

The Design of Discipleship

How God strengthens the souls of his saints

What is a disciple?

Disciple of Christ: "A person centered on Christ by Christ, through his word, with his people, and on his mission."

- BY CHRIST VERSES: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you." John 15:16
- THROUGH HIS WORD: *1 Peter 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, 25but the word of the Lord remains forever."* And this word is the good news that was preached to you... *2Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk (of the word), that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.*
- WITH HIS PEOPLE: *1 John 1: 7But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.*
- *2 Tim 2: 22So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.*
- ON HIS MISSION: Matthew 28: 16-20
- "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you." John 15:16

What does mean to 'make' disciples?

What happens in you?

1. God came to you... COMPLETELY untethered to anything you did, often it's despite you... Romans 3: 10as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; 11no one understands; no one seeks for God. 12All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." Ephesians 2:1,2 *1And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—*
2. God brought someone to you to proclaim the good news about Jesus!! Romans 10: 13For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?c And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"
3. Holy Spirit convicted you of specific ways in which you weren't living right! John 16 [8](#)And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:
4. Holy Spirit draws you to God's love in Christ: John 6:44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

What happens through you?

- John 20: 21 Again Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so also I am sending you."
- And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. John 10:16
- Mark 16:15 And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.

What are ways we get this wrong?

- 2 Cor 6:1 As God's co-workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. (NIV)
- Giles Fraser, "[Jesus] wants us to feel that we cannot do what morality demands... and he does so because he's pointing to something beyond morality." Jesus confronts us with our limits, not to

discourage us but to engineer a situation in which the phrase ‘what is impossible with man is possible with God’ might find traction. Faith in God begins where faith in oneself ends.”

- As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. 2 Timothy 4:5
- 1 Cor 2: 1 When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. 2For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 3I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. 4My message and my preaching were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, 5so that your faith would not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.
- Matthew 28 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Why do we make disciples?

- “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!” (Psalm 96:3)
- “in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.” (Romans 15:9)
- And now the LORD says— he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.” (Isaiah 49:5,6)
- “that [his] name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” (Romans 9:17)

How do we make disciples?

- Our communion with Christ goes hand in hand with our commission
 - COME FOLLOW ME!! ... Matthew 4:19
 - 2 Cor 5 for the LOVE of Christ compels us! 14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.... 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Who I am in Christ declarations

2 Cor 5: 17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come!

1. I am God’s child (John 1:12)
2. I have been justified (Romans 5:1).
3. I am Christ’s friend (John 15:15).
4. I belong to God (1 Corinthians 6:20).
5. I am a member of Christ’s Body (1 Corinthians 12:27).
6. I am assured all things work together for good (Romans 8:28) .
7. I have been established, anointed and sealed by God (2 Corinthians 1:21-22).
8. I am confident that God will perfect the work He has begun in me (Philippians 1:6).
9. I am a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20).
10. I am hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3).
11. I have not been given a spirit of fear, but of power, love and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7).
12. I / we are in Him (Ephesians 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:30). I have redemption (Ephesians 1:8).
13. I / we are born of God and the evil one cannot touch us (1 John 5:18).

