



Edify Church

Boston

STUDY GUIDE

# DISCIPLESHIP 101

BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

## LESSON 2

PRAYER, REPENTANCE & FORGIVENESS

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, <sup>20</sup> 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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**DISCIPLESHIP101**  
BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

*Part 1*

*Prayer*

# DISCIPLESHIP101

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## PRAYER

### **Luke 18, Matthew 6:9-12**

- The Word prayer was first implied in the Bible in **Genesis 4:26** “when men began to call on the name of the Lord”. According to **Psalms 65:2**, there is a universal need] for prayer as all men will need to pray.
- The Bible teaches us that the Holy Spirit aids the New Testament Christian to pray (**Roman 8:26-27**).

### **Teach the basic steps to pray ATS:**

- Adoration/Acknowledgement: Thanking God for who He is in Praise and worship (**Ps.95:5**)
- Thanksgiving: Be thankful for anything / everything (**Phil 4:6**)
- Supplication: Intercession, request, petition and desires, assignment (**1Tim. 2:1**)

### **What Is Prayer ?**

Put in a very simple way, prayer is a humble and earnest communication with God for the purpose of seeking instruction, encouragement, for confession of sins or acknowledgement of mistakes. There are four (4) things that may determine the effectiveness of prayers:

1. **God's grace** (This is – God's favor and His ability given you).
2. **The sincerity of the heart of the one praying**
3. **The faith of the one praying.**
4. **The sense of repentance and willingness to submit to the will of God on the part of the one praying.**

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## *The Reasons We Pray*

The Bible identifies at least five (5) reasons why a Christian should always pray, and they include:

1. We are commanded to pray and therefore prayer is imperative (*I Thess. 5:17, Is 62: 6-7*)
2. It is an effective way of having relationship with God (*Mat 6:9*)
3. It is the only way to obtain from God. (*James 4:2, Matthew 7:7,8, John 16:23-24*).
4. It is a means for obtaining God's power. Christians must therefore realize that a prayerless Christian is a helpless and limited Christian (*Jeremiah 33:3, Isa 48:6*).
5. Jesus set the example for us by His teaching and all Christians are expected to follow this example (*Mk 1:35, Heb. 12:2*).

## *Types of Prayers*

There is much more to prayer than asking for personal needs. Prayers are not supposed to be mere blabbing of the same verse or lines in all kinds of situations. We are therefore to pray different kinds of prayers at different situations or else we will be asking amiss (*James 4:5, Eph. 6:18*). The following types of prayers are identifiable:

- ***Prayer of Praise and Worship***, which should be done daily and regularly regardless of our circumstances. (*Psalms 33:1, 50:23, Heb. 13:15; Psalms 39:1*) In fact other types of prayers should start with this type.
- ***Prayer of Thanksgiving***, which is a humble acknowledgement of God's provision and blessings we have already received. To acknowledge and thank God for blessings received is to create room for more of such blessings.



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- **Prayer of Consecration/Dedication**, which is required to build up a strong Christian life. This is the type of prayer that helps the Christian to examine himself and gives room for the manifestation of the gifts and fruits of the spirit (**Rom. 12:1; Peter 2:23; Heb 10:7**).
- **Prayer of Intercession** This is prayer which involves pleading on behalf of somebody else or a group of people e.g., church fellowship, family, country etc. before God. All Christians are to share in this prayer (**Col.4:12, Heb.7:25**).
- **Prayer of Supplication**, which is a humble petition to God on a specific, needs e.g., Healing, Deliverance, etc. It involves asking knocking and seeking. God's faithfulness assures us that we cannot be denied.
- **Prayer of Agreement**, which is usually done by more than one person involves that all such persons must agree concerning what they want otherwise they will not receive (**Amos 3:3**).
- **Prayer of Authority**, which involves taking our stand against all principalities and powers of darkness. Christians are admonished to look inwards and ensure that their standing is right with God before they attempt to do a prayer of authority. For if a Christian has the property of the devil in his own possession, he cannot expect to command the devil or rebuke the devil and get any results. (**Matt 21:21, Mk.11:23-24, Mk.16:17-18**).
- **Praying in the Spirit** This is prayer in tongues which should be done individually and privately and not in congregations during fellowships or during public services without the gift of interpretation of tongues. This type of prayer circumvents our minds and helps us to pray for things we may not necessarily know. (**I Cor. 14:2, 14-15, 18, Rom.8:26**)

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## ***When and Where to Pray***

Prayer is to be in and out of season and anywhere, anytime. A faithful, diligent Christian must cultivate the habit of setting out some specific times for prayer and try to adhere to such times.

### ***Why Prayers May Not Be Answered***

The following factors may constitute hindrance to prayers:

1. Unbelief and iniquity (*Jam. 5:16, 1:6-8*)
2. Unforgiving spirit (*Mk.11:25*)
3. Not asking in faith (*Jam.1:6-8, Jn. 16:23, 24*)
4. Asking out of God's will (*I Jn. 5:14-, Jam.4:3*)
5. Not abiding in the Lord (*Jn. 15:7*).

