

Discipleship as Life in the Kingdom of God
Renovaré Institute Series Video #6 – Part 2
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In Video #6 – Part 1 Dallas was teaching three things we are learning as disciples. Dallas emphasized that the three things are not actually separable; you have to learn all of them. Part 2 begins with the second of the three things we're learning as disciples.

WHO IS AN APPRENTICE OF JESUS?
The Three Main Aspects of Discipleship

1. Learning to do as He did and He taught.
2. Learning to handle the ordinary events of daily life within the principles and power of God's Kingdom rule: e.g., running a business, a difficult committee meeting, a family dispute, writing a book, living through some political dispute.
3. Learning to act with God's power in bringing the Kingdom to bear on obvious human need, individual and social.

1. What are we learning as disciples? (Continued from Video #6 – Part 1)

a. We're learning to do what he did.

- See Renovaré Institute Series Video #6 – Part 2

b. We're learning to handle the ordinary events of daily life within the principles and power of God's Kingdom rule.

- There are a lot of things that Jesus didn't say anything about. There were lots of things he didn't talk about. You should love your family or your neighbor, but _____ do you do that? What is your neighbor like? What are the different particular circumstances?

A difficult committee meeting, a family dispute, a church fight, writing a book, living through some political dispute...How would he do all that? That's discipleship. That's what you're learning as a _____ of Jesus.

- You're learning all this in ways that will simply lift the _____ of life off of you. This is not an extra job. This is something you learn as a part of what you're going to do anyway. You have to make a living; you have to deal with people in various ways in real

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life. You have to get an education; you have to enter a career, find someone to be wedded to, raise a family, and all of that. That's where you want to understand that Jesus is your _____.

- Our churches, with leadership and teaching and special responsibilities, would be directed _____ toward _____ and would be teaching people how to do that. We're training people to _____ in the _____ in a way that's good.
- The church is not the Kingdom of God; it is an _____ of the Kingdom of God, and it _____ the Kingdom of God through its influence. That influence is primarily the _____ of the people who are there. In church we want to deal with the people who are there. We can do something for them. We need to do that in a loving, gracious way with the anointing of the power of God on us. We need to be able to get to know their lives and talk to them helpfully about living in the Kingdom of God wherever they are.

c. We're learning to act with the power of God in bringing the Kingdom to bear.

- **Prayer is a major part of what you need to learn.** Prayer is a _____-sharing device for a world of recovering sinners. All that power can't be turned loose without some preparation. You have to _____ how to do that.
 - Read the wonderful promises in Scripture. Read what Jesus said in John 14:13-14 ***And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.***
 - ***Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father*** (John 14:12). That's a learning process. The promises given along these lines are designed to help us understand that there is _____ impossible.
 - Think: What would happen in your life if you started raising the dead?
 - Power without character is one of the lessons you learn when you read your Bible. God gives power to help people.
 - **Character is _____ involved with prayer.** You don't want someone who can make a lot of things happen unless they've got the character to stand it.

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2. Where is the place of discipleship?

The PLACE of discipleship
is wherever I am NOW
and whatever I am doing NOW

- ⇒ It may be home, work, play or church.
- ⇒ I am learning from Jesus how to do everything I do in the Kingdom of God.
- ⇒ Our work/job is of special importance in discipleship, for that is where we put most of our time and effort. To leave God out of that is to exclude Him from most of our life.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- a. The habit of relying on ourselves rather than the Kingdom is one of the things we learn to step out of. So, we still do our best; we do everything we can that's right, but we don't _____ our best. We're trusting _____. We do our best and trust God.
- b. Sometimes that means that we don't fit in, that others disapprove of us. We still go right ahead. We do our best and trust in God. That comes at the end of a long teaching that begins with Colossians 3:1, and one of the passages I encourage everyone to memorize is Colossians 3:1-17. *It will put some starch in your spiritual bones.*
- c. Your job is not your life. Your ministry is not your life. Your work is not your life. _____ are your life, and that's what God is interested in! God is more interested in me than he is in my job. He is more interested in you than he is in your ministry. And ***what God gets out of your life is the person you become.***

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3. What kind of gospel am I preaching?

- a. We want to ask ourselves, "Does the gospel I preach have a natural tendency to produce disciples or only consumers of religious goods and services? Does what I preach free people of me, so they don't need to come back to me?" (See p. 58, *The Divine Conspiracy*.) It's fine if they do, if I'm useful for them, that's good. But *the object is to make people* _____ *on* _____ *and to set them free to walk in fellowship with him wherever they may be.*
- b. Look at the gospels that are heard (see *Renovaré Institute Series Video #3 – Part 3 – The Gospel in Romans 8 for discussion of the gospels that are heard at present*) and ask: Do those gospels make disciples? That's a question of fact. That's a part of evaluating what we do and why we do it.

We must hear His Gospel, not a halfway version. Compare:	
Conservative "Sin Management" Gospel	Jesus' Gospel of Kingdom Life from Above Now
• Heaven: after death • Discipleship: special religious effort is nice, but not necessary • Faith: believing the right things about Jesus • Ordinary Life (work/play/family/community): one is supposed to be Christlike or at least "do right," but it is not necessary and may not be possible. No natural bridge from faith to obedience/abundance.	Faith: Confidence in Jesus and His present Kingdom naturally leads to: a. Seeing my whole life as the Place of Redemption: Interactive Relationship b. Discipleship as learning from Him how to lead my life as He would; lead it as if He were I.

- c. People have traditions. They have habits. They tend to do things because that's what we've always done. And that's a powerful _____ to change.
 - d. **What is Jesus' gospel? You can now live in the Kingdom of God with him.** The Kingdom of God is this great world in which there are all kinds of things going on, but it's all _____ in _____.
- When you are in nature, you are brushing elbows with the Kingdom of God. Beauty is goodness made manifest to the senses.

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The Gospel of the Kingdom: Faith is confidence in Jesus and his present Kingdom that naturally leads to seeing my whole life as the place of redemption, to interactive relationship, and to discipleship as learning from him how to lead my life as he would lead my life if he were I.

Discipleship is the key to transformation.

Colossians 3:1-17

Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

5 Therefore, treat the parts of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. 6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you also, rid yourselves of all of them: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene speech from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, since you stripped off the old self with its evil practices, 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created it— 11 a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, and free, but Christ is all, and in all.

12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so must you do also. 14 In addition to all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ, to which you were indeed called in one body, rule in your hearts; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

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