

**ARE YOU
A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST?**
CHRISTIAN ESSENTIALS

DEFINITION OF DISCIPLE

Strict Definition of Disciple (in general):

A learner who (because of a loyal relationship of mutual commitment) follows the teachings and ways of a master.

Illustrations:

Art Apprentice during Renaissance, Martial Artists of the Far East



PROPOSITION:

**A Disciple of Jesus Christ follows his
Master philosophically, practically and
in physical action:**



I. FOLLOWS JESUS PHILOSOPHICALLY

Philosophically:

the way the master thinks about all of life, worldview (beliefs, attitudes) and resultant purpose/goals.



I. A.

Jesus claims that God's Word — the Holy Scriptures — are (absolute) Truth in every part and whole, because they are breathed out by God Himself. (John 17:17; Matthew 5:18; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:21)


***The Bible is the sole authority for faith and practice.**

I. B.

Jesus claims His Father in Heaven, along with Himself and the Holy Spirit are to receive the same glory and the same worship. They together are to be glorified and worshiped as the one-and-only true, eternal God, above all other gods. These Three are One — not just in mind and purpose but in very nature. (Matt. 3:13-17, 4:1; Mark 1:12, John 1, John 10:30, 14:16, 16:8, 17:1-3; see also [Yes, the Trinity](#))

I. C.

Jesus claims that He existed along with the Father and the Holy Spirit before the world came into being, and that, the Godhead made the world & humanity out of nothing in 6 days. (John 1, 8:48-59; Col. 1:16-17, Rom. 1:20; see also [Did Jesus say He Created in 6 Literal Days? by Answers in Genesis](#))



I. D.

Jesus claims He is fully God and yet also fully human (without trace of evil) because of a miraculous birth planned by the Father and made possible by the Holy Spirit's power. (see Jesus DID Claim to be God)




I. E.

Jesus claims Satan, along with his fallen angels and demons, are real beings who have come to rob, kill and destroy the world and humanity in a great cosmic rebellion against God.

– (John 10:10; Matt. 25:41; John 8:44; 2 Cor. 4:4)

I. F.

Jesus teaches all humans are naturally evil in heart (nature) due to sin — obedience to Satan. This is a state of rebellion in allegiance to Satan. It is a great offense to God, because it puts the individual human in the place of God. (Matt. 15:18-19; John 3:3-7, 16-17, John 8:44)



I. G.

Jesus therefore claims the penalty for having an evil, sinful nature (regardless of good deeds done) is eternal death served in a judgment to Hell. (Matt. 25: 31-46)




I. H.

YET, Jesus claims he died on the cross in order to defeat Satan, satisfy God's wrath on human sin & provide pardon & redemption for your sin nature & offenses against God. (Luke 9:22, 17:25, 23:34; Mark 8:31; John 12:27-32)

I. I.

Jesus claims to have been physically dead and buried for 3 days and to have descended to Hell during that time. He did this for you, taking your place as a substitute. (Matt. 27:13; Luke 18:33)



I. J.

Jesus claims He was raised from death and hell on the 3rd day after burial in order to provide those who believe with a clear name before God's justice, as well as newness of life — His life and nature. (Matt. 26:32, 27:13, 28:7; Mark 14:28; Luke 18:33)

I. K.

Jesus claims to be the ONLY Way, Truth and Life by which one can come to be reconciled to God the Father, and that, an invitation to be reconciled comes from the Holy Spirit. (John 6:44, 14:6)

I. L.

Jesus labeled the invitation a “draw” or “call” & it feels like you’re convinced God is right about:

1. Your being sinful
2. Judgment on sinfulness is certain and undeniable; BUT
3. Jesus, the only Source for being made right with God, is being offered to you freely. (John 16:8)


I. M.

Jesus requires 2 Responses to the Invitation (Call) of the Holy Spirit




I. M. 1

REPENTANCE TOWARD GOD: that you change your mind about yourself by admitting to God you are sinful through-and-through, incapable of redeeming yourself by any means. Agree that your sinful nature is the result of rebellion which deserves Hell. Admit that instead of you being master of your own life, God is the rightful King of you and this world (Matthew 3:2, 4:17, Mark 1:15).



I. M. 2

FAITH PLACED IN HIM: that you trustingly call out to Jesus Christ alone (renouncing all other deeds and religions) to reconcile your soul to the one true God, based on the fact Jesus died for your sinfulness and was raised so you could be made right with God. (John 6:44, 14:6)




I. N.

Jesus says he will come again from Heaven to judge the living and the dead, to rule and to reign. (Matthew 24:30; Luke 21:27; Mark 14:62; John 5:22-27)



I. 0.

**Therefore, Jesus Commands His
Disciples to Make Disciples (teach and
baptize in the name of the Trinity)
everywhere until He Comes Again.
(Matthew 28:19-20)**



I. P.

Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you’ll know the truth & the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31-32)



SUMMARY OF POINT I.

