

Will the Real Disciple Please Stand Up?

Introduction: The Foundation Sets the Course Every Year.

- OS-Operating system in computers
 - Fundamentals
 - The foundation in a house

C.S Lewis“put first things first and we get second things thrown in: Put second things first and we lose both first and second things.”

Question: What is a Disciple?

Matthew 4:18-20 (NIV)

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

1st Jesus said, “Come”... (Join Me in an Intentional Relationship).

- Be with me.
 - Discipleship is a relational process.

John 15:14 (NIV)

You are my friends if you do what I command.

John 17:6-10 (NLT)

“I have revealed you to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, for I have passed on to them the message you gave me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me. “My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory.

2nd Jesus said, “Come Follow Me.”

- Jesus explains what kind of relationship you will have with Him.

John 15:14 (NIV)

You are my friends if you do what I command.

Luke 9:23-26 (NIV)

Then he said to them all: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

John 8:31-32 (NIV)

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Philippians 3:18-20 (NIV)

For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

3rd Jesus said, “I will Make You into...”

- See Jeremiah 18:2ff
 - He will take us as we are but will change us.
 - He will not force us. We have the choice to follow or not.

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, **to offer your bodies** as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will.

This Shaping Process Takes Time.

God's Part

John 15:1-8 (NIV)

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. ⁸This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Our Part

1 Peter 2:2 (NIV)

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,

2 Peter 1:5-8 (NIV)

For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4th Jesus Gives Us a Mission. He Sends Us Out.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (NIV)

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

John 17:13-19 (NLT)

“Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. ¹⁴I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to this world any more than I do. ¹⁷**Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.** ¹⁸Just as you sent me into the world, **I am sending them into the world.** ¹⁹And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth.

Jesus Gave Us a Method.

- They understood exactly what He meant because they had just gone through the process.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Philippians 3:17 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example.

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