



**Rejoice Learning Center**  
USA, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Congo  
Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Benin

## **Lesson 15:**

### **The Kingdom of God and Kingdom Works.**

**Today, we learn about the Kingdom and Kingdom Works:**

- 1. What do we know about the Kingdom of God?
- 2. Preach the Gospel: What is the Gospel Message?
- 3. Heal the sick and cast out demons
- 4. Make disciples: What is a disciple? What did Jesus command his disciples?
- 5. Baptism

## **1. WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD?**

**We must be born again to enter into the kingdom.**

**John 3:3** Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

**The Kingdom starts in a heart that is willing to surrender to King Jesus.**

**Luke 17:20-21** And when he (Jesus) was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, the kingdom of God cometh not with observation: <sup>21</sup> Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

**Romans 14:17 (Paul speaking)**

For the **kingdom of God is not** meat and **drink**; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

**By faith, we must be 100% invested in it.**

**Matt 13:44 The Parable of the Hidden Treasure**

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

### **Matt 13:45 The parable of the fine Pearl**

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. <sup>46</sup> When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

### **We are called to force our way into the kingdom.**

**Luke 16:16** (Jesus speaking) The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and **everyone forces** his way into it. (by the power of the holy spirit and 100% dedication like an athlete/soldier....make every effort to enter)

- **Luke 13:23-24** (The disciples are asking Jesus) "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?" He said to them, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to."  
**Matthew 7:13-14** Jesus says, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many will go through it. But small is the gate and **narrow the way** that leads to life, and **only a few** find it."

→ This means we must strive diligently and with great determination to gain access to the eternal Kingdom of God. Actively pursue a righteous life, follow Jesus' teachings, and obey the Holy Spirit.

**Philippians 2:12** Therefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

- **Matthew 22:14** Many are called, but few are chosen.
- **Romans 9:27** Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved.

### **The Kingdom eventually outgrows our hearts and brings life to others.**

#### **Matthew 13:31-32 The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

<sup>31</sup> He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. <sup>32</sup> Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

**Conclusion:** Faith might start small in your heart, but as it grows, it becomes alive in you (tree) and others will find rest and salvation (birds perching) through you.

#### **Matthew 13:33 The parable of the Yeast**

<sup>33</sup> He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

**Conclusion:** Faith increases in volume; it rises up in us and eventually penetrates every area of your heart and life.

**Those who belong to his Kingdom will be gathered at his second coming.**

**Matthew 13:24-30, explained v 37-43, The Parable of the Weeds**

<sup>24</sup> Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. <sup>27</sup> "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup> "An enemy did this,' he replied. "The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' <sup>29</sup> "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> **Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.**"

**Only the righteous will be in his Kingdom.**

**Matt 13:47-50 The Parable of the Net**

<sup>47</sup> "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. <sup>48</sup> When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. <sup>49</sup> **This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous** <sup>50</sup> and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**The Kingdom has been prepared for the righteous. Who is righteous?**

**Romans 4:25** Those who believe that Christ was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

**What characterizes the righteous?**

**They do his work**

**Matthew 25:34** Then the King will say to those on his right (those who did the work of feeding the poor, clothing the naked...), 'Come, you who my Father blesses, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

**They are saints**

**Daniel 7:27** And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be **given to the people of the saints of the Most High**; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

**Who else is mentioned to enter the kingdom of heaven?**

Poor in spirit, Matthew 5:3

persecuted for Jesus, Matthew 5:10

determined ones, Matthew 11:12

those who leave everything behind for Jesus, Matthew 13:44

those who have faith like little children, Matthew 19:14  
those who obey the word, Matt 7:21  
those who abide in the word, John 15:4  
those who continue in the word, Romans 8:31  
Priests of God, Revelation 5:10.  
Those who died to the flesh, 2. Tim 2:11  
The faithful servant, Matt 25:21

