How Did Jesus Make Disciples?

1 John 2:6
He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.
In addition to all of His Character traits and Conduct, Jesus was a Discipler; We must follow His Example in this area also.

Discipling others is the process
By which a Christian with a
Life worth emulating
Commits himself
For an extended period of time
To a few individuals who have been won to Christ,
The purpose being to aid and guide their
Growth to maturity and equip them to
Reproduce themselves in a third spiritual generation.
(Allen Hadidian, Discipleship: Helping other Christians Grow, Moody Press, p. 29)

How did Jesus make disciples?

1. Jesus was selective in His choice of who He would disciple

a. He selected the one's God the Father wanted him to disciple
John 17:6 - I have manifested thy name ***unto the men which thou gavest me*** out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.
John 17:9 - I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for ***them which thou hast given me***; for they are thine.

b. He made His selections after a night spent in prayer
Luke 6:12-13 - And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and ***continued all night in prayer*** to God. [13] And when it was day, ***he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve***, whom also he named apostles;

c. He did not select his disciples based on human ability, but on spiritual potential
Acts 4:13 - Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were ***unlearned and ignorant men***, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that ***they had been with Jesus***.

d. He (being a man), selected 12 MEN to disciple
[Due to the personal and close knit nature of a long-term discipleship relationship, you should disciple someone of your own gender]

e. He set numerical limits on the number of men He would disciple.

(Jesus poured His life into a few men; basicly the 12 and the inner-circle of 3)

2. Jesus displayed before his disciples an <u>example</u> worth copying

Matthew 4:19 - And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
Luke 6:40 - The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.
John 13:15 - For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you

3. Jesus invested a commitment of <u>time</u> and personal <u>interest</u> & <u>attention</u> into His disciples

Mark 3:14 - And he ordained twelve, that they should ***be with him***, and that he might send them forth to preach,
Acts 4:13 - …they had ***been with Jesus***.
John 3:22 - After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there ***he tarried with them***, and baptized.
John 6:3 - And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there ***he sat with his disciples***.
Mark 3:7 - But Jesus ***withdrew himself with his disciples*** to the sea:

4. Jesus was a personal <u>friend</u> to the men He discipled

Luke 12:4
And I say unto you my friends…
John 15:14
Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.
Joh 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

5. Jesus demonstrated <u>humility</u> by <u>serving</u> the ones He discipled

John 13:4 - He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. [5] After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

6. Jesus <u>watched over</u> the souls of the one's He discipled as a loving shepherd would tend to and make <u>sacrifices</u> for his sheep

John 10:11-14
I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. [12] But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. [13] The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. [14] I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
Hebrews 13:17
Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

7. Jesus made <u>intercessory prayer</u> for the ones He discipled

John 17:9-23

I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

Jesus prayed for their spiritual UNITY

[11] And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are…[21] That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. [22] And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: [23] I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

Jesus prayed for their spiritual JOY

[13] And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

Jesus prayed for their spiritual PROTECTION

[14] I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. [15] I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

Jesus prayed for their spiritual SANCTIFICATION

[16] They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. [17] Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. [18] As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. [19] And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Jesus prayed for the spiritual FRUIT they would bear in others lives

[20] Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

Compare:

Col. 4:12

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

Philip. 1:3-5

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, [4] Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, [5] For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

8. Jesus gave Scriptural INSTRUCTION to his disciples

1) Jesus had a life that would be in total harmony with the message He communicated

2) Jesus had a teaching style that would empower His message to impact lives

a. He would teach with zeal & enthusiasm
b. He would teach with compassion & grace
c. He would teach with simplicity & clarity
d. He would teach with boldness & authority
e. He would teach with repetition & patience
f. He would teach with the Father's leading & the Spirit's control

3) Jesus built rapport & relationships with His pupils

4) Jesus launched into a lesson by attaining a commonly understood point of reference

5) Jesus employed a variety of illustration techniques to make the truth come alive

6) Jesus had a balance between teaching in "small group" settings and preaching to larger audiences.

a. He encouraged dialogue in "small class" informal private settings
b. He captivated large audiences with bold preaching in public settings

7) Jesus took advantage of "teachable moments" and "weaved" His teaching into the fabric of daily experiences

8) Jesus taught by setting an example of how the truth should be lived

9) Jesus asked thought provocative, soul-searching questions

10) Jesus motivated and appealed to the will of His audience to act upon (respond to) God's truth

a. He would encourage people to listen to the message He proclaimed
b. He would encourage people to believe the message He proclaimed
c. He would encourage people to apply the message He proclaimed
d. He would encourage people to obey the message He proclaimed

9. Jesus gave personal RESPONSIBILITY to the one's He discipled

(His method of discipleship was not merely “book Knowledge” or lecture but involved getting them involved in practical ministry)

He gave them the task of Baptizing
John 4:2
(Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)
He gave them the task of distributing baskets of food (John 6:1-13)
John 6:11- “he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down”

He gave them the task of feeding His sheep
John 21:15
So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.

10. Jesus gave his disciples a commission to reproduce their lives in others as He had done for them
John 17:18
As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.
John 20:21
Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.