to guard against a spirit of discontentment and ingratitude. We must be careful not to adopt that thinking patterns and attitudes of the world. We must guard our own hearts as we seek to disciple our children. Our example has a greater influence on them than our words can ever have.
- Remember the goodness of God in your own life. God blessed Israel to see His great works on their journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. They were to internalize their experience and reflect on it to remember the faithfulness of God. What are some of the ways that God has been good to you?

- Tell your children about the goodness of God in your own life. Are there some obstacles that God blessed you to overcome? What are some challenges that you faced when you were your child's age? How did God see you through those challenges?
- Parents are to teach their children the word of God and a reverence for God. The word of God should be valued above all other words. It carries more weight and significance than anything else that is written or spoken. One way that we can teach our children the significance of the word of God is by living it. Our lives should show that God's word is important. His word is important because of who God is. In our irreverent world, it takes great intentionality to teach our children to have a reverence for God. God is personal, yet transcendent. He is approachable, yet supreme.
- Grandparents also have a role in discipling. Moses instructed Israel to tell about the goodness of God to their children and grandchildren. God have been faithful throughout the generations. His track record is impeccable. There are times when a parent may not be faithful to the Lord. Faithful grandparents provide a positive example and valuable instruction to their grandchildren. Even if a child's parents are faithful, grandparents can reinforce the love for God that parents are instilling in their children.
- Obedience to God is rooted in love for God. Our intellect, emotions, and very being are to be devoted to God. God's law cannot be separated from God's love. As we teach our children about God, we must make sure that the God that we share with them is the God of scripture. God should not be used as a scare tactic to frighten children to obedience. The God of scripture loves us and has our best interest at heart. His commands for us are designed to bless us for good (Deuteronomy 6:24).
- Discipling our children is as simple as conversation. Parents were to speak of God and His word during the course of everyday life. The sacred is integrated in the secular so that there is no separation between our time to talk about God and regular life. God is present and His presence can be experienced in everyday life. His word applies to everyday situations.
- Discipling requires a long-term commitment on the part of parents. We are to be diligent in teaching our children. They may not quickly embrace the message and they may have to be reminded time and time again of who God is and who God created them to be. We cannot take the position that just because we told them once they should know. Our commitment to discipling them even extends beyond high school. As they experience life on their own, they may need to be reminded of the lessons that they learned earlier in life. They may know the information but need help with the application. Don't give up. Be in it for the long-term.

Deuteronomy 6:20 anticipated that children would ask questions about God, faith, life, and God's law. As you disciple your children, questions will arise. Their questions should not be dismissed or scorned. How you handle their questions will influence how willing they will be to ask you deeper questions in the future. Lesson 6 will highlight some of the common questions that children ask and suggest ways that they can be answered.

Reflection Questions

- *Which points on discipleship in this lesson resonated the most with you?*
- *What testimonies do you have that you can share with your children?*
- *What adjustments can you make in your parenting to better disciple your children?*

Lesson 5 - Disciple Making: Train Up a Child

Read Ephesians 6:4 and Colossians 3:21

Ephesians 6:4 and Colossians 3:21 speak of the impact that fathers have on their children. The principles and instructions shared are relevant to fathers and mothers alike.

The text shares some actions to avoid. Sometimes knowing what not to do is just as valuable as knowing what to do. Fathers are told to not provoke their children to anger or exasperate their children. Parents should not interact with a child in a way where anger becomes the child's habit or prevailing attitude.

In Ephesians 6:1, children are told to obey their parents and honor their father and mother. To honor is to ascribe value to and to treat someone based on the value that you give to them. As parents, we have an impact on the ease in which our children obey and honor us. How we treat our children should motivate them to honor us and make it easier for them to obey us.

There are several actions that tend to provoke children to wrath.

