

# CREATING DISCIPLE MAKING WORKENS AS JESUS DID

Doug with Steven Ahn, youth pastor at Young Nak

Presbyterian Church.

**MARCH 2019** 



Beautiful Muskoka woods, two hours north of Toronto, was still a winter wonder land in mid March.

#### The Power of the Gospel, the Father's Love

"How Great is the Love the Father has Lavished on Us!" 1 John 3:1

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes!" Romans 1:16

"Young Nak Presbyterian Church is a Korean church in Toronto, Canada that partners with Sonlife by hosting our ReMix Conference for students each Summer. ReMix, much like Lead The Cause in the US, trains and inspires students to impact their world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Young Nak is next to a college that houses and feeds the students for the week, while the worship and training sessions are held at the

church. Young Nak has both a Korean speaking congregation and an English speaking congregation, and the English speaking student ministry invited me to speak for their annual winter outreach retreat where many of their students would invite spiritually lost friends to expose them to the gospel.

I've spoken to students in Canada before, and its not all that different from speaking to typical teenagers in the US, but this was different. Speaking to an all Korean group, I went into the retreat with a missionary mindset, desiring to understand the uniquenesses of their group, their church, and their culture.

Many of the students there had never clearly heard the gospel before. Because many of them struggle with earning the approval of their parents and feeling like they could never please them, they were overwhelmed with the picture of a Father's love and acceptance. I talked about the needs that we all have for love and acceptance, and how God has pursued us with a lavish, over the top love.

The final night, as I invited students to respond to God's grace and love, the normally unemotional students flooded to the front of the stage, praying for one another, receiving the Father's love!



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## Sonlife

#### 40 Day Journey

At our D•Conference in Orlando this past January, we introduced our 40 Days of Disciple-Making Journal, along with the vision for doing a church-wide disciple-making series.

#### 4 CHAIR DISCIPLING SEMINAR

In Wooster, as we're encouraging other churches to do, we launched the 40 Days of Disciple-Making Journey with

a 4 Chair Discipling Training for all of the ministry leaders and volunteers, including small group leaders and youth ministry and children's ministry workers.



#### 6 WEEK DISCIPLE-MAKING TEACHING SERIES

Following the 4 Chair Seminar on Saturday, I helped kick off Church of

the Saviour's six week teaching series through the 4 Chairs by looking at Jesus as our model for what it means to be a disciple who makes disciples.



#### 40 DAY'S OF DISCIPLE-MAKING JOURNAL

Everyone in the congregation was encouraged to buy and begin studying



the 40 Days of Disciple-Making Journal, which includes daily disciple-making action steps.

Along with this, the church's small groups began studying through the journal and discussing it together.

**Church of the Saviour** will culminate their Disciple-Making Journey with an Easter Outreach.

Serving Christ together, Doug and Jennifer



### Church of the Saviour Wooster, Ohio

Back in October, while representing Sonlife at the Refuel Conference for pastors at Liberty University, I met Scott Price. Scott is a Liberty alumni like myself, and even went to Liberty at the same time I did. He's a part-time youth pastor in Ohio, but also has started his own ministry called Ignite to train, consult, and mentor youth pastors in the US and abroad. We quickly hit it off! After Liberty, Scott got his master's degree from Moody in Chicago and went through all of Sonlife's training back in the 90's while he was there. He even became a Sonlife trainer. had lost track of Sonlife through the years, but was so excited to see what God was doing through the ministry now. He was eager to get involved again!

I gave Scott several of Sonlife's resources to look over, and he brought them back to his church in Ohio, Church of the Saviour. I was beginning my Disciple-Making Cohort the day after the Refuel Conference, and Scott eagerly jumped in. The next week, their church staff was having a retreat, and he shared 4 Chair Discipling with the team. Brent Durham, Church of the Savior's Sr. Pastor, devoured the book and quickly said, "This is exactly what our church needs!"

That was in October. By January, Pastor Brent had rallied 20 leaders from their church to come to Orlando for Sonlife's D•Conference. Six weeks later, I was in Ohio training 60 of the 180 people from their congregation in 4 Chair Discipling. They've already prepurchased 70 registrations for next year's D•Conference. I've never seen a church so hungry for change. God is up to something big in Wooster!