

D – DAILY DECISION TO DENY SELF.

Jesus said: Luke 9:23 “To them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. Matthew got up denied his ideas or plans for the day and followed Jesus when he called him. He made a decision. You can become a disciple the same day you become born-again. It is a DECISION. One cannot drift into becoming a disciple, because spiritual growth is not on automatic but it is a daily moment by moment denial of self to follow. Doesn't figure it all out but follows.

I - IMMEDIATELY OBEYS JESUS COMMANDS.

Jesus said Luke 14:26 “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. This was radical challenge as family was important but Jesus strongly uses the word hate to emphasize that family or anything cannot stand in the way following and obeying Jesus.

S - SUBMITS AS A SLAVE TO JESUS 24/7.

John 12:26 “If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.” Jesus took on a form of a servant in Phil 2:7 and the word servant here in the Greek is duolos or slave. There is a big difference between a servant and slave. A servant has rights and slave does not. A servant can punch the clock 9-5 but a slave is on duty 24/7. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9:19 “I made myself a servant.

C - CARRIES HIS CROSS - CHILDLIKE IN SPIRIT.

Luke 14:27 Jesus said: And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. Jesus also said in Matthew 18:3 “Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted; and become as a little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

I - INWARD TRANSFORMATION.

RO 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. EPH 4:24: And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. We have the OUTER WORK, and the Holy Spirit has the INNER WORK to do in our hearts and mind.

P - POOR IN SPIRIT.

Matthew 5:3 Jesus said: “Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of God.” Poor in spirit is one who relies on, trusts in and adheres to Jesus Christ. A little child is totally dependent upon his parents for his care. A little child allows the parents to make the decisions of what he wears, where he goes, etc.

L - LOVES AND LIVES IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD -- FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT EVIDENT.

John 13:34-35 Jesus said: “A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.” John 15:8 Jesus said: “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.” Gal 5:22-23 The fruit of the spirit: Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.

E - EVANGELIZES -- SHARES THE GOOD NEWS.

Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus said: Go ye therefore, and teach disciples all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you:”