

LEVERAGE YOUR LIFE

LEADER GUIDE

THINK MULTIPLICATION

BIG IDEA: God's global mission demands disciples and churches that multiply.

DATE: Wednesday May 6 and Sunday, May 10, 2026

SCRIPTURE: Gen. 22:17; Acts 6:7; Rev. 7:9-10

CONNECT

What is an idea or value that nobody was talking about five years ago, but everyone is talking about today? How did that happen?

Here are some ideas:

1. AI safety / responsible AI
2. Authenticity
3. Boundaries — in work, relationships, and online life
4. Mental health literacy
5. Sustainability as a lived consumer and business value, not just an environmental slogan

The most interesting part is that many of these are really trust values. People are reacting to a world that feels more optimized, faster, and less certain by demanding things that feel human, legible, and accountable.

When do you feel motivated to share about a product or service with others? Why?

The truth is when we love a new product or restaurant or vacation spot, we share about it! We want everyone to know how awesome it is. How much more should we be sharing Jesus?!

WATCH THE VIDEO

VIDEO OPTIONS:

- Watch the video together as a group using the YouTube app on the Roku streaming device in your LifeGroup room. The videos will be available on the Chets Creek Church YouTube channel. This week's video is about 17 minutes long.
- Or watch the video on your own, take notes and share the highlights with your group. A link to the video can be found here: www.chetscreek.com/adults/lifegroups

DISCUSS: What stood out to you from today's video teaching?

SCRIPTURE

Gen. 22:17 (CSB)

I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your offspring will possess the city gates of their enemies.

Acts 6:7 (CSB)

So the word of God spread, the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly in number, and a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

Rev. 7:9-10 (CSB)

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

DISCUSSION

In the verses above we see the importance of multiplication – from physical multiplication to fill the earth and pass down our faith – to spiritual multiplication of the early church. And in Revelation we see the result – the goal – to see every nation, tribe, people and language worship Jesus together!

Vance said, *“We can’t create movements of God – only the Holy Spirit can do that. We can obey the principles of multiplication.”* Have you ever been part of something where a person was trying to manufacture a movement of God? What was that like? How could you tell the difference?

Think of the pumpkin pie story Vance shared. He was invited over to someone’s house, and they went on and on about their great pumpkin pie recipe as it was handed down from generation to generation. The problem was Vance doesn’t like pumpkin pie! It didn’t matter how great that recipe was because he would just want to spit it out. The same can be true of the church. We may have spent hours perfecting “pumpkin pie” but what if God doesn’t like pumpkin pie? Are we focused on so many things that we aren’t a part of the *real* thing – making disciples who make disciples? He only gave us one great commission – to go and make disciples. (And it is plural – y’all go!) (We can be busy with a lot of GOOD things but not the BEST thing – making disciples. Spend some time discussing the importance of staying focused and not wasting time on things we may find fun but are not producing fruit.

Where have you seen spiritual multiplication done well? (Meaning, where have you seen healthy and mature Christians reproduce more healthy and mature Christians?)

WHERE DO WE BEGIN?

PRAY

The early church began by a group of believers praying together (Acts 13). How often do you pray for God’s activity of multiplication? For your lost friends, co-workers and family? Share with your group one person you are going to pray for consistently to have their spiritual eyes opened. And

be ready to be part of the answer! **Leaders – write their first names on the board as people share or jot them down to pray for them by name at the end of the lesson.**

MAKE DISCIPLES

What are obstacles or difficulties that hinder multiplication among followers of Jesus today?

What about for you personally – how often are you sharing Christ with those in your sphere of influence? What holds you back?

SHARE: There is a man at the Hodges Campus who plays golf regularly. He started playing with younger guys in his neighborhood. They had spiritual questions and this man sensed God was leading him to disciple them. They are doing Bible Study together now! It was no accident God brought this group together and the leader was open to God's movement.

Who is in *your* circle of influence that you can pour into as a disciple of Jesus Christ? What step can you take toward greater investment in that relationship? Share ideas of how to bring up spiritual conversations and being open to the Holy Spirit's leading.

CONSIDER BEING SENT OUT

We have many church members who have gone to other campuses to help get them started. We have sent mission teams all over the world to further the Great Commission.

If we think of multiplication of churches, how is that happening in our church? Where do you see that happening in our community? Where are people leveraging their life for the sake of the gospel?

Remember the goal of Revelation 7:9-10 – that every nation, tribe, people and language will one day worship their Savior together at His throne!

PRAYER RESPONSE

When we seek God in prayer, He moves in power. Look over the names on the board or read them out loud. Spend time praying together for them by name. Pray for willingness to be the answer to these prayers. Pray for divine opportunities and for the Holy Spirit to speak through us. Help us not try to manufacture anything but seek His leading in all we do and say.

SUNDAY LEADERS: Today is Mother's Day. Pray a special blessing over the mothers and spiritual mothers in your LifeGroup.

Let's lift up the sails so that should the wind of the Spirit of God begin to blow in both multiplying disciples and churches, we're ready to catch the wave of the move of God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

THE PRINCIPLE OF MULTIPLICATION

First, the concept of multiplication means the same thing in the context of Christianity as it does in the rest of the world. It means starting with one thing or a few things, then investing resources

in a way that produces many things. Think of a family. When a husband and wife grow their family, they produce children. Then those children produce grandchildren, and those grandchildren produce great-grandchildren, which results in this huge family tree of sons and daughters and cousins and nieces and nephews and everything else. That's multiplication!

