

# Growing One Another: Discipleship in The Church

## Series Conclusion

Just before Jesus ascended into heaven as the King who has all authority in heaven and on earth, he gave us a set of marching orders and called all Christians to be disciples and disciple-makers. The Bible teaches that growing as a Christ-follower and helping others grow is normal for the Christian life, not extraordinary.

The church (us) has a responsibility to be growing people in grace. When you peer into the life of a church, you should see people maturing, seeking holiness, and influencing others to do the same... This could be seen in a variety of ways, but this is what we have been calling discipleship, and this has been the focus of the entire study.

To be a disciple is to be a student, someone who learns from and imitates his teacher. As a disciple of Christ, we are all called to continually learn from Him and follow Him in every area of life. Practically speaking, this means that we need to realize that discipleship is a lifelong process. In this life, none of us is a finished product. We all need to continually progress as disciples. For the past 6 weeks, we've taken a closer look at what the Bible has to say about the subject in order to be faithful to this great responsibility...

- **Session 1: The Need For Discipleship** (Philippians 3:8-11)  
“None of us is perfect. We all need to grow as disciples of Christ”
- **Session 2: The Definition of Discipleship** (Matthew 28:18-20)  
“Discipleship means growing as followers of Jesus and helping others do the same.”
- **Session 3: The Motivations of Discipleship** (Colossians 3:1-13)  
“We should grow as Christians and help others do the same because of who God is, what He has done for us in Christ, and who He has made us in Christ”
- **Session 4: The Means of Discipleship: Following Godly Examples** (1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1)  
“Learning from godly examples is a crucial aspect of Christian discipleship. This means that we should seek out godly examples to follow and set a godly example for others”
- **Session 5: The Means of Discipleship: Teaching One Another** (Rom 15:14-16, Eph 4:11-16, Titus 2:1-8)  
“All Christians are called to speak the truth in love to one another in order to help each other grow up in godliness. One of the chief means by which we grow disciples is through personal relationships in which we bring the truths of the gospel to bear on the details of life.”
- **Session 6: The Enemy Of Discipleship: Indwelling Sin** (Romans 7:1-25)  
“The sin that still dwells within us and within others opposes our discipleship every step of the way, but by God's grace we can overcome it”

## **Session 7: The End of Discipleship**

### Main Idea

“At the end, God will make all believers perfect in holiness. This certain hope energizes, encourages, and sustains our efforts to grow in holiness here and now.”

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**Digging In: Read Colossians 1:27-29**

1. What is the mystery which has now been made known to the saints (vs 27)?
2. Whom does Paul proclaim? In what manner does Paul proclaim him (vs 28)?
3. For what purpose or goal does Paul proclaim Christ (vs 28)?
4. How hard does Paul work to present everyone mature in Christ (vs 29)?
5. What does this teach us about what discipleship requires of us, both as we seek to grow in Christ and as we seek to help others grow in Christ?
6. If we are to work to present every person mature in Christ, why are both “warning” and “teaching” important? What are some things we need to warn and teach each other about?

**Read 1 John 3:1-3**

7. What has God done to us to demonstrate His love for us (vs 1)?
8. Why doesn't the world know us? Why should this be a comfort and an encouragement to us (vs 1)?
9. What will happen to us when Christ appears? Why will it happen (vs 2)?
10. What does everyone who hopes in Christ do because of this hope (vs 3)?
11. In light of this passage and the prior one, how would you respond to the question “If God is going to purify us in the end, why do we need to bother about that now? Do we really need to grow as a disciple since He's going to perfect us in the end?”
12. What are some causes for discouragement in the discipleship process? How does this passage give encouragement and hope as we persevere in growing and helping others grow in Christ?
13. What are some specific ways you can grow as a disciple, and help others grow as disciples, by bringing the hope of glory to bear on the stuff of our daily lives?