

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

THE DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE

Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

Study 42

DISCIPLESHIP

Tonight we will discuss DISCIPLESHIP as it is taught in the Scriptures.

1) DISCIPLE DEFINED.

DISCIPLE, n. [L., to learn.]

1. A learner; a scholar; one who receives or professes to receive instruction from another.

2. A follower; an adherent to the doctrines of another. Hence the constant attendants of Christ were called his disciples; and hence all Christians are called his disciples, as they profess to learn and receive his doctrines and precepts.

DISCIPLE, v.t.

1. To teach; to train, or bring up.

2. To make disciples of; to convert to doctrines or principles.

2) GOD INTENDS FOR THE CHURCH TO GREATLY MULTIPLY.

Acts 6:1 ¶ And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

3) THE GREAT COMMISSION WAS GIVEN BY JESUS SO THAT WE CAN REACH THE WORLD WITH THE GOSPEL.

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

4) THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE GREAT COMMISSION IS DISCIPLESHIP

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

This is the ONLY way we can reach the entire world with the Gospel!

5) THE MAIN THING ABOUT DISCIPLESHIP IS TEACHING TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS COMMANDED BY GOD.

Matthew 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

6) THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CONVERT AND A DISCIPLE.

A) CONVERT (def) to change from one state to another

Example: from lost to saved

B) DISCIPLE (def) a follower who diligently adheres to the teachings of another

Example: a saved person who becomes dedicated to the Lord

7) JESUS ASKED US TO PRAY FOR MORE LABORERS (DISCIPLES).

Matthew 9:35 ¶ And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

37 Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;

38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

8) DISCIPLESHIP IS LIKE GIVING BIRTH TO SOMEONE SPIRITUALLY.

Galatians 4:19 ¶ My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

9) DISCIPLESHIP TAKES AN INVESTMENT IN TIME IN ORDER FOR IT TO WORK.

Acts 18:24 ¶ And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.

25 This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.

26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:

28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

Jesus spent three years training the disciples before he “turned them loose” to reach the world.

10) IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH TO BE UNITED IN DISCIPLESHIP MAKING FOR IT TO WORK PROPERLY.

Ephesians 4:1 ¶ I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

2 ¶ With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?)

10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

We are told to be united in the Spirit (vs. 3) and in the faith (vs. 13) and for the whole body, the church, to be fitly joined together (vs. 16). This is necessary for the increase of the body of Christ (vs. 16).

11) EVERY MEMBER SHOULD BE DISCIPLED IF NOT ALREADY BEEN.

Proverbs 1:2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

7 ¶ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

Proverbs 4:13 Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.

Proverbs 8:33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.

Proverbs 9:9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

Proverbs 19:20 ¶ Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.

Proverbs 19:27 ¶ Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.

Proverbs 23:12 ¶ Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.

Proverbs 23:23 Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

12) EVERY FAITHFUL DEDICATED MEMBER SHOULD HAVE SOME PART IN DISCIPLESHIP.

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

If you have been discipled yourself, you should pass the teachings on to others.

A) TEACHING YOUR CHILDREN/ GRANDCHILDREN

B) TEACH A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OR BE AN ASSISTANT

C) ONE ON ONE DISCIPLESHIP THROUGH OUR SOLID ROCK DISCIPLESHIP COURSE

D) INVEST IN HELPING OTHERS GROW SPIRITUALLY AND IN SOUL WINNING

E) HELP PEOPLE COME TO CHURCH SERVICES WHERE THEY WILL BE ABLE TO GROW IN THE LORD

F) BE A PART OF OUR CHURCH WIDE PRAYER MEETINGS

13) THE RESULTS OF DISCIPLESHIP WILL COME.

Acts 6:7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Acts 17:6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;