



Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples

Francis Chan , Mark Beuving , David Platt (Foreward)

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Jesus gave his followers a command: "Follow me." And a promise: "And I will equip you to find others to follow me." We were made to make disciples.

Designed for use in discipleship relationships and other focused settings, *Multiply* will equip you to carry out Jesus's ministry. Each of the twenty-four sessions in the book corresponds with an online video at www.multiplymovement.com, where *New York Times* bestselling author David Platt joins Francis in guiding you through each part of *Multiply*.

One plus one plus one. Every copy of *Multiply* is designed to do what Jesus did: make disciples who make disciples who make disciples.... Until the world knows the truth of Jesus Christ.

Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples Details

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From Reader Review Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples for online ebook

Stephen says

I have been highly critical of Francis Chan for various reasons, but I have to say that this book is quite good, if not approaching outstanding. The first half on disciple making is rather basic and lacks some points of emphasis I think are crucial. However, the second half, where he tells the story of salvation history thematically, is the best I've read. It certainly isn't the most comprehensive I've read, but it is complete, clear and abundantly useful for the theological novice and illuminating and reminding for the more experienced. I recommend this book to all who want either a quick reminder of salvation history (full of spontaneous praises to God) or a book to instruct a new believer on how God has worked in history. The second half is worth the price. Again, quite good.

Joan says

While everything in this book is Biblical - I was looking for even MORE. Did not take anything new away from this read - great reminders that you life is His to use in all areas for His purposes, tho. :)

Joseph says

This book is good. It's not as weighty or profound as Crazy Love or Forgotten God, but it is useful for either a new Christian, or someone who wants a good reminder of things. It covers not only the basics of Christian theology, but more importantly, why it matters and how we can make use of it all.

It contains a lot of the things that I had the good fortune to be taught at an excellent church and campus ministry when I first came to Jesus. These aren't just theological facts (plenty of books systematically present the basics of the Bible's teachings); rather, these are things about who God is, why and how we follow Him, how to read the Bible and how Jesus must be the center of our lives if we are to have hope. These are things you learn not about Christianity but about being a Christian. These are things that did transform me early on and have given me what I like to think has been a fairly live and healthy life in Jesus Christ so far (though one I always seek to improve, of course). Here, stuff that was scattered across many sermons and messages and Bible studies is all wrapped up in one long but very easy-to-read book.

The book does make small mistakes here and there (I'm quite sure no one believes Abraham lived 4,000 years before Jesus' time; he lived 4,000 years before our time). I also don't agree with absolutely everything (like the futurist assumptions about Matthew 24).

That all said, it is a good resource. As far as milk vs. meat goes (the fundamentals vs. deeper knowledge and understanding of God), it is milk, but it's big boy milk; once you are done, it should leave you ready for meat (maybe it's something in between, like strained peaches or something like that...you get the idea).

Coyle says

Francis Chan can be a bit of a, well, unique individual, and that's why I like him. He's unique in a way that reminds us of things that have been forgotten, but without sacrificing solid theology. His latest book *Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples* (co-authored with Mark Beuving) is yet another book in this line—he takes a relatively obscure term like 'discipling' and shows us where it fits into the Christian life and why we shouldn't neglect it.

Multiply has two major sections. In the first section (Parts I-III), he outlines what a disciple is and the context in which disciples are made and grow. The short version is that "disciples" are people who want to dedicate their entire lives to following Jesus (pg 16-17); this happens within the church by means of Scripture. In the second section (Parts III-V), he first explains how to study the Bible in a way that leads to growth and then provides a broad Biblical theology intended to help disciples begin that study.

And really, this is the chief value of *Multiply*.

Read the rest of my review here: <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/schaeffe...>

Brad Kittle says

Thought the book was very basic but it was good. I honestly couldn't get into it that much, I'm not sure why. I have it on my shelf to review later. I think it might be good for a intro to discipleship/evangelism classroom book. Again, I find no fault in the book, it just didn't stir much in me. I am stirred up about the gospel though!

Jørgen Hansen says

I liked this book a lot. Especially the chapter on how to study the bible with the emphasis on right attitude of heart before technique.

Also, I liked the survey of the Old Testament where ample bible reading was assigned in the questions.

Erin Schmidlkofer says

We did this in our young adult study group at church. The book was good and tells the incredible truths of scripture and how all points to Christ. I leaned quite a bit. Not my favorite book but I do love what Francis Chan and David Platt are doing. :)

J. Rutherford says

This a really well written book. Chan is clear from the beginning that this is not a book that is simply meant to be read; it is meant to be used. It is primarily a tool for discipleship. It walks the reader through the biblical call for discipleship and gives an overview of God's work in man as revealed through the Bible. It is

meant to be walked through with someone your discipling, so pick two copies up and read through the book with someone you want to see grow; you will find yourself growing in the process!

