

Discipleship

The greatest desire in life is to possess enough self-discipline to take control over our existence. Self-discipline is simply making a disciple of oneself. You then become your own teacher, coach, and trainer. The challenge here is taking orders from anyone, especially ourselves. Otherwise, we have to put up with unhappiness, stress, anxieties, tempers, impulses, and passions. And overcome temptations for opportunity knocks once, but temptation keeps banging on your door forever.”

Webster dictionary says a disciple is one of the twelve in the inner circle of Christ's followers according to the Gospel accounts, and one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrines of another.

Taking charge means taking command of habits and everyday behavior. Strong desire is a good start. A want-to-be disciple, for example, struggles with a lifestyle involving the Internet. He must press on replacing an old habit with the opposite habit until it becomes a neurological pathway. This requires twenty-one continuous days

The Sadducees and Pharisees were poor disciples, as are the people who find God objectionable, for they adjust the truth to fit their desires.

A disciple is a student of Jesus who believes, teaches, lives, and shares the gospel with others. “Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me” (Matthew 16:24: NLT).

Follow the Holy Spirit who is the greatest mentor who ever lived. He first touched the disciples in the form of tongues of fire at Pentecost. As His imitator, you will be transformed into fishers of men without pride, ambition, or self. It's not just about washing feet, but a servant honoring, trusting, and respecting others.

Being a disciple is right up there with salvation. Watch your obedience influence your decisions by following the Holy Spirit. “Jesus said to the people who believed in him, you are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:31-32). Being free means you're no longer in sin or bondage.

Catch the key: “If you continue in my word, then are ye my disciple indeed, and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make ye free” (John 8:31-32, KJV).

“Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age”” (Matthew 28:18-20, NLT).

A Disciple's Goals

1. Be in obedience by walking with Jesus.
2. Read the entire Bible every year.
3. Fast one day or one meal a week.
4. Meditate and spend time with God and His Word.
5. Schedule prayer, worship, and speaking in tongues.
6. Speak positive confessions even into existence.
7. Achieve God's destiny before going to Heaven.
8. Confess and repent of any sins.
9. Lead people to Jesus and as the Spirit leads you.
10. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.
11. Pray for one another.
12. Add more goals as necessary.

Great godly blessings,
Phil Goldfedder