### **The Kingdom of God will not host sinners**

**Luke 13:26 describes disobedient believers, hypocrites:**

<sup>26</sup> Then shall ye begin to say, We have **eaten and drunk in thy presence**, and thou hast taught in our streets.<sup>27</sup> But he shall say, I tell you, I do not know you; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

**Matthew 7:22-24 describes disobedient servants:** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? <sup>23</sup> And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

**1 Corinthians 6:9-10** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

### **The kingdom is everlasting and superior to all others (we read the scripture out of Daniel earlier)**

**Daniel 7:27** And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; their kingdom shall be an **everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey them.**

**Isaiah 9:6-7** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.** The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

### **Jesus is the King**

**Revelation 19:13 and 16**

He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. . . . On his robe and on his thigh, he has a name written, **King of kings** and Lord of lords.

### There are 4 Kingdoms:

- The Kingdom of God in Heaven, where everyone worships Jesus.
- The Kingdom that starts in our heart, as we just heard.
- The Millenium Kingdom in Jerusalem, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Jesus (see Lesson 13).
- The Eternal Kingdom, as described in Revelation chapters 21-22. Please read this for yourself as Homework.

## Kingdom Work

Jesus introduced the Kingdom Work and it's still the same today: preaching, teaching, healing, delivering, binding, and losing.

### Mark 1:14-15 Preaching

Now after John was arrested, **Jesus came into Galilee**, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and **the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.**"

### Matthew 4:23 Teaching

And he went throughout all Galilee, **teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction** among the people.

### Luke 10:9 Healing

(Jesus told his disciples:) **Heal the sick in it and say to them**, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

### Matthew 12:28 Driving out demons

But if it is by the **Spirit of God that I cast out demons**, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

### Matthew 16:19 Bind and loose

I will give you the **keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and whatever you **bind on earth shall be bound in heaven**, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

## 2. PREACH THE GOSPEL

**What is the Gospel? It is the Good News of Salvation from everlasting torment!**

Below is the short Gospel Message with Scripture references.

**Let us start with the bad news:**

**We are all natural-born sinners because the first man, Adam, disobeyed God.**

**Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

**God, the creator of heaven and earth, is good and hates evil. He declared: The soul who sins must die.**

**Ezekiel 18:20** The soul who sins will die. The son will not bear the iniquity of the father, nor will the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself.

→ **Now we have a problem, because we are all sinners, so all of us are destined to die.**

**But here is the good news:**

**God is merciful, and he doesn't want anyone to perish.**

**2. Peter 3:9** The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**Jesus, the Son of God, came to pay the price for our sins with his death on the cross.**

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

**Philippians 2: 6-8** Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, although existing in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a slave, by being made in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

**They put him in a grave, but because Jesus was without sin, death could not hold him. Jesus gained power over death!**

**Acts 2:24** But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

**Revelation 1:18** I am the Living One. I was dead, and behold, now I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of Death and of Hades.

**After 3 days, Jesus rose from the grave and appeared to over 500 people. He then ascended into heaven, where he is now seated on a throne with all power and authority given to him.**

**1 Corinthians 15:3-6 (Paul speaking)** <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that He appeared to Cephas (ML: Peter), then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep.

**1 Corinthians 15:20-22** But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

**Philippians 2:9-11** <sup>9</sup> Therefore, God also highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**If we believe that the penalty for our sins has been paid with the blood of Jesus, we are justified by faith,...**

**Ephesians 2:8-9** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.

**...We receive life and don't come into Judgment!**

**John 5:24** Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

**What must we do to inherit eternal life instead of death?**

**Believe the gospel**

**Romans 1:16** (Paul speaking) For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

## **Repent, be baptized, and be born again**

**Acts 2:38** And Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The holy spirit now lives inside of you and empowers you to live a Godly life! You will notice a change from the inside out, as you are under new leadership.

Now follow Jesus by renewing your mind with his word and having fellowship with him. Love him with all your heart because he first loved you and do what he tells you to do – and I will see you in heaven!

