



COME, GROW & GO 12-WEEK DISCIPLESHIP

Bible STUDY

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Theme: What it Means to Follow Jesus

September 9, 2026

Our Relationship with Jesus
Matthew 16:24-27

Power Word: SURRENDER



Who God Is: God requires allegiance to Jesus as His Son.

How We Follow Him: I respond by surrendering to Jesus, even before fully understanding.

COME

Matthew 16:24-27

Jesus instructs His disciples on the true essence of following Him through commitment and surrender.



GO

Read Matthew 16

Choose one thing, "Cross," you can take up for Christ in your walk with Him.

Review handouts on "Disciple & Discipleship."
Complete iDisciple Self-Checklist.

Enjoy this journey!



GROW

FOLLOWING JESUS IS NOT **RELIGION**...
IT'S A **RELATIONSHIP**.

Your "cross" will look like:

- †1. **Self-Denial:** Rejecting personal desires to align your life with Jesus. v. 24
- †2. **Sacrifice:** Embracing your Christian life by prioritizing spiritual values over the world's systems. v. 25
- †3. **Earthly Rewards:** The world offers temporary gain, but Jesus gives the greater reward for surrendered obedience. vv. 26-27

My Prayer Response

Thank you, Jesus, for inviting me to follow You and carry my cross daily. Help me surrender to Your plan, especially during uncertain times, and guide my steps to align with Your will.

In Your saving name, I pray,
Amen.

Notes:



POWER *Words*

Here is a list of words with definitions that describe **Surrender**:

- **Yielding:** Involves submitting your will to Jesus' authority, trusting in His greater plan and wisdom beyond personal understanding.
- **Submission:** Signifies willingly placing yourself under God's sovereignty (Jesus' Lordship), acknowledging His ultimate control, and aligning your actions with His direction for your life.
- **Obedience:** Refers to following God's commands and teachings, demonstrating a heart that is aligned with His purpose and guidance for your life.
- **Resignation:** The acceptance of God's will in ALL circumstances, trusting that His intentions are for your ultimate good, despite your personal desires.
- **Abandonment:** Emphasizes the act of letting go of personal plans and desires, wholeheartedly entrusting your life and future into Jesus' hands. He's got you!
- **Trust:** This is the foundational aspect of surrender, involving complete confidence in God's faithfulness and the relinquishing of control over your life to His. I SURRENDER ALL!

Followers of Christ

“And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.” Mark 1:17 KJV



A Disciple

- One who is committed to being a follower of Christ, surrendering their whole life to Him in service to others.
- A learner: one who studies, commits, and puts into practice; a follower, believer, supporter.
- One willing to be taught through the power and infilling of Holy Spirit how to walk in the fruit and gifts He has given to edify the church and glorify God.
- A person of prayer, faith, and spiritual discipline who lives out the Great Commandment and Commission of God.



The word disciple is sometimes used in a more specific way to indicate the twelve apostles of Jesus (Matt. 10:1; 11:1; 20:17; Luke 9:1). In general, apostles refer to a small, inner group of Jesus' followers; disciples refer to a larger group of Jesus' followers, such as the women who stood at Jesus' cross and discovered the empty tomb.

Discipleship

Discipleship is the intentional training of a believer who voluntarily submits himself to the Lordship of Christ and who wants to become an imitator of Him in every thought, word, and deed.

Based on sound teaching, experiences, relationships, and accountability, a disciple becomes transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

The goal is to reproduce spiritually mature Christians and make disciples of men/women. Christian discipleship is lived out through a world of decisions, attitudes, temptations, and commitments. It is the battleground of good and evil (Eph. 6:12).

Most Christians lack a true understanding of the context in which Jesus' disciples were developed. They were not just tagging alongside the Savior on dusty roads and hot days through Judaea. They abandoned their families and professions, lived minimal lifestyles, and had no sense of residential stability. Each had to learn new principles constantly and was expected to apply them on demand. They suffered persecution and rejection as they followed Christ. In this present age, Jesus is seeking people who are serious about becoming new creations in Him. Those who are willing to pick up their cross and follow Him.

Discipleship is NOT a program. It's NOT a ministry...It is a lifelong commitment to a lifestyle!

iDISCIPLE SELF-CHECK LIST

Take a good look at your “self”. Are you confident and excited about your relationship with Christ Jesus and your destiny? Is your lifestyle one that you could confidently put on display?

How about your ministry to others? Are you making good use of time and seizing opportunities to share the good news? Complete the “self-checklist” below to get a pulse on your life and style of living like Christ. We will discuss this in class.

01	Are you confident that your eternal salvation is assured through your confession of sins, your acceptance of Christ’s gift of forgiveness, and His death, burial, and resurrection?	YES ☐	NO ☐
02	Do you consistently obey the teachings of Jesus as set forth in the Bible, including reading, meditating, and sharing His Word with others?	YES ☐	NO ☐
03	Have you put the attractions and distractions of this world in their proper place and focused on knowing, loving, and serving God as He commands?	YES ☐	NO ☐
04	Do you always love other people in practical ways, especially those who are not followers of Christ?	YES ☐	NO ☐
05	Do you live in such a way as to show others what the Christian life looks like, especially those who do not know Him?	YES ☐	NO ☐
06	Do you relate to and gather with other Christians consistently, in a spiritual setting and for spiritual purposes, not social or other reasons?	YES ☐	NO ☐
07	Are you actively helping other believers grow spiritually, including following up with them?	YES ☐	NO ☐
08	Do you consistently seek guidance from Holy Spirit in all you say and do?	YES ☐	NO ☐
09	Do you believe that believers in Christ (young/old) need spiritual growth to be better witnesses and followers of Christ?	YES ☐	NO ☐
10	Are you fully committed to the journey of following Jesus, engaging with both joy and action?	YES ☐	NO ☐