

Study Guide: Disciples Are Obedient

Theme Scripture

Matthew 28:18–20 (AMP): Jesus said, “All authority (all power of absolute rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations... teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

1. The Foundation of Discipleship

Truth: You must be a disciple before you can make disciples. Principle: You cannot reproduce what you don't practice. Examples: You can't teach prayer if you never pray. You can't guide to freedom if you live in bondage. You can't give direction if you don't follow God's instruction yourself. Reflection: Where in your life are you trying to lead without living the lesson first?

2. What is a Disciple?

Disciple (Hebrew: talmid) means a student who imitates their teacher's way of life. A Disciple is a LEARNER: studies God's Word to live it. A Disciple is an IMITATOR: imitates Jesus' prayer, compassion, forgiveness, service, and sacrifice. A Disciple is a FOLLOWER: lives in obedience, going where the Teacher leads. Reflection: Am I only learning information, or am I imitating and following Christ daily?

3. The Hebrew Concept of Obedience: Shama

Shama = to hear and respond with action. Hearing without responding = disobedience. Kingdom Formula: Hearing + Action = Obedience. Reflection: Where have I heard God's Word but failed to act on it?

4. Obedience vs. Sacrifice

1 Samuel 15:22: “To obey is better than sacrifice.” Sacrifice is giving what you choose; obedience is giving what God asks. True worship = aligning actions with God's Word. Reflection: Am I giving God sacrifices of convenience, or the obedience He desires?

5. Proof of Discipleship

John 8:31–32: True disciples hold to Jesus' teaching. Hypocrisy kills discipleship; authenticity fuels it. Examples: Preaching prayer but living in worry; preaching forgiveness but holding grudges. Encouragement: Your obedience speaks louder than your words.

6. Blessings of Obedience

Deuteronomy 28:1–2: Obedience brings blessings. James 1:22–25: Doers of the Word are blessed. Reflection: How is my obedience (or disobedience) affecting those I influence?

7. Growing in Obedience

Obedience is daily surrender, not perfection. Steps: Read God's Word, respond immediately, depend on the Spirit (John 14:26), stay accountable, repent quickly. Prayer: "Lord, help me be better today than I was yesterday."

8. Practical Application This Week

Daily: Read one passage and live it out. Prayer: 10 minutes daily. Relationships: Forgive, serve, or encourage someone. Accountability: Share your obedience goal with a friend. Obedience Challenge: Respond immediately when God speaks.

Closing Declaration

This is my Bible. This is the Word of God. I am who this Word says I am. I can do what this Word says I can do. I don't just read it—I live it. I don't just hear it—I obey it. I am not just a believer—I am a disciple. I will walk in obedience and make disciples as I follow Jesus.