

- In terms of your personal faith, what does it mean to be a disciple?

As the Holy Spirit works to create a new person in me daily, I strive to become more like Christ. I learn from his word. I follow his example in personal relationships, conflict, and self-denial. I fail in this constantly, much like the very first disciples. However, the promises made to those first disciples are mine, too. God will never leave me or forsake me. He will not let me be lost, for Christ's sake.

- How does the "Digital Age" provide new opportunities and/or challenges to your "discipleship"?

Through technology, we have access to theological tools never before dreamed of. As a theology teacher, and general theology nerd, I always have a bible on me (at school, at home, in the car, in my gym bag). But there are still times when I want a bible and didn't have direct access to one. Now, through the Internet, the Word of God is available to almost anyone, in his or her native tongue, in multiple translations. There are also apps for biblical archeology and iTunes U classes to learn biblical Hebrew or Greek. Not to mention the millions of YouTube videos which give access to music, youth skits, and preaching.

God is, in and of himself, relationship. He calls us to be in relationships with himself and others. Now our relationships include our online contacts. Communicating, providing spiritual counseling, resolving conflict and much more, are all committed online. How do we, as Christians, manage this? The Internet isn't good or evil by itself. However, every tool created for good can and has been perverted by sin, including the Internet. The anonymity the Internet seems to lure people into all kinds of evil. How do we reach this digital world, one that seems to hurt even more openly than our physical world (where reflecting "perfection" is the cultural ideal)?

All this really means is that the Mission Field has come into our homes. The healing is there; the brokenness is there. God grant us the guidance to do his will!