

(2) Stories 3.0 (Bucky Smith) The Need for Discipleship

Acts 16 & 2 Timothy

People need to be understood.

📖 Acts 16:1 (NIV) “He [Paul] came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek.”

📖 2 Timothy 1:2-5 (NIV) “To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.”

People need godly examples to follow.

📖 2 Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV) “You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ²And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

📖 1 Corinthians 4:16-17 (NLT) “So I urge you to imitate me. ¹⁷That’s why I have sent Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord. He will remind you of how I follow Christ Jesus, just as I teach in all the churches wherever I go.”

People need truth to depend on.

📖 2 Timothy 3:14–15 (NIV) “But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.”

📖 1 Peter 2:2–3 (NIV) “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.”

📖 When you are a baby—all you need is milk. However, if you are still sucking a bottle when you should be eating meat, something is wrong... 1 Corinthians 3:2 (NIV) “I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.” My first exegesis. Elementary teaching. They were in spiritual kindergarten when they should have graduated by now. Heb 5:12–13

📖 Hebrews 5:12–13 (NIV) “In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! ¹³ Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness.”

📖 2 Timothy 2:2 (NIV) “...the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.” –THAT is Discipleship 101

People need a purpose for living.

📖 Acts 16:3a (GW) “Paul wanted Timothy to go with him.”

📖 Philippians 2:20-22 (NIV) “I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. ²¹For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²²But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.” **Timothy wasn’t about living for self, his life was about knowing Christ and making Him known. He wanted to Glorify God just like the one who disciplined him, Paul, did.**

📖 Glorifying God is everyone’s purpose.... Isaiah 43:6–8 (NIV) “I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth— ⁷ everyone who is **called by my name, whom I created for my glory**, whom I formed and made.” ⁸ Lead out those who have eyes but are blind, who have ears but are deaf.” We exist to **Glorify God** and IMPACT our community and the World. **Discipleship is a mandate to make your life and the lives of those you know—matter.**

Digging Deeper: Do you feel understood? Do you take the time to make others feel understood? How important is the Bible in your daily life? Who has modeled Christ for you? If people were to start mimicking your walk with God, would anything need to change? What does it mean to be a disciple? Will you sign up for **Run DMC** with Bucky Smith so you can learn more about discipleship? What’s your Story? Would you be willing to share your Story on video?