- Excessively severe discipline. In a two-parent home, fathers are often the primary disciplinarian in the home. One of the major roles of a parent is that of disciplinarian. However, that should not be the only or even the prevailing role in which our children see us. They need to not dread our communication with them.
 - The discipline should be in proportion to the violation.
 - Spend time learning your child so that you will know the most effective means of reaching your child.
 - Beware of having too heavy of a hand. Discipline to correct behavior, attitude or thinking and not to hurt the child. Excessive discipline can provoke our children to wrath.
- Unreasonably harsh demands can provoke our children to wrath. Harsh demands are often rooted in unrealistic expectations. Two common unrealistic expectations are:
 - Expecting perfection. We often want a child to act older than they are. Children are not mini-adults, they are children.
 - Expecting one child to be like another. Each child is unique and should be related to as an individual.
- Abuse of authority. Beware of saying no just because you can.
 - **Proverbs 3:27-28 (NASB)**
 - ²⁷ Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in your power to do it.
 - ²⁸ Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it," When you have it with you.
 - Remember the example of our Heavenly Father: **Psalm 84:11 (NASB)**
 - ¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.

- If how we treat them when they walk uprightly is not different than how we treat them when they are mischievous, what is their motivation for doing right?
- Arbitrariness - everyday there is a new rule and things that they could do yesterday get them in trouble today. Strive to be consistent in who you are and what is expected.
- Unfairness. Having double standards and showing favorites.
- Constant nagging and condemnation.
- Subjecting a child to humiliation. Subjecting children to embarrassment can breed disdain.
- Insensitivity to a child's needs and sensibilities.
- Hypocrisy. Parents should walk the talk.
- How parents treat each other.
- Absence. You can be in the house but not be in your child's life. How available of a parent are you? Do your actions communicate availability or do you hide yourself in a different room from your children?

Colossians 3:21 gives us insight into why we are not to provoke our children. "So that they don't become discouraged." When we push our children too far, we can break their spirits. They lose courage. They begin to ask, "What's the point in trying if nothing I do will make my parents happy anyway? What's the use if no one believes in me?" Don't push them to the point where they will resent you and as a result, reject the God of their father.

Parents are instructed to bring our children up in the training and admonition of the Lord. We are to raise a child to maturity by providing for physical, psychological, and spiritual needs. We bring them up so that they can grow up. Our children are to be raised in the nurture or training and admonition of the Lord. What does that mean?

"Nurture" is the Greek word *paideia*, "the whole training and education of children which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals." (Thayer). It is the act of providing guidance for responsible living. "Admonition" is *nouthesia*, "exhortation, admonition." It is a training by word—by the word of encouragement, when that is sufficient, but also by firm words when they may be required. So the nurture or training is accomplished by act and discipline. Admonition is accomplished primarily by word.

Our instructions to our children must be consistent with the word of God. Ultimately, the concern of parents is not simply that their sons and daughters will be obedient to their authority, but that through this godly training and admonition their children will come to know and obey the Lord himself. The training and instruction have God as their reference point. Learning Christ and being instructed in the truth that is in Jesus occur not only within the church as a whole, but also and particularly within the family, coming from parents whose lives are being shaped by Christ and the Word of God.^[4]

Parents need a relationship with God if they are going to be in a position to encourage their children to have a relationship with God. The Lord's Word is to be the guide for Christian parents in rearing their child. We should give our children a biblical value system. We bring them up by instilling sound principles of the Christian life in them, training them to have good habits, cautioning them and protecting against moral dangers, encouraging prayer, Bible-reading, attending worship; dealing with them prayerfully, in order that they may trust Christ as their Savior and follow him.

Reflection Questions

- In what ways can you personally use God's example of fathering you to parent your child with both firmness and gentleness?

- How do parents sometimes overemphasize their own authority and de-emphasize God's authority? How can you avoid doing this?

