

Are You a Disciple of Jesus?: 3 Elements of Discipleship (Part 2)

Three Elements Are Required for True Discipleship:

1. Placing God's Truth into My Head – **LEARNING** – Pedagogy
2. Putting God's Truth into My Actions – **LIVING** – Practice
3. Prioritizing God's Truth in My Choices – **LEAVING** – Priorities

The First Element of Discipleship: **LEARNING**

1. The Root Idea of Discipleship

The root word for the Greek word translated “disciple” is *μανθάνω*, (*manthano*) which is translated as the verb “to learn.”

2. Being a Disciple Requires that You Are Learning.

Matt 11:29 "Take My yoke upon you and **learn** from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

3. Being a Disciple Requires Being Taught by God's Teachers

Col 2:6-7 ⁶ As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ **rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught**, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

The Second Element of Discipleship: **LIVING**

1. Learning Must Lead to Living (Putting to Practice)

Matt 28:19-20b "Go therefore and make disciples ... ²⁰ "teaching them to **observe** all things that I have commanded you"

1 Pet 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that **you should follow His steps**

2. Our Claims Are Validated by Our Conduct

1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

3. The Term “Christian” Is Related to Living Out God's Truth

Acts 11:26 ...And the disciples were first called **Christians** in Antioch.

4. The Term “Saint” Replaces the Label “Disciple” After Acts

“Saints” seems to be the term that replaces “disciples” after Acts. The term “saints” relates both to a believer's **holy position** in Christ at salvation, and also the expectation of living out that **holiness in action**.

1 Pet 1:13-16 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind...; ¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, [as] in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but as He who called you [is] **holy**, you **also be holy in all [your] conduct**, ¹⁶ because it is written, "**Be holy**, for I am holy."

The Third Element of Discipleship: **LEAVING (Priorities)**

Luke 14:26-35 If anyone comes to Me and **DOES NOT hate** his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, **he cannot be My disciple**. ²⁷ And whoever **DOES NOT bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple**. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has [enough] to finish [it --] ²⁹ lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see [it] begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. ³³ So likewise, whoever of you **DOES NOT forsake** all that he has **cannot be My disciple**. ³⁴ Salt [is] good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? ³⁵ It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, [but] men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Observe Jesus' “Does Not” Statements:

1. Each statement contains the _____ phrase: “cannot be My disciple.”
 - “cannot concerns _____, not prohibition.
 - “be” concerns _____, not membership.
 - “My disciple” concerns _____ with Jesus, not focus on myself.
2. Jesus is not making a rule, but stating a _____. He is not saying “I won't **let** you be a disciple,” but “you won't be **able** to be a disciple.”
3. These three actions are _____ tense, as discipleship is continuous. Discipleship is not completing a task. It is developing ongoing Christ-directed attitudes and behavior.

Jesus Presents 3 Priorities that Disciples **MUST** Have:

²⁶ If anyone comes to Me and **DOES NOT** _____ his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, **he cannot be My disciple**.

²⁷ And whoever **DOES NOT** _____ his cross and come after Me **cannot be My disciple**.

³³ So likewise, whoever of you **DOES NOT** _____ all that he has **cannot be My disciple**.

Today's Takeaways:

- Discipleship is not _____.
- Discipleship is _____.
- Discipleship is _____.
- Discipleship is _____ obedience.