

Comparing Making Disciples THEN with (most) Discipleship NOW

World of Making Disciples (THEN)

Hebrew Way – Doing, Action

More Concrete

Integrated Context is Understood

About Integration & Synthesis –
Keeping Things Together

“Believe” is a Verb – Something You Do

Emphasis on Consistent Behavior

Community More Important Than the
Individual – Sacrifice Personal Rights for the
Benefit of the Community

Concerned with Right Doing

Willingly Submissive to Rabbi’s Authority

Submit to Rabbi’s Interpretation

Willing to Wrestle with the Text for Long
Periods of Time

Focus on Developing Discernment

Memorized their Scriptures

Live Life in Community

Live Integrated, Holistic Lives

Desire to be A Disciple

Total Surrender to their Rabbi’s Interpretive
Authority for Living

Nothing is Hidden or Off Limits to
Rabbinic Scrutiny

Life Issue Oriented

Dialogue Intensive

Focused on Men

Western Discipleship (NOW)

Hellenistic Way – Thinking, Words, Ideas

More Abstract

Most Biblical Context is Missing

About Analysis, Categorization & Labels –
Breaking Things Apart

“Belief” is a Creed – Consenting to a Series of
Propositions

Much More of an Emphasis on Ideas

Individual More Important Than the
Community – Sacrifice Community Harmony for
Sake of Personal Interests

Concerned with Right Thinking

Submissive to No One, Except Myself

Create my own Interpretation of the Text

Preference for Quick, Simplistic Answers
Through Short Encounters with the Text

Lack of Critical Thinking Skills

Widespread Biblical Illiteracy

Functional Lone Rangers

Live in Dichotomized Spheres (Sacred/secular,
faith/work)

Often Content to Just “Believe” in Jesus

Partial, Elective Surrender to Jesus’ Authority as
Convenient

Much of our Lives is Hidden from Others

Conceptually Oriented

Information Transfer Intensive

Seems More Women are Being Discipled
Today than Men