

# **Pastor's Discovery Class**

Learning Life Changing Truths From  
God's Word

# What Does It Mean To Be A Disciple?

**Introduction:** What are the requirements for becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ?

- Is becoming a disciple the same thing as being saved?

☐ **NO!**

- A person can be saved without being a disciple.
- A person can be a disciple without being saved.

# A. The Requirements for Becoming a Disciple

## 1. Love God Supremely

Luke 14:26

*Vs.26 “If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.”*

# Does God require you to love Him to be saved?

 **NO!**

**I John 4:10** “*Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*”

- The issue for **salvation** is God’s love for me, not how much I love him.
- The issue for becoming a **disciple**, is how much I love God, not God’s love for me.

# Rightly Dividing the Word

## Requirements for Salvation

☆ I need to understand how much God loves me.

## Requirements for Discipleship

☆ I must love the Lord above everyone else.

# Another Requirement to be a Disciple

## 2. Bear the Cross

**Luke 14:27** “*And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.”*

a. Does the unbeliever have to bear a cross to be saved?

**NO!**

b. Who bore the cross that we could be saved?

**John 19:17** “*And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha:”*

# Rightly Dividing the Word

## Requirements for Salvation

- 🕒 Jesus bore a cross to Calvary that I could be saved.

## Requirements for Discipleship

- 🕒 I must take up His cross daily if I want to be His disciple.

# Another Requirement to be a Disciple

## 3. Pay the Price

**Luke 14:28** *“For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?”*

- a. There is a price a believer must be willing to pay to be a disciple.
- b. Who paid the price so we could be saved?

John 19:30

*“...he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.”*

# Rightly Dividing the Word

## Requirements for Salvation

- 🕒 Jesus paid the full price for my salvation.

## Requirements for Discipleship

- 🕒 To be a disciple, there is a price I must be willing to pay.

# Another Requirement to be a Disciple

## 4. Forsake All You Have

**Luke 14:33** “*So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.”*

- a. For you to be a disciple of Christ, you must be willing to forsake all that you have and follow Him.
- b. Does the unbeliever have to forsake all that he has and follow Christ to be saved?

**NO!**

- It is by that which Christ forsook for us that brings salvation.
- It is by that which we are willing to forsake for Christ that makes us a disciple.
- **II Cor. 8:9** “*For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich*”

# Rightly Dividing the Word

## Requirements for Salvation

🕒 Jesus forsook the riches and His position in heaven so I could be saved

## Requirements for Discipleship

🕒 I must be willing to forsake all that I have to be his disciple.

# Another Requirement to be a Disciple

## 5. Confess Christ Before Men

**Matthew 10:32,33** *“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.”*

a. Does God require an unbeliever to confess

Christ before men to be saved?

 **NO!**

**John 12:42,43** *“...many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him,... For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.”*

- **John 19:38,39** “*And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews,” And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night,”*

b. What will happen if a believer denies Christ before men?

**Matthew 10:33** “*But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.*”

c. What will Christ deny a believer of if they do not confess Him before men?

**II Timothy 2:12** “*If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:*”

# Rightly Dividing the Word

## Requirements for Salvation

- ☆ I need to understand how much God loves me.
- 🕒 Jesus bore a cross to Calvary that I could be saved.
- 🕒 Jesus paid the full price for my salvation.
- 🕒 Jesus forsook the riches and His position in heaven so I could be saved.
- 🕒 It is my personal acceptance of Christ that brings me salvation.

## Requirements for Discipleship

- ☆ I must love the Lord above everyone else.
- 🕒 I must take up His cross daily if I want to be His disciple.
- 🕒 I must be willing to pay the price required to be a disciple.
- 🕒 I must be willing to forsake all that I have to be His disciple.
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- 🕒 I must be willing to confess Christ before men to be His disciple.

# A Clear Definition Of Terms

## A Term for Salvation

*“Come unto me”*

- Matt. 11:28 “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
- John 7:37 “Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.”

## A Term for Service

*“Come after me”*

- Matt. 16:24 “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”
- Mark 8:34 “Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”

# A Distinction That Must Be Made

## Salvation

1. Is given as a gift
2. A present possession
3. Based on the work of Christ in behalf of the sinner
4. Given out of grace
5. Can have salvation without rewards
6. Achieved through the sacrifice of Christ

## Rewards

1. Are earned by one's labour
2. A future attainment
3. Based on the work of the believer in behalf of Christ
4. Given out of debt
5. Cannot have rewards without salvation
6. Achieved through the sacrifice of the believer

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# Sharing The Gospel

- Ephesians 2:8-9 - Salvation is given freely, it is a gift
- Ephesians 2:10 - Service, we are saved first then we can do work good works
- 2 Timothy 2:15
- We should study the Bible for two reasons:
  - To be a workman, not ashamed
  - To rightly divide the Word of God
- There are **divisions** in the Bible (e.g. salvation/service)

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **The Idea of Repentance**
- Do we need to repent to be saved? **YES!**
- What does repentance mean?
- Turn from your sin? **NO.**
- Titus 2:11-12
- Christians **should** live soberly and righteously

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **The Idea of Repentance continued**
- Acts 20:21
- When repentance is used for salvation, the word *metanoeo* is used (meta = change, noeo = mind)
- Luke 13:1-5
- Repent, see me as God sees me
  - In view of God
  - In view of sin
  - In view of myself

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# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **The Idea of Repentance continued**
- Does repentance mean you have to be sorry for your sin?
- 2 Corinthians 7:9-10
- Sorrow is not repentance, but can lead to repentance
- The sorrow of this world is not sorrow over sin rather it is sorrow over getting caught sinning
- Repentance is not an emotional state

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to follow Christ to be saved**
- John 12:26
- Jesus defines following as serving
- We don't follow Christ to be saved, we get saved that we might follow Christ

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to confess your sins to get saved**
- 1 John 1:9
- This is not a salvation verse, it was written to Christians to tell them how to restore broken fellowship
- If you need to confess **all your sins** then your salvation is based upon how well you remember them
- We do not need to confess we are a sinner

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to confess your sins to get saved**  
**continued**
- 1 John 1:3-7 - There are two types of fellowship
- **Horizontal** - with other believers
- **Vertical** - with God
- Verse 6 - The basis of fellowship is doctrine (not love) about the deity of Christ and the gospel

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to confess your sins to get saved**  
**continued**
- Verse 7 - The light is the written Word of God, the cleansing here is not salvation related but for fellowship
- There a 3 type of light in the Bible
  - **the written Word of God**
  - **the living Word, Jesus Christ**
  - **the light of the world - Christians**

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to confess your sins to get saved**  
**continued**
- The tabernacle - the first thing people saw was the **brazen altar** for the blood sacrifice which represents the cross of Calvary
- The Holy of Holies - the first thing people saw was the **brass layer of water** for hand and foot washing which represents cleansing for service

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to confess your sins to get saved**  
**continued**
- John 13:9-10
- Jesus washed the disciples feet
- Verse 10 - the first washing is for salvation, only needs to be done once, subsequent washings represent a cleansing from daily defilement that hinders fellowship

# Terminology That Is Either Wrong or Unclear When The Gospel Is Shared

- **You need to confess your sins to get saved**  
**continued**
- 1 Timothy 2:5
- Confession should be made to God
- There is one mediator between God and man - Jesus Christ
- If we sin against others, we need to confess to them to restore fellowship with them

