

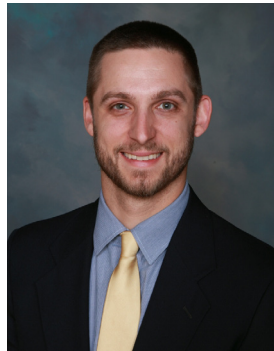


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A New Day for Discipleship

Brandt Akin
Director of Spiritual Life

One thing is certain, things have changed. Over the past few weeks so much has shifted in our day to day lives, it can be hard to keep the feelings of fear at bay. But I want to encourage you that a new day is not necessarily a bad day. Isaiah 43:19 (ESV) says:



Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

New seasons often feel like the wilderness or the desert, and the time that we find ourselves in is certainly no different. But God is not absent from these new seasons, no matter how difficult they may be to navigate. Not only is He present, He is at work as Isaiah says, making a way where the way forward is hidden and providing what we need even when we are struggling to keep it together. The question at hand is will we perceive it? Will we recognize what God is doing and what He is calling us to?

I certainly don't know the specifics of what God calls each person to, but what I do know is that in every time and every season followers of Jesus are called to discipleship. This is the reason that one of the four pillars of our school is scripturally based discipleship. There is no golden age or cultural calamity we could experience that would ever call us away from discipleship. So, what does discipleship look like and how do we participate in it during a time of social distancing?

Jesus gives us clues into the nature of discipleship in John 12 when He tells the disciples that if they want to serve Him, they must follow Him (John 12:26). Discipleship is following Jesus with the goal of becoming like Jesus. For this reason, discipleship takes on different forms in different seasons. The way of discipleship is still the way of Jesus and the purpose is still the same, but as life changes we sometimes find that we must follow Jesus into different places that aren't a part of our original plan. Today we find ourselves going to online classrooms instead of a

school building, virtual conference calls instead of board meetings, and Facetime calls instead of family gatherings. We must be intentional to continue our pursuit of Jesus in these new places. We might even be fortunate enough to find in this new season that we have more quiet time in the morning, more time at a dinner table as a family, and more margin to invest in our relationship with Christ.

My hope for our entire Prince community is that we would take the new routines, the new places we go, and the new rhythms at home, and find ways to walk with Jesus in them. Even though there are parts of our life that are on hold, I don't believe God wants us to put life altogether, or our discipleship in Christ, on hold. Discipleship is always happening. We are always being discipled and becoming like the thing that we follow, so I hope you will continue to follow Jesus with me and let Jesus provide what we need along the way as we learn to be more like Him.

To give some practicality to this, I want to let you know about one way we would like to assist the Prince families in fostering discipleship as a family. We would like to invite every family to join RightNow Media which is a streaming library of digital discipleship resources - the Netflix of biblical content in a sense. As a school, we have an account and would like to invite you to join it for free. I will be emailing information to each family on how to join, for free, and some suggestions on how to get started.

I am praying for our school and community, and I am excited to see how God moves during this time!

