

# Disciples

*Connect Group Study Part 1*



HI CHURCH

ITS SO GOOD TO SEE YOU PLANTED IN A CONNECT GROUP.

LIFE IS NEVER DESIGNED TO BE LIVED ALONE. WE ARE STRONGER WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER. WE CAN STRENGTHEN ONE ANOTHER WHEN WE ARE TOGETHER. YOU ARE NOT ALONE, YOU ARE PART OF 350+ PEOPLE THAT IS PLANTED TO MOVEMENT CHURCH CONNECT GROUP.

BUT TONIGHT WE WILL GO DEEPER ON THE SUBJECT OF "ARE YOU CROWDS OR DISCIPLES"

WE MAY START AS CROWD WATCHING OTHER PEOPLE RECEIVES THEIR MIRACLE AND HEALING.

HEARING HOW GOD RESTORE THEIR FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES.

A DISCIPLE IS MUCH MORE THAN A CROWDS, BUT THE WORD DISCIPLE.... LITERALLY MEANS TO BECOME A STUDENT.

IT IS MORE THAN JUST KNOWING HIS TEACHINGS, BUT THEIR LIFE GOAL IS JUST TO BE LIKE THEIR TEACHER.

HIS HEART BEAT BECOMES OUR HEART BEAT. HIS CHARACTERS BECOMES OUR CHARACTERS. HIS MISSION BECOMES OUR MISSIONS. THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A DISCIPLE.

***"WILL YOU CLIMB WITH ME?"***

***When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions." Matthew 5:1-2***

YOU KNOW....THE MORE I LEARN ABOUT JESUS. JESUS LOVES TAKING THE DISCIPLES TO A CLIMB

BECAUSE THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT ALTITUDE THAT WILL ALWAYS REVEAL OUR ATTITUDE

THE CLIMB SEPARATES THE REAL DISCIPLES FROM 'THE CROWDS'.

HE WANTS TO SEE WHO FOLLOWS HIM FOR HIS BLESSING AND WHO FOLLOWS HIM FOR HIS HEART. HE WANTS TO SEE WHO FOLLOWS HIM FOR HIS MIRACLE / BLESSINGS AND WHO WILL SAY 'I'LL FOLLOW YOU EVEN WHEN THINGS GETS HARD!'

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HE RESERVED HIS GREATEST SECRETS FOR THE CLIMB.

HE PREACHED WITH RIDDLES, STORIES AND PARABLES AT THE FOOT OF THE MOUNTAIN, BUT HE REVEALED HIS GREATEST AND DEEPEST SECRETS OF THE KINGDOM ON THE TOP OF THE CLIMBS!

CHURCH!!! WHAT IF GOD IS SAYING TO YOU THIS MORNING THAT YOUR DIRECTIONS, PROVISIONS, AND REVELATIONS ARE RESERVED AT THE END OF THE CLIMB!“

THE CLIMB REPRESENTS A CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP.

THIS CLIMB, THIS LADDER, REPRESENTS GOD’S CALLING TO DISCIPLESHIP. “WILL YOU STAY DOWN HERE WITH ‘THE CROWDS’ OR WILL YOU GO UP WITH ME AND BECOME MY DISCIPLES?”

2 PROMISES OF GOD THAT AWAIT AT THE END OF YOUR CLIMB

PROMISE #1, YOU WILL GAIN....

### **1. PEACE ABOVE THE STORM**

WHEN YOU FOLLOW GOD, GOD NEVER PROMISED A LIFE FULL OF SUNSHINE AND RAINBOWS. IN LIFE, SOMETIMES, WE WILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH SOME STORMS, AND AT TIMES ITS NOT EVEN BECAUSE OF YOUR FAULT!

ALL OF THE SUDDEN YOU’VE GOT A NEW BOSS. THE MARKET IS SLOWING DOWN. RESTRUCTURE HAPPENS, INFLATION HAPPENS.

