

## **03 | Come to Jesus**

### THREE STEPS TO DISCIPLE-MAKING

Welcome to step three of Three Steps to Disciple-Making, and this is a good one. This is the come to Jesus step. And so let's pray and we'll jump right into this teaching of Jesus once again. Father, we come to You in Jesus' name. We thank You for the Word of God. We thank You for the Holy Spirit that Ministers the Word, opens our eyes and our hearts and minds. Lord, I thank You that in this series, beginning from this series, if it hadn't already begun, that You're helping people to become solid disciples so that the storms of life can't take them out. In fact, not only that, but they live in the richness and the fullness and the blessing of God. As Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and have it more abundantly." May that be true because of this teaching from Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen.

Okay, so let's jump into this now. We're going to read our foundational passage here in Luke chapter six, verses 46 to 49. So here's what it says. Jesus speaking, He said, "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you? Everyone who comes to Me and here's My words and does them, I will show you what he is like. He is like a man building a house who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood

arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it because it had been well built." Another translation said, "it was founded on the rock." He goes on in verse 49 to say, "But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell and the ruin of that house was great." Well, the house that Jesus is talking about is our lives. And He's saying there are two categories of people, "There are people that will come to Me, and they'll hear My words and they'll live that way. They'll obey My words and they'll live as if My words are the right way to live. And they won't do their own thing or they won't live like other people and follow other people, but they'll follow My word." And He said, people that do that are going to be solid. People that do that are going to be resistant to the storms and not be washed away. But He said the people that don't, and notice, the people that don't, they can still come to Jesus, they can still hear, they can be churchgoers, they can be around believers. They're listening to everything and they're saying yes, and even amen and all of that. But that doesn't mean they're doing it. No, it doesn't mean they're doing it. So we're going to focus here on the first of the three steps. He said, "Whoever comes to Me, here's My sayings and does them." So we're going to focus on whoever comes to Me.

I remember that sometimes when my kids were little that I would call for one of them, you

know, "Jonathan or Alexa, come here." And then I would hear from the other room "What?" And I would say, whatever I was saying, "Hey, did you do your homework?" Or "Did you pick up the clothes in your room or take out the trash?" "What? What?" And this could go on, and finally I'd just say, "come here." And why would I do that? Because there's a disconnect in the communication. And so if I really want them to hear what I'm saying and to catch it, I want them to come. I want them to come to me, and I want them to look me in the eye. I also notice that sometimes if they were looking somewhere else, they were maybe watching something on television, and I would call them, they'd say, "Yeah, yeah," but they keep looking at the television, I don't have their attention. Well Jesus is here is saying, "Listen, you need to come to Me. This is not going to chase you down. Wisdom is not going to chase you down. The eternal life, the the wisdom of the ages is not going to chase you down and force you. No, you need to come to Me." Whoever comes to Me. And, you know, sometimes people misinterpret this by thinking that Jesus is saying, "Whoever comes one time to Me," like you come and you say the sinner's prayer, as it's called, and you just say that prayer, and now you're good. Now you're forgiven from your sins, you're going to go to heaven, and then you can kind of live however you want to for the rest of your life, or kind of good, but you don't have to really pay attention. No, He said, "whoever comes to Me," not "whoever came to Me", no, but whoever does come. This is a repeated process. We continue to come to

Jesus and hear what He's telling us. Every day Jesus is telling us things, and He said, "Whoever comes to hear Me." And listen to what James 1:5 says, I love this passage. It says, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given." Whoever lacks wisdom, ask God. You know, so many people they're asking here, they're asking they're, they're looking on the Internet and they're just doing what everybody else is doing to find wisdom. But, notice the words of God say, "If you're a believer, and you want wisdom, ask God." It doesn't mean that you can't get counsel from other people as well, the Bible says that's scriptural, "In the multitude of counsel there's safety." But you need to ask God. Why? Because He knows everything. He's your God. And Jesus said, "My sheep hear My voice." So it's not as if we can't hear God. We can. And if you haven't learned to hear God, well, this is a good time to start, because God wants all of us to be able to discern His voice. And how do we do that? We start with the word. These are the Words of God. So when you're hearing the Word, you're hearing from God. Now, "whoever comes to Me.

So let me ask you, do you come to God? Do you come to the Lord Jesus? Do you come and inquire of Him and ask Him what He's saying, what He wants you to do in this area, and that area, with this decision or that decision? Because this is what Jesus is saying, "If I am your Lord, then you should be coming to find out what I want to do."

