

# This is Us

## Pt 4 – Providing Real Solutions to Real Problems

Oct. 01, 2017

Pastor Bill Bowers

**MVC MISSION:** We exist to connect with God and each other through intentional relationships in Thurston County and beyond. Discipleship is the core of our ministry. Discipleship is the core of our ministries. Our ministry priorities are:

Reconciling people to God

Growing disciples who grow disciples

**Providing real solution to real problems**

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*As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. Matthew 9:9 NLT*

**mathetes (math-ay-tes'); a learner, pupil, disciple, follower.**

**WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?**

**YOU ARE A DISCIPLE—FOLLOWER OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

**AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS**

**1. YOU FIND A NEED AND MEET IT.**

*"But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, **he took pity on him**.<sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.<sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'" <sup>37</sup>... Jesus told him, "Go and **do likewise**." Luke 10:33-35, 37*

*"And if anyone gives even a **cup of cold water** to one of these little ones because **he is my disciple**, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward." Matthew 10:42*

**2. FIND A HURT AND HEAL IT.**

*Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their **bruised and hurt lives**. Matthew 9:35 MSG*

*By this all men will know that you are **my disciples**, if you **love one another**." John 13:35*

**3. YOU DO A WHOLE BUNCH OF OTHER THINGS THAT JESUS ASKS YOU TO DO THAT WON'T FIT NEATLY INTO A POINT ON A PAGE.**

*My sheep **listen to my voice**; I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27*

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### **HomeGroup and Personal Study Questions**

- What do you think, as a disciple of Jesus, makes “providing real solutions to real problems” important? What part of this priority makes it a characteristic of discipleship?
- Do you think it necessary and/or loving to find and provide solutions to the problems of every person? Provide an explanation.
- Is there precedent to qualify problems of people (this one is important or life-threatening... this one isn’t really a problem...) to base whether they should be addressed or not? How is “what is important” determined? Who determines what is important?
- Is there precedent to qualify who or what caused the problem in order to determine whether the need is met? What if the problems are self-destructive behavior? What if the problems are recurring? Is there a limit to providing solutions? What is a solution?
- There are several instances found in the gospel accounts where Jesus “healed them all.” Are you aware or can you find any instances where Jesus did not heal them all? If yes, was there a reason Jesus did not heal them?
- One of the final comments made by Pastor Bill in this teaching was disciples “do a whole bunch of other things...” How do we know what to do and when to do it?
- Pastor Bill also pointed out a quote of Jesus from John’s Gospel; “My sheep listen to my voice...” (John 10:27). How do you hear Jesus voice? How do you determine it is Jesus’ voice you hear? What is Jesus saying to you now? What will you do about what he says?