

The Personal Goal of Discipleship  
Matthew 28:18-20  
Oct. 29, 2023

The greatest thing we were ever asked to do.

**Matthew 28:18-20 - Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> 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, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**

1. Name some accomplishments you have completed so far in your life? Did they take away from becoming what God called you to be?
2. Biblical discipleship means, to be **a disciple** or to **make a disciple**.  
What are you willing to change in your life to be obedient to God and make this happen? Are you willing?
3. Do you consider yourself as a believer or a disciple of Christ? Why?
4. What is the difference between holding a belief in something, and being a disciple of someone?
5. To be a disciple, action is certainly required. What are you willing to do?

It cannot simply be head knowledge. If all that were necessary to be a disciple was knowledge, then Jesus could have stayed with His disciples in a room and told them what they needed to know. Instead, Jesus took His disciples into a 3-year apprenticeship. They had three years of on-the-job training. They walked and talked with Jesus as He ministered to the people, as He taught and as He healed.

The Greek root word for disciple means to learn by use and practice.

In order for them to become disciples of Christ, they had to imitate the things that Jesus did, they had to put into practice His teachings. And so, we too must put into practice the teachings of Jesus in order to be His disciple. We can't just believe His teaching; we must put it into action.

### **Truth/Reality**

You can see the trends and how important it is to be a disciple and make disciples. It is obvious that the church of today is failing in this. Bible Colleges are closing and young people are not going into ministry because they are not being disciplined like they should be.

Churches are closing or merging together to survive because there are not enough Pastors to fill the pulpits. Many of them are surviving because someone in the church has stepped up to fill the position. I am not saying that is a bad thing, and I am thankful they are, but the ordained Pastoral position with a Seminary degree is seen less and less.

Leaders in the church are certainly in decline. We are not pouring into others in the local church to train them to become leaders.

1. We must be intentional.
2. We must be dedicated.

For the sake of our children and our children's children and those to come we must change what we are doing and make this a priority, or the followers of Jesus will be in great danger.

If we began with 200 people, each discipling one other person for one year, the following year we would have 400 people discipling 400 more, and then 800 with 800 more receiving instruction and guidance. By year 5, we would have 3,200 individuals leading 3,200 more in the ways of Christ. At year number 10, we would 102,400 disciples leading 102,400 others in the ways of Christ.

### **What is in our Next step Class**

1. You need someone to disciple you
2. You need someone to walk along with you as a fellow disciple – encouraging one another, holding each other accountable.
3. Last, you need to be discipling someone.

It is **a command**

Not **a suggestion**

Salvation is free, Discipleship will cost you your life.

What changes are you willing to make? Share them so others can be praying for you.

I am telling you that if we can grasp this and apply it to our lives, great things will happen in our church as well as for the Kingdom. If not, please don't look around and wonder what it happening to our church.

**Let the discipleship begin.**