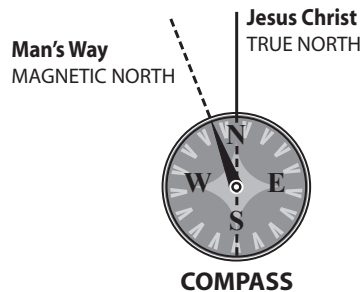


Your wisdom and leading in this. Your wisdom is pure. I can wait on You and depend upon You who died for the lost to use me in Your plan to draw men to Yourself.”

“Father, my heart is aflame with the desire to make disciples in obedience to Your Word. You have taught me much about this but I ask for Your guidance and help. Times have changed and I have grown older and changed. Your way is pure, Lord. You have not changed and I know Your heart is to see men discipled. “Lord help me today to love my wife by Your grace. Help me to be honest and humble in all my dealings with men.”

CONCLUSION

God has called us to be Disciple makers. He will work through balanced vessels by the power of His Spirit. Very few believers choose to drift or follow rabbit trails. Seldom do Christians plan to be lukewarm, yet it happens to all of us. Our approach to the throne of grace is not on the basis of our victories but because He Himself suffered when He was tempted He is able to help those who are being tempted. Heb. 2:18.



The compass illustration has helped me to see the seriousness of living life apart from daily commitment to Christ. Luke 16:10 says, “And he that is unjust in that which is least is unjust also

in much.” In the compass illustration we know that true north is at 90° N. But the compass needle points to magnetic N. which is at 78° N. at the North Pole. Here in the United States of America the variation is only a few degrees difference. But at the North Pole 22° difference equals roughly 720 nautical miles. In life we may choose to walk only a few steps away from Christ but as time goes on that gap grows. The “least” mentioned in Luke 16:10 becomes “unjust also in much.” If we don’t choose to make daily adjustments in the compass of life we are headed on a path that will lead us far from Christ and ultimately destruction. Proverbs 14:12, NIV, “*There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.*”

I need to be reminded that Jesus loves me. He understands my struggle. He has won the victory for me and is ready to help me back on course as I turn the controls over to Him. I thought I could make enough money to meet our needs. That was not God’s plan and my debt grew worse each day. Getting back in step with God has allowed Him to bring balance back into my house and meet all our needs in His way. And miracle of miracles, once again the flame of evangelism and disciple making burns in my heart.

If you would like help or more information on becoming a disciple maker, please write or e-mail:

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DISCIPLE MAKER



and BALANCE

by Ron York

Proverbs 16:11 RSV, “*A just balance and scales are the Lord’s; all the weights in the bag are His work.*”

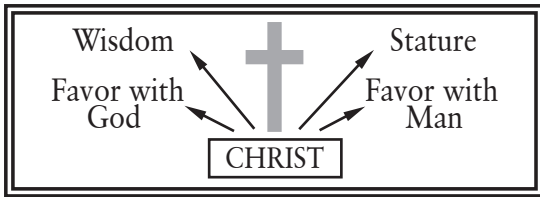
In June of 1991 Joyce and I returned to the U.S. after serving as missionaries in Asia for many years. We faced the higher cost of living and need to raise more finances. I chose to get involved with a couple of Christian friends in business ventures. My main vocation was to reach men for Christ and make disciples. I called my business venture bi-vocational and felt I could justify it because the Apostle Paul made tents to help support himself, Acts 18. But a very subtle thing crept in. I found my time and mind was being controlled by the business and I was spending less and less time in evangelism and training men for the Lord’s work. I was not sensing God’s blessing on my calling to the Great Commission. My dear wife, Joyce, was very aware of what I now call a rabbit trail. But I would not listen to her. I was off

the main path and sidetracked. I had taken control of building one part of my house.

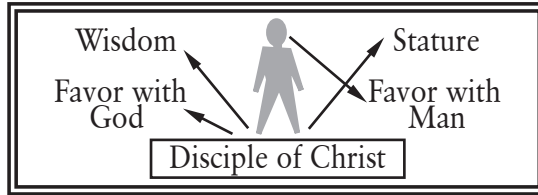
The Psalmist said in Ps. 127:1 *“Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain...”* What does the house represent? Hebrews 3:1-6 mentions the word “house” seven times. Moses was faithful as a servant in God’s house. Jesus is faithful as a son over God’s house. And we are His house. Jesus is not only over God’s house but for 33 years he dwelt in a human body and suffered, was tempted and served His Father as the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of his being. What were the four corner stones of His house? Luke 2:52 gives us a clear picture of the house that Jesus built. “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men.”

1. Wisdom...Intellectual development
2. Stature...Physical development
3. In favor with God...Spiritual development
4. In favor with men...Social development.

This is the way the house of Jesus Christ looked:

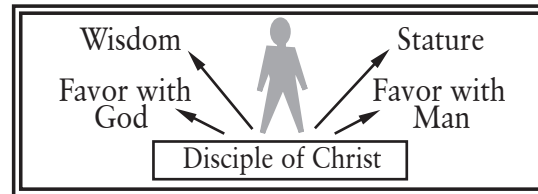


I had taken control of building one part of my house which belongs to God and here is what it looked like: Notice the arrow coming out from my head and the others coming out of the Foundation Jesus Christ.



Then one morning I had a wake up call from God. Hebrews 12 says the Lord disciplines those He loves and He chastens everyone He accepts as a son. I fell about 40 feet off a cliff headfirst and broke vertebra 1 and 2 in my neck. Three weeks later I left the hospital with vertebra 1-4 fused and a titanium plate in my neck. I can turn my head only 5 degrees to the right or left and every day I am reminded of God’s wonderful love. From that moment on I began to get back in step with Ps. 127:1

This is the way the house of a Disciple of Christ should look:



Am I saying that working is wrong, No. The Bible says “For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “If a man will not work, he shall not eat.” The root of the problem is, “Who is in control.” Our bodies are called the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in us. *“You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”* I Cor. 6:19b,20, KJV

I am learning to bring everything first to Christ and let Him filter out the me. Here is how it plays out in my daily walk with the Lord. I give the following

as an example of how I pray through my house beginning with the foundation Jesus Christ.

“LORD, I present myself afresh to You today. Take every part of me and bring glory to Your Name alone. Without You I can do nothing. I want to acknowledge You in all my ways and not lean on my own understanding.”

WISDOM (Intellectual Growth)

“Father, don’t let me go to sleep. Keep me from having a retired mentality. Keep me growing today in the basic disciplines of prayer, studying your Word, learning more about You and Your ways. Let Proverbs 24:32 be real with me today. *“I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw.”*”

STATURE (Physical Growth)

“Thank You, Lord, for the body You have given me. Show me how to keep it under your control. I want to continue to apply I Cor. 9:27,NIV, *“No, I beat my body and make it my slave...”* Lord don’t let me be in control or I will over-eat, over-sleep and over-do. Don’t let me be sick or die because I took control. I trust You to care for me and then take me to be with You on your terms and in Your time.”

FAVOR WITH GOD (Vertical Relationship)

“Lord I want to please you. I know that without faith it is impossible to please You. Lord please keep me walking today by faith. Not my will, Lord, but may Your will be done. Help me to seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness in all I do. Build every area of the life You have given me to be Your holy temple. Lord, show me how to glorify Your name today in thought, word and deed.”

FAVOR WITH MAN (Horizontal Relationship)

“Lord I long to share Christ with the lost and unbelieving that are all around me. But I want