

# Study Guide



## Week 4 - Increase

April 29, 2018

### Welcome (40 Minutes)

Be intentional to have authentic relationships...

### Worship (5 Minutes)

As the group transitions from of a time of fellowship to a time of intentional study of the word, it is important to facilitate that transition with a time of worship. This can look like praying together, singing songs together, or rejoicing in what the Lord has done throughout the week.

### Word (45 Minutes)

We have been looking at Jesus' five discourses in Matthew, sitting at His feet, and we have learned how to be disciples and disciple-makers. We have challenged everyone to share the gospel as we have been sent to share the good news of Jesus with others. The next four weeks is planned to equip our members practically as we are sent to live on mission and to be intentional with our relationships and time. The material used for this study comes from North American Mission Board's book, *Life on Mission: Gospel. Mission. Ministry* (2013).

For further study on this weeks study please check out the following pages...

## Prayer & Missions

June— Serve Shreveport  
July— Community Outreach

For further information visit  
[norriferrychurch.org](http://norriferrychurch.org) or contact Jared  
Clary ([clary@norriferrychurch.org](mailto:clary@norriferrychurch.org))

## Calendar

April 29th— Baptisms and Picnic  
May 6th— Member's Meeting  
June 11th-16th— Youth Camp

## Welcome (40 Minutes)

As you fellowship with one another, please be intentional about sharing what the Lord is doing in your lives. Get to know one another and encourage one another. Are your conversations pointing one another toward Christ?

## Worship (5 Minutes)

If you are looking for a song to sing this week, here are the lyrics to "[No Other Name](#)":

One name  
Holds weight above them all  
His fame  
Outlasts the earth He formed  
His praise  
Resounds beyond the stars  
And echoes in our hearts  
The greatest One of all

His face  
Shines brighter than the sun  
His grace  
As boundless as His love  
He reigns  
With healing in His wings  
The King above all kings  
The greatest One of all

Lift up our eyes, see the King has come  
Light of the world reaching out for us  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
Jesus Christ our God

Seated on high, the undefeated One  
Mountains bow down as we lift Him up  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
Jesus Christ our God

Find hope  
When all the world seems lost  
Behold  
The triumph of the cross  
His power  
Has trampled death and grave  
Our life found in His name  
The greatest name of all

Lift up our eyes, see the King has come  
Light of the world reaching out for us  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
Jesus Christ our God

Seated on high, the undefeated One  
Mountains bow down as we lift Him up  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
Jesus Christ our God  
Jesus

The earth will shake  
And tremble before Him  
Chains will break  
As heaven and earth sing  
Holy is the name  
Holy is the name of  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus  
[x2]

Lift up our eyes, see the King has come  
Light of the world reaching out for us  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
Jesus Christ our God

Seated on high, the undefeated One  
Mountains bow down as we lift Him up  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
There is no other name  
Jesus

## Chapter 11: Increase

*Increase disciple-making by sending people out.*

### **Increase**

"And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2).

### **Gospel Thread**

The very fact that you are a Christian is a testament to the fact that Jesus poured Himself into His disciples, the disciples raised up others in the faith, they sent out others—and so on until the chain eventually got to you. How crazy is that? You are part of a huge family tree of discipleship and mission that reaches all the way back to Jesus Himself. If you actually take a moment to reflect on that, it really is miraculous.

As you grow in your understanding of the gospel and God's desire to see all men saved (See 2 Peter 3:9.), you will continually seek to increase the number of leaders, groups and missionaries being sent out to reach those who are far from Jesus. You'll want to raise others up in the faith and send them out.

Even though you may want them to remain in your community, small group or city—you'll have an even greater desire to see people reached for the gospel, so you will happily send them out on a mission to make more disciples.

Reflecting on the gospel will make you want to give away what you have instead of keeping what you have.

Love for Jesus and His mission will compel you to identify the leaders around you, raise them up and send them out to reach more people with the gospel.

How does the gospel motivate you to give what you have to others who need it?

