

2 Part Lesson – The Disciples Toolbox & The Cost of Following Jesus

THE DISCIPLE’S TOOLBOX – What Every Follower of Jesus Must Carry Daily

Disciples don’t just follow Jesus — they *carry* the tools He gave them. Here is 6 essential “tools” every disciple needs.

Core Scripture:

Luke 9:23 NKJV — *“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.”*



The 6 Tools in the Disciple’s Toolbox

1 The Tool of SURRENDER

- Scripture: Romans 12:1
- Point: You can’t follow Jesus with a full toolbox of old habits.

2 The Tool of SCRIPTURE

- Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16
- Point: This is your manual, your map, your sword.

3 The Tool of PRAYER

- Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- Point: Communication is how you stay connected to the Master.

4 The Tool of OBEDIENCE

- Scripture: John 14:15
- Point: Obedience isn’t about rules — it’s about relationship.

5 The Tool of COMMUNITY

- Scripture: Hebrews 10:24–25

- Point: Lone-ranger Christians become easy targets. Stick together.

6 The Tool of DISCIPLINE

- Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:27
- Point: You grow stronger by choosing spiritual discipline daily.

Remember this:

1. **Disciples grow daily, not occasionally.**
2. **Obedience unlocks spiritual strength.**
3. **Disciples don't walk alone — they walk together.**

Interactive time...

“Which tool in your disciple’s toolbox is the hardest to pick up daily — and which one strengthens you the most?”

5’s Segment

5 Things Every Disciple Must Carry

1. A surrendered heart
2. A teachable spirit
3. A consistent prayer life
4. A listening ear for the Holy Spirit
5. A willingness to grow even when it’s uncomfortable

Question

Fill in the blank:

“Discipleship begins where _____ ends.”

Answer: *self ends*

† THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

Following Jesus is the greatest invitation in the world — but it is not the cheapest. Salvation is free, but discipleship will cost you something. Jesus never hid this truth. He spoke it plainly, lovingly, and boldly so His followers would understand the weight and beauty of the journey ahead.

When we say **“Yes, Lord, I will follow You,”** we are stepping into a life that is transformed, surrendered, and marked by obedience. This isn't a casual relationship — it's a covenant of love. And real love costs something.

1. The Cost of Surrendering Your Own Way

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself...”

— **Luke 9:23 (NKJV)**

To follow Jesus, we must lay down the throne of “me, myself, and I.” Half-hearted surrender never leads to whole-hearted discipleship.

This means:

- letting go of old habits
- releasing our preferences
- surrendering our timing
- saying “Your will, not mine, Lord”

Following Jesus will cost your old life, but the new one He gives is priceless.

2. The Cost of Carrying Your Cross Daily

“...take up his cross daily...”

— **Luke 9:23 (NKJV)**

The cross represents death to self and complete devotion to Jesus. This isn't a one-time event — this is a daily decision.

Carrying your cross means:

- choosing forgiveness when the flesh wants revenge

- choosing purity when temptation whispers
- choosing truth when lies seem easier
- choosing love when hurt feels heavy

Every disciple carries something — and Jesus promises to give you strength for the journey.

3. The Cost of Letting Go of the World

“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?”

— **Matthew 16:26 (NKJV)**

You cannot cling to the world and cling to Jesus at the same time.

Disciples give up:

- worldly approval
- worldly lifestyles
- worldly comfort
- worldly applause

But they gain something far better — **the approval of Heaven.**

4. The Cost of Obeying Even When It's Hard

“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

— **John 14:15 (NKJV)**

Obedience is the currency of discipleship.

Jesus doesn't ask for perfect performance — He asks for a willing heart.

Obedience may cost you:

- relationships
- opportunities
- routines
- comfort zones

But it rewards you with:

- spiritual authority
- peace
- protection
- deeper intimacy with Jesus

5. The Cost of Being Different

Following Jesus sets you apart. You will look different, sound different, and live different from the world. Yes, some may not understand. Some may walk away. Some may criticize.

But that's okay, because **you're being shaped into His image.**

And the more you look like Jesus, the less you will fit into places He never called you to stay.

6. The Cost Leads to the Greatest Gain

Every cost is connected to a promise.

Jesus said:

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

— **Matthew 19:29 (NKJV)**

Know this: Whatever you surrender, He restores with grace, strength, joy, and eternal reward.

The cost is real — but the **gain is eternal.**

Following Jesus may cost you comfort, pride, reputation, and old ways of living. But it will give you purpose, peace, identity, healing, and everlasting life.

Say “YES” again tonight.

Pick up your cross again tonight.

Follow Him again tonight.

Because Jesus is worth it — all of it.

20 Fill-in-the-Blank Questions on DISCIPLESHIP

1. A disciple is someone who chooses to _____ Jesus.
2. Jesus said, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him _____ himself."
3. "Take up your _____ daily and follow Me."
4. Discipleship requires both faith and _____.
5. The greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with **all your _____, soul, and mind.**
6. True disciples continue in Jesus' _____.
7. "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have _____ for one another."
8. A disciple must be willing to leave _____ behind for the sake of Christ.
9. Jesus said, "My sheep hear My _____, and they follow Me."
10. Disciples grow through prayer, Scripture, and _____ with God.
11. Discipleship is not a one-time event but a _____ journey.
12. A disciple must learn to deny their own _____ and follow God's plan.
13. "If you love Me, keep My _____."
14. Discipleship involves spiritual _____, not spiritual laziness.
15. A disciple is called to make other _____.
16. Jesus said the harvest is plentiful but the _____ are few.
17. A disciple is known by the spiritual _____ they produce.
18. To follow Jesus, we must walk by _____, not by sight.
19. Disciples must forgive others just as Christ has _____ them.
20. Jesus promised, "I am with you _____, even to the end of the age."

Encouragement for My Students and Bible Besties,

Bible Besties, let me encourage your heart today. Being a disciple of Jesus is not always easy, but it is always worth it. A disciple is someone who chooses Jesus again and again — in the quiet moments, in the busy days, in the struggles, and in the victories. And I want you to know... **you are doing it.** You are showing up. You are learning. You are growing. You are becoming more and more like Jesus with every step you take.

Being a disciple doesn't mean you're perfect — it means you're *pursuing* Him. It means your heart says, "Lord, I want You more than anything else." It means you're willing to let Him shape you, stretch you, teach you, and lead you into deeper truth and greater purpose.

Keep going. Keep pressing in. Keep opening your Bible, keep praying, keep listening, keep obeying. Heaven sees your effort. Jesus notices your growth. The Holy Spirit is strengthening you day by day.

You are not just a believer — **you are a disciple.**
You are not just learning about Jesus — **you are following Him.**
And the world needs exactly who you are becoming.

I am so proud of you, and I can't wait to see how God continues to transform your life as you walk this beautiful journey of discipleship.

Keep shining, keep learning, and keep following Jesus — He's leading you somewhere amazing.

