

## “DEVELOPING DISCIPLES”

OBJECTIVE: DISCOVER WHY BEING A DISCIPLINED LEARNER IS VITAL TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD. EXAMINE WHERE WE ARE IN OUR DISCIPLESHIP.

KEY SCRIPTURES: MATTHEW 28:16-20/ 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-2/  
JOHN 13:34-35/ JOHN 8:31-38/ LUKE 9:23-24



THE ROOT WORD OF DISCIPLESHIP IS DISCIPLINE.

**THE MEANING OF DISCIPLINE: THE PRACTICE OF TRAINING PEOPLE TO OBEY RULES OR CODES OF BEHAVIOR USING PUNISHMENT TO CORRECT DISOBEDIENCE.**

2 CORINTHIANS 10:1-6

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING A DISCIPLINED LEARNER AND JUST GOING TO CHURCH OR BEING A PART OF AN ORGANIZATION IS WHAT WE LEARN. FOR CHRIST FOLLOWERS IT IS GOD'S COMMAND TO THOSE WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE OF CHRIST.

**THE KEYS TO MAKING DISCIPLES IS BAPTIZING THEM AND TEACHING THEM!** (MATTHEW 28:19-20)

LEARNING IS VITAL TO OUR MATURITY. PEOPLE DO IT IN THE NATURAL TO PROMOTE THEMSELVES, TO EARN MORE MONEY, TO

*SAVE THE EARTH, TO STEAL OR ROB PEOPLE, TO HELP PEOPLE, TO SURVIVE THE PERIL, TO LIVE GODLY IN THIS WORLD.*

*THIS WHY SO MANY CULTS CORUPT PEOPLE. PEOPLE DON'T STUDY TO SHOW THEMSELVES APPROVED UNTO GOD!*

*(2 TIMOTHY 2:15)*

*TRUTH IS GIVEN BY GOD TO SET US FREE FROM THE BONDAGE OF THE ERRORS OF OUR HUMANITY. MOSES WAS GIVEN THE COMMANDMENTS AS INSTRUCTIONS BECAUSE THE ERRORS OF MANKIND WERE SO EGREGIOUSLY BAD!*

*THE DEMAND TO LEARN AND WALK IN TRUTH IS CONSTANTLY BEING TRIED IN THE WORLD. WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING TAUGHT THAT JESUS WAS NOT BORN OF A VIRGIN. YOU ARE NOT IN THE RIGHT DISCIPLESHIP.*

*WHEN WE ARE BEING TAUGHT THAT WE ARE BETTER THAN SOMEBODY ELSE BECAUSE OF THE COLOR OF MY SKIN. YOU ARE NOT IN THE RIGHT DISCIPLESHIP.*

*WHEN WE ARE BEING TAUGHT AND CONDEMED ABOUT THINGS THAT DON'T MATTER CONCERNING THEIR SALVATION. (COLOSSIANS 2:16-23) WE ARE NOT IN THE RIGHT DISCIPLESHIP.*

*JUST LIKE THERE ARE DISCIPLES THAT ARE STRONG IN DELUSIONS OF TEACHING. THAT LEAD PEOPLE ASTRAY.*

*(2 TIMOTHY 3:7) WE CAN BE EASILY PERSUADED BY WHAT WE WANT TO BELIEVE RATHER THAN WHAT IS REALLY A TRUTH.*

*EPHESIANS 4:20-21 IS THE WAY WE DETERMINE TRUTH. IT'S ALWAYS IN JESUS. THE WAY YOU DETERMINE CULTS AND FALSE RELIGIONS IS BY WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT JESUS.*

*IF JESUS IS NOT LORD AND SAVIOR. THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD. THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF YOUR FAITH. THE LILY OF THE VALLEY. THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR. THE ALPHA AND OMEGA. THE LAMB OF GOD. EMMANUEL. THE BREAD OF LIFE. THE PRINCE OF PEACE.*

*JESUS MUST BE THE WAY THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO THE FATHER. JESUS IS THE ONLY NAME WHEREBY MEN MAY BE SAVED. ONCE WE DETERMINE THAT JESUS IS THE SOLID ROCK IN WHICH WE STAND; WE CAN BEGIN TO GROW AND DEVELOP IN OUR DISCIPLESHIP. JESUS IS THE STUMBLING BLOCK FOR EVERY TEACHING THAT IS DIFFERENT OR CONTRARY. (MATTHEW 21:43-44)*

