



Sunday March 15, 2020
A Disciple of Jesus Christ
Part 2: The Process

Review

Moving from Being A Believer To Disciple

THE LORD JESUS HAS CALLED US TO BE HIS DISCIPLES, NOT JUST BELIEVERS.

The Great Commission

BECOMING A DISCIPLE BY ENROLLING AS A LEARNER, OR PUPIL

Be immersed

Be taught.

Through the books of Acts, Every believer was a disciple!

DISCIPLES ARE IMITATORS OF THEIR TEACHER. A disciple is someone who is becoming like his teacher.

A DISCIPLE IS A LEARNER AND FOLLOWER OF HIS TEACHER, COMMITTED TO BECOMING LIKE HIS TEACHER.

As disciples of Jesus we are committed to understanding His heart, knowing His mind, living for His purposes, living life His way, and doing His works (what he would do).

Jesus said "*it is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher*". THIS IS THE NECESSARY AND SUFFICIENT END GOAL OF BEING HIS DISCIPLE, THAT WE BECOME LIKE HIM.

The Father's Plan

What Discipleship is Not

Discipleship is not following a set of rules, do's and don'ts.

Discipleship is not selective adherence

Discipleship is not a retainer program

Overcoming Practical Challenges

No time

Overload of information

Superficiality

Pull of worldliness



What Jesus Said About Being His Disciple

TODAY:

A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST, PART 2: THE PROCESS

Embracing Jesus As Teacher And Master

Matthew 10:24-25

24 "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master...

John 13:13-14

13 You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.

14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

It is interesting to note the words Jesus used to describe the relationship between the disciples and Himself. To the disciple Jesus is Teacher (instructor) and Lord or Master (Greek '*kurios*') meaning supreme in authority.

So the disciple not only learns from the Teacher but also submits to the lordship and authority of the Teacher as Master.

It is not enough to learn the teachings of Jesus to be His disciple. A true disciple also submits to the lordship of Jesus, yielding to Him as the One who has final authority in his life.

To make our journey into becoming disciples of Jesus we must embrace Him both as Teacher and Master. We are willing to learn His teachings as well as submit to His Lordship in our lives. This is where many tend to fail. We are eager to know His teachings but are unwilling to have Him be our Master.

Jesus made it clear that "*no one can serve two masters*" (Matthew 6:24). If Jesus is your Master, then you have no other. He alone has supreme authority in your life and as His disciple you will follow Him alone.

Being Perfectly Trained

We have to be perfectly trained as disciples, to become like our Teacher and Master.



Luke 6:40

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

The words "perfectly trained" (Greek 'katartizo') means "to render fit, complete". It signifies right ordering and arrangement, it points out the path of progress, it indicates the close relationship between character and destiny. **It indicates that one has been rendered fit, fully trained, and completely equipped in order to fulfill a purpose or assignment.** Other versions translate 'katartizo' as fully trained, fully taught, completed their training, fully qualified.

When a disciple is perfectly and thoroughly trained, then they will be like their Master (Luke 6:40).

Let us understand the training process that the Teacher and Master takes His disciples through. In order to do this, we will study what Jesus said people should do, if they were to be His disciples.

We will outline the training process with these five statements:

- #1, Training In His Presence (Be With Jesus)
- #2, Training Of His Word (Live By His Word)
- #3, Training Of His Spirit (Yield To The Spirit)
- #4, Training Through Fellowship (Fellowship With And Serve Other Disciples)
- #5, Training Of The Cross (Carry Your Cross Daily)

#1, Training In His Presence (Be With Jesus)

Mark 3:14-15

14 Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, 15 and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons:

In the Gospels we see Jesus identifying and call Twelve men to be His closest disciples, who are also referred to as the Twelve apostles. Their first or immediate call was to "be with Him". Then He would send them out to do the works that He was doing.

We can picture it like this. Jesus called them and said: 'just be with me. Stay with me. Hangout with me. Go where I go. Watch me as I speak to people. Watch me as I heal, deliver and work miracles. Just be with me. And later I will send you out to do just the same'.

Later in the book of Acts, this is what we read:



Acts 4:13

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

Peter and John were brought before the rulers, elders, scribes and the high priest. These leaders were amazed at the boldness of Peter and John, "uneducated and untrained" men. They came to only one conclusion. These men are what they are because they "had been with Jesus". **The Passion Translation puts it like this: "Then they began to understand the effect Jesus had on them simply by spending time with him."**

Jesus will have an "effect" on us, by us simply spending time with Him! He transforms us into His own likeness! We become like Him, when we spend time with Him. We can then go and re-present Him by living, speaking and doing what He would do.

