

# Disciple

## Living in Submission to the Lord

**Question:** Jonathan asked last Sunday was.

What are the components of Discipleship? **Relationship and Impartation – Story**

**Luke 9:23-25; 14:25-35**

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. <sup>25</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?

Today’s Culture says, “**You are number ONE and you deserve whatever you want!**”

“The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven't yet come to the end of themselves. We're still trying to give orders, and interfering with God's work within us. ” ~ **A. W. Tozer**

### I. What is Submission –

**Submission** – is a character trait.

Character Trait – the individual’s qualities or attributes that make up a person’s character.

- Comes from a military term “**to place yourself under,**” to voluntarily place oneself under the authority of someone else; a commitment to resolve or yield our will.
- It is not because of weakness or being inferior, that someone else is better but it is respect.
- We are not being weak but meek; meekness is showing humbleness and gentleness towards God and others. Meekness causes us to seek God and submit our will and aspirations to His will and what is best.
- The misunderstanding of our fallen nature and weakness causes us to think we are better than we are, and that causes us to strive to live ourselves above others and even God.
- Submission is respect and how you reverence the Lord. Submission is how we come before the Lord.
- Submission is about giving up of ourselves to Jesus; as agendas, passions, motivations, hurts, feelings and will.
- One cannot surrender to Jesus until you have submitted to **His Lordship**.
- God’s purpose is that we hear, receive and obey His Word. It is a call to a Disciple because it takes effort/work.
- When we are submitting to others we are submitting and serving the Lord.
- **Colossians 3:23-24** Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. <sup>24</sup> Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.

## II. What Submission is NOT.

- Loss of identity or personality; it is not about hating ourselves, it means to have a right respect and relationship with God. It doesn't mean on having pride or placing ourselves first or having it our way.
- **Mark 12:30-31** And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' <sup>31</sup> The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these."
- When we are self-sufficient, and self-indulgent, we fail to see our need of redemption. **Self becomes a god**, not believing that we need a Redeemer.
- What happens when we are not submissive?
  - **Isaiah 14:13-14** The Five "I will's"  
Lucifer says in his heart "I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne, I will sit on the mountain of the congregation, I will ascend above the heights and I will be like the Most High."  
There is a disregard for unity and no respect for authority: our sinful nature conquerors.  
The results will be quarrels, discord, shame, bringing destruction to our families (personal & Church) and relationships.  
We become prisoners of our own agendas and hurts so others do not receive relationships of His work.  
We will become ingrates and our hurt, will become a weapon to hurt and destroy others instead of building others.  
**Question:** when you don't get your way can you still be joyful?

## III. Jesus calls us to Deny Ourselves

**John 6:38** For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will.

This is discipleship; a call that we can cancel our will so we can submit to His.

When we receive Jesus as our Savior, He should become our Lord as well.

We surrender to His direction, call, and purpose for our lives.

- What happens when a leader refuses to submit or teach, encourage others to submit?
- In what situation/s have you failed to be submissive when you should have?
- How does a lack of submission interfere with the Holy Spirit?
- Submission in marriage is not a tyrannical concept; it is a form of mutual respect and love. Not to be forced but offered freely in response to each other's love.  
**Ephesians 5:21** And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.
- A Disciple is willing to submit to authority.
- How do I exhibit a life of Submission?
- What is blocking submission from working and being exhibited in me?

"You cannot fulfill God's purposes for your life while focusing on your own plans. "

~ **Rick Warren,**

“We are all servants. The only question is whom we will serve.” ~ R. C. Sproul

“God cannot be understood by logical reasoning but only by submission.” ~ Leo Tolstoy