



Edify Church

STUDY GUIDE

DISCIPLESHIP101

BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

LESSON 6

LIFE & REDEDICATION

STUDY GUIDE

DISCIPLESHIP101

BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

THE WHY & THE
HOW

Our Mission

We edify believers to mature in Christ, empower believers to engage in the work of ministry and equip believers to disciple the world.

Commitment

noun

the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity, etc.

"the company's commitment to quality"

Interactive

ZOOM + Discipleship101 Manual

What's the point of this study time together?

1. Be a disciple first!

John 14:15 KJV

"If you love Me, keep My commandments.

While we endeavor to live out that instruction by sharing our testimonies that will prayerfully draw our family, friends, etc. We need to understand that sharing God's word is vitally important as well. God's word is the foundation of our faith in God.

2 Timothy 2:15

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2. Make a disciple next!

Matt 28: 19-20 NIV

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Our goal as a child of God is to do what every good child does...obey! Jesus left instructions to share the gospel with everyone we can. This was not a passive conversation to consider if and when we felt like doing it but instruction that we need to live out.

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Part 1
Life In Faith

DISCIPLESHIP101

BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

Trials And Temptation

Satan the Devil is the tempter and even after we accept Christ and become born again, God does allow Satan to tempt us. The reason God allows Satan to tempt us is to strengthen our spiritual life and prove our faithfulness and let us know or experience the victorious and overcoming power Christ has over all the power of the devil. It is also used to remind us of our humanity(weakness) and the need to Christ in our lives.

Satan Is the Chief Agent in Temptation

When we read the Bible, we are going to find that God does not tempt as some people may think. It is Satan that tempts. From God's perspective you are only going through a trial of your faith.

- He tempted Adam and Eve (**Gen 3:1**)
- He tempted David (**1 Chron 21:1**)
- He tempted Christ (**Mt 4:3**)
- He tempts Christians always (**2 Co 2:11**), (**2 Co. 11:3**), (**1 Thess. 3:5**) (**Jas 1:4**), (**2 Pet. 2:18**).

Trials

A trial is a hardship; a very unpleasant and undesirable experience (**1 king 19:14**) and such experiences are designed by satan to make the believer to deny his faith and his profession of Jesus Christ. They may be in the form of persecution (**Dan 3:14-18**). God again does allow temptations. In fact, soon after you receive Christ and are born again, you should expect trials of your faith with experiences from unbelieving friends and/or family members you least expect. **Read the following passages:**

(a) **1 Peter 1:5-10**

(b) **Matt. 1:11**

Without trials of faith, it may not be proved how firmly the Word of God we have received abides in us. It is a test which shows how much a Christian trusts God above all else.

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Temptations

Temptation is not sin. In other words, the fact that a Christian is tempted does not necessarily or always mean that such a Christian has sinned. But giving into sin will lead to death! (**James 1:12-17; Lk. 8:13; I Cor. 15:56**) Temptation can cause a Christian to doubt the Word of God by promising you something pleasant or enjoyable or good if you yield. Note that temptation is inevitable; it is never from God, and It is an individual matter.

Examples given in the Bible of areas the Christian may experience temptation; these include the following:

- Food and drink (**Mt. 4:13**)
- Material things and lust of the eye (**Mt. 4:9**)
- Fame or pride of life (**Mt. 9:6**)

The Process through Which Temptation Comes

In the book of **James 1:14-15** we are taught the steps through which temptation comes.

These steps are five distinct stages for easy illustration as follows:

- Step 1- the bait is dropped or dangled before you,
- Step 2 -the inner desire is attracted to the bait
- Step-3- sin occurs when we reach out for the bait,
- Step-4 sin results in tragic consequences.

How to overcome trials and temptations

We overcome trials and temptations in three major ways as exemplified by the experience of our Lord Jesus Christ:

- By praying the Word of God (**Eph 6:17, Ps 119:9-11**).
- By being steadfast in your confession
- Forcefully exercising one's faith even in the face of temptation or trial (**Mt. 8:16, Isa 53:3**) in dire need, (Phil 4:19) in the face of disappointment (Phil. 4:6-7)

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Why is your Christian walk a struggle? [It's a heart issue]

- Do not focus more on **external conformity** but give attention to your **heart's conditions**. Throughout Scriptures our relationship with God is described as a **“walk”**. Jesus invites us to follow Him, to walk in His footsteps. We are implored to **“walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called [Eph.:11]**
- King Solomon – **(1 Kings 8:58)** “May He turn our hearts to Him, to walk in all His ways” An **undivided heart** is essential to a **steady walk with Jesus** .Ps.86:11 **“ Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name”**,
- We cannot continue to walk in sin or the ways of the world and be in fellowship with God. **(1 John1:5-7, Matt.15:19, Luke 6:45)**
- We can overcome struggling by walking in the Spirit [**Gal.5:16, Rom.8:1, 8:14]**

Here are some helpful scriptures:

Scriptures: 1Cor.10:13, Romans 5:3-5, Jere.29:11, 1John 4:4, Psalms 23:1-6, John 1:5, Romans 14:1, Romans 8:1, Phil.2:3-5, :13, 1Cor.6:19-20, 1John1:1-10, Hebrews 13:1-25, James 1:2, 2 Cor.2:1-16, Hebrews 11:1, John 3:16, Matt.7:1-2, Romans 12:18, Romans 14:10-13, Psalms 71:20-21, Exodus 14:14, 1 Cor.6:9-10, 2 Cor.1:9, John8:34, Matt.22:36-39, Psalms 146:1-10, 1 Peter 5;10, Gal.5:19-21, Romans 15:6, Acts 27:25, Acts 14:21-22, Luke 18:9-14, Hebrews 10:30, Psalms 37:7, Luke 2:10, Romans 8:28, Matt.5:21-22, Isaiah 40:28-31, Phil.4:1-23, Psalms 46:10, Phil.1:30, Romans 5:8, Deut.34:9

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Identify Areas Of Struggle In Your Walk With Jesus And Bring Them To Jesus In Your Retreat

Some Christians may struggle simply because they are not **leaning** on Jesus and allowing the Holy Spirit to **guide** them.