## **3. HEAL THE SICK AND CAST OUT DEMONS**

### **Mark 16:17-18 (Jesus speaking)**

<sup>17</sup> And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;<sup>18</sup> They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Jesus is the only healer, and He continues to heal today through His Holy Spirit, which flows through His servants.

To build faith in those who are sick, it's beneficial to share healing scriptures with them first. Remember, faith comes by hearing the Word of God. As Jesus said, "Your faith has made you well."

### **In the Old Testament, God healed his people.**

**Jeremiah 17:14** "Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise."

**Exodus 23:25** Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you...

**Isaiah 53:4-5** Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

→ Jesus demonstrated his power over sin and sickness!



**Deuteronomy 32:39** See now that I myself am he! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand.

**Psalms 107:19-21** Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind." (Who are they? People who were: starving, depressed, oppressed, afflicted, bulimic, anorexic, in trouble.)

**Psalms 30:2** LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

**Isaiah 38:1-5** tells the story of Isaiah, who was sent to King Hezekiah to announce that he was going to die. Hezekiah prayed: Lord, remember how I have walked with you in truth and with a whole heart. ... The Lord sent a message back to Hezekiah, I have heard your prayer and added 15 years to your life.

## New Testament Healing Scriptures

**Healing has been made available through the blood of Jesus.**

**1 Peter 2:24 (quoting Isaiah)** He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

**Jesus healed.**

**Matthew 4:23-24** Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and **healing every disease and sickness among the people**. News about him spread all over Syria\*, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and **he healed them**.

\*Syria was a Roman province, like all of Israel during the time of Jesus.

**The disciples received the authority to heal and cast out demons.**

**In Matthew 10:1**, Jesus called his twelve disciples to him **and gave them authority** to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

**Matthew 10:8** Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

**Peter had a healing ministry.**

**Acts 9:33-34 Peter heals the paralyzed Aeneas**

There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years. "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat." Immediately, Aeneas got up."

**Acts 3:1-10 Peter Heals a Crippled Beggar.**

### **Acts 5:15-16 Peter healed all**

...People brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by.<sup>16</sup> Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits, and **all of them were healed.** → **Psalm 121:5** The Lord is your shade on your right hand.

### **Acts 9:40 Peter resurrects Dorcas, also known as Tabitha, who helped the poor**

Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up.

### **Paul had a healing ministry.**

**Acts 19:11-12**, we read that Handkerchiefs & aprons that touched his body were brought to others and would heal them.

**Acts 14:8-10**, Paul **healed a man who was lame from birth**. He saw that this man had faith. As a response, the people called him a god.

**Acts 20:9-10** A man, **Eutychus**, **fell from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor window and died**. Paul threw himself on him and he was raised from the dead.

**Acts 28:3–6** When he was on the **island of Malta**, a **poisonous snake** did not harm him; he threw it in the fire.

There, he also healed **Publius' father, who was the chief of the island**, from **fever and bloody diarrhea**.

**Acts 28:8-9** After that **he healed many** others in Malta.

**2 Cor. 12:12** Paul said of himself that he had the **marks of a true apostle: signs, wonders, and miracles**. Apostle in Greek means one who is "sent off"

**Acts 13:9-11**, he cursed **Elymas, a magician, with blindness for a time**.

### **Stephen had signs and wonders following him.**

**Acts 6:8** Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.

### **Philip cast out demons and healed the lame.**

**Acts 8:7;8:13** <sup>4</sup>Therefore those who were scattered (after Steven was stoned and the church persecuted by Saul) went everywhere preaching the word. <sup>5</sup>Then Philip went down to <sup>(a)</sup>the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. <sup>6</sup>And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, **hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.** <sup>7</sup>**For unclean spirits, crying with a loud**

voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. <sup>8</sup> And there was great joy in that city.

