

What is a Disciple?

A disciple of Jesus is a person who after believing through faith by grace, and being saved by God and blessed with many blessings, moves forward into an ever deeper relationship with Jesus as his student. This person looks at Jesus, takes Jesus' words to heart and begins to take upon himself the characteristics of his Master.

Believe > Learn and Grow > Become a Disciple > Continue Growing

*2 Peter 1:5-7 / Faith > Desire Excellence > Gain Knowledge >
Learn Self Control > Become Consistent Even In Hard Times >
> Do Good Works > Begin to Have Affection for Others > Love other Like God Loves Them*

*2 Corinthians 3:18 / Trust Christ > Spirit Freedom > You Can Understand Scripture Now! >
Behold Jesus and His Glory (study him) > Be Transformed into His Image > Little By Glorious Little >
This is The Spirit's Work*

Jesus and Discipleship /

Luke 14:25–33 (ESV) / ²⁵Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he **cannot be my disciple**. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me **cannot be my disciple**. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has **cannot be my disciple**.

- **Hate their own father and mother and wife and children or himself** / *miseō* / hate, aversion to / but in this context it means “to be disinclined to, to disfavor, to disregard (*contrasting preferential treatment*) BDAG / We should give Jesus the preferential treatment, not our family or friends / Rom 9:13, Jacob I have loved, Esau I have hated / Someone coined the phrase “first loyalty” to describe this...
 - **“Even his own life”** / don’t give yourself preferential treatment / Favor Jesus over yourself / to the point of giving your life...
- **Bear his own cross and come after me** / take upon yourself the burden of your own death and judgement, be willing to go to the very end for someone. / “willing to suffer”
- **Think Discipleship Through** / *it is not simply an emotional decision*
 - **Count the Cost** / the tower illustration / What is required to finish the decision, what will it cost you? Everything. What will you gain? Everything. Don’t become a disciple if you don’t intend to finish, people will mock you for not reckoning beforehand
 - **Deliberate** / the king at war illustration / to think about a course of action, to deliberate with yourself / careful thought / “can this battle be won” / Should I seek terms of peace? / think during the battle / aim for the best outcome
- **Renounce all that he has** / Here the Greek word is *apoptassō* / BDAG = to express a formal “farewell,” to take leave of, renounce, give up. Wave goodbye...

Are you willing to let Jesus be your preferred master, to suffer for him, to count the cost beforehand, to deliberate during the battle to surrender to him, to “wave goodbye” to all you have for him?

