

A DISCIPLE: DOING THINGS EASILY AND ROUTINELY

LEADER'S OUTLINE

THEME: Observing everything Christ Taught

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 28:19, 20

The following is a suggested outline for you to follow and develop further according to your group and time allowed. Suggestions are made under each heading. A suggested handout for your group is also included.

INTRODUCTION:

Since this is a topic regarding a disciple, look at characteristics that describe a disciple. Have the group participate. Some suggestions could include:

1. A follower.
2. One who patterns their life after the one they are following (what this may include)
3. A learner/student.
4. A disciple of Christ: one who keeps Christ's commands.

The word keep means to guard, to watch, to observe, to hold fast

AS WE MOVE AHEAD/PROGRESS IN OUR TOPIC:

The following points are important to make in regards to Christ's commands:

1. As we see in our Scripture reference (Matthew 28), Christ's command was not only to baptize (which initially identifies us with Him), but we are to teach what Christ commanded. When we teach, what would this include?

2. We lead and teach by example as well as what God says in His Word that we are to do.

Some Scripture references that could be used as far as obedience to His commands are: (Add to any of these you feel important)

Deuteronomy 5:32

Deuteronomy 12:32

Acts 20:27: We are not to shrink back from teaching ALL God's Word

Colossians 1:28

1 John 2:3,4

An important point to make about the word "commands" as God uses them:

When people hear and/or read the word command in the Bible, there is usually a negative reaction to the word. In our definition of this word, we think of ordering someone to do something (without a choice), being dictatorial. When God speaks of His commands, the word carries the meaning of a prescription such as a doctor would write. We can choose to have the prescription filled or not filled. If we fill it and take it, it provides health and we do well/improve as far as our health or condition for which it was prescribed. It is the same with God. What He asks and write as His commands are a prescription written for us in His Word for our spiritual health and condition from which we have suffered (the sin

life). It is our choice to “fill it” and take it or not to. However, when we choose to take it (obey it), our spiritual condition proves as we continue taking it on a regular basis and we do well (all will go well).

MOVING INTO OUR MAIN TOPIC:

Make a list (from God’s Word) of some commands Christ gave. (Have group participation – If you are using this outline in a mentoring situation, you can discuss one or two and have the one you are mentoring come up with some further ones as an assignment. When you meet again (for as long as you would want to cover this area), these can be a point of discussion as far as their personal life and how they are doing in implementing them etc.). Some suggestions are below and you can add any you may want to include in this list:

1. Do unto others: Matthew 7:12
2. Choose the narrow way: Matthew 7:13-14
3. Love the Lord your God and your neighbor as yourself: Matthew 22:37-39
4. Be a servant: Matthew 20:26-28
5. Forgive offenders: Matthew 18:21-22
6. Deny yourself: Luke 9:23
7. Honor parents: Matthew 15:4
8. Fear God, not man: Matthew 10:26
9. Practice secret disciplines: Matthew 6:1-18
10. Keep your word: Matthew 5:37
11. Render to Caesar: Matthew 22:19-21
12. Be born again: John 3:7
13. Watch and pray: Matthew 26:41
14. Feed my sheep: John 21:15-16
15. Make disciples: Matthew 28:20

APPLICATION:

Jesus said, “If you love Me, you will keep my commandments (John 14:15). So our obedience must be motivated by love. Our love is revealed in our obedience.

(Discuss what it takes to develop that love for Christ.)

We do not show our love by doing what He has requested as a pouting child would do, or stomp their foot as they walk away to do what was asked. That is not love or the right motive. The love motivation should result in doing those things easily and routinely.

SELF INVENTORY:

The following questions might be some to consider regarding the application. Add to these as the Holy Spirit leads you.

1. What keeps us from doing these easily and routinely?
2. Why would it be otherwise?
3. What might this indicate?

Make a list of areas where this may be a struggle. If you are using this in a small group situation, encourage accountability to help us strengthen the weakened areas.

Have a ministry time as the Holy Spirit directs you.

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SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Matthew 28:19-20

Characteristics of a disciple:

How do you react to the word command?

What God means by the word command:

What are some of Christ's commands?

APPLICATION:

**John 14:15: Heart motivation: love
Our love is revealed by our obedience.**

Questions to consider:

- 1. What keeps us from doing Christ's commands easily and routinely?**
- 2. Why?**
- 3. What might a different attitude indicate?**

As you discuss Christ's commands and/or look these up on your own, as a self-inventory with the aid of the Holy Spirit, fill in the following chart.

CHRIST'S COMMANDS	DO IT EASILY	DON'T DO IT EASILY	WHY?

We encourage you to have an accountability partner (someone you feel comfortable with and trust) to help you in areas that are difficult. Their prayers and encouragement can be beneficial in helping you to be an over-comer and to grow stronger in your relationship with the Lord Jesus.