

# What In The World Are Christians Doing?

## A Strategy to Change The World

### MAIN IDEA

**Matthew 28:19–20 (NLT)** <sup>19</sup> Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Best strategy is to implement Jesus’ strategy for changing the world:

1. Find & focus on fewer people.
2. Share your everyday rhythms.
3. Spend more time with the few.

### MAIN METHOD

Jesus made disciples by intentionally spending more **time** with fewer disciples.

### MAIN QUESTION

*“With my busy schedule overflowing with responsibilities, how is this even possible to spend extra time with fewer disciples?”*

Jesus told His disciples that following Him requires a **yoke**.

Matthew 11:29–30 (NLT) <sup>29</sup> **Take my yoke upon you.** ... I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is **easy** to bear, and the burden I give you is **light**.”

## Jesus told His disciples:

1. Following me starts when you **take up** your cross & **pay** the cost.

**Matthew 10:38–39 (NLT)** <sup>38</sup> If you refuse to **take up your cross and follow me**, you are not worthy of being mine. <sup>39</sup> If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

**Luke 14:28 (NLT)** <sup>28</sup> “But don’t begin until you **count the cost**. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it?”

## What’s the cost?

**More loyal to me than to everything you own.**

**Luke 14:33 (NLT)** <sup>33</sup> So you cannot become my disciple without giving up **everything** you own.

**More loyal to me than to all other masters (like money).**

**Luke 16:13 (NLT)** <sup>13</sup> “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You **cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.**”

**More loyal to me than to your earthly wealth & comfort.**

**Matthew 8:19–20 (NLT)** <sup>19</sup> Then one of the teachers of religious law said to him, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” <sup>20</sup> But Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.”

**More loyal to me than to your busy family schedule.**

**Matthew 8:21–22 (NLT)** <sup>21</sup> Another of his disciples said, “Lord, first let me return home and bury my father.” <sup>22</sup> But Jesus told him, “Follow me now. Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead.”

## 2. Learn from me & love me by your **obedience**.

**Matthew 11:29–30 (NLT)** <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you. **Let me teach you, ...**

**John 14:15,21,24 (NLT)** <sup>15</sup> “If you **love** me, **obey** my commandments.

<sup>21</sup> Those who accept my commandments and **obey** them are the ones who **love** me. ...

<sup>24</sup> Anyone who doesn’t **love** me will not **obey** me...”

### Jesus demonstrated to His disciples:

- An absolute whole-life obedience to the will of God.

**John 4:34 (NLT)** <sup>34</sup> Then Jesus explained: “My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work.

**John 5:30 (NLT)** <sup>30</sup> I can do nothing on my own. I judge as God tells me. Therefore, my judgment is just, because I carry out the will of the one who sent me, not my own will.

**John 15:9–10 (NLT)** <sup>9</sup> “I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.

**Luke 22:42 (NLT)** <sup>42</sup> “Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.”

**John 13:14–15 (NLT)** <sup>14</sup> And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other’s feet. <sup>15</sup> I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.

*“One must ask, why are so many professed Christians today  
stunted in their growth and ineffectual in their witness?”*

~ Robert Coleman

**QUESTION:** Has our complacency overcome our consecration?

## CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION

1. What's your reaction to the "yoke" metaphor Jesus used when describing how "light" & "easy" it is (way down in their soul) for a disciple to follow Him?
2. If you invest a significant amount of your life in a relatively small number of people, why have you been willing to?
  - a. If not, what would it take for you to be willing?
3. What other loyalties might stand in the way of you living an "everyday-whole-life-carry-your-cross-pay-the-cost" loyalty to Jesus?
4. Based on Jesus's teaching on following Him, how might you follow up with a person you know who has recently trusted Jesus for their salvation?
  - a. Why do those people need more help than just in coming to know Jesus?