

## Get a G.R.I.P. Week 2

### DISCIPLESHIP

**What is a disciple?** According to Webster it is a person who subscribes to the teachings of a master and assists in spreading those teachings.

#### **How Does a Believer Become a Disciple?**

1. We must first confess our sins, repent of our sins, and receive Jesus into our hearts. In other words we must, “be born again” (John 3:3, 5).
2. We must come to the point of “blessed dissatisfaction.” Jesus said, “Blessed [or happy] are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness...” (Matt. 5:6).

**What Is Discipleship?** Discipleship is a radical decision to do the will of God. This decision leads a person to deny himself and to take up his cross daily to joyfully follow Jesus. And since this is not a matter of growth, but of a decision, you can become a disciple the same day you are born again.

**Discipleship Is Abiding in Christ.** Jesus said, “I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit... If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned” (John 15:5,6). The Self-life cannot and will not abide in Jesus! There is no life outside discipleship, but only certain death and impending, everlasting disaster.

**Discipleship is Enthusiasm for Jesus.** You cannot find a dried up disciple any more than you can find a dried up grape on a healthy vine, relatively speaking. Our witnessing stops when we lose our enthusiasm for Jesus, when our intimacy with him ceases.

**Discipleship Means That We Abandon Our Schedules.** At the wedding of Cana, Mary wanted Jesus to solve the problem of the wine shortage at once. But Jesus said, “...mine hour is not yet come” (John 2:4; see also 7:6). Taking the cross up daily means our giving Jesus our time — all of our time. Time is life. If you give Jesus your time, you give him your life. Life is time and time is life. To take up one’s cross daily means to give Jesus 24 hours each day, and each hour consists of 60 minutes, and each minute consists of 60 seconds. Dying daily means giving Jesus every second of every day!

**Disciples never say to Jesus,** “I have other plans...; I have prior commitments...; I don’t want to disappoint my father, my wife, or my friends, etc....” Jesus took care of all that when he said, “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” (Luke 14:26). A disciple will never do anything but that which is on God’s schedule, and getting on God’s schedule means giving up ours. If watching television is not on God’s schedule, a disciple will not watch TV. If going to a ball game is not on God’s schedule, a disciple will not go to a ball game. If shopping is not on God’s plan, a disciple will not go shopping. If attendance at a wedding of a brother is not on God’s schedule, a disciple will not go.

(Excerpts from the Call to Obedience article [The Meaning of Discipleship #230](#))

In class listen to the following radio sermons by Pastor Schultze  
[“Believe & Receive John 1:12”](#) & [“Believers & Disciples John 2:13-17”](#)