

All This Matters

There's So Much More To Following Jesus
April 24, 2022

Daily habits and disciplines of being a Jesus follower. A disciple.

A disciple is a learner, an apprentice, a pupil, a follower.

Disciples are Jesus followers who learn to do what the Master does.

Matthew 4:19 ... “Come, follow Me & I will show you how to fish for people!” ²⁰ And they left their nets at once & followed Him.

1. **Come** - Follow; Get Near and Stay Near to Jesus
2. **Hear** - Listen, Pay Attention, Learn the Word, Learn His ways
3. **Do** - Obey, Practice, Renew, Stir up, Activate, Discipline

John 13:34b AMP “...Love one another. Just as I’ve loved you, so you too are to love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you’re My disciples if you have love & unselfish concern for one another.”

Conforming to Christ – the practice of conforming to Jesus’ way.

Romans 8:29a NKJV For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son... (*Don’t be conformed to the world*)

Romans 12:2 AMP Do not be conformed to this world any longer w/ its superficial values & customs but be transformed & progressively changed (*let God transform you*) as you mature spiritually by the renewing of your mind, focusing on godly values & ethical attitudes, so that you may prove for yourselves what the will of God is, that which is good & acceptable & perfect in His plan & purpose for you.

*After we’re born again, our thinking patterns must be reprogrammed.
Transformed. Changed. Renew our minds & conform to His image.*

Romans 12:2 MSG Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, & quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Do Feelings Control Your Thoughts? Or Thoughts Control Feelings?

How do you respond when you feel anxious, depressed, discouraged, angry, unhappy...? Do you allow these feelings to control your thoughts?

"Right thinking" leads to "right actions" which leads to "right feelings."

Romans 7:15 I don't really understand myself; I want to do what's right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. 16 But if I know that what I'm doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. 17 So I'm not the one doing wrong; it's sin living in me that does it. 18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what's right, but I can't. 19 I want to do what's good, but I don't. I don't want to do what's wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don't want to do, I'm not really the one doing wrong; it's sin living in me that does it. 21 I've discovered this principle of life-that when I want to do what's right, I inevitably do what's wrong. 22 I love God's law w/ all my heart. 23 But there's another power w/in me that's ***at war w/ my mind***. This power makes me a slave to the sin that's still w/in me. 24 Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin & death? 25 Thank God! The answer's in Jesus Christ our Lord. You see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I'm a slave to sin.

Romans 8:1 NKJV *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin & death...

5 For those who live according to the flesh ***set their minds*** on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be ***carnally minded*** is death, but to be ***spiritually minded*** is life & peace. 7 Because the ***carnal mind*** is enmity against God...

Isaiah 55:8 MSG "I don't think the way you think. The way you work isn't the way I work. For as the sky soars high above earth, so the way I work surpasses the way you work, & the way I think is beyond the way you think." ***"GOD IS SMARTER THAN ME!!!"***

Ephesians 4:23 ...let the Spirit ***renew your thoughts & attitudes*** (*be renewed in the spirit of your mind*) 24 Put on your new nature...

Colossians 3:10 NKJV ...put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him...

2 Corinthians 4:3 Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...

1 Corinthians 2:16 AMP Who has known *or* understood the mind, the counsels & purposes of the Lord so as to guide & instruct Him & give Him knowledge? But we have the mind of Christ (& we understand) & do hold the thoughts, feelings & purposes of His heart.

2 Corinthians 10:3 NKJV Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments & every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ..

2 Corinthians 10:5 AMP Inasmuch as we refute **arguments, theories, reasonings**, every proud & lofty thing that sets itself up against the **true knowledge** of God; we lead every thought & purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ.

1. *Be aware* of how God wants us to think.
2. *Pay attention* to how we really think and believe
3. *Focus* our thoughts on God's thoughts
4. *Practice* the thoughts of God until they are our own
5. *Live out* the thoughts of God in everyday life

Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need & thank Him for all He's done. 7 Then you'll experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts & minds as you live in Christ Jesus. 8 Now, dear brothers & sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts (*your mind*) on what true, & honorable, & right, & pure, & lovely, & admirable. Think about (*meditate on*) things that are excellent & worthy of praise.