### Today's church has healing ministers.

**1 Corinthians 12:28** <sup>28</sup> And God has placed in the church first of all **apostles**, **second prophets**, third teachers, then miracles, then **gifts of healing**, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

**Another way to heal is by using oil.** Oil stands for the holy spirit. If servants lack the anointing, then use the oil. (Parable of the 10 virgins - only 5 had oil.)

**James 5:14-15** Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

### What can hinder healing?

**Sin, unbelief, or God assigned trials can hinder healing.**

#### Sin

**Psalms 38:3:** (King David calling on the Lord): There is nothing sound in my flesh because of your anger. Neither is there rest in my bones, because of my sin.

**James 5:6** Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**Sickness is not always a sign of sin:** There was a blind man described in John 9:1-3. The disciples asked Jesus who had sinned, he or his parents? Jesus said neither he nor his parents, but so that the work of God can be manifested.

#### Unbelief

**Matthew 13:57-58** (Intro: Jesus was teaching in his hometown and displayed miracles, and the people were offended at Him, wondering where he got this from, since they knew him as the carpenter's son). But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house." <sup>58</sup> Now He did not do many mighty works there **because of their unbelief.**

**Mark 5:34** He said to her, "Daughter, **your faith has healed you.** Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

### God assigned trials (sickness)

**James 1:2-4** My brethren, **count it all joy when you fall into various trials**, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

**Trials can be a sickness. Here are some examples of sick believers:**

**2 Cor 12:7-9** Paul was enduring sickness. He had surpassingly great revelations, in order to keep him from becoming conceited, he was given a thorn in his flesh,... a messenger of Satan, to torment me. <sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

**Galatians 4:13 Paul speaking:**

<sup>13</sup> As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you (Illness = weakness)

**Timothy was often sick:**

**1 Timothy 5:23** (Paul wrote him:) Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

**Trophimus** Paul's travel companion, was sick.

**2. Timothy 4:20** Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus sick in Miletus.

## **4. MAKE DISCIPLES**

**Matthew 28:18-20** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> 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."

**We want to explore:**

**1) What is a disciple, and 2) What did Jesus command his disciples?**

### **1. What is a disciple?**

Biblical definition: a personal follower and student of Jesus.

**Matthew 9:9** As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "**Follow me,**" he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

### **2. What is the difference between a Christian and a disciple? None.**

**Acts 11:26...** for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

**→ If you call yourself a Christian, you must be following Jesus.**

### 3. What is required of a disciple?

#### **Luke 9:23-25 Be ready to die to all that you want**

**23** Then he said to them all, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

**24** For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

**25** What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?”

#### **John 8:31-32 Hold on to the teachings of Jesus**

**31** To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

**32** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

#### **Luke 9:57-62 Forsake the World and everything else and be ready to proclaim the Kingdom of God**

**57** As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

**58** Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

**59** He said to another man, “Follow me.” But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

**60** Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

**61** Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

**62** Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

#### **Luke 14:25-35 Be willing to give up everything – even your family**

**25** Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said:

**26** “If anyone comes to me and does **not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple.**

**27** And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

**28** “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it?

**29** For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you,

**30** saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

**31** “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

**32** If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.

**33** In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

**34** "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again?"

**35** It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

#### **Matthew 12:46-50 You obey God**

**46** While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him.

**47** Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you."

**48** He replied to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?"

**49** Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers.

**50** For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

### **5. What do we expect to happen to a disciple?**

#### **1 Peter 2:21 To suffer**

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

#### **Luke 10:17 To experience joy**

<sup>17</sup> Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

#### **Mark 10:29-30 To be rewarded and persecuted**

<sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

### **6. What are the results of being a disciple?**

#### **Luke 6:40 We will be like Jesus in this World**

The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher.

#### **John 14:12 We will do the works that he did**

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

### **Matthew 4:19 We will bring people into his kingdom**

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”

### **Matthew 28:18-20 We will make disciples**

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> 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.**

## **2. TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU**

### **What did Jesus command his disciples to obey? (Other than making disciples of all nations and baptizing them?)**

Let us go through the gospel of Luke and focus on all the commands Jesus gave to his disciples (not the Pharisees, not the crowds, just his disciples). We find the following direct commands: parables are excluded.