We must "be with Him" by spending time "with" Him in prayer, worship, in the Word, and in the continuous practice His presence. These are the daily disciplines of a disciple. The Lord Jesus Himself withdrew often to be alone with His Father. In a similar manner, as His disciples, we must pull ourselves away from our responsibilities, cares and the busyness of life in the world, to be alone with Jesus.

The disciple is not greater or above their Master (Matthew 10:24). Which means the disciple must walk the same path their Master walked. There are no shortcuts for the disciple.

Judas And Demas - The Pull Of The World

Keep in mind that one of the Twelve who did spend time with Jesus, eventually betrayed Jesus. Judas was deceived with the lure of just 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:14-16). Similarly, in the closing lines of his final epistle, there is a tinge of sadness in the writing of the apostle Paul as he mentions about one of his associates "*for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed..*" (2 Timothy 4:10). We are living in the time the apostle warned about, a time when deceiving spirits and doctrines (teachings) of demons will draw people away from the faith (1 Timothy 4:1). The message here is, **DONT LET ANYTHING DRAW YOU AWAY FROM BEING WITH JESUS!**

Mary - Delighting In Word And Worship

An amazing example is that of Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha. In Luke 10:38-42 we have the record when Jesus visited their home, Mary chose to simply sit and listen to



Jesus. We don't read about Lazarus, and Martha was very busy trying to serve the Master. On another occasion recorded in John 12:1-8, when Jesus visited their home, Lazarus sat at the table with Jesus, Martha was again busy with serving, but Mary, this time brought out the best perfume she had and anointed the feet of Jesus. Two powerful descriptions of a woman who loved listening to Jesus and worshipping Jesus, both expressions of just "being with" Jesus!

Embrace the training in His Presence. Be with Jesus.

#2, Training Of His Word (Live By His Word)

John 8:31-32

31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

The Lord Jesus directed those who believe in Him to abide in His Word. This is what would make them truly His disciples.

Abiding in His Word is what brings us into knowing the truth. It is the truth that we know, not just what we hear, but what we know, what we embrace and what we personally experience for ourselves, that actually transform and liberates us.

The word 'abide' (Greek 'meno') means to stay in a given place, dwell, endure. Other versions render 'abide in My word' as: keep on obeying, continue, remain, obey my teaching, stick with this, living out what I tell you, and continue to embrace all that I teach.

To abide in His Word then is to believe and live by His Word, all the time. His Word forms the basis for the way we live - believe, think, speak and act.

A disciple believes and lives by their Master's Word (John 8:31).

In his final words to the leaders from Ephesus, the apostle Paul gave this admonition:

Acts 20:32

So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

The apostle Paul committed them to the Word of God. This Word he said is able to build disciples up and cause us to walk in the inheritance that is ours.



Embrace the training of His Word. Live by His Word.

#3, Training Of His Spirit (Yield To The Spirit)

John 14:16-18,26

16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

Another important part of the disciple's training is the work of the Spirit of God. The Lord Jesus spoke to His disciples about the work of the Holy Spirit. Jesus called the Holy Spirit "another Helper", the '*Allos Parakletos*'. 'Allos' another just like the first One. Example: two fruits, two oranges (*allos*) versus an apple and an orange (*heteros*). He is to us all that our Teacher and Master would have been, if Jesus were here physically present. The Holy Spirit is here to teach us everything that Jesus wants us to learn as we grow as His disciples.

We must welcome the work of the Spirit in us. The Spirit guides, corrects, directs, teaches, and trains us, all with the goal of making us like Jesus.

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Through the work of the Spirit we are being transformed into the image of Jesus Christ. The Spirit of God bears the fruit of Christ-like grace and virtues in our lives (Galatians 5:22-23).

In Ezekiel 47:1-12 Ezekiel has a vision, where he sees a river flowing out of the Temple. He is taken into the river, first ankle deep, then knee deep, then waist deep and then he was taken deeper into the river so that he had to swim. In the New Testament we know that the river is a type of the Spirit (John 7:37-39). And as believers we need to open up to the deeper measures of the work of the Spirit. Come on deeper into the river of the Spirit, where we let the river carry us.

Embrace the training of His Spirit. Yield to the Spirit.



#4, Training Through Fellowship (Fellowship With And Serve Other Disciples)

John 13:13-14

13 You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.

14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

Just prior to His crucifixion, the Lord Jesus did something that shocked His disciples. He washed the feet of His disciples. He then taught them that they ought to wash one another's feet.

Washing another's feet is symbolic of serving them, caring and ministering to their needs.

An important part of the disciple's training and transformation into Christ-likeness happens as we learn to serve, care for and minister to other disciples. This obviously implies that we are good terms, in good fellowship with other disciples.

