

Multiply

Right Now Media - Multiply by Francis Chan

Part 4 the Old Testament

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Multiply

We have covered (numerous times since November) the following:

THE GREAT COMMISSION - Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. **Therefore**, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 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.”

THEREFORE – Go, Baptize, and Teach is the KEY

THE PRIMARY CONCERN - Matthew 6:33

Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

THEREFORE – God must be FIRST in our thoughts and actions.

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THE BOLD CONFESSION - Luke 9:23

If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me.

THEREFORE – Choose Jesus's way above all else when your thinking conflicts with his.

A DEEP INTIMACY - 3 Key Words

- ABIDE - John 15: 7-8
- FRUIT - John 15:16-17
- EXAMPLE - Ephesians 5:1

THEREFORE - If we do all this and trust God, He will give us everything we need in life



Multiply

- ▶ **Multiply** is a mathematical function with a symbol
 - ▶ Means to “increase or cause to increase greatly in number or quantity.”
 - ▶ The word is used in 44 - 70 verses depending on the version of the Bible.
 - ▶ Its symbol is marked by a Cross = \times
- ▶ **Therefore** is a mathematical proof term with a symbol
 - ▶ Means “for that reason or consequently.”
 - ▶ The word is used 1370 times in the NKJV.
 - ▶ Its symbol is marked by 3 dots that form a triangle = \therefore
- ▶ Interesting how the Great Commission says in mathematical terms.....
 - ▶ **Therefore** go, using God, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (the Trinity) to **multiply** the number of believers.

Where do we start with a potential new believer?

- Chan offers how to study the Bible (George) and today how to understand the Old Testament (and in another session, the New Testament)
 - ▶ I.E. Creation, the Fall, God's covenants, sacrifice and atonement, God's presence, Jesus the Messiah, the GC, the early church, etc.
- ▶ Creation is “foundational.”
- ▶ He made us.
- ▶ The Author comes from Him being the “authority.”
- ▶ God was already here and was not alone.
- ▶ The very best place to start “In the beginning....”

“So who is this God you say created the world?” says the unbeliever

- ▶ There is another “In the beginning.....” in John 1:1-5, 14
- ▶ So before day 1 of creation the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit live in a coeternal Trinity as one God.
- ▶ Know there was a time when our universe did not exist.
- ▶ God’s eternality (no beginning, no end) and power are beyond compare and explanation.
- ▶ We were not given the ability to totally understand God from the human point of view.
- ▶ Why the Angels in Heaven cry out “Holy, Holy, Holy!”

GOD'S PRESENCE

- ▶ **Romans 1:20** “For ever since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through His workmanship, so that they are without excuse and without defense.”
- ▶ He is everywhere.
- ▶ Garden of Eden He was there.
- ▶ Later, a fascinating place was a “tent.”
- ▶ His presence and discipleship do go together.
- ▶ You are not alone
 - ▶ But recall sin will separate you from that presence

GOD'S PRESENTS

- ▶ Stop for a moment and consider how many “presents” He gives us each day.
- ▶ Try thinking of.....
 - ▶ Earth viewed from altitude.
 - ▶ Animals and all their perfect characteristics for their purpose.
 - ▶ Our bodies - the temple God gave us.
 - ▶ Biology, geology, and all the earth sciences that prove creation.
 - ▶ Our planet, our solar system, our galaxy and beyond.



Table Discussion Questions

- ▶ Is Genesis 1 even a good place to start with an unbeliever? Pros/Cons?
- ▶ Reflecting on God's actions during the “week” of Creation, what do they reveal about Him? Is this too complicated for the unbeliever?
- ▶ At each table pick at least one of His presents you find remarkable or noteworthy of his magnificent glory.
- ▶ How best should a discipler deal with a staunch “evolutionist” who wants to “put down creationism?”

The Great Commandment and the Great Commission

- ▶ What a potential new believer may need
 - ▶ Your outward love and compassion for him/her at least in listening or conversing.
 - ▶ Knowledge that there are former evolutionists converted to creationists.
 - ▶ As Christians we carry a torch.
 - ▶ And for both the potential new believer and for us Christians out there trying to find those lost sheep and bring them back to the flock, “help is on the way.”