

Growing in the Faith Matthew 4:18-19

INTRODUCTION

I. Jesus calls us to follow him and learn so that we will be able to accomplish God's will for us.

The following passages provide a picture of Jesus' disciples in the learner phase (Matt. 4:18-13:58 [excluding chapter 12]; Mark 1:16-6:6; Luke 4:31-8:56; John 5:1-47).

II. What disciplines, skills, and attitudes did Jesus teach his disciples?

- The proper attitude toward money (Matthew 6:19-34)
- Friendship evangelism (Mark 2:14-15; Luke 5:30-32)
- Praying for evangelism (Matthew 9:38)
- Retreating from work (Luke 4:42)
- Prayer, fasting, giving (Matt. 6:1-18; 7:7-12; Mark 1:35-37; 12:41-44; Luke 5:16)
- Attending synagogue (Mark 6:2)
- How to handle conflicts (Matt. 9:3-6, 11-13, 24; 12:1-8; Mark 2:6-11)
- Overcoming temptation (Mark 9:43-50)
- How to worship properly (Matt. 5:23-24)
- Loving enemies (Matt. 5:38-47)

III. Use spiritual disciplines as tools to deepen your relationship with God.

- Prayer

ACTS (Adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication)

- Bible study

- Bible memorization and meditation

¹⁴I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. Psalms 139:14 (NASB)

¹Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1 (NASB)

- Fasting

- Silence and solitude

- Celebration

- Frugality/simplicity

- Service

- Fellowship

- Chastity

- Confession

¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. James 5:16 (NASB)