### **1 FOLLOW JESUS, DENY SELF, SEEK HIS KINGDOM!**

**Luke 5:27** to Levi (the tax collector known as Matthew): **Follow me.**

**Luke 9:23** Then He said to *them* all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

**Luke 12:31** But seek <sup>1</sup>the kingdom of God, and all these things (clothes & food) shall be added to you.

### **2 STAY IN PEACE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS UNTIL YOU RECEIVE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**Luke 24:49** I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” (ML: The city was Jerusalem, which is called the city of Peace and the city of Righteousness.)

### **3 REJOICE (in persecution and that your names are written in heaven)**

**Luke 10:20** Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

**Luke 6:23** Rejoice in that day (the day you are being hated, excluded, insulted, and rejected because of the Son of Man 22) and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.

### **4 LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, BE MERCIFUL AND BE A GIVER**

**Luke 6:27-29** But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you. <sup>29</sup> To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either.

**Luke 6:30-31** Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods, do not ask them back. <sup>31</sup> And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.

**Luke 6:35-36** But love your enemies, do good, and lend, <sup>[a]</sup>hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. <sup>36</sup> Therefore, be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

## **5 AS LONG AS YOU ARE FLESHLY DON'T JUDGE, AND NEVER CONDEMN**

**Luke 6:37** Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. ....

**Luke 6:42** Hypocrite! First, remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother's eye.

## **6 FORGIVE**

**Luke 17:3-4** Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. <sup>4</sup> And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."

**Luke 6:37** Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

## **7 DO NOT FEAR, DO NOT WORRY, BUT FEAR GOD**

**Luke 12:4-5** And I say to you, My friends, **do not be afraid of those who kill the body,** and after that have no more that they can do. <sup>5</sup> But I will show you whom you should fear: **Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell;** yes, I say to you, fear Him!

**Luke 12:6-7** Are not five **sparrows** sold for two copper coins? **And not one of them is forgotten before God.** <sup>7</sup> But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. **Do not fear, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.**

**Luke 12:22** Then He said to His disciples, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on."

**Luke 12:29** And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind.

**Luke 12:32** Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

**Luke 12:11** Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. <sup>12</sup> For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.



**Luke 21:14** But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves.

## 8 DON'T LOVE MONEY

**Luke 12:33** Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, **a treasure in the heavens that does not fail**, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**Luke 16:9** And I say to you, **make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon**, that when you fail, they may receive you **into an everlasting home**.

**Luke 6:38** Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. **For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.**

**Luke 16:13** You cannot serve God and mammon.

## 9 PRAY

**Luke 22:40** Pray that you will not fall into temptation.

**Luke 22:46** Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.

**Luke 21:36** Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.

**Luke 11:9-10** So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

**Luke 10:2** Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore, **pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.** <sup>3</sup>

**Luke 11:2-4** Jesus teaching the Lord's prayer:

<sup>2</sup> So He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be Your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>3</sup> Give us day by day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins,

For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

## 10 WARNINGS: TO BE AWARE, TO TAKE HEED, TO BE CAREFUL, TO FLEE

**Luke 12:1** He began to say to His disciples first of all, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is **hypocrisy**.

**Luke 12:15** And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of **covetousness**, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”

**Luke 20:46** Beware of the **teachers of the law**.

**Luke 21:8** He replied: “Watch out that you are **not deceived**. For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am he,’ and, ‘The time is near.’ **Do not follow them (false Christs)**.

**Luke 17:23** And they will say to you, ‘Look here!’ or ‘Look there!’ Do not go after them **(false Christs)** or follow them.

**Luke 21:34** Be careful, or your **hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life**, and that day (the day of his coming) will close on you suddenly like a trap.