Martijn Vsho says

This book should be the first non-Biblical book that every new Christian reads. It explains our mission and goal as Christians in easy-to-understand terms, while also giving a brief overview of the church, how to study the Bible, and of the Old and New Testament. Francis Chan explains the basics of Christianity and shows how it all relates to our central goal of making disciples who make disciples. This book is a must-read for all Christians who are serious about their faith and want to know how to be a Christian according to the Bible.

Vivien Naomi Lee says

I initially picked up this book to prepare myself for a disciple that I may have been taking up. I was expecting rather practical advice on how to disciple someone. But I was blown away by the contents of this book.

It taught me so much. It made me realise how little I knew about following Christ, and it gave me a new realization of our role here on Earth. And how making disciples is not a choice - but what we are commanded to do.

The book is not just about telling you where you were insufficient but also includes many of God's promises and faithfulness for those who wholeheartedly follow Him and his commandments. It talks about many things Christians know but are buried in the subconscious. When prompted, it can't even be expressed properly. Well, the book has done it for us.

I also love how beautifully it crafts the story of the Bible: How God's salvation for mankind was so intricately planned, and how He honours those who does His work. No, he does not promise a good, comfortable wealthy life. He said it was going to be hard but He will be there with us until the end of age.

Thank you so much for this book, and I will be passing it on to more so they also come to a new realization about their identities with Christ Jesus, and draw even closer to Him. May the Lord strengthen our faithfulness and fortify our hearts against the devil. We want to go where God is, and to find that extraordinary peace that can only be from Him alone.

Jenny Leiva says

I don't know if I should even write a review for this because I didn't read this book in the way it really needs to be read. My church will be going through this book in the upcoming months, and I wanted to get an overview of what it was like, so I listened to it as an audio book. I achieved my goal of getting an overview, but I definitely don't recommend an audio version for this book. There are so many times where you are supposed to read a Bible passage, answer questions, or stop and pray. This book should be read slowly and thoughtfully (neither of which I did). But I learned enough to know that I will look forward to taking my

time reading this in the future. I was surprised that the book didn't include very much practical advice on discipling. It was more to show how discipleship fits into God's overall plan for the world. It gives a pretty cool walk-through of the Bible and how it all fits together.

Jeff Bobin says

Great book!

If you are looking for a book that will take you through the scriptures quickly and thoroughly from creation, to the fall, to God's history of calling us back to a relationship with Him, to Jesus, the cross, tomb and resurrection, this is one of the best I have ever read.

If you are interested in being a better disciple of Jesus, encouraging others to join you on the faith journey, and helping them grow in faith then this is a must read.

At one point I found myself so drawn in I read more than 100 pages at one sitting and didn't want to stop there.

I recommend this book for every pastor, church leader and anyone who wants to be a part of building the Kingdom of God.

Craig Hurst says

Disciples make disciples. Though this three word sentence is as clear as a cloudless sky and given by Jesus in one of the clearest passages of Scripture (Matt. 28:19), it has been one of the most largely undeveloped and neglected aspects of church and Christian life. That is, disciples of Jesus Christ are not so adept at making new converts to Christ into disciples of Christ. While some groups can be very productive in evangelism, that is often where it stops and thus the church is filled with undisciplined disciples of Christ. Granted, once one becomes an adopted child of God they are a disciple of Christ in its most bare sense of the word. However, being a disciple of Christ is not merely a static state of existence one has in relation to Christ once saved. Rather, it is a dynamic relationship that is growing. Thus, discipleship is properly a description of the ongoing growth of a self-identified disciple of Christ.

This idea of disciples making disciples is the passion behind the new book *Multiply: Disciples Making Disciples* by Francis Chan and Mark Beuving. Chan and Beuving's desire is to help believers understand what it means to be a disciple (follower) of Jesus Christ. The goal of discipleship is to be like the person you are following. For the Christian that is Christ. "That's the whole point of being a disciple of Jesus: we imitate Him, carry on His ministry, and become like Him in the process." (p. 16)

Though disciples are individuals, discipleship is not accomplished individually. "The proper context for every disciple maker is the church. It is impossible to make disciples aside from the church of Jesus Christ." (p. 51) After all, how would one fulfill and be a recipient of the over 50 "one another" passages in the New Testament on their own outside of the local church? Further, if disciples are to obey the command of Christ to make disciples of all nations, they cannot do that one their own. Discipleship happens in the life of the individual within the life of the church.

While discipleship for the follower of Christ happens within the local church, it is not merely contained within the local church. Growing disciples of Christ will naturally develop an outward focus on the world around them. This is how the church fulfills the great commission to make disciples of every nation. As unbelievers are evangelized and brought within the local church for discipleship, they in turn are driven to evangelize others so that they too might become disciples of Christ and begin their discipleship journey within the local church as well. The authors rightly point out:

"We are called to make disciples, and strengthening the other members of the church body is an important part of this. But if we are not working together to help the unbelieving world around us become followers of Jesus, then we are missing the point of our salvation. God blessed Abraham so that He could bless the world through him (Gen. 12)." (p. 74)

So the natural question that arises is "What does discipleship look like?" Finding root in Matt. 28:20, "Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you," Chan and Beuving spend the rest of the book (about 230 pages worth of it) discussing how to study the Bible and the content of the biblical story line. So, what is all important to discipleship is knowing Scripture since it is within Scripture that we find all that Jesus has commanded His disciples.

