

Stewardship

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving



Live a God-Pleasing Life!

Bible Studies

Bible Study 2

Discipleship Is the Path

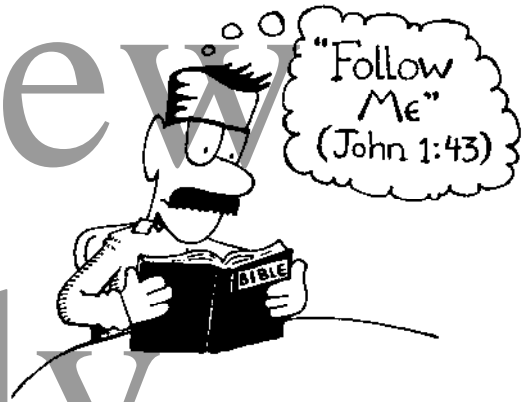
Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, we thank you for the privilege of being your instruments to tell others about the life-saving Gospel. Continue to grant us hearts that seek the lost. Help us to share your love and light in us with others. We pray that this study on discipleship will help us to be more faithful in our discipleship. Bless this time, and may all that we say and do give you honor and glory. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

What Is a Disciple?

What is a disciple? Jesus' last command before his ascension was, "*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations*" (Matthew 28:19). How do we do that? To make disciples, we have to be disciples, don't we? To answer the question, "What is a disciple?" we may first examine how we become disciples.

In Matthew 4:19, we read Jesus' words to Peter and Andrew: "*Come, follow me.*" He said, "*Come,*" and "*At once they [Peter and Andrew] left their nets and followed him*" (Matthew 4:20). In this short exchange we find the answers to both our questions. We become disciples when Jesus calls us, and we follow. Jesus chooses his disciples. He calls his disciples today just as he did at the beginning of his earthly ministry. Not one of the original twelve initiated this contact. Although Philip brought Nathanael to Jesus, it was still Jesus who issued the call. Jesus told him, "*I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you*" (John 1:48). It was Jesus who made the disciples his own and called them to a God-pleasing life of discipleship. They gave not only their first and best to their Lord, they gave their all.



There have been those who have attempted to live a life of discipleship on their own. One of these we read about in Luke 9:57-58. "*I will follow you wherever you go,*" this would-be disciple promised, but, when Jesus gave him the conditions, saying, ". . . *the Son of Man has no place to lay his head,*" the applicant is not heard from again. The first condition of discipleship is that Jesus must call us. Without his call, we are not equipped to make the sacrifices required for the calling.

7. Read Exodus 35:4-29. Jot down the thoughts that mean the most to you—the thoughts that convict you—the thoughts that encourage you.

What's significant to me?

What convicts me?

What encourages me?

8. Read Exodus 35:30-36:7.

- a. Who were Bezalel and Oholiab? How did their practice of good stewardship show us God's generosity through others?
- b. What kind of stewardship was being practiced here?

9. Read 1 Chronicles 29:1-9.

- a. How was David a stewardship leader?
- b. How did the people respond?

10. Read David's Prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-19, phrase by phrase.

- a. What "points" does David cover in his prayer?
- b. What can you learn from his prayer about your stewardship?



Prayer:

Dear Lord, we thank you for your Word that teaches us how important it is for us to be generous with our time, talents, and treasures. Please open our eyes and hearts to the needs of others and the needs of your church. Help us to respond with loving, caring, and generous hearts. May our generous giving give you honor and glory. We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

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