Now, you know who is really good at this, is a man in the Bible named David. Let me read from second Samuel 5:17-25. And here's what it says. It says "Now, when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David King over Israel, all the Philistines," and Philistines were enemies of God, enemies of God's people. It said, "All the Philistines went up to search for David, and David heard of it and went down to the stronghold. The Philistines also went up and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. So David," watch this, "inquired of the Lord," What is he doing? He's coming to God. He's coming, really to Jesus. But this was before Jesus was born, but Jesus existed, and David actually had relationship with Jesus before Jesus became a human being. How do we know that? Because David said in one psalm, "The Lord said to My Lord, 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies, your footstool'" David knew about the Father, and David knew about the Son. And so he inquired of the Lord saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hand?" What a great question, two questions. "And the Lord said to David, 'Go up for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand.'" So David went up to Baal Perazim and David defeated them there, and he said, "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me like a breakthrough of water.'" In other words, it was like a wipe out, because God did exactly what He said He would do. "So therefore, he called the name of that place, Baal Perazim. And they left their images there and David and his men carried them." And I want to keep

reading because watch this, "Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim." Now you would think that David would say, "I don't even need to ask God this time because it's the same enemy, it's the same valley. They're doing the exact same thing. I asked God last time, He said, 'Yes, I should go against them.' So now I'll just go." But no, that's not what David did. See, Jesus said, "Whoever comes to Me and hears My word." So, watch what David did. It said, "So David inquired of the Lord, and the Lord said, 'You shall not go up, but circle around behind them this time and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees, and it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then you shall quickly advance for then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines.' And David did so as the Lord commanded him, and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer." So notice, David kept winning battles and wars and having victories in his life because he kept coming to the Lord. And this is what we need to do. We need to come to Jesus and ask what He wants us to do, ask Him about this and that. Lord, I'm yielding myself to you, and we need to come. We shouldn't wait until He calls us, because we may not be hearing Him call us. No, but we need to come because we committed ourselves to be His servants.

Now, not everybody does this. In fact, let me read a passage from the Old Testament. There was a good, good king named King Asa, and

King Asa had the blessing of God on his life. But something happened at the end of his life, and for whatever reason, he stopped coming to the Lord. And it says in second chronicles 16:11, "Note that the acts of Asa, first and last, indeed they are written in the book of the Kings of Judah and Israel. And in the 39th year of his reign," So he's been reigning nearly 40 years now as king. It says, "in the 39th year of his reign, Asa became diseased in his feet, and his malady was severe. Yet in his disease, he did not seek the Lord but the physicians. So Asa rested with his father's. He died in the 41st year of his reign." That's an interesting passage, but here's what God is saying. God is saying, "Instead of Him seeking God for healing, he only went to the doctors." Now God is not against doctors. Thank God for doctors. But when you're a person of the Lord, when you're a believer, God is the healer and we should be seeking God for our healing. And Asa didn't do that, he just depended completely on the doctors. And the Bible says, "So, he died." This is why he died, because he didn't seek the Lord. Well, that's not us. That's not you, and that's not me. In fact, I encourage you, just say that out loud, "That's not me. No, I'm going to seek God. I'm going to come to Jesus. I'm going to hear His words and I'm going to do what He tells me to do."

Listen of Proverbs 8:34. It says, "Blessed is the person who listens to me watching daily at my gates, waiting at the post of my doors." This is what the Lord is saying,

"Blessed is the person who listens to Me, watching daily at My gates, waiting at the post of My doors." In other words, be knocking on God's door, asking Him, asking the Lord Jesus. When I was about 18 years old, I began to come to Jesus in a big way. Not one time, but on a regular basis, on a daily basis. And He taught me about life. Jesus taught me how to speak. I didn't, I mean, I knew how to say words, but I didn't know the right words to say. Proverbs 18:21 is where the Bible says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit." I would speak words of death. I would say, "You're an idiot," or call people names or say, "Oh, man, I'm just going to fail at that. I'm going to blow it, or this is going to happen to me." And I would say things and speak things, not realizing that my words would cause my life to go a certain way. I didn't know that. I didn't know that my words were having such an influence, on my life. But the Bible says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit." So God began to teach me from His Word, Jesus began to teach me that I need to speak the words of God, not by emotion or not what everybody else was saying. I need to speak life and not death, blessing and not cursing. Well Jesus also taught me to pray. I came to Him and He taught me to pray. And for example, Joshua 1:8 says, "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night that you may observe to do according to all that's written in it, for then you will make your