*WHEN WE ARE BEING TAUGHT THE TRUTH THAT IS IN JESUS, WE ARE BECOMING EFFECTIVE DISCIPLES WHO THEN ARE ABLE TO MAKE OTHER DISCIPLES.*

*IT TAKES ONE TO MAKE ONE!*

*THE REALITY BECOMES THAT MOST CHRISTIANS ARE SO DISTRACTED WITH BUSY WORK WE LOSE FOCUS ON THE MAIN THING.*

*THERE HAS TO BE AN INTENTIONAL PLAN OF DISCIPLESHIP. PERSONALLY, AS WELL MISSIONAL. HOW I GROW IS AS IMPORTANT AS WHOM I'M HELPING TO GROW. THAT MEANS AS MUCH AS I HELP PEOPLE GROW I MYSELF SHOULD BE GROWING. IN OTHER WORDS, I CAN'T PASS ON ANYTHING I DON'T HAVE.*

*THE QUESTION FOR EVERY BELIEVER IS WHAT AM I LEARNING? AND WHAT AM I TEACHING?*

*DISCIPLESHIP IS AN ONGOING LIFE PROCESS OF FAITH. JUST AS ELEMENARY PRINCIPLES OF PRACTICAL TEACHING IS OUR FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING PRACTICAL THINGS. GOD GIVES US PRINCIPLES OF FAITH THAT ELEMENTARY. JUST AS WE TEACH THE ALPHABET AND NUMBERS IN ELEMENTARY TEACHINGS THAT WE PASS ON TO OUR KIDS. WE SHOULD HAVE A SYSTEM WE TEACH IN OUR SPIRITUAL DISCIPLESHIP THAT IS JUST AS COMMON AND WELL KNOWN. THAT'S HOW WE GROW IN OUR DISCIPLESHIP OUT OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES.*

*(HEBREWS 6:1-3) THERE ARE CERTAIN PRINCIPLES THAT EVERY CHRIST BELIEVER MUST LEARN THAT ARE ELEMENTARY.*

*WE WANT TO TALK ABOUT HOLY DAYS AND SPECIAL DIETS LIKE THEY SAVE YOU. WE WANT TO TALK ABOUT EVOLVING DOCTRINES AND PHILOSOPHIES OF TRUTH LIKE THEY SAVE US. WE HAVE GREAT DEBATES OF LIFESTYLE DEBATES THAT DON'T SAVE US. PEOPLE CAN BE SO HYPOCRITICAL IN LIFESTYLES THAT LEAD PEOPLE SO MANY PEOPLE FAR FROM THE TRUTH.*

*(1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27)*

*REAL DISCIPLESHIP TAKES YEARS. JUST LIKE GOING THROUGH SCHOOL TAKES TIME. IF YOU HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH ANY LEVEL OF MINISTRY OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS YOU WILL SEE HOW DISCIPLESHIP IS BEING ERODED AWAY BECAUSE ONE THE BIGGEST INVESTMENTS IN OUR LIFE IS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS IT WAS. WE INVEST TIME IN WHAT WE DEEM IMPORTANT. YOU GIVE COMPANIES AND AGENCIES YOUR TIME TO EARN MONEY BECAUSE MONEY IS IMPORTANT TO YOU. YET WE PUT LIMITATIONS ON THE TIME WE SPEND INVESTING INTO OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE. IT HURTS ME WHEN PEOPLE CHOOSE TO INVEST IN EVERYTHING NATURAL AND PUT LIMITS ON WHAT IS SPIRITUAL. ASK THE PERSON WHO HAS MADE THE DECISION THAT EVERYTHING THEY SEE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THINGS THEY DON'T SEE. THAT IS REALLY THE BOTTOM LINE OF FAITH. (2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18)*

*DISCIPLESHIP IS DIFFERENT THAT DEDICATION. FOR WHERE MY TREASURE IS; THERE WILL MY HEART BE ALSO.....*