

# Values Matter Discovery Starters

## We Are a Global Missions Movement

### 10. FUNCTION IN TEAMS

YWAM is called to function in teams in all aspects of ministry and leadership. We believe that a combination of complementary gifts, callings, perspectives, ministries and generations working together in unity at all levels of our Mission provides wisdom and safety. Seeking God's will and making decisions in a team context allows accountability and contributes to greater relationship, motivation, responsibility and ownership of the vision.

[Deu 32:30-31](#); [2Ch 17:7-9](#); [Pro 15:22](#); [Ecc 4:9-12](#); [Mar 6:7-13](#);  
[Rom 12:3-10](#); [2Co 1:24](#); [Eph 5:21](#); [Php 2:1-2](#); [1Pe 4:8](#)

### Value #10 – Function in Teams: Two by Two

#### Biblical Foundation:

*And he called his twelve disciples together and began sending them out two by two, giving them authority to cast out evil spirits. He told them to take nothing for their journey except a walking stick—no food, no traveler's bag, no money. He allowed them to wear sandals but not to take a change of clothes.*

*"Wherever you go," he said, "stay in the same house until you leave town. But if any place refuses to welcome you or listen to you, shake its dust from your feet as you leave to show that you have abandoned those people to their fate."*

*So the disciples went out, telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. And they cast out many demons and healed many sick people, anointing them with olive oil (Mar 6:7-13).*

#### Discovery Starter:

When Jesus called his disciples he called them into community. They did life and ministry together as a team. So when he sent them on their first missionary adventure, he sent them out in small teams, "two by two." Earlier, Mark tells us that Jesus "appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ..." (Mar 3:14-15 NIV). Discipleship had a dual purpose: They were called to have a relationship with Jesus and to help others have a relationship with Jesus. And they were to do this together, as a team.

In many ways it was an unlikely team. Among them was Judas Iscariot. Not only was Judas known to be a thief (Joh 12:6), but we are told that he indignantly chastised his team leader – Jesus! – in public (Joh 12:4-5). That must have created some interesting team dynamics! But that was not all. Jesus had picked both Matthew (who, as a tax-collector, was a pro-Roman collaborator) and Simon (who, as a zealot, was an anti-Roman revolutionary) to be on his team. They must have had some heated arguments coming from opposite sides of the political spectrum! Even so, Jesus opted to minister with a team, rather than go it alone. He saw diversity not as a liability but as an asset, providing a unique opportunity for “sandpaper discipleship,” as one rubbed against another, smoothing off the rough edges. The unlikely love between natural enemies would be a powerful witness to the transforming power of the gospel. He taught his team, “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples” (Joh 13:35). In AD 197, Tertullian would write that the critics of the church recognized in awe, “how they love one another!” (Tertullian, *Apologeticus* 39.114).

We don’t grow in relational grace in isolation, nor do we advance God’s relational goals ministering as lone rangers. Emmanuel Jesus modeled “witness” as a foundation for “witness.” Jesus chose to minister with a team, and Peter – one of Jesus’ original team members – reminds us that Jesus “is your example, and you must follow in his steps” (1Pe 2:21).

### **Keep Going:**

The following is a list of over 100 verses in Mark that explicitly talk about Jesus being with his disciples and doing something together with them as his team. The record of his “witness” is found in every chapter. Are you walking with Jesus in this degree of “witness”? Are you doing “team” with your colleagues like Jesus did with his disciples? Consider the following: Mar 1:17-21,29,38; 2:14-15; 3:7,13-14,20,34-35; 4:10,34,36; 5:24,37,40; 6:1,7,30-33,35,45,48,50-51,53-54; 7:17; 8:1-2,6-7,10,13-14,27,32; 9:2,5,8,14,28,31-33,35; 10:10,13-14,23,27-30,32-42,46; 11:1,11,14,19-22,27; 12:43; 13:3-4; 14:14,17-20,22-26,28,33-34,37,40-41,45,47,67; 15:41; 16:19.

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