### **Multiplication: The Heart of a Movement**

The goal of the mission is not to just have an awesome church, small group or discipleship group. It's not to keep the same people around you forever because you like doing life with them and ministering to them. It's not to selfishly keep what you have.

The goal is to see a movement! To see the gospel spread farther, new people come to know Jesus and new disciples made—to see more people groups reached, more churches started and more small groups launched to enfold the lonely into community.

Spreading, sending and multiplying movements—these are the goals for the good of people and the glory of God.

### **Multiplication is the heart of a movement.**

The only way to see a movement of new believers and groups is to raise up the new disciples in the foundations and to send them out to repeat the missionary process.

The most effective thing you can do for the mission is to reproduce yourself as many times as possible, so that there are many more missionaries out there spreading the good news of Jesus.

Jesus testified to this truth in the sending of his disciples in the Great Commission (See Matthew 28:18-20.), and also in Luke 10 when He called and sent out 70 missionaries in pairs to testify about Him because “the harvest is abundant.”

“After this, the Lord appointed 70 others, and He sent them ahead of Him in pairs to every town and place where He Himself was about to go. He told them: “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest. Now go; I’m sending you out like lambs among wolves” (Luke 10:1-3).

The harvest truly is abundant, so we should pray for God to send out workers. However, we also become part of God’s answer to those prayers as we join in His mission of sending out missionaries.

### **Spreading and Sending**

Remember Paul and Jennifer? As their discipleship group continued meeting, they were amazed at God’s faithfulness. Several new people came into the group and eventually became believers. The first believers were growing and showing a lot of spiritual fruit and maturity. So Paul and Jennifer began to pray about how they could equip them to spread the gospel farther, and even began to ask questions about it while teaching through the missionary process.

One man named Alberto had many friends who lived in a Hispanic neighborhood across town. He told Paul and Jennifer that God had already burdened him for that group of people. They talked about it, and all agreed that God was calling Alberto to start a similar ministry in that neighborhood. So with the support, training and accountability of Paul and Jennifer, he began making plans to move there and repeat the same process that Paul and Jennifer had started years before.

Another couple showed a lot of interest, but they were in a unique situation; their visas were expiring and they were moving back to their home country of Ecuador.

They did not want to lose what they had found, and they also wanted their friends and family back home to experience the good news they had found in Jesus. So they began talking about what it would look like for them to start a ministry in Ecuador to reach their friends and relatives.

What about Patrick's group? What does "increase" look like for him?

Steve had already quickly become a missionary in his group, growing in maturity and inviting several other guys into the group who became believers. So Patrick began to intentionally develop Steve, as well as a few other guys in his group. He wanted their group, which had become fairly large, to send out a few guys to lead new groups of their own—to reproduce what they had seen happen in their group.

So he set about casting a vision for multiplication in their group. He taught them Ephesians 2:11-22, that God had made room for them when they were without hope, so the gospel should compel them to do the same for others. The guys caught the vision. Even though they were dear friends and in some ways wanted to keep the group they had, they all gathered to pray over Steve and a few other guys, praying for their new groups to be communities where the lost and lonely would find hope in Jesus.

### **Getting Practical**

The practical step of increase is all about starting the process again by sending out people to identify, invest and invite people into new communities.

It's asking the question of the people you are discipling: "To whom are they called and able to reach that I can't or won't reach?"

For example, let's say you are a 40-year-old male ministry leader and there is a girl in your group who is a professional ballet dancer. Guess whom she is likely to reach that you may not?

You got it—ballet dancers.

Maybe there is a guy in your group who has a background in inner-city gangs. Don't you think that because of his history, he has a good shot at reaching that community?

On an even simpler level beyond interest or backgrounds, the people you are discipling know lots of people you don't know. And of course, since they already know them, they are more likely to reach those people than you are.

Regardless of specifics, being intentional about increasing is just that—being intentional about increasing. It's raising up others and then strategically sending them out to do what you have done for them.

The goal is to train them so well that you could disappear and the ministry would not skip a beat. Let this question guide your disciple making:

How can you raise up those you are pouring yourself into to take over and do for others what you did for them?

