

All This Matters

There's So Much More To Following Jesus
June 12, 2022

Daily habits & practices of being a Jesus follower. A disciple.

Disciple: *a student who accepts & spreads the teachings of someone famous*

1 Timothy 4:7b ...train yourself to be godly.

Matthew 28:19 Go & make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father & the Son & the Holy Spirit. **20** Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you...

Disciples are followers who are looking for direction from their Master

Come - Near to Jesus; Hear - Pay Attention; Do - Obey, Practice

2 Corinthians 3:18 We can all draw close to Him w/ the veil removed from our faces. And w/ no veil we all become like mirrors who brightly reflect the glory of the Lord Jesus. We're being transfigured into His very image as we move from one brighter level of glory to another. And this glorious transfiguration comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

As disciples, we help people reach their full potential.

God has pre-planned every believer to be an influencer in this world.

EVERY CHRISTIAN'S CALLING IS TO BE AN INFLUENCER

God's called us to make a difference in our world. That's influence.

*Every Christian must find their place of mentorship,
or they won't fulfill God's will for their life.*

1 Peter 2:9 ...you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light. *All believers are to influence as priests.*

Matthew 5:13 You're the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out &

trampled underfoot as worthless. 14 You are the light of the world-like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp & then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

*Bring change – light to the darkness, salt to the bland, life to death...
We must not hide our God-given influential abilities.*

Five steps fo fulfilling your place as an influencer:

1. *See yourself as God sees you.*

Philippians 2:13 God is working in you, giving you the desire & the power to do what pleases Him.

2. *Be willing to be transformed by the renewing of your mind.*

Romans 12:1 ...I plead w/ you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living & holy sacrifice-the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him. 2 Don't copy the behavior & customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good & pleasing & perfect.

3. *Be a part of a local church.*

Psalms 92:13 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age. They shall be fresh & flourishing,

4. *Serve where you have opportunity.*

Acts 6:6 These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them. 7 So God's message continued to spread. The number of believers (*disciples*) greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.

5. *Be faithful in the "small" things.*

Luke 16:10 If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities.

Five common hindrances to fulfilling your place of influence.

1. ***Not surrendering to God's will.*** (Selfish, my way, control, etc.)
2. ***Lack of vision.*** (We can't see how God could use us)
3. ***Fear of failure.*** (Making mistakes, being wrong; many of us were raised w/ fear)
4. ***Intimidated by strong people in leadership.*** (Satan tells us that we're not as good as someone else; comparison)
5. ***Independent attitude.*** (We love our freedom; self-made; pride)

If you want to be a successful disciple maker (an influencer) you must be moved w/ compassion for all people.

There are so many scriptures where Jesus was moved w/ compassion...

COMPASSION MUST BE OUR OVERRIDING MOTIVATION.
As influencers, we're moved w/ compassion for people in all that we do.
True Christian fulfillment comes through compassionate mentorship.

John 13:12 After washing their feet, He put on His robe again & sat down & asked, ***“Do you understand what I was doing? 13 You call me ‘Teacher’ & ‘Lord,’ & you’re right because that’s what I am. 14 And since I, your Lord & Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other’s feet. 15 I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. 16 I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. 17 Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them.”***

You are created in God's image.

Influencing is in your nature, because it's in God's nature.

We, who walk with Jesus, naturally desire to influence as He did.

“Kings Circle! When we, as disciple-makers, as influencers do what God has called us & gifted us to do, increase, growth, & a mighty move of the Holy Spirit will follow in Jesus' name!”

*****Lord, I'm praying for a passion to be an influencer in all of our hearts here at Kings Circle. Both for our personal lives & our church. I pray for***

people here today, if this kind of freaks them out, or they think it's just too hard to mentor & disciple people, help them see just how simple it is.

*Salvation is when God becomes close. That can only happen when Jesus, who paid for your sins, comes into your life, & then you & God are close. Salvation isn't just going to church. It's connecting w/ Him ***relationally***. Ephesians 2 says *Jesus came & has destroyed the barrier between you & God*. You say, "Ok, I'm in. What do I have to do?" One thing. Give Him your life. That's the only condition for that barrier being destroyed. Simply receive what Jesus did on the cross & invite Him to take over. If you're here today & God seems far & everything in you desires Him to be close & you really want to be close to Him, I want to lead you in a simple prayer. You may know God, believe in God, but you're not close to Him. You need to come to a deep relationship w/ the Lord. I'm going to help you w/ a prayer. If that's you, right where you are, say these words after me...

"Thank you Jesus, for destroying the barrier between me & God. Thank you for what You did on the cross. Today I receive You. I make You my Lord. Come live inside of me, begin the work of change. Have Your way in me. I give You my life. Everything. Thank You for setting me free. In Jesus name."