



I am a Disciple - Part 1

INTRODUCTION

We all do have a story to tell of how God met us at where we were at, and in His abundance of grace and mercy, we came to know and accept this saving knowledge of Christ and accept Him as our Lord and saviour.

However, just as conversion is not the end goal of our existence as believers and disciples, our transformation to Christ-likeness is a lifelong one. Rather, God desires us to experience many points of conversions, and that our actions and behaviour as disciples will reflect His purpose, will and heart for mankind.

In this first part of the series, Jesus parting words in Matthew 28 summed up what it means to be a disciple, and if we call ourselves disciples, His last command must be our first concern and mission.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your story on how you came to know Christ as your Lord and Saviour?
2. The Bible teaches us that our job is to make disciples, and that Jesus himself will build the church. What are some ideas or concepts which you have had of discipleship prior to the message?
3. Read Matthew 28:16-20 (AMP).
16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. 17 And when they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted [that it was really He]. 18 Jesus came up and said to them, "All authority (all power of absolute rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations [help the people to learn of Me, believe in Me, and obey My words], baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always [remaining with you perpetually—regardless of circumstance, and on every occasion], even to the end of the age.

Do an inductive bible study (observations, interpretation and application). You can use the following as a guide.

i. Posture your heart. Spend some time in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher. Open your heart to the Lord to speak to you.

ii. Read the passage aloud

iii. Ask some context questions of the passage:

- What sort of writing is this? (a letter, a poem, a narrative etc?)
- Are there any clues about the circumstances under which it was written?
- What has happened so far in this particular book of the Bible?

iv. Some observation questions of the passage:

- Are there any major sub-sections or breaks in the passage?
- What is the main point or points?
- What surprises are there?
- What are the key words? What words or ideas are repeated?

v. Some leading questions of the text:

- How does this passage relate to other parts of the book?
- How does the passage relate to Jesus?
- What does this teach us about God?
- How could we sum up the meaning of this passage in our own words?

vi. Some application questions of the passage:

- How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
- Is there some attitude I need to change?
- How does this passage call on me to change the way I live?

4. Looking at the great commission, are there parts where you feel that you particularly struggle with? What has God revealed to you about it, after hearing the word this weekend? (Could be in the area of doubt, could be in meeting Jesus on the mountain etc, then pray for each other.)

5. Who are some people God would want you to disciple in your world today? Or what are some action steps you can take to be in a discipleship relationship today?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Clearly, the final words of someone dear or cherished would most likely be the most crucial and important to us. The command has been clearly stated in Matt 28:19-20, and it is addressed to all of us: disciples of Christ.

Would you change your mindset and ask God for the forgiveness where we have had wrong thoughts or behaviours? Ask Him for the strength to remain faithful to the call of making disciples?

CHANGE YOUR MINDSET

Matthew 28:18-20 (AMP),

18 Jesus came up and said to them, "All authority (all power of absolute rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations [help the people to learn of Me, believe in Me, and obey My words], baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always [remaining with you perpetually—regardless of circumstance, and on every occasion], even to the end of the age.