14. I / we are blessed in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3)
15. I / we are chosen before the creation of the world (Ephesians 1:4, 11).
16. I / we are holy and blameless in Christ (Ephesians 1:4).
17. I / we are adopted as his child (Ephesians 1:5).
18. I / we are given God's glorious grace lavishly and without restriction (Ephesians 1:5,8).
19. I / we are forgiven (Ephesians 1:8; Colossians 1:14).
20. I / we have purpose (Ephesians 1:9 & 3:11).
21. I / we have hope (Ephesians 1:12).
22. I am included (Ephesians 1:13).
23. I / we are sealed with the promised Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13).
24. I am a saint (Ephesians 1:18) with all the saints!
25. I /we are the salt and light of the earth (Matthew 5:13-14).
26. I /we have been chosen and God desires me to bear fruit (John 15:1,5).
27. I /we are a personal witness of Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8).
28. I am God's co-worker (2 Corinthians 6:1).
29. I am a minister of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:17-20).
30. I am alive with Christ (Ephesians 2:5).
31. I /we are raised up with Christ (Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 2:12).
32. I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 2:6).
33. I /we have been shown the incomparable riches of God's grace (Ephesians 2:7).
34. God has expressed His kindness to me /us (Ephesians 2:7).
35. I am God's workmanship (Ephesians 2:10).
36. I / we have been brought near to God through Christ's blood (Ephesians 2:13).
37. I / we have peace (Ephesians 2:14).
38. I /we have access to the Father (Ephesians 2:18).
39. I am a member of God's household (Ephesians 2:19).
40. I am secure (Ephesians 2:20).
41. We are a holy temple (Ephesians 2:21; 1 Corinthians 6:19).
42. I am a dwelling for the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:22).
43. We share in the promises of Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:6).
44. God's power works through me (Ephesians 3:7).
45. I can approach God with freedom and confidence (Ephesians 3:12).
46. I know there is a purpose for my sufferings (Ephesians 3:13).
47. I /we can grasp how wide, long, high and deep Christ's love is (Ephesians 3:18).
48. I am completed by God (Ephesians 3:19).
49. We bring glory to God (Ephesians 3:21).
50. I /we have been called (Ephesians 4:1; 2 Timothy 1:9).
51. I can be humble, gentle, patient and lovingly tolerant of others (Ephesians 4:2).
52. I can mature spiritually (Ephesians 4:15).
53. We can be certain of God's truths and the lifestyle that He has called me to (Ephesians 4:17).
54. We can have a new attitude and a new lifestyle (Ephesians 4:21-32).
55. I can be kind and compassionate to others (Ephesians 4:32).
56. I can forgive others (Ephesians 4:32).
57. I /we are a light to others and can exhibit goodness, righteousness and truth (Ephesians 5:8-9).
58. I /we can understand what God's will is (Ephesians 5:17).
59. I can give thanks for everything (Ephesians 5:20).
60. I don't have to always have my own agenda (Ephesians 5:21).
61. We can honour God through marriage (Ephesians 5:22-33).
62. We can parent my children with composure (Ephesians 6:4).
63. I can be strong (Ephesians 6:10).
64. I have God's power (Ephesians 6:10).
65. I can stand firm in the day of evil (Ephesians 6:13).
66. I am dead to sin (Romans 1:12).
67. I am not alone (Hebrews 13:5).

68. I am growing (Colossians 2:7).
69. I am His disciple (John 13:15).
70. I am prayed for by Jesus Christ (John 17:20-23).
71. I am united with other believers (John 17:20-23).
72. We are not in want (Philippians 4:19).
73. I possess the mind of Christ (I Corinthians 2:16).
74. We are promised eternal life (John 6:47).
75. We are promised a full life (John 10:10).
76. I am victorious (I John 5:4).
77. My heart and mind is protected with God's peace (Philippians 4:7).
78. I /we are chosen and dearly loved (Colossians 3:12).
79. I /we are blameless (I Corinthians 1:8).
80. I am set free (Romans 8:2; John 8:32).
81. I /we are crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20).
82. I /we are a light in the world (Matthew 5:14).
83. I /we are more than a conqueror (Romans 8:37).
84. I /we are the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21).
85. I am safe (I John 5:18).
86. I /we are part of God's kingdom (Revelation 1:6).
87. I /we are healed from sin (I Peter 2:24).
88. I /we are no longer condemned (Romans 8:1, 2).
89. I /we are not helpless (Philippians 4:13).
90. I /we are overcoming (I John 4:4).
91. I /we are persevering (Philippians 3:14).
92. I /we are protected (John 10:28).
93. I am born again (I Peter 1:23).
94. I am a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
95. I am delivered (Colossians 1:13).
96. I /we are redeemed from the curse of the law (Galatians 3:13).
97. I /we are qualified to share in His inheritance (Colossians 1:12).
98. We are victorious (1 Corinthians 15:57).
99. We will have all our tears wiped away (Rev. 21:5)