SICKNESS IN YOUR FAMILY. YOUR LOVED ONES LEFT YOU. AND DURING THAT STORM, WE TEND TO GIVE IN TO FEAR. GAVE IN TO PRESSURE, GAVE IN TO ANXIETY. WE STOP CLIMBING.

BUT CHURCH, WHAT IF GOD NEVER CALLED YOU TO LIVE “UNDER THE WEATHER” WHAT IF YOU’RE NEVER CALLED TO LIVE UNDER THE WEATHER OF FEAR. WHAT IF YOU’RE NEVER CALLED TO LIVE UNDER THE WEATHER OF DEPRESSION?

WHAT IF YOU’RE NEVER CALLED TO LIVE UNDER THE WEATHER OF DEFEAT? WHAT IF YOU’RE ALWAYS CALLED TO LIVE ABOVE THE STORM SOME OF YOU ARE ABOUT TO GIVE UP ON YOUR CLIMB.

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BUT GOD SENT ME HERE TO TELL YOU 'KEEP CLIMBING!!!'

BUT GOD ITS SOOOO HARD.....

GOD THE STORM IS GETTING INTENSE! GOD IS SAYING 'JUST A LITTLE HIGHER'  
CMON DON'T GIVE UP ON THE CLIMB. CMON JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE.

AND YOU KEPT GOING UP. AND UP....AND UP.... AND YOU KEPT GOING, AND YOU  
KEPT GOING, AND YOU KEPT GOING.

UNTIL YOU REACHED TO A CERTAIN POINT...WHERE GOD HAS TAKEN YOU TO A  
**A PLACE ABOVE THE STORM**

**THERE IS PEACE ABOVE THE STORM.**

THE STORM IS STILL RAGING DOWN THERE.....BUT THERE IS PEACE ABOVE  
THE STORM

WHAT IF GOD IS SAYING 'I HAVE NEVER CALLED YOU TO CONTINUOUSLY LIVE  
UNDER THE BONDAGE OF FEAR, UNDER THE BONDAGE OF ANXIETY, UNDER  
THE BONDAGE OF DEFEAT.

I HAVE CALLED YOU TO LIVE ABOVE THE STORM. I HAVE CALLED YOU TO A LIFE  
OF FREEDOM. I HAVE CALLED YOU TO LIVE A HIGHER LIVING. THAT LIFE OF  
DEFEAT WAS NEVER YOUR PORTION. THAT DEPRESSED, DEFEATED, LIFE WAS  
NEVER YOUR PORTION. YOU'RE ALWAYS CALLED TO A LIFE OF FREEDOM.

WILL YOU CLIMB WITH ME?

BUT PASTOR, IM BUSY. I CAN'T MAKE IT ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT.....I GET IT  
"PEOPLE STARTED GIVING EXCUSES TO JESUS

"But they all alike began to make excuses.

The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.' -  
BUSINESS

"Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out.  
Please excuse me.' - MY CAREER

"Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' - MY FAMILY, I'VE GOT KIDS,  
ITS HARD.

**1. THE CLIMB WILL TAKE TIME.**

IT TAKES TIME TO BE DISCIPLED.

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IT TAKES YEARS FOR THAT BAD HABIT, LIES FROM THE ENEMY TO TAKE STRONGHOLDS. IT TAKES SYSTEMATIC PROCESS FOR A MIND TO BE TRANSFORMED, CHARACTER TO BE FINE TUNED.

BUT WILL YOU AT LEAST TAKE THE FIRST STEP AND CLIMB?

### **2. THE CLIMB WILL TAKE COMMITMENT.**

CHURCH TODAYS MAKE EVERYTHING INSTANT AND EASY, "OH CAN YOU JUST SEND ME THE LINK?"

I MET SO MANY PASTORS, ASKED ME 'HEY SHOW ME HOW YOU CAN HAVE SOOOO MANY COMMITTED LEADERS IN YOUR CHURCH??'