way prosperous and then you will have good success." So the Lord showed me, "If you will, speak the words of God, and if you will pray the words of God, then the words of God will start coming to pass in your life." And that's exactly what happened. Jesus taught me to work, how to work. Proverbs 22:29 is where the Bible says, "Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings. He will not stand before unknown men." Well, I took these words and I said, "Oh, man, I need to excel in my work." You know, in the margin of my Bible, it said, "A man who's prompt in his business." Do you see a man who's prompt in his business? And boy, I ask the Lord, "Lord, help me to be prompt." And so when I was at work, I would run everywhere that I went just to excel. Nobody asked me to run. In fact, a time or two they asked me to slow down because they were concerned I was going to run into somebody, but I would be prompt in my business. And it was the words of God that were helping me and showing me that this is what to do, and notice what it says, "Do you see a man who excels in his work or he's prompt in his business? He will stand before kings. He will not stand before unknown men." In other words, this person is going to continue to get promoted and people of influence and stature are going to want this person around because this person excels. They become skillful and excellent and proactive in what they do.

Jesus taught me to lead. By coming to Him, He taught me to lead. For example, scriptures like Proverbs 29:18, "Where there's no

prophetic vision, the people cast off restraint. But blessed is he who keeps the law." What does that mean? "Where there's no prophetic vision?" I learned that I can't just come up with a vision to conjure something up. No, it can't just come out of my own mind and I expect it to succeed. I need to come to Jesus, and discern what He's saying, and hear Him. And then I can cast a vision to my team, and to the people that I lead, and then they can sense in their heart, "Oh, man, there's something to this. This is valuable. This is worthy of our sacrifice and worthy of our time. And so we're not just going to do this as a job. No, we're going to lean into it because this is worth doing right and well." See, and people don't quit and cast off restraint. Instead, they lean into it. See, Jesus taught me all these things by coming to Him and hearing His words and beginning to act like that. He taught me these things. See, I became solid as a leader. I became solid as a person. I became solid as a husband. See, Jesus taught me to love my wife. First Peter 3:7 is where the Bible says, "Husbands likewise, dwell with them your wives with understanding, giving honor to the wife as to the weaker vessel." In other words, are her body, she doesn't have the muscles that you do, so give her honor because of that. Do things for her, take care of her, pick up heavy things for her. Honor her that way. Why? Because she was made with a weaker vessel, and in my opinion, a nicer looking vessel than I have. And so I want to take care of my wife. I want to love her and bless her and and use the muscles

that I have to show her, "Hey let me do that for you. You do other things, but let me do that for you." And this is what the Bible teaches. See? And so it says to dwell with understanding. Well, honestly, men and women think differently. And so I had to ask God to help me and begin to learn. In fact, my wife's name is Kimberly, and I told her several times, I said, "Honey, I am enrolling in the University of Kimberly, because I do not have a degree in how you think. And I need to learn, and I need you to teach me. What am I doing that hurt your feelings, or what am I doing that does not make you feel valued? Help me to learn. Help me to change, because I want you to feel valued. I want you to feel loved and blessed. And I want you to feel confident, especially when you're around me. I want you to feel safe." And so, this is what the Lord showed me from His words. I came to Him and asked Him to show me. And he did. And this is what Jesus will do for you. You don't have to live your life figuring out how to live like everybody else. Jesus said, "Whoever comes to Me, and here's My words and does them" I want you to begin to think about coming to Jesus on a regular basis and listening to Him, and letting Him show you what to do, how to live, and watch your life change. You cannot not change when you live like this, because Jesus is real and His words are truth and they're powerful.

So let's pray together right now, can we? Would you open your heart? Would you speak out of your mouth? Would you tell Jesus, "Jesus, You're my Lord?" And not only that,

but, "I'm going to come to You every day, multiple times a day, and say, 'Lord, what do you want? What are you saying in this situation? How can I follow you better here?' In the name of Jesus." In the name of Jesus, I pray. And we don't have to continue praying right now on this teaching, because this is something you'll be praying every day, multiple times a day, "Lord, what do You want me to do? I'm coming to You, Jesus. Speak to me. I've come to Your word to read the Bible. Speak to me through the Bible. Show me what to do." And this is what honors Him, and this is what makes you a disciple, and not only a disciple, but a solid disciple that cannot be taken out with the storms of life. All right. So that is step three. And I look forward to seeing you on step four.