**Be ready to quickly forsake everything during dangerous times**

**Luke 17:31** “In that day, **he who is on the housetop**, and his <sup>¶</sup>goods are in the house, **let him not come down** to take them away. And likewise, the one **who is in the field**, **let him not turn back**.

**Luke 21:21** Then let those who are in **Judea flee to the mountains**, let those **in the city get out**, and let those in the country not enter the city.

## 11 STAY HUMBLE

**Luke 17:10** (Luke tells the Parable of a servant who serves his master in the field and at the table). So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘**We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.**’

**Luke 22:26** But you are not to be like that (**lord over the people**). **Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest**, and **the one who rules like the one who serves**.

## 12 IF PEOPLE RECEIVE YOU: STAY, EAT WHAT THEY GIVE YOU, AND HEAL THEM.

**Luke 10:5-9** But whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ <sup>6</sup> And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.

<sup>7</sup> And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house.

<sup>8</sup> Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you.

<sup>9</sup> And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

### **IF PEOPLE DON'T RECEIVE YOU, SHAKE OFF THE DUST FROM YOUR FEET.**

**Luke 9:5** And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them.

**Luke 10:10-12** But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> 'The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless, know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.' <sup>12</sup> But I say to you that it will be more tolerable in that Day for Sodom than for that city.

### **13 WHAT TO DO IN THE END TIMES: BEAR TESTIMONY, STAND FIRM, LIFT YOUR HEADS**

**Luke 21:13** And so you will **bear testimony to me.**

**Luke 21:19** **Stand firm,** and you will win life.

**Luke 21:28** When these things begin to take place, **stand up and lift up your heads,** because your **redemption** is drawing near.

### **14 BE READY FOR HIS COMING**

**Luke 12:35-36** Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; <sup>36</sup> and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately.

**Luke 12:40** Therefore, you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

### **15 EAT FROM AND REMEMBER THE BREAD OF LIFE: PASSOVER / HOLY COMMUNION**

**Luke 22:8** Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "**Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.**"

**Luke 22:17** After taking the **cup**, he gave thanks and said, "**Take this and divide it among you.**"

**Luke 22:19** And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "**This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.**"

### **16 LET THE CHILDREN COME TO HIM**

**Luke 18:16-17** But Jesus called them to Him and said, "**Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.** <sup>17</sup> Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."

## 17 HE COMMANDED WHAT TO TAKE ON A JOURNEY AND WHAT NOT TO TAKE

**Luke 9:3** And He said to them, “**Take nothing for the journey**, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.

**Luke 10:3-4** Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. <sup>4</sup> **Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.**

**Luke 22:36** (Jesus to his disciples before he was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane) He said to them, “But now if you have a purse, **take it**, and also a bag; and if you don’t **have a sword**, sell your cloak and buy one.

→ **We must listen to the Holy Spirit. He directs us in different ways.**

## 18 DON'T FORBID ANYONE TO CAST OUT DEMONS

**Luke 9:50** But Jesus said to him (John), “Do not forbid him (**someone casting out demons in the name of Jesus who wasn’t following Jesus**), for he who is not against us is on our side.”

## 19 LEARN FROM CREATION/NATURE

**Luke 12:24** Consider the **ravens**, for they neither sow nor reap, which have neither storehouse nor barn; and God feeds them.

**Luke 12:27** Consider the **lilies**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

**Luke 21:29** He told them this parable: “Look at the **fig tree and all the trees.**”

## 20 HEAR AND LISTEN CAREFULLY

**Luke 18:6-7** (Parable of the persistent widow): <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord said, “**Hear what the unjust judge said.** <sup>7</sup> And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?

**Luke 9:44** Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>44</sup> “**Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you:** The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men.”

## 21 LOOK AT JESUS, TOUCH JESUS

**Luke 24:39** **Look at my hands and my feet.** It is I myself! **Touch me and see;** a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.

## 22 PREACH REPENTANCE AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS TO ALL NATIONS

**Luke 24:46-48** He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> **and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.** <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.