WE SHOWED THEM EVERYTHING. THE NEXT THING HE SAID TO ME...I WILL COPY EVERYTHING, THE WHOLE CONTENT AND I JUST PUT IT ONLINE!?!'

IMAGINE IF THE CROWDS SAY TO JESUS 'JESUS, WHY DON'T YOU CLIMB AND BROADCAST IT ONLINE AND I'LL WATCH IT ONLINE FROM DOWN HERE' HE'LL PROBABLY JOKINGLY REPLIED 'OK THEN, I'LL ALSO SEND YOUR BLESSING...ONLINE AS PDF!'

YOUR CHARACTER IS SHAPED....DURING THE CLIMB.

YOU CAN'T GET 6 PACKS BY JUST WATCHING WORKOUT VIDEOS!!

WHEN ITS RAINING, WHEN YOUR DAYS ARE BUSY, AND YOU ARE STILL CLIMBING.... WHEN YOUR KIDS ARE CRYING AND THROWING TANRUMS....

BUT YOU'RE STILL CLIMBING....

DISCIPLESHIP IS A TWO WAYS STREET, THE COACH WILL BE THERE, YOUR GROUP WILL BE THERE, WILL YOU AT LEAST TAKE THE FIRST STEP AND CLIMB?

### **3. THE CLIMB WILL TAKE SACRIFICES**

IT WILL COST YOU. THERE IS No. TWO WAYS ABOUT IT.

IT WILL COST YOU MONEY - YOU COULD'VE WORKED ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND GOT PAID DOUBLE!

IT WILL COST YOU TIME - YOU COULD'VE REST AT HOME WATCHING NETFLIX. BUT IM HERE TO TELL YOU, THE CLIMB IS WORTH IT.

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## 2. POWER FROM HIGHER GROUND

***Acts 4:13 When they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they marveled and took note that these men had been with Jesus.***

CHURCH!!! I WANT TO DECREE AND DECLARE TO YOU.

WHEN YOU MAKE A DECISION TO CLIMB HIGHER THIS YEAR.

YOU WILL GO UP AS UNSCHOOLED, ORDINARY MEN, BUT YOU'LL GO DOWN AS A NEW CREATION. WHEN YOU SAY YES GOD I WANT TO BE DISCIPLED THIS YEAR.

I KNOW ITS GOING TO TAKE TIME.

I KNOW ITS GOING TO TAKE SACRIFICES.

I KNOW ITS GOING TO TAKE COMMITMENTS.

WHEN YOU YOU DECIDED TO PUT GOD FIRST IN YOUR LIFE. YOU'RE GOING BACK DOWN AS WORLD CHANGER.

GOING UP INSECURE, COMING BACK DOWN AS SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE KING. AND PEOPLE AROUND YOU CAN'T EXPLAIN IT.

ALL THEY CAN SAY IS THAT YOU'VE BEEN WITH JESUS.

CHURCH! YOU CAN'T STAY SMALL AFTER A CLIMB WITH JESUS.

YOU CAN'T STAY FEARFUL AFTER A CLIMB WITH JESUS.

YOU CAN'T STAY DEPRESSED, SHAMEFUL, AFTER A CLIMB WITH JESUS.

YOU WILL COME DOWN WITH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE ENEMY'S GOAL IS TO GET YOU STOP CLIMBING.

JUST STAY DOWN HERE. STAY IN FEAR. STAY IN DEPRESSION. STAY

DEFEATED IN THE SAME AREAS. STAY INSECURE. STAY SMALL

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS.**

**1. WHICH AREAS OF YOUR LIFE THAT GOD IS ASKING YOU TO CLIMB HIGHER THIS YEAR? SHARE IT WITH YOUR GROUP.**

**2. LOF STARTS WEDNESDAY 13TH WHO OUT OF YOUR CONNECT GROUP ARE COMING? REGISTER THROUGH YOUR CONNECT LEADER NOW.**