

Seeker Study 4 | Discipleship

Purpose: The Holy Spirit comes to "convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment" (John 16:8). The Holy Spirit helps us See Our Need. Through His scriptures on Discipleship, He convicts us concerning Righteousness. These Scriptures should: clear up common misconceptions about following Jesus, convict us of our rejection of true discipleship, and inspire us to answer the call of Jesus.

Scriptures:

Acts 11:25-26

- Q: How many times is the word Christian used in the New Testament?
- Q: How many times is the word disciple used?
- Q: How would you define the word "disciple" non-religiously?
- Q: If you asked someone on the street, "Are you a Christian?", what would be the typical answer? How about if you asked them whether or not they are a disciple?
- Q: Why are these two synonyms so different? How can we use the Bible to define "Christian?"

Luke 9:23-27 Emphasize the heart that God wants.

- Q: What are the three demands of discipleship?
- Q: What does it mean to "deny yourself?"
- Q: What does it mean to "take up your cross daily?"
- Q: How can we be "ashamed of Jesus and his words," and what is the consequence of this shame?

Luke 9:57-62 Examine the issues involved for each person - thoughtless following, excuse making, and second thoughts. Note the parallel between "Follow me" and "Preach everywhere the Kingdom of God."

Luke 13:22-27

- Q: Does Jesus answer the question?
- Q: What's the difference for you between trying and making every effort?
- Q: Why are the rejected seekers surprised?

Mark 1:16-20 Jesus was more than a good moral teacher; he pointed to himself as the source of spiritual nourishment.

- O: What is the invitation?
- Q: Which is easier to do, catch a fish or catch a man or woman for God?
- Q: Even fishing needs input. Following Jesus, being taught, discipled, trained for his mission... are you involved in that process?
- Q: If you are not trying to make disciples, or 'fishing for men,' are you following Jesus?

Additional Scriptures: Luke 14:25-35, Matthew 25:31-46, Matthew 10:26-39, Colossians 3:13, Matthew 7:21-27, Luke 11:1-4