

WHAT IS DISCIPLESHIP?

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Text: Acts 2:41–47

Acts 2:42 — “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

THE RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Acts 2:41

The people **gladly received the Word**, were baptized, and about **3,000 souls were added** to the church.

Their response demonstrated:

- **Conviction** — They received Peter's message.
- **Obedience** — They followed the Lord in baptism.
- **Identification** — They publicly identified themselves with Jesus Christ.

Discipleship begins with receiving Christ, but it does not end there.

THE LIFE OF A DISCIPLE

Acts 2:42

The first believers “**continued stedfastly**.” Their Christian lives were marked by consistent devotion to four things:

1. THE APOSTLES' DOCTRINE

They continued to **learn the truth about Jesus Christ** and what He had accomplished.

A disciple is a learner.

Biblical discipleship requires a continuing commitment to the truth of God's Word.

2. FELLOWSHIP

The word *koinonia* describes **fellowship, association, community, communion, and joint participation**.

Their faith was not lived in isolation. They shared:

Faith • Worship • Service • Struggles • Victories • Mission

A disciple shares life with other believers.

3. THE BREAKING OF BREAD

The believers gathered around the table and remembered **the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.**

Their fellowship centered upon what Christ had done for them.

A disciple remembers Christ and His sacrifice.

4. PRAYER & WORSHIP

Prayer, praise, and worship were foundational parts of their lives together.

The church's **power, unity, generosity, and growth** flowed from devotion to:

Scripture • Fellowship • Remembrance • Prayer

WHAT DOES DISCIPLESHIP PRODUCE?

REVERENCE

Acts 2:43

"Fear came upon every soul."

God's presence and power produced **awe, reverence, and honor** among His people.

Discipleship changes how we view God.

GENEROSITY

Acts 2:44–45

The believers willingly shared their resources to meet the needs around them.

Their generosity was:

- **Voluntary**
- **Sacrificial**

- **Need-driven**
- **Centered on Christ**

Jesus mattered more to them than their possessions.

Discipleship changes how we view what we have.

SHARED LIFE

Acts 2:46

They continued **“daily with one accord.”**

They worshiped together, learned together, ate together, and opened their homes to one another.

Christianity was not merely something they attended.

It was a life they shared.

JOY & SINCERITY

Acts 2:46–47

Their lives were characterized by:

Gladness • Singleness of Heart • Unity • Praise

Their faith affected both their relationship with God and their relationship with others.

Discipleship changes how we live.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Acts 2:47

“And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

The believers were faithful to live as disciples, but **the Lord produced the increase.**

A healthy church does more than gather people.

It develops disciples who continue steadfastly with Christ.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Am I continuing steadfastly?

WORD: Am I consistently learning and obeying God's Word?

FELLOWSHIP: Am I genuinely sharing life with other believers?

REMEMBRANCE: Does Christ and His finished work remain central in my life?

PRAYER: Is prayer a foundational part of my Christian life?

GENEROSITY: Do I willingly use what God has given me to meet the needs of others?

DISCIPLESHIP IS NOT SIMPLY BELIEVING.

IT IS CONTINUING STEADFASTLY IN WHAT WE BELIEVE.