## ***Conclusion***

God answers prayers and the Bible has many examples of answered prayers. These include:

- ***Moses (Ex. 15:24-25)***
- ***Gideon (Jdg. 6:39-40)***
- ***Hannah (1 Sam.1:27)***
- ***Samuel (1 Sam. 7:9-10)***
- ***Solomon (I Kings 9:3)***
- ***Elijah (I Kings. 18:37-38)***
- ***Hezekiah (2 King 19:19-38)***
- ***Jehoshaphat (2 Chr. 18:3)***
- ***Ezra (Ezra 8:23)***
- ***Zechariah (Lk. 1:13)***
- ***The Early Church (Acts. 4:31) God has promised to answer prayers (Ps. 91:15, Judg. 8:9, Isa 65:24, Jer.33:3, Lk. 2:9, Jn.15:7, 1John 3:22).***



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*Part 2*  
***Repentance***

# **DISCIPLESHIP**101

BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

## ***Repentance***

The first act in receiving salvation is repentance. The first call to the born again is 'repent' from all sin'.

Repentance may be defined as a change of mind or way of thinking; an attitude leading to a change of action (2 Chronicles 7:14). Repentance implies a conviction that God is wholly right, and the sinner is wholly wrong! This is a commitment to abandon all excuses and apologies for sin.

Repentance is seeing beliefs and traditions in our lives that are unstable and giving them up for God's plan for lives. It is not a negative thing, but necessary to receive the blessings of God and to press on to maturity in God. In fact, if the blessings of God are received into lives that do not have this foundation of repentance laid, it can result in a falling away from the truth that has been received.

### **WHAT IS TRUE REPENTANCE?**

- Repentance is not just a mental acceptance of truth or just worldly sorrow, but it is:
- Godly sorrow for sin (Psalm 38; 2 Corinthians 7:10).
- Confession of sin (Psalm 32:5, I John 1:9).
- A willingness to give up sin (Proverbs 28:13).
- Having a hatred of sin (Ezekiel 20:43-44).
- Repentance includes restitution (Luke 19:8; Leviticus 6:1-7).
- Repentance is not simply a one-time act but an attitude of heart basic to our on-going relationship.

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## Summary and Application:

Repentance is an about turn in our attitudes and actions. We need to see things as God sees them.

- God is ready to forgive and cleanse you from sin (**1Jn 1:9**)
- Other Christians are ready to forgive and restore you (**Gal.6:1**)
- God wants you to live in fellowship with Him now (**1Jn 1:7**)
- God wants you to be filled with His Spirit (**Eph 5:18**)
- God will make you acceptable for His ministry (**2nd Tim 4:11**)

## Our need

Rededication is a personal action arising out of very personal concerns. In this situation a person often feels:

- Isolation
- Separation from God
- Frustration with life
- Honest doubt about salvation
- Desire to repent and restore relationship with God. The person's basic need then is to review the basic gospel message, gain reassurance of salvation or confess that salvation was never experienced and make a new commitment or a recommitment of life to Christ.



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*Part 3*  
***Forgiveness***

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## ***Forgiveness Under The New Covenant Of Grace***

*For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and **their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.** Hebrews 8:12.* That is the main clause of the New Covenant.

- When you know that you are completely forgiven, it destroys the power of sin in your life.
- When you doubt that all your sins are completely forgiven then you will always question your eternal security and salvation.
- God does not evaluate you based on your past sins; He sees only Jesus perfect work. Jesus is your qualifier, He made us partakers. **Colossians 1:12**
- You must have faith in Jesus and believe that you are completely and totally forgiven, free to enjoy the blessings through His Finished Work.

***Your Forgiveness is based on One Man's Sacrifice Colossians 2:13-14, Ephesians 1:7.***

- You have been forgiven once and for all. We have a High priest who offered himself once and for all **Hebrews 7:26, 27**
- Jesus **paid the full price** for all your sins. So, when you received Jesus into your life ALL your sins were completely forgiven. **John 1:29.**
- Forgiveness does not lead to a lifestyle of sin. It leads to a life of glorifying the Lord Jesus. Notice **Luke 7:44-47.** The more you realize that you have been forgiven much of all your sins, the more you will love the Lord Jesus.

