



SESSION #6 SOME BIBLICAL STEPS FOR BEING A DISCIPLE OF JESUS

1. Study Jesus' character and actions in the gospels

Choose one of the gospels and read it through carefully for the specific purpose to know your Master and to see the example of what you are to be and do as His disciple. Compare each part of His life to yours, surrendering your ways to His. His incredible life becomes yours.

"Follow Me!" (Matthew 9:9)

2. Examine the lives and characteristics of Jesus' twelve disciples and other followers

Study the gospels and the book of Acts to see what Jesus' followers did and said.

- Learn from their good choices and mistakes. Ask God to open your eyes to see your own failures and shortcomings.
- Study how the disciples changed through the events of Jesus' death and resurrection and the preparation and reception of the Holy Spirit. Seek with all your heart to follow the same path of repentance and deepening faith-filled devotion.

"Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1)

3. Study Jesus' teachings

Go through the gospels, looking at His sayings, His parables and what He specifically said about being a disciple. Commit yourself to comparing your life with what He expects and desires from you. Know that His commands are really promises. You can be a disciple of Jesus, not through your own strength, but by relying on His creative word to empower you to be everything to which He calls.

"Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19)

4. In every circumstance, ask the question "What would Jesus do?"

This can be more effective with two questions from the two great commandments (Matthew 22:37-40). Before everything you do, say, or even think ask:

- 1) Will this demonstrate love to God or will it draw me farther away from Him?
- 2) Will this help me love and serve people more or will it lead them away from Him?

5. Choose daily baptism

This means that moment-by-moment you choose to die to any selfish thoughts or desires. You choose instead to rise by faith to a new Spirit-filled life of love by the power of Jesus' death, resurrection, and His present mediation in your behalf (Romans 6, Galatians 3:27).

"baptizing them" (Matthew 28:19-20)

6. Study How to Make Disciples

Go through the gospels again looking for how Jesus made disciples. Examine how He selected them, associated with them, encouraged and challenged them, demonstrated to them and delegated tasks to them.

"Make disciples" (Matthew 28:19)

7. Help someone else to be a disciple of Jesus

Find someone who wants to follow Jesus. Help that person follow the five steps above. Serve people wherever you go while taking this individual along. Let them watch what you do, then try to follow what Jesus said with your encouragement.

"Go" (Matthew 28:19)

For more resources, visit

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SESSION #6 SEARCH ME—MAKE ME A DISCIPLE OF JESUS

Many excitedly gathered around Jesus but few truly followed Him and became disciple-makers. Jesus invites you to search His life in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John to truly know Him and what a disciple is, then to count the cost, and follow. Here is a fresh beginning to the greatest of all adventures.

- 1. Vine-and-branch closeness with Him** (John 15:1-16; Mark 3:13-14)
 - Am I spending meaningful, impacting time with Jesus in Bible study, prayer, and heartfelt worship?
- 2. Love Him more than anyone else** (Luke 14:26; Matthew 10:37)
 - Is any friend or family member influencing me more than Jesus?
 - Do I ask: “What do my peers think?” or “What would Jesus do?”
- 3. Love Him more than any desire** (Luke 14:27; Matthew 16:24-27)
 - Does my entertainment lessen my desire to be with Jesus?
 - Does what I eat and drink make my body stronger, my mind clearer, and help me live longer to serve Him?
- 4. Love Him more than any possession** (Luke 14:33; Matthew 19:16-30)
 - Have I been generous with my time and money for those in need or wasteful and spending primarily on myself?
- 5. Love Him through suffering, even to death** (Matthew 10: 24-25; Luke 14:26-27)
 - Have I been complaining and critical or humble, trusting, and thankful?
- 6. Find freedom from sin through His creative Word** (John 8:31-36)
 - Are there any actions, words, or impure thoughts that I am resisting the Holy Spirit’s call to turn from?
 - Am I fighting my temptations with God’s promises?
- 7. Love people like Jesus did and does** (John 13:34-35; Matthew 18; Luke 6:40 & context)
 - Who am I struggling to love and forgive?
 - Am I caring for my family members like Jesus would?
- 8. Tell everyone God’s stories: new, old, and mine** (Matthew 13:52; Mark 3:14)
 - Who have I verbally shared God’s goodness with recently?
- 9. Set people free from sickness and Satan’s power** (Matthew. 10:1; 16:17-18)
 - What have I tangibly done to help anyone in the last week?
- 10. Go make disciples of all the nations** (Matthew 28:18-20)
 - Who, of another culture, am I helping to follow Jesus?

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