



**ESSENTIAL**

**CHURCH**

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# Matthew 28:16-20

<sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. <sup>19</sup> Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: <sup>20</sup> Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

## LESSON #4

We've dealt with the issues of authority and the command to go, but the question is what are we to go and do? There must be a point, a reason for your going. What is a disciple? At it's most basic level the word disciple is a learner or pupil. Vine's expository dictionary says "a disciple was not only a pupil but an imitator of their teacher."

First you need to know that being a disciple isn't free. Being a disciple \_\_\_\_\_. In, *The Cost of Discipleship*, author Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, communion with confession... Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ." Examine: Luke 14:25-33 & Matthew 8:18-22. Jesus is saying \_\_\_\_\_ and see if you're willing to do what it takes to be a disciple. Being a disciple is more than accepting an invitation.

Discipleship was based on the \_\_\_\_\_. That word means teacher. Examine: John 15:16. During Bible times it was customary for the student \_\_\_\_\_. Disciples chose rabbis on how the rabbi interpreted God's word because the disciple wanted to live a life pleasing to God.

Being a disciple is Jesus' day meant you were willing to \_\_\_\_\_. The rabbi viewed everything the student did and constantly asked \_\_\_\_\_. There was nothing from the life of the student the rabbi couldn't question. You constantly live with Jesus and Jesus sees what you do.

# Essential Church - Lesson #4 - Continued

The reason for this is because the rabbi wanted to develop \_\_\_\_\_ in the life of the student. There was no curriculum or agenda. Discipleship was not a formula or a how-to. Examine: 2 Tim. 2:14 &15.

Based on what we've studied from the culture and context let's define discipleship this way:

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What does being a disciple mean in essential church?

- As a disciple of Christ, we should desire to please God and surrender to Christ's authority. Examine: Matthew 16:24-27.
- As disciples of Christ, we must be willing to live like Jesus is present. Examine: John 16:13. That means we're willing to represent Jesus all day every day.
- As a disciple of Christ, we must grow in our understanding of who God is and who we are in relation to who He wants us to be. Examine: Luke 6:43-49.

All this tells us what a disciple is. But how do we make disciples?

1. \_\_\_\_\_. This is first because we have to be in relationship with people. Examine: Mark 1:16-20.
2. \_\_\_\_\_. Through the power of relationship. This wasn't done occasionally.
3. \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus spent ore time doing the first two than this one!