A TRUE DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST BELIEVES AND FOLLOWS JESUS' TEACHINGS ABOUT:

- The Bible – God's Word
- The Trinity – the Only True God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit
- Creation
- Satan
- Mankind's Sinfulness (likeness to Satan)
- Jesus, the Son of God as the only Anointed Savior of Mankind
- The Gospel – Death for Our Sins, Burial/Hell, Resurrection/Ascension of Jesus
- Jesus as the Coming King
- The Great Commission

II. FOLLOWS JESUS PRACTICALLY

Practically:

the means and methods the Master uses to accomplish goals (Luke 6:46)

*There are 2 Means: Denying “Self” & Yielding to the Holy Spirit

II. A.

Denying “Self”

**Selfless and Sacrificial Love to God and
Fellow Man: “Dying to Self”**

How? – 10 Descriptions



1ST DESCRIPTION

Kingdom Living (Matthew 5-7)



2ND DESCRIPTION

Denying Your Self [a.k.a. Taking Up His Cross] (Matt. 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23)



3RD DESCRIPTION

Dying Daily (1 Corinthians 15:31)



4TH DESCRIPTION

Counting Yourself “Dead to” Sin (Romans
6:11)



5TH DESCRIPTION

**Putting to Death the Deeds of the Flesh
(Romans 8:13; Col. 3:5)**



6TH DESCRIPTION

Putting off the Old You (Ephesians 4:22-24)



7TH DESCRIPTION

Leaving behind the possibility of denying Jesus. (Matthew 10:33; Hebrews 12:1)



8TH DESCRIPTION

**Leaving behind the things that weigh us
down in our race for God (Romans
12:1-2; Hebrews 12:1)**



9TH DESCRIPTION

**Leaving Pursuits of Happiness apart from
a Life Serving Jesus Christ (Luke 9:62,
14:25-34)**



10TH DESCRIPTION

**A Living Sacrifice: Renewing Your Mind
(exchanging the way you think about
relationships, actions, attitudes for
God's way) — Romans 12:1-2**



II. B.

Yielding to the Holy Spirit: “Christ in You”
occurs 164 times in the New
Testament

Give Way to the Promptings of God: “Alive
Unto God” (Rom. 6:11, 8:14; Gal. 2:20)

How? – 10 Descriptions



1ST DESCRIPTION

**Worshipping in Spirit and in Truth (John
4:24; Eph. 5:18-20)**



2ND DESCRIPTION

**Praying in the Power of the Holy Spirit
(Jude 19-24)**



3RD DESCRIPTION

**Showing Grace and Good Deeds (Eph.
2:10; Col. 4:6; Matt. 5:16)**



4TH DESCRIPTION

**Putting on Christ (Romans 13:14;
Galatians 3:27)**



5TH DESCRIPTION

**Counting Your Body as a Tool Dedicated
to do Righteous Things (Rom. 6:11-13)**



6TH DESCRIPTION

**Counting Your Life as an Ongoing
Sacrifice Offered to Jesus (Rom. 12:1-
2)**



7TH DESCRIPTION

**Producing Fruit of the Spirit by Yielding to
His Influence (Galatians 5)**



8TH DESCRIPTION

**Boldly Sharing and Defending—giving an
answer for—the Gospel Everywhere
(Mark 16:15, Ephesians 6:19; Jude)**



9TH DESCRIPTION

**Making Disciples and Baptizing Them
(Matthew 28:19-20)**



10TH DESCRIPTION

Loving other Disciples in Christ (John 17)



SUMMARY OF POINT II

A true disciple of Jesus Christ follows his master in the means and methods that the Master uses to accomplish goals. There are 2 main means Jesus uses to accomplish His goal of the Great Commission:

- 1. Denying Self**
- 2. Yielding to the Holy Spirit**



III. FOLLOWS JESUS IN PHYSICAL ACTION

- where the master leads or sends in order to both continue learning and accomplish goals (mission, obedience – Luke 6:46)**

***As He leads!**



III. A.

**Obeys the Command to be Baptized in
the Name of the Trinity. (Matt. 28:19-
20)**



III. B

**Joins Other Believers for Worship and
Encouragement (Hebrews 10:25)**



III. C.

**Working the skill/profession you have
and serving the Lord – making disciples
– within it (1 Cor. 7:17-24)**



III. D.

Leaving Comforts, Abundance (Affluence)

- Matthew 6:24, 19:22; Mark 10:22;

Luke 16:13



III. E.

**Leaving Family's Physical Location (Matt.
19:29; Mark10:29-30; Luke 18:29)**



III. F.

**Leaving Houses (Matt. 19:29;
Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:29)**



III. G.

Leaving Lands (Matt. 19:29; Mark10:29-30; Luke 18:29)



III. H.

**Leaving Excuses of Inconvenience or
Culture (Matt. 6:25-31; 8:21-22, Luke
9:26, 57-62)**



III. I.

**Going out of your Comfort Zone and
Routine and Prejudices (Luke 10:25-
37)**



III. J.

**Going to Where No Disciples Are (Mark
16:15; Matthew 28:19-20)**



III. K.

**Going to the Poor, Who are Rich in Faith
(Luke 7:22; Matt. 11:5, James 2:5)**




III. L.

**Going to the Isolated, Oppressed and
Downtrodden (Luke 4:18)**




III. M.


**Going to your City (Jerusalem),
Region/Country (Judea), Neighboring
Region/Country (Samaria) and Far
Abroad (Uttermost Parts of the Earth) —
Acts 1:8**



III. N.

**Going even to Physical Death, if
persecuted or called upon to Die for
the Name of Jesus (Matt. 5, 10:24;
Luke 6:40; John 13:16, 15:20,
21:20-23)**





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