### 23 FOLLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT AND EAT OF THE WORD

**Luke 22:10-12** He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. **Follow him** (the man carrying water) to the house that he enters, <sup>11</sup> and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, **where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?**’ <sup>12</sup> Make preparations there (a large furnished room upstairs that he will show you).”

### 24 FEED THE PEOPLE (EVEN MORE SO SPIRITUALLY)

**Luke 9:12-13** When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, “Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here.” <sup>13</sup> He replied, “**You give them something to eat.**”

**Luke 9:14** Have them (the hungry people) sit down in groups of about fifty each.

**Luke 22:32** But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, **strengthen your brothers.**” (Feed my sheep)

### 25 PUT OUT IN DEEP WATER (WE CATCH PEOPLE AS WE ARE EMMERSED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT)

**Luke 5:4** to Simon Peter: Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.

### 26 DON'T BE AFRAID

**Luke 5:10** Then Jesus said to Simon, “**Don't be afraid;** from now on you will fish for people.

### 27 SET THE CAPTIVES FREE AND BRING THEM TO THE LORD

**Luke 19:30-31** **Go to the village ahead of you,** and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. **Untie it (ML: the colt, which stands for humble people) and bring it here.** <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ **say, ‘The Lord needs it.’**

## 5. BAPTISM

The Bible mentions several baptisms:

### 1. The baptism of Moses

**1. Cor 10:1-3** For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. <sup>2</sup> They were all **baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.** <sup>3</sup> They all ate the same spiritual food <sup>4</sup> and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

### 2. Water baptism in the name of John (repentance)

**Acts 19:1-6** While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples <sup>2</sup> and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”<sup>3</sup> So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?” “**John’s baptism,**” they replied. <sup>4</sup> Paul said, “**John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance.** He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” <sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

### 3. Water Baptism in the name of Jesus

**Acts 2:38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (More examples: Acts 22:16: Ananias, Jesus, Matt 28:19)

### The meaning of Water baptism:

#### We are raised from the dead

**Colossians 2:12-13** having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,...

### How do we baptize? We baptize by immersion:

**Philip and the Ethiopian in Acts 8:39:** When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

**Jesus in Matthew 3:16:** As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

## **We baptize in the name of Jesus Christ:**

Jesus is the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Jesus is the name above every name.

Whatever we do in Word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord (Jesus).

## **4. The baptism of the holy spirit**

**Acts 19:1-6**...Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, **“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”** And they said to him, **“No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”** <sup>3</sup> And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, **“Into John’s baptism.”** <sup>4</sup> Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.”

<sup>5</sup> When they heard this, they were **baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**. <sup>6</sup> And when **Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came upon them**, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. See also (Acts 1:3-5, Galatians 2:20)

## **Meaning of the baptism in the holy spirit**

### **Our flesh is crucified**

**Galatians 2:20** I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

### **We are dead to sin**

**Romans 6:1-10** What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup> Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

<sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,<sup>[a]</sup> that we should no longer be slaves to sin— <sup>7</sup> because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

<sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup> The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

### **We are anointed**

**Galatians 3:27** for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

In Greek, "Christ" (Χριστός, Christos) means "the Anointed One." It's a translation of the Hebrew word "Messiah," which also means "anointed one".

## 5. Baptism with fire

**Matthew 3:11** John the Baptist states, "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you **with the Holy Spirit and with fire.**"

## 6. Baptism of suffering

**Luke 12:49-53 Jesus endured it:** <sup>49</sup> "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup> **But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed!** <sup>51</sup> Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. <sup>52</sup> From now on, there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two, and two against three. <sup>53</sup> They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

**1 Peter 1:6-7** In all this, you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to **suffer grief in all kinds of trials.** <sup>7</sup> These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith, of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire, may result in praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

**Conclusion:** As true disciples of Jesus, we will do the same work that Jesus did. We are holy as he is holy, and we obey the voice of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. We teach others to do the same. Our mission while in this World is to serve him in spirit and truth and to make disciples.