It is in serving other disciples, that hard areas of pride, prominence, self, jealousy, competition, etc. get broken down. We become like our Master who "*did not come to be served, but to serve*" (Matthew 20:28).

Fellowship and serving one another was an important aspect of the Early Church.

Acts 2:42-47

42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

All of us must learn to be part of a local church body, find our place and role and serve one another. The goal is to wash the feet of other disciples. Jesus did it. So must we!

A disciple follows Jesus' example and washes the feet of other disciples (John 13:13-17).

A disciple of Jesus is a servant to other disciples (Matthew 20:25-28).

Embrace training through fellowship. Fellowship with and serve other disciples.



#5, Training Of The Cross (Carry Your Cross Daily)

Luke 14:25-33

25 Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them,
26 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.
27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.
28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—
29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,
30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'
31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?
32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.
33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

Jesus spelled out very clearly what it will take to be His disciple. We often refer to this as "the cost Of discipleship", or the price one must pay in order to be a disciple of Jesus.

We can capture it in these three statements:

- (A) Single minded devotion
- (B) The daily cross
- (C) All laid down

(A) Single Minded Devotion

Luke 14:26

If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

The Lord Jesus stated it very clearly, that if anyone wanted to be His disciple, then she/he must love Jesus far above anyone else.

A disciple's love for their Master must supersede their love for any other earthly relationship (Luke 14:26).

Luke 9:57-62

57 Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, that someone said to Him, "Lord, I will follow You wherever You go."
58 And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."
59 Then He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father."
60 Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God."
61 And another also said, "Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house."



62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

The above Scriptures are quite strong, but the message is clear. We cannot be double minded, or divided about our devotion to Jesus.

(B) The Daily Cross

Luke 14:27

And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

A disciple must carry their cross daily (Luke 14:27). The cross represents a place of suffering, separation, sacrifice and death. The disciple understands that this is the pathway to fruitfulness and honor (John 12:24-26).

Suffering for the cause of Christ

Romans 5:3,4

**3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;
4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.**

We may have to suffer ridicule, accusation, persecution. We may have to suffer hardships, discomfort and so on.

Disciples must be willing to face ridicule, false accusation and persecution just as their Master did (Matthew 10:25).

Separation from the affections of this world

Galatians 6:14

But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Because of the Cross of Jesus, we are dead to the world, and the world is dead to us. We choose to live this way, as one dead to the sin and ungodly pleasures in this world.

Sacrifice for the sake of Christ

Philippians 3:7

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.



We must be willing to sacrifice, to give up what we could have, or take up what we do not need to be responsible for. We do these sacrificially.

Dying in order to bear fruit for Christ

John 12:24-26

24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.

25 He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

26 If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

(C) All Laid Down

Luke 14:33

So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

A disciple must forsake all for the sake of their Master (Luke 14:33). This means the disciple's love for their Master is greater than their love or affection for anything else in this world.

Embrace the training of the Cross. Carry your cross daily.

Count The Cost - Pay The Price

Luke 14:28-32

28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—

29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him,

30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.'

31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.

SUMMARY

The training process:

#1, Training In His Presence (Be With Jesus)

#2, Training Of His Word (Live By His Word)

#3, Training Of His Spirit (Yield To The Spirit)

#4, Training Through Fellowship (Fellowship With And Serve Other Disciples)

#5, Training Of The Cross (Carry Your Cross Daily)



As we yield to His training process in our lives, we as His disciples will become like our Teacher and Master!

MINISTRY TIME | SALVATION CALL

There is nothing too hard for God. Nothing impossible with God.

Proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior, Healer, Deliver, Miracle Worker.

He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

The power of the Holy Spirit and all the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for us today.

We have been commissioned to do the works He did and even greater works.

We must come to Him in faith and we will receive.

Minister for people to receive healings, deliverances and miracles.

Take testimonies.

Lead in prayer for repentance and salvation.



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Sunday March 15, 2020
A Disciple of Jesus Christ
Part 2: The Process

The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons. Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *Luke 6:40 (other Scriptures given below)*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1) Discuss the "training process" of a disciple as outlined in these five statements. Talk about the practical application of each - how does this happen in our daily lives.

#1, Training In His Presence (Be With Jesus) Mark 3:14-15

#2, Training Of His Word (Live By His Word) John 8:31-32

#3, Training Of His Spirit (Yield To The Spirit) John 14:16-18,26

#4, Training Through Fellowship (Fellowship With And Serve Other Disciples) John 13:13-14



#5, Training Of The Cross (Carry Your Cross Daily) Luke 14:25-33

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.



USEFUL RESOURCES

Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>