

Vision 20/20 (1) DISCIPLES

This month we are focussing our prayers around Elim's 20/20 Vision a 3-year adventure of mission to bring transformation to communities and nations. We are One movement, with one mission. The Holy Spirit has brought us to a chair's moment, a fresh season of spirit empowered mission.

Imagine Elim's future together making disciples, planting and growing churches, developing leaders and reaching nations. In this first week of a New Year we are praying for Disciples.

THEME: DISCIPLES

The ultimate goal of discipleship is to reproduce disciples with the gospel through developing disciple-making people. Reproduction ensures that a movement will live past its fledgling days and produces something that will outlive our lives.

The church was never intended to be the end in itself; rather it is called to reproduce and fulfill the Great Commission to make disciples. Reproduction is the goal of every living thing. We see this throughout the pages of the Bible. The Bible is full of reproductive language. God created mankind, animals and plants to reproduce. Reproduction is also seen in the agricultural language that Jesus uses throughout the gospels.

Reproducing disciples is the result of choosing, training, and empowering leaders who will in turn reproduce themselves in others. It begins locally with the church and then can take place on a larger scale through reproduction of church plants regionally and internationally. We can be a part of a 21st century disciple making movement that will change our postmodern world for Christ.

Bible

2 Timothy 2:2 (NLT) You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others.

Mark 1:16-20 (CSB) ¹⁶ As he passed alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, Simon's brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ “Follow me,” Jesus told them, “and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ Going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat putting their nets in order. ²⁰ Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV) And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore ^[c] and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

Prayer Points

- Pray for your own discipleship. As you lean into God in prayer worship and reading the Bible ask God to keep growing and shaping you.
- Who are you discipling? Pray for those you are influencing in their walk of faith. If you're not intentionally discipling others, ask god to show you whom you can help.
- Pray for those who've recently said yes to following Jesus. Pray that they have more than a conversion experience but follow Jesus in all areas of their lives.
- Pray for your church and other Elim churches you may know, that we will increasingly develop a discipleship culture.
- Pray for fellowship and fruitfulness.
- Pray for any particular needs or circumstances you are currently facing.
- Thank God for any answers to prayer or blessings He has given you.
- Use the Scriptures as a basis for your prayers. Ask God what he wants to reveal to you through them.

Creative Ideas

- Display Matthew 28:18-20 and write the names of all the disciples you know. Pray for them throughout the month. Write down any encouraging Bible verses to share with others.
- Grab some fishing objects or images as a catalyst for being 'fishers of men'. Put the names (on a fish shaped card/post it note) of all those you want to see become disciples of Jesus.
- Through the month Journal anything God is showing or highlighting. Is there a thread or a theme? What do you need to do in response?