What Discipleship Looks Like

Study Guide – Based on 1 Timothy 4:1–16

Key Passage:

"Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers." – 1 Timothy 4:16 (NIV)

Main Themes of Discipleship:

1. Disciples Pay Attention (vv. 1–6)

• Be spiritually alert: some will abandon the faith and follow false teachings.
• Stay rooted in truth and discernment.
• A good disciple calls out deception and upholds sound doctrine.

Reflection Questions:

• Am I able to recognize false teaching when I hear it?
• How can I grow in discernment and biblical truth?

2. Disciples Are Godly (vv. 7–10)

• Reject myths and empty talk; train in godliness.
• Godliness impacts both this life and the one to come.
• Labor and strive not for approval but out of hope in the living God.

Reflection Questions:

• What spiritual disciplines am I actively practicing?
• In what areas is God calling me to grow in godliness?

3. Disciples Are Consistent (vv. 11–16)

• Teach and live the Word with boldness—even in youth.
• Set an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity.
• Be diligent, use your gifts, and let others see your progress.
• Watch your life and doctrine closely and persevere.

Reflection Questions:

• Am I consistently living out what I say I believe?
• How can I be an example to others in my daily walk?

Application Steps:

■ Stay in the Word – Devote yourself to Scripture, sound teaching, and public reading of the Word (v. 13).

■ Use Your Gifts – Don't neglect your spiritual gifts. Stir them up and use them for God's glory (v. 14).
■ Live Intentionally – Let others see your spiritual progress. Be mindful of how you live and what you teach (vv. 15–16).
■ Lead by Example – Set a standard in every area of your life, no matter your age or status (v. 12).

Prayer Focus:

Ask God to help you stay anchored in truth, grow in godliness, and walk with consistency as a disciple of Jesus. Pray for courage to teach, live, and persevere in faith—regardless of the cultural climate.