

The Gospel of John
Part 35
Discipleship 101

1. **Becoming** a Christian who is forgiven of all their sins, adopted into the family of God as a child of God, and given the **gift** of eternal life in heaven is **easy**.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Ephesians 2:8–9 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Romans 11:6 But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

Titus 3:5–6 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

2. Becoming a **disciple** of Jesus is **hard**.

Luke 14:33 "So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

3. A disciple is a **fully** devoted **follower** of Jesus.

Matthew 9:9 As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax collector's booth; and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him.

Matthew 10:38 "And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

4. Disciples are **blessed** by the Lord in a **special** way with;
 - a. **honor** from God the Father,
 - b. supernatural **joy**, **peace** and **strength** to handle all pressure
 - c. given the title, "**friends** of **Jesus**"
 - d. powerful **authority** in prayer

Matthew 10:1 Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

- e. **guidance** into the **will** of God for our life.

5. There are **five** marks of a **true** disciple.

- a. A **true** disciple faithfully **reads** the **Bible** as a discipline of life.

Psalm 1:2–3 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

John 8:31–32 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

- b. A **true** disciple is **devoted** to **prayer**.

John 14:13–14 "Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ "If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it*.

John 15:7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

John 15:16 “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

John 16:23–24 Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. ²⁴ “Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

c. A **true** disciple is addicted to **fruit bearing**.

John 15:16 “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

John 12:24 “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

John 15:5 “I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

John 15:8 “My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.

d. A **true** disciple **picks** up his **cross** daily.

Luke 9:23 And He was saying to *them* all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Romans 6:13 but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

e. A true disciple **loves** people the **same** way Jesus **loves** us.

John 13:34–35 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ “By

this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 15:12–13 “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. ¹³ “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:17–18 “This I command you, that you love one another. ¹⁸ “If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before *it hated you*.

6. Loving people means that we **lay down** our life for them, we **sacrifice**, we do **hard** willingly.

7. To love people the way Jesus does is to **forgive** them of anything they do no matter how **bad** it is and no matter how many **times** they have done it.

Matthew 6:14–15 “For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ “But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Matthew 18:21–22 Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

8. To love people the way Jesus does is to treat them with great **honor**, be **kind** to them, speak gracious words that edify, never get **angry** at them, not even a little bit.

Ephesians 4:31–32 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

9. The key to loving people sacrificially is to **do** it for **Jesus**, **not** for the people you are attempting to love.

Ezekiel 24:15–18 And the word of the Lord came to me saying, ¹⁶ “Son of man, behold, I am about to take from you the desire of your eyes with a

blow; but you shall not mourn and you shall not weep, and your tears shall not come. ¹⁷ “Groan silently; make no mourning for the dead. Bind on your turban and put your shoes on your feet, and do not cover *your* mustache and do not eat the bread of men.” ¹⁸ So I spoke to the people in the morning, and in the evening my wife died. And in the morning I did as I was commanded.

Colossians 3:23–24 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

1 Peter 1:22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

Romans 14:6–9 He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; ⁸ for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

Ephesians 6:5–8 Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; ⁶ not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. ⁷ With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, ⁸ knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

10. A disciple **obeys** Jesus, serves Jesus, and **follows** Jesus. Jesus is Lord, master, and King of a disciples life. A disciple must keep **correcting** their **course** to stay focused on Jesus.

11. Discipleship is all about **influencing** people for Jesus, and we will only be able to do that if we **love** them like Jesus.

Matthew 4:19 And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

12. The **Communion Service** is where we **ceremonially** declare Jesus Lord of our life.

John 13:34–35 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”³⁵ “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.