***How Are You Forgiven of your sins?***

- We confess our sins as an act of humility and obedience to God's instructions.
- Forgiveness is not dependent on what you do, but what Jesus has done. **Colossians 1:14.**

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## *The Power Of The Blood Of Jesus*

**Matthew 26: 28, Hebrews 10:19,**

- The blood of Jesus is the reason why we are forgiven of our sins
- The blood of Jesus gives us access into the Holy of Holies in spite of our faults and sin. God sees the blood and not you.
- You are being constantly cleansed of all your sins. Believe that all your sins are indeed forgiven and that God does not hold anything against you, then faith will spring forth.
- Jesus' blood qualifies you for any miracle that you need in your life. **Mark 2:9-11.** Jesus knew that unless the man had the assurance that all his sins had been forgiven, he would not have faith to be healed.
- The devil's strategy is to make you feel like you are not qualified to enter God's presence. He gives you reasons why you don't qualify for God's blessings. The blood qualifies you.
- God's forgiveness of us – Pardon for human sins and shortcomings

### **Why does God forgive?**

- Because of His compassion – (**Exo 34:6-7, Mic 7:1**)
- Because of His Love – (**Ps 51:1**)
- Because of His grace – (**Ps 103:8**)
- Because of His mercy – (**Isa 55:7**)

### **What happens to our sins?**

- They go out of sight – (**Isa 38:17**)
- They go out of reach – (**Ps 103:12, Mic 7:19**)
- They go out of mind – (**Isa 43:25, Jere 31:34**)
- They out of existence – (**Ps 51:1,2,7,9, Isa 44:22, Acts 3:19**)



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## How do we receive?

- We must repent of our sins – (Acts 2:38, 3: 19)
- We must believe in Christ – (Lk 24:47, Acts 10: 43, Acts 13:38)

## What is necessary for forgiveness Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13; Col. 2-13; Ps.103:3; Lk7:49; 1st Jn. 2:12-29.

- Forgive all that have erred against you, this is an instruction from God; there is no end to forgiveness.
- Make peace where you have intentionally or unintentionally hurt people so you can truly owe no man but love all.
- Take inventory of your life and bring every situation of unforgiveness to God in prayers.
- Learn to stop judging others but leave all to God.
- Remember that Jesus avenges for you.

## He chose you!

Scripture focus: John 15:16 “You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed *and* placed *and* purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit *and* keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain *and* be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name. He may give it to you.” AMP

Vinedresser-Is a person who cultivates and prunes grapevines.

Branch-is off-spring, connected to the tree and fed by the root.

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In this lesson Jesus is introduced as the vinedresser, He's the one that takes time to cut off then nurture or develop us daily. This is a very important part of building and maintaining a healthy relationship with Him.

- Desire to be a part of Him (branch)
- Allow Him to bring to your attention the areas of your life that need His attention.
- Allow Him to take away all those things that don't please Him.
- Allow Him to replace those things with things that will benefit you, the kingdom and give Him glory.
- Believe that He is worth the cost in giving up unneeded parts of your life.
- Understand that there is a greater plan for you.

This scripture is a great example of the position Jesus desires for mankind but how we end is up to us! In the kingdom of God there are many branches, some healthy, some not so healthy and others just dead. The dead branches usually fall out without much force, pruning or help. They may look ok from the outside but are dead inside. That branch can't be trusted, it's weak, can't handle anything and doesn't produce anything worth using. That branch, unless saved, is headed for destruction! The not-so-healthy branch looks good outside, even appearing to be healthy at times by still producing some usable fruit. This branch if tested may become fragile, weak, new branches may fall out not being able to stand the test. This branch can take other branches out with him and that's dangerous! Now, the healthy branch is always growing and producing more fruit. That fruit it produces also produces fruit and so on! That branch takes its food, water and care right from the root! That branch can stand the test of time...wind, rain, sun, heat and cold may come but it continues to stand basking in all its glory.

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## Who are you...

Be the strong, healthy branch that produces fruit! One way is to know that you're not in this alone. You were chosen by God for this! Even when you woke up, decided to go to church, walked into the front to join the church...it wasn't just you who decided that day. God chose you, called you by name and His plan for your life is to produce some things that look like Him, sound like Him and will affect others like Him!

### *The pruning! Things you don't need:*

- Lying
- Manipulation
- Dishonesty
- Compliancy
- Division
- Murder
- Cheating
- Jealousy
- Unfaithfulness
- Conceitedness
- Unbelief
- Rudeness
- Bragging
- Back-biting
- Rebellion
- Stealing
- Mistrust
- Adultery
- Loveless
- Fornication
- Witchcraft

This is to name a few! When you know that you've been chosen, you understand that you no longer need use the ways of the world to live your life. You desire to be blessed and not just make do! You want to be blessed until you overflow! This is when you affect others too and cause them to be blessed! When you are present, there should be a change that takes place and when you leave...it cannot be the same! Then you know that you're no ordinary branch, but you've been chosen, and you're connected!

**Prayer:** Father, I'm grateful that you chose me. Help me on my journey to understand how to remain connected; I need you and want to be used by you; blessed by you and bring others to you. Thank you for cutting away and thank you for causing new fruit to spring up in my life. I understand this is a life-long process and I embrace it because it's worth it! In Jesus name...amen!