The same principle applies in God's kingdom. When we leverage our lives for His kingdom, it results in more Jesus followers. We join in a spiritual harvest of souls within God's family.

The second thing to remember is that multiplication happens when something is healthy and mature. If you want to raise a farm full of chickens, you can't try to breed chicks. Nor can you start with a stock of sick, dying chickens and hope to produce a healthy flock.

In the same way, believers in Jesus will naturally multiply when they are healthy and mature. In fact, spiritual multiplication is part of what it means to be healthy and mature as a Christian. If we aren't multiplying, then something is off. We are spiritually immature or spiritually unwell.

Jesus gave us a picture of multiplication in His parable of the sower. Remember that story? A farmer planted seed in four different areas. Three of those areas did not provide the right situation for growth, but the fourth area was productive and fruitful.

As Matthew 13:8-9 says:

Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.

Healthy Christians will think multiplication of disciples and churches. They will join in a spiritual harvest that advances and expands the kingdom of God.

MULTIPLICATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE PLAN

Church multiplication is a popular buzzword among Christians today. But it would be a mistake to think of multiplication as something new or recent in the history of the church. The truth is multiplication has been God's plan for His people since the very beginning. Look all the way back to the beginning in Genesis 1:27-28:

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

God's plan for Adam and Eve was for them to reproduce in such a way that the earth would be filled with bearers of His image. That plan continued even when God needed to re-start humanity because of sinfulness. In Genesis 8:16-17, God told Noah:

Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.

When God determined to set apart a people for Himself through Abraham, He again emphasized the importance of multiplication in Genesis 22:15-18:

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

What did John say in Revelation 7:9 after he saw a vision of the kingdom at the end of history?

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.

Multiplication has been God's plan from the beginning.

What most catches your attention from the Scripture passages about multiplication? Why?

Where do you fit in God's plan and process for building His kingdom through the multiplication of disciples and churches? How has God equipped you in this way?

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF MULTIPLICATION

We've seen that multiplication is a natural experience for Jesus followers who are healthy and mature; it's what we're designed to do. We've also seen that multiplication has been part of God's plan for His people from the very beginning. All of that begs the question: how does spiritual multiplication actually happen? What causes it? What produces it? The answer may surprise you.

Let's return to Genesis 22. After Abraham demonstrated his faith in God by being willing to part with his beloved son, God made an incredible promise regarding Abraham's offspring (both physical and spiritual) as seen in verses 16-18.

What was the source of multiplication among Abraham's descendants? God. How did that multiplication occur?

By God's power.

Fast forward to the beginning of the church and we see the same thing. In Acts 1:8, Jesus told His first followers:

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Yes, those early disciples of Jesus were responsible to serve as witnesses for the gospel. But where did the power come from? The Holy Spirit. Look also at what Paul wrote to the leaders of the church at Ephesus in Ephesians 4:11-13:

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Through His Spirit, God continues to give us the gifts and the resources we need to see multiplication within His church. He is the source and the sustainer of that good work.

When have you felt equipped by God to accomplish something important?

What's one step you can take to stop relying on your own resources and instead turn to God for strength as you seek to think multiplication of disciples and churches?

THINK MULTIPLICATION OF DISCIPLES

When it comes to thinking multiplication, spiritual multiplication is not a strategy to pursue. It's a calling to obey. And making disciples isn't just something we do. It's a major part of who we are as followers of Jesus.

If we can wrap our minds around that truth, we will be ahead of the game in terms of leveraging our lives in ways that make a difference for eternity.

One way we can leverage our lives is for individual believers to reproduce more individual believers. This is what we typically call "making disciples." This includes sharing the truth of the gospel with people who don't know God and then, when they embrace Christ, walking with them to maturity. And there are a lot of people who have helpful strategies for making disciples.

But there's one way for us to multiply as followers of Jesus that is so countercultural and so unthinkable that we miss how often it is recorded in Scripture. Are you ready to hear it? This is the ultimate method for multiplication.

We die.

Specifically, we die to ourselves. We die to our own agenda, our own desires, our own schedule, our own preferences— all of it. If you want to successfully invest your life in a way that multiplies the gospel 30, 60, or 100-fold, you need to die.

Jesus said in Matthew 16:24-25,

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

In Romans 6:4, Paul wrote,

We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Paul also wrote in Galatians 2:20,

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

What must happen for a seed to produce a harvest? It must be planted, which means it must die to its life as a seed and embrace something completely new.

As John 12:24 tells us,

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

The same is true for followers of Christ. For us to be part of this wonderful, miraculous process of spiritual multiplication within God's kingdom, we must die to ourselves so that Christ may live His life through us. And when that happens, it always results in a life leveraged for the sake of His mission which begins with multiplying disciples who multiply disciples.

What does it mean for us as Christians to die to ourselves? On a practical level, what might this look like on a daily basis in your own life?

Where do you see an opportunity right now to lay down (sacrifice) your own plans and your own agenda to allow God to produce spiritual fruit through you?