1. Pray without ceasing [**1 Thess.5:17**]- do not leave these areas unattended to.
2. Psalms 46:10 – listen to God always
3. Romans 7:7-25 – [Apostle Paul wrestled with temptation] his old nature wrestling with his new nature

Living for Christ but struggling with issues in our lives. [**Eph.6:12-18**] “we wrestle not against....’ Jesus set straight some people who intended to make Him king by force, after speaking some hard Words, many no longer followed Him. He turned to His disciples and asked - **John 6:67** ‘*you do not want to leave me, do you? Peter’s answer John 6;68* “*To whom shall we go*”? **Are you able to abide like the disciples or sometimes feel like turning back because of struggles?**

TRIALS/ HARDSHIPS – 1 PET. 4 :12

- God can permit / allow struggles, but God shapes you through them. The Lord gives us more than comfort, He wants to give us Christlikeness”
- Your trial /struggle is a temporal privilege here leading to - **Acts 5:41**
- Walk by faith never by sight. We can –[**2 Cor.12:7-9**] –Apostle Paul’s struggle
- Peter’s trial/ struggle – **Luke 22:31-32** – God is always in control[Jesus prayed for him to overcome]

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Struggles/Issues of life – Things that can distract our area of focus.

1. **Money** - live in the world, never be owned by it. **[Matt. 6:19-34]**. Money is a slave not a master
2. **Today's Media world** -[Time consuming] Internet, T V, movies, music, video games, news paper, magazines, ear phones. Do not get consumed in it. Today 's world, all littered with filth. All commercials in TV, everyone says you are missing something they can fill and fix for you. Be wise in what you watch, read and listen.
3. **Religion**. Interference in our walk with God. A lot of people pursue church and beliefs about God and FORGET to pursue Jesus Himself {God Himself}. Get out of religion and come into a relationship that births fellowship.
4. **Relationships** - every kind must not become more important to us than God or compete with God. God calls us to love one another **[1 John 3:11]** Relationships extremely important but our love for God is supreme.
5. **Routine** – let spending time with God be first of our routine and let God have complete control.
6. **Our work**-[secular/business] work, work, work everything-**Luke 10:38-42** [Mary and Martha]. It's so easy to get caught up on our secular duties, but the most important thing is that we do all entirely for the glory of God, our Lord. All is to glorify God, not ourselves. Never let the 'work' be more important than "listening to Jesus" – listen and also be ready to be flexible.

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Struggles/Issues of life – Things that can distract our area of focus.

7. **Ourselves** – desiring a blessing from God more than God Himself especially when experiencing some delays:
 - **Matt.6:33** – “Do not go seeking all these other things first”
 - **Romans 6:11**, allow God to continuously search our hearts and purify it.
 - **Psalm 139: 23-24]**. Die to yourself and live for Christ
 - Romans 6:11. There’s a constant battle within ourselves between spirit and flesh.
 - **Romans 7: 15-21**. The first step to overcome we is being aware of the need to die to self.

8. ***Struggling With Doubts “faith crisis”***- [How to overcome]
 - Search your doubts to find its roots [identify core problem] – depressed, angry?
 - Identify your alternative to Christianity? None!
 - Evaluate your ‘unmet’ expectations [be sincere]
 - Be honest with yourself about the nature of truth. [JESUS IS TRUTH]
 - Truth does not depend on what you like or on what makes most sense to you personally

 - Truth is something you must **commit** to seeking outside of yourself

 - Christianity’s truth hinges on a single event of one man –“**Jesus Resurrection**”

9. ***Understanding Your Relationship With Jesus*** – [Discipleship is a **lifelong learning and growing process**]. Undertaking this truth will help you build a firm foundation on **LOVE** and enjoying His **GRACE**.

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Always back to the basics:

- Christ forgave your sins [**Eph.1:7**]
- Christ made you a child of God [**John1:12-13**]
- Christ came into your life and He will never leave you [**Rev.3:20**] Your security is eternal
- Christ gives you a new life [**2Cor.5:17**]. When you trusted Christ to be your Savior and Lord, you began a new spiritual life. God will increasingly **produce** many new qualities in you as you grow in Him.
- Christ gave you eternal life [**John 5:11-13**]
- Be sure you are filled with the Holy Spirit

The exhortation in **Proverbs 4:23** – provides the solution –“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life”

“You **can walk in the Spirit** [**1John 4: 13-15**]

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Part 2
Rededication

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Rededication Of Life To Jesus

1. The Question

Since life is not going right and I am not being the Christian I know I should be, what can I do? If there is a feeling of guilt, facing unresolved problems, and or lack of spiritual growth, rededication is necessary.

2. God's Purpose

At times Christians who have claimed that Jesus is Lord of their lives allow other commitments to challenge that priority. They need to ask, "Is Jesus truly Lord of my life? Why do I not feel as close to Him as I once did?" They need to learn:

- God wants to reclaim your life and restore joy (**Jn 15: 10-11**)
- Christ wants to be Lord of all your life (**Lk 6:46**)

3. Committing To:

- A relationship with Christ-His way!
- Renewing your mind-applying the Word of God!
- Time for prayer-a priority!
- Trading our will for His will!