Lesson 6 - Questions Children Ask and Ways to Answer Them

As discussed in lesson 4, ask parents disciple their children, the children will ask questions about the faith (see Deuteronomy 6:20-25; Joshua 4:6). How we answer their questions will have an impact on their receptivity to the gospel. Below are some responses to common questions that children ask and things they may express about faith, the church, and God. Your child may ask variations of these and other questions. This guide is instructive and is not designed to be exhaustive. As you develop your answers to your child's questions, keep in mind their temperament, age, and understanding.

- "Who is God?" - Since God cannot be seen, it may be difficult for younger children to grasp the concept of who God is. Children who grow up going to worship services and Bible classes will likely not question the existence, since they have grown up with a basic assumption that there is a God. As children become adolescents, they grow in their cognitive ability to engage in more abstract thinking. For younger children it is helpful to describe God by connecting Him to things that are more concrete. God can be described as the Creator. This allows children to know that there is One who make everything. God is also provider and the giver of life. While these terms do not totally express the full nature of God, they give children a framework from which to conceptualize God. What additional attributes of God could you use to describe God?
 - Parents can sometimes use God as a scare tactic for their children. Saying things like, "God's gonna get you" can lead children to relate to God out of an unhealthy fear rather than a holy reverence for the Creator. God is not in heaven waiting to zap us. Yes, God sees all and knows all. However, God desires a relationship with His creation that is based on His love for us.
- "Who is Jesus?" - There are a variety of ways to describe Jesus. Jesus is our Savior. He is God the Son. He is the Son of God, among other designations. As you discuss who Jesus is, it may spark conversations about sin. If Jesus is Savior, from what do we need saving?
- "I want to be baptized." Since the goal of Christian parenting is discipleship, parents hope that their child will obey the gospel. Children can have various reasons for wanting to get baptized. As parents, it is important to understand where your child is in his or her belief and development. How do you know if your child is ready?

While there is no magic age, there are some questions that those seeking baptism should be able to answer and some concepts that they should be able to articulate.

- The gospel: Baptism is a response to a belief in the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We do not baptize infants because they do not have the ability to respond to the gospel by faith. Those who wish to be baptized should be able to express the core of the gospel.
 - *Read First Corinthians 15:1-4. What are the elements of the gospel that one should believe?*

- Sin: Baptism is for the forgiveness of sins. Those who wish to be baptized are to turn from their sins (Acts 2:38). One should be able to express that they have sins that need to be repented of and forgiven. Those who are baptized should know that Christ cleanses us from our sins.
- Baptism: Those who are baptized should know what baptism accomplishes. It is not enough to be baptized because I don't want to go to hell. Baptism is directly tied to a desire for connection with Christ. The great commission teaches that those who are baptized should be those who wish to follow Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20). We are baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:27). Baptism involves the forgiveness of sins and receiving the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38) The Lord adds those who are baptized to the number of the saved (Acts 2:47). Romans 6:1-6 teaches that baptism involves the burial of the old self and the birth of the new self. *As you read Romans 6:1-6, what are some additional perspectives on baptism?*

As you seek to bring your children up in the Lord, they will ask questions. When they express a desire to be baptized, it is important to ask them questions to assess their understanding of this important step. God does not hold small children to the same standards as those who understand the gospel and its implications. In fact, Jesus teaches that those who follow Him should take a lesson from the life of children (Matthew 18:1-6).

Reflection Questions:

- Take a moment to imagine if your unbaptized child approached you to become a Christian. What feelings, thoughts and actions would occur within and from you?
- Take a moment to think on your child who is already a Christian. In what ways can you continue to consistently encourage, teach and correct them as younger brothers and sisters in Christ?

^[1] Marshall, I. H. (1978). *The Gospel of Luke: a commentary on the Greek text* (p. 592). Exeter: Paternoster Press.

^[2] Bock, D. L. (1994). *Luke* (Lk 14:15). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

^[3] Bock, D. L. (1994). *Luke* (Lk 14:15). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

^[4] O'Brien, P. T. (1999). *The letter to the Ephesians* (pp. 446-447). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

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