

Discipleship Defined

Skip Gray

I. Introduction.

A. Our dying is not optional.

B. Believers will be judged for rewards and others will be judged during the final judgment. (II Corinthians 5:10)

C. By grace, we hope to say to God that we have finished the work God gave us. (John 17:4, 19:30)

1. Jesus' work was redemption.

2. Jesus' work was discipleship and training of men. This sustained Him. (John 4, II Timothy 4:7)

D. If you are a Christian, you are called to do ministry wherever you are. (Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 4:11-12)

II. A disciple is a person who continues in the Word of God. (John 8:31-32)

A. A disciple is a learner—he is not static.

B. One never graduates from Bible study.

C. We must “continue” in the Word of God. We saturate ourselves with the context. We do it.

III. A disciple is a person who walks in love. (John 13:34-35)

A. Love is unconditional and unending.

B. Jesus made Himself of no reputation by washing the disciples' dirty feet.

C. The opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference.

D. We ought to be involved in other people's heartache.

IV. A disciple is a person who bears fruit. (John 15)

A. Fruit means character—Christ-likeness. (Galatians 5:22-23)

B. It also means influence or multiplied disciples. (Proverbs 11:30)

C. We teach, pray and model in order to bear fruit.

D. We must give our lives to the Word of God and people.

Application questions:

1. What is your plan for studying the Bible?

2. What are some modern practical ways we can “wash others’ feet?”

3. How can you maximize your influence in the lives of those around you? Be specific.