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To maximize kingdom impact by increasing disciples and missionaries, we must be intentional. This will not happen by itself, and we need to equip people as much as possible.

As far as leadership development goes, here is a very simple illustration to help you develop those around you to do what you do.

- **I do; you watch** – In this stage, you are leading and they are simply being led and disciplined.
- **I do; you help** – In this stage, you see enough growth and desire in them to want to begin equipping them for leadership. You still lead, but you start to let them help however they can. You let them lead Bible studies, missions activities or discussions.
- **You do; I help** – In this stage, you give them more ownership. You let them lead more consistently while still helping and keeping them accountable, correcting them when necessary.
- **You do; I watch** – This is the stage in which you fully trust them to lead on their own, but they need a little more practice. So you give them the reins as much as possible to lead while you still participate and watch them.
- **You do; someone else watches** – This is where the disciples are actually sent out to lead on their own. They are now the leader and someone else is watching them.

From here, the process is repeated with someone else.

And then the person they raise up does it somewhere else ... and the person that they raise up does the same thing elsewhere ... you get the point.

This is how a movement is accomplished—by pursuing intentional development of missionaries and disciples, sending them out to reach others by the power of the Holy Spirit, for the glory of our God.

Think about the people you've invited into discipling relationships. Whom are they equipped to reach that you aren't? How can you help them identify people around them who need the gospel?

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# Chapter 12: Putting It All Together

## Putting It All Together

So ... what's next for you?

Well, that depends on ... you. But we hope that you will do two things:

1. Grow in the gospel and biblical foundations. We hope you will meditate on the gospel and seek to continually apply it to every fabric of your life. We hope you will pursue maturity, community, missions and discipleship as lifetime biblical foundations.
2. Actively pursue the missionary practices. We hope that the foundations you pursue will compel you toward a biblically faithful missionary effort. We hope you will identify, invest, invite and increase.

We believe this primer will serve as a helpful tool in your development as a missionary, and we pray that you will consult it often and use it wisely.

As you grow in the gospel and the biblical foundations for ministry, you will be compelled toward missionary practice. You will, by grace, become the missionary God is calling you to be as you faithfully live your LIFE ON MISSION.

So ... really ... what's next for you?

Let's develop a plan of action.

What has the Holy Spirit prompted you to glean from this primer?

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What steps do you need to take in order to grow as a missionary?

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## Increase—How can you send them out to make new disciples?

### Notes:

## Walk (30 minutes)

After enjoying fellowship, worship, and time in God's word together, it is now time to pray together as a group and encourage one another in the faith. It is very easy for this portion of the group time to be consumed by the other portions. However, this segment of the group time is crucially important. It answers the question, how do we apply what we are learning in Matthew to our lives today?

Many groups have found that it is helpful to sometimes break up into a men's group and a women's group for the purpose of being able to be more transparent and honest as we encourage one another and keep one another accountable. I encourage you to try this in your groups.

In addition to praying for, and encouraging, one another, this portion of the group time should also be used for planning how your group can participate in God's work outside the walls of our church – "neighbors and nations." Discuss with your group some ideas on how you can be intentional with building relationships with your neighbors and co-workers. What can your Community Group do to impact the area around you?

### **Here is a list of local ministries Norris Ferry is actively involved in:**

Hub/purchased	Celebrate recovery
Young life	Samaritan counseling
Heart of hope	Last call ministries
First priority	Golden age ministries
Ark-la-Tex crisis pregnancy center	Rescue mission
Community renewal	Luke's lighthouse
Grief counseling	FCA

### **Here is a list of missionaries Norris Ferry is actively involved in:**

Shannon & Carrie Lewis (South Sudan)  
Matt & Angie Johnson (Panama)  
Meggie Hickson (Tanzania)  
Kyle & Suzy Jagers (New Orleans)

May the Lord bless and encourage you as you are in your groups this week! Know that we are praying for you on a weekly basis and that we are here to help you in any way that we can!