



A New World: Post-Christian Culture

Milfred Minatrea tells the story about a man named Don Wade. He was a wilderness guide from Texas, who, on September 8, 2001, took a client on an expedition to Northern Alaska. A pilot dropped them off on a small lake just beneath the Arctic Circle. From there, without radios or cell phones, Don was responsible to ensure their safe arrival fifteen days later.

On September 11, 2001, Don was eating breakfast while those who had access to televisions were witnessing over and over again the horror of commercial airliners flying into the Pentagon and the Twin Towers. For Don, oblivious to the tragedy that rocked the nation, September 11 was simply day four of a fifteen day wilderness trip. On September 21, the pilot retrieved Don and his client and began telling them about the events of 9/11.

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Minatrea writes, "That night, Don lay awake, trying without success to grasp the reality of what happened to the world. While Don was away enjoying the beauty of the natural world, our world had changed. The change was so dramatic that his isolation from the world's reality made it almost impossible to comprehend. Don's experience may be extreme, but it has much in common with the situation in which many of our churches now find themselves."¹

Where are we headed? It feels like our world has changed overnight. We now find ourselves living in a post-Christian culture. There is a distinct impression that Christians have lost their home court advantage. What will the face of Christianity in America look like in the next twenty years? Although our world has changed, Jesus hasn't. He is still in charge and nothing happens without his permission.

Kingdom-Driven Discipleship is an introduction to making disciples wherever you live, work and play. This biblically based study identifies many of the challenges disciple-makers face as they seek to bring Jesus into their everyday world. Lesson 1 takes an honest look at our current condition and the commitment Jesus expects of his followers. Lessons 2-5 describe four arenas that are directly linked to reaching people: motivation, focus, success and vision. ■

The intent of this study is to bring you face to face with two personal questions:

- 1 Do you see yourself as a *disciple-maker*?
- 2 Can you *hear* Christ's voice *calling* you to *join* Him in His *harvest* field?

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