After giving a brief introduction to basic Bible interpretation principles, the authors spend the bulk of the book walking from Genesis to Revelation and drawing out the redemptive biblical story line. I will not rehash it but it is divided into the Old and New Testaments and follows the Creation, Fall, Redemption and Consummation structure while filling out much of the redemptive portion. With this the book ends. What might become readily apparent to those who are more familiar with books on discipleship is that Chan and Beuving have taken a markedly different approach to discussing what discipleship looks like. Most books on discipleship cover the typical topics of prayer (though this is touched on), Bible study, the fruits of the Spirit and the like while not addressing the issue of the whole message of the Bible. This may be because most discipleship books are geared towards (though not always stated as such) Christians who have been saved for a while but are looking for more growth in these areas. Chan and Beuving have perhaps shifted their focus (though it is not stated) more towards new Christians who have not been reading their Bibles and would not be familiar with the overall message of Scripture.

Since the content of *Multiply* seems to be driven in this direction the book is more for new Christians rather than seasoned ones. And that is fine because for new believers this is an excellent resource. In fact, the book is accompanied by a series of videos you can find online at www.multiplymovement.com. Here you can listen to each chapter read aloud. In addition, there is a corresponding video for each chapter in the book in which Chan and David Platt discuss the content of the chapter. As such, *Multiply* is designed not just for individuals to read on their own but to go through with others in a group with a leader.

Multiply is a great book to get into the hands of new believers. There is nothing worse than seeing a person commit their lives to be a disciple of Christ to only sputter along in their Christian life never really growing as a disciple of Christ. This book provides a needed tool to help new believers understand their identity as disciples, get properly oriented within the context of the local church as the place their discipleship takes place and to get an early grasp on the message of Scripture so they can understand all that Christ has commanded them. I recommend buying several copies of this book to have ready to give to new believers!

NOTE: I received this book for free from David C Cook and was under no obligation to provide a favorable review.

Justin Tapp says

I did not go through the study guide or spend much time on the study questions in this book; I did not do it with a group, I listened to all 24 sessions it on my own. Basically, I was determining whether it would be a good discipleship study, as it is designed to be; I think it is. Some people in my office went through the study as a group and found it good enough to meet around every week. It serves as an excellent foundations course for someone who is a new believer or someone looking to disciple a younger believer. The best part is that the lessons and videos are available for free online. This is my third Chan book (Crazy Love, Together Forever) and my wife is an avid fan of his sermons.

My notes:

Discipleship is about life with disciples, not leadership or knowledge. It's about a visual demonstration of our faith. What evidence can you point to that shows you truly love others around you?

Following Jesus requires a change of heart, not a change of circumstances. Circumstances for believers around the world are difficult, they always have been. But people know Jesus' disciples by their love and unity in the midst of those circumstances, which is what Jesus prayed for (John 17).

Don't study the Bible out of guilt, or for sermon material, or for pride. Does my Bible study make me more "puffed up" with knowledge? Am I truly depending on the Holy Spirit when I read it?

At the same time, it's important to study the Bible logically. To learn to read it slowly, to understand historical context and hermeneutics. Chan works through several lessons through the Old Testament demonstrating biblical theology-- that the arc of all Scripture bends toward Jesus. He also walks through several of the covenants that are fulfilled in Jesus, a la D.A. Carson. "The greatest gift that God can give is Himself...that is the Tabernacle."

Chan reminds everyone what the mission of the Church is. It is hard not to desire to be a "Great Commission Christian" after working through this book; I would enjoy doing it as a group study.

I give it 4.5 stars out of 5. There may be something else better out there, but this is available in many formats, is free, and easy to get started.

MrBReads says

It pains me to rate a Francis Chan book so poorly, and there are reasons for it so I hope the rating has led you to this review!

The first few chapters are fantastic, Chan examining what it is to be a disciple and to make disciples, before going into why and how we should study the Bible as part of this process. I loved it!

The rest of the book is also fantastic...but I struggle to see what it has to do directly with making disciples. He basically maps out the whole message of the Bible and does so in a brilliant, readable, applicable way with good questions for personal application and group discussion.

What Chan has written here is great, but it feels to me like it would have been better if he has expanded the first part of this book and written the second part as a separate resource, or at least made explicitly clear that the book wasn't going to be an exploration of Discipleship but instead a resource for discipleship meetings.

Given Francis' last few years of leaving the leadership of Cornerstone Church and receiving the call to his work in San Francisco, I would have loved to read more about how this renewed emphasis on discipleship has played out and how he came to those conclusions.

So in summary -

1. I love everything Chan writes and that includes this book!
 2. The book does not make clear what it will be about
 3. I would still recommend it despite it not being exactly what I was expecting :)
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