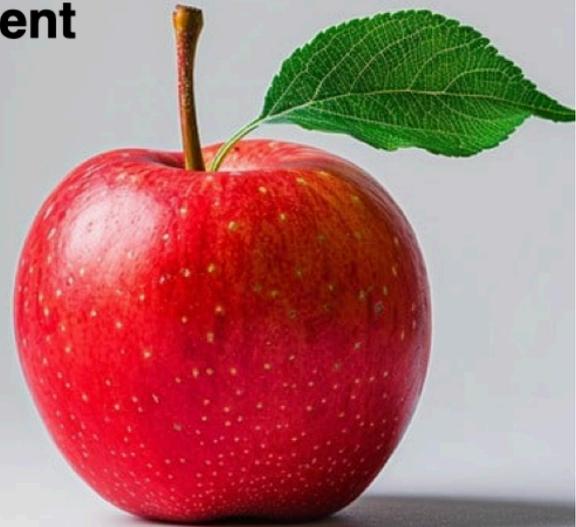


WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22, 2026

**5-Day Devotional
based on Sunday's message:**

**A Multiplying Movement
Matthew 28:18-20**



A MULTIPLYING MOVEMENT
Matthew 28:18-20

Provided by



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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.”

Day 1: The Heart of God: Multiplication

Devotional

God's very nature is about multiplication. From the beginning, when He created Adam and Eve, His first command was to "be fruitful and multiply." This wasn't just about having children, but about expanding His kingdom and His love throughout the earth. Today, we see a troubling reality in the American church. Statistics show that 80% of churches are either losing members or staying the same. Less than 1% are truly multiplying by planting new churches. This breaks God's heart because multiplication has always been His design. When we understand God's character, we realize He doesn't want us to simply maintain what we have. He wants us to grow, expand, and multiply His love in the world. Every believer has the potential to impact countless lives through the ripple effect of discipleship. The question isn't whether God wants multiplication. He clearly does. The question is whether we're willing to align our hearts with His. Are we content with preservation, or do we hunger for the kind of exponential impact that comes from true multiplication?

Bible Verse

"So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.'" - Genesis 1:27-28

Reflection Question

How does knowing that multiplication is God's original design change your perspective on your role in His kingdom?

Quote

If you read your Bible and you get to know God our Father, you'll understand that God's heart is for multiplication.

Prayer

Father, help me align my heart with Yours. Give me a vision for multiplication that goes beyond my comfort zone and embraces Your eternal purposes. Amen.

Day 2: The Power of One Seed

Devotional

Imagine holding an apple in your hand. Inside that single piece of fruit lies incredible potential, 5 to 10 seeds that could produce millions of apples over successive generations. One apple, through its seeds, could theoretically produce over 281 million apples in just a few generations! This is the power of multiplication versus preservation. We often focus on making things last through protection, storage, or processing. However, these methods, while extending life temporarily, limit true impact. The apple that stays safe in cold storage will never fulfill its multiplication potential. Your life carries the same incredible potential. You're not just one person, you're someone who can influence others, who can make disciples, who can plant seeds that will grow for generations. The question isn't how to make your life last longer, but how to release the multiplication power within you. Every conversation, every act of kindness, every moment you invest in someone else's spiritual growth is like planting a seed. You may never see the full harvest, but the potential impact is beyond what you can imagine.

Bible Verse

"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives." - John 12:24

Reflection Question

What "seeds" has God placed in your life that you might be keeping in storage instead of planting?

Quote

From this one apple, if I just conservatively say there's five seeds in here, and I take these five seeds and I plant five trees... over a few generations we would have 281,250,000 apples.

Prayer

Lord, help me see the multiplication potential You've placed within me. Give me courage to plant seeds rather than simply preserve what I have. Amen.

Day 3: The Cost of Multiplication

Devotional

Here's the hard truth about multiplication, it requires surrender. The apple must give up its current form to release its seeds. The kernel of wheat must fall to the ground and die to produce a harvest. And, we must surrender our lives to see true spiritual multiplication. This is where many of us get stuck. We want the results of multiplication without the cost. We want to impact lives while holding tightly to our comfort, our plans, our safety. However, Jesus is clear, following Him demands total surrender, not partial commitment. The biggest problem people have with Jesus isn't His love or His miracles, but His demand for exclusivity. He doesn't want to be one priority among many; He wants to be THE priority. This feels threatening because surrender means letting go of control. Yet here's the beautiful paradox, when we surrender our lives to Jesus, we don't lose them, we multiply them. Our impact extends far beyond what we could achieve through self-preservation. The life surrendered to Christ becomes a life that reproduces itself in others.

Bible Verse

"Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me, because my servants must be where I am. And the Father will honor anyone who serves me." - John 12:26

Reflection Question

What areas of your life are you still trying to preserve instead of surrendering to God's multiplication purposes?

Quote

This apple, in order to multiply, is going to have to surrender itself.

Prayer

Jesus, I surrender my need for control and safety. Help me trust that losing my life for Your sake means finding true life and impact. Amen.

Day 4: From Accidental to Intentional

Devotional

Many of us learned to follow Jesus accidentally. We picked up pieces of faith here and there like from a Sunday school lesson, a youth camp experience, or a conversation with a friend. While God used these moments, imagine how different our growth could have been with an intentional discipleship pathway. The difference between a declining denomination and a dynamic movement isn't programs or buildings, but the number of people prepared to surrender to Jesus' mandate to make disciples. However, we can't make what we haven't become. We can't give away what we don't possess. Intentional discipleship means having a plan. It means systematically learning what it means to follow Jesus, not just hoping we'll figure it out along the way. Churches need discipleship pathways, and individuals need to commit to growing intentionally. The beautiful truth is that it's never too late to become intentional about your spiritual growth. Whether you've been following Jesus for decades or just started, you can choose today to pursue Him with purpose and plan.

Bible Verse

"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." - Matthew 28:19-20

Reflection Question

What would an intentional discipleship pathway look like in your life right now?

Quote

Are we okay with accidental disciples or do we want intentional disciples?

Prayer

Father, I don't want to be an accidental disciple anymore. Help me pursue You with intention and create pathways for others to do the same. Amen.

Day 5: Building Something That Lasts

Devotional

Every day, you're building something. The question is, what are you building, and will it last? Some people build with gold, silver, and precious stones, materials that survive the fire of testing. Others build with wood, hay, and straw, materials that look impressive but burn up when tested. The work of making disciples is building with eternal materials. When you invest in someone's spiritual growth, when you help them take their next step with Jesus, you're constructing something that will outlast your earthly life. This is work worth doing. This is work worth trading your life for. Jesus chose you and appointed you to produce fruit that will last. Not temporary fruit that looks good for a season, but lasting fruit that continues to multiply long after you're gone. This is the greatest prize life offers, the chance to work hard at work worth doing. As you consider your daily choices, your priorities, your investments of time and energy, ask yourself, am I building something eternal? Is what I'm doing worth my life? The opportunity to work alongside Jesus in making disciples is the most valuable work you could ever do.

Bible Verse

"Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ." - 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

Reflection Question

When your life's work is tested by fire, what do you hope will remain?

Quote

Far and away, the best prize that life has is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.

Prayer

Lord, help me build with eternal materials. May my life's work produce fruit that lasts for Your kingdom and glory. Amen.