

Destiny

HOME GROUP STUDY | Being a disciple of Jesus

The simplest way to translate the Greek word for 'disciple' is with the English word 'learner'. It is someone who *learns* from someone else. We ought not to believe, however, that being a disciple is simply about learning a set of beliefs or ideals; the word implies *thought* accompanied by *action*. The word 'disciple' could rightly be understood as 'one who learns from and lives out the teaching of another'.

In this study, we're going to look at the expectations that Jesus had of the first disciples.

READ | What does the Bible say?

Read each of the following passages*, looking very carefully at the text to see what we can learn about being a disciple of Jesus:

Matthew 4:18-22

Matthew 9:9-12

Mark 3:13-19

Luke 9:23-26

Luke 14:25-33

John 13:34-35

*If you are short of time, choose a few to study

REFLECT | What does the Bible mean?

Q1. The verses we've just read each have something to teach us about being a disciple of Jesus. What did you find most...

- a. Encouraging?
- b. Challenging?

- Q2. Based on what you've just read, how would you in one or two sentences describe what the life of a disciple of Jesus should look like?
- Q3. Particularly, what does Jesus mean in Luke 14:26 when he says that true disciples must *hate* their own family?

RESPOND | What do I need to do now?

- Q4. Clearly, disciples of Jesus are those who are living 'all out' for Him. How can this be expressed in our 21st century Western culture?
- Q5. Following Jesus requires a daily commitment (see Luke 9:23).
- a. What do you think this daily commitment might look like for you specifically?
 - b. Are you actively making this daily commitment in your own life?

Suggested memory verse(s):

Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

(Luke 9:23-24 NIV)