



## E1: Think Small

### Episode Notes

I realize that one of the biggest battles in growth is **discernment**. More specifically, what steps need to be taken in order to build forward momentum. When thinking about the process of growth, growth seems to always start from something, or somewhere, small.

### Think Small

The big picture doesn't have to overwhelm you. When I think about the vision of our church (a vision to change lives), this is overwhelming, because only God can change a life; but I can think small and do simple acts of kindness, generosity, compassion, etc. that God can use to change a life.

"When we think small, we can create daily actions, so we can figure out what to do with the big picture." -@jasonwilliams

Thinking small not only helps us as individuals, but it helps groups of people as well. When churches, businesses, or any group of people learn to think small they can learn to gain forward momentum and not get stuck in the seemingly impossible details.

Think small by reducing the decision to who, not what. -@jasonwilliams

The greatest leader of human history, Jesus Christ, practiced this principle. Jesus was tasked with saving the world. Living 33 ½ years here on earth, He certainly knew WHAT He was going to do to (big picture, the cross). Yet, He focused on WHO He was taking with Him, and He disciplined them. Jesus chose to invest about 75% of his time with the disciples and only 25% of his time with large crowds.

People are the biggest asset to world change. Small deposits over time into people's lives can lead to big returns. -@jasonwilliams

Jesus' example proves this. The disciples were able to carry the mission farther than Jesus just like Jesus said they would.

As a church body, we have to practice the power of thinking small (who not what). God can use that to change lives.

### Discussion Questions:

- Does the big picture overwhelm you? Who around you might be able to help you?
- Are you trying to do too much? What is overwhelming you that you could be delegating or get someone to help you with?
- How much time are you allocating to invest in people to be sure that they understand the vision and values. Vision is caught more than taught, so intentional, relational investment is needed in order for the Vision to become clear to the people around you.

### Episode resources for further study:

**Read this Article:** <https://churchleaders.com/smallgroups/small-group-articles/325866-why-its-time-to-rethink-your-discipleship-strategy.html>

**Watch this Podcast:** <https://www.life.church/leadershippodcast/creating-an-empowering-culture-part-1/>

**Read this book:** <https://www.amazon.com/Master-Plan-Evangelism-Robert-Coleman/dp/0800788087>

**Check out this link:** <https://davidschrock.com/2012/02/23/five-questions-on-discipleship-4-how-do-you-make-disciples/>

# Finding Your WHO

People can carry a vision farther than we can when they are on board. The bottom line is people are needed to bring change to the world, and the only way to gain forward momentum in this seemingly impossible cause is to focus on WHO over what.

When I studied the life of Jesus in Robert Coleman’s book *The Masters Plan of Evangelism*, I saw the power of WHO and how to identify my WHO by looking at how Jesus identified the disciples. Jesus looked for:

- Faithful:** Who is coming? Who is willing to come?
- Available:** Who is willing to give up extra time? Who is willing to sacrifice?
- Teachable:** Who is willing go deeper?

Your time and contacts are limited, so you will have to narrow your scope to those that stand out as **faithful, available, and teachable**.

Do you know of anyone who falls into one or more of these categories? You can list them here!

<u>Faithful</u>	<u>Available</u>	<u>Teachable</u>

Once you discern WHO, invite them into some intentional time with you (lunch, dinner, or cup of coffee) and start moving forward one person, or small group, at a time. Even if all you have is 30 minutes a week, a month, or even just time for a phone call, use it to invest in those people. Invest in what matters most—people.

# Discussion Questions

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