



Discipleship

By: Larry Howard

What is Discipleship

- **Disciple:**
- : one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another
- as a : one of the twelve in the inner circle of Christ's followers according to the Gospel accounts

What is Discipleship

- Relationship between Discipleship and Discipline is the latin word **discipulus**
- **Discipulus:** given, teaching, learning, knowledge," also "object of instruction, knowledge, science, military discipline."
- Discipleship is teaching mentoring and raising someone up in discipline, knowledge, understanding and relationship with Jesus Christ. If we were in a university or school setting this would be the discipline of Christ Jesus

The Great Commission

- Matt. 28:18-20: And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
- This articulates that we are to go and make disciples because it is the parting instruction of Christ.

Why We Need Discipleship

- Discipleship is a critical component to transitioning people through the life cycle of a church and their walk as a believer.
- Discipleship should be seen with the upmost importance as that Jesus Christ himself disciplined twelve men.
- Discipleship is a process of accountability that would be most seen in elementary stages of Christianity.
- Discipleship should encompass the core of Christian teaching, leadership teaching, and gift teaching. If discipleship doesn't successfully occur one could fall out of the Christian growth process and digress or be stagnated from further growth to true Godly potential.
- Discipleship and Accountability without relationship is DICTATORSHIP. Discipleship requires relational interaction between the teacher and the student. This allows the parties to be transparent in their encounters and comfortable opening up and gently rebuking when necessary
- Discipleship comes with discipline and accountability. This is an area of vulnerability for many Christians because it requires obedience.
- Discipleship should also be a measurable metric in which we should be able to gauge how much we have grown and how well we disciple people.
- Every great athlete has a coach or a personal trainer. The goal of this trainer is to push us to our full potential. In discipleship we seek that trainer to disciple us to be our full potential in Christ Jesus. This can be also be referred to as a covering.



Biblical Support for Discipleship

- **Luke 9:23 ESV**

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

- **2 Timothy 2:2 ESV**

And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

- **Ephesians 4:11-17ESV**

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

- **Matthew 16:24-25ESV**

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

- **Titus 2:1-8 ESV**

But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ...



Biblical Support for Discipleship

- **Acts 14:20-22 ESV**

But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

- **John 8:31-32 ESV**

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

- **2 Corinthians 5:20 ESV**

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

- **Hebrews 13:17 ESV**

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

- **2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV**

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.



How To Disciple Others

- **Be Biblical:** *2nd Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*
- **Be a friend:** Often the most neglected part of discipleship
- **Be relevant:** Be able to relate in a current context
- **Be honest:** Being transparent about your own struggles shows your humanity and ability to overcome them. *Revelations 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.*
- **Be Gentle:** Often times we are too harsh in our rebuke which may turn off those who may be seeking true change. *Galatians 6:1 Brothers, if a person is caught doing something wrong, those of you who are spiritual should restore that person gently.*
- **Be Loving:** *1st Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient love is kind*



Practical Application

- Identify a coach or a covering
 - Pastor, leader, elder, someone who is mature in the faith to walk you through the process of sanctification. (Becoming more like Christ)
- Foundations of Faith Study
 - Determine the fundamentals to what you believe. (Can you in 2 minutes explain your faith and what you believe)
- Who Jesus is...
 - Be able to describe who Jesus is in divination and humanity
 - Personal testimony
- Who the Holy Spirit is....
 - The role of the Holy Spirit
 - How it empowers us
 - The fruit and the gifts of the spirit
- How to Study the Bible:
 - Character Study
 - Chapter Study
 - Verse by Verse
 - Exegetical vs. Isogesis
 - Historical Study
 - Devotional
- Set Goals and Benchmarks for the process

