



## Discipleship Principles Certificate Program Spring Semester 2017 Syllabus

1. The Discipler: Christian Discipleship starts with Jesus Christ. He is the standard. For Jesus, discipleship was more than an activity, but an expression of His Being. Everything He did was related to who He was, and it is the same with us! Discipleship begins with the Discipler, and rightly so. For when we pour our lives into another, we must ensure that it is a life worth duplicating. And it will be so only if it possess the imprint of Christ! This begins with knowing who we are, for this knowledge will determine what we eventually do. Jesus was well aware of His identity as God's Son and that made His every decision clear.

Class Time: Thursday, January 19, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

2. <u>The Discipler's Call</u>: Disciplers are called by God. Contrary to common thought, our vocation is not our occupation, but God's call on our lives. (Vocation = vocare = call). My occupation may be a Database Administrator, but my 'vocation' is to serve God by equipping disciplers for Christ. Your occupation may be a teacher, a carpenter or a nurse, but as a disciple, God has called you to continue the work of Christ. As members of Christ's body, we are His representatives on Earth, and the vicarious recipients of His call as found in Luke 4:18-19.

Class Time: Thursday, February 2, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

**3.** The Discipler's Ministry: What is Discipleship? Discipleship, ultimately, is serving God and others. Jesus came serving others with a Godly humility and zeal. If your desire to be a disciple has at its root an unholy desire to be elevated above others or to be applauded by others, you had best wait until you are ready to relinquish any ambitions for selfish glory, and be willing to put on the attire of a servant, for such is the person of Christ seeks.

Class Time: Thursday, February 16, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

**4.** <u>The Disciples</u>: One of the most critical steps in discipleship is knowing whom to disciple. In any Christian fellowship, there are members of varying commitments, motives and purposes. The same was true with Jesus' followers as well. Yetm He was able to select those whom He wanted from the crowd. We will observe how Jesus accomplished this.

Class Time: Thursday, March 2, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

**5.** <u>The Goal</u>: The question must be asked, "What was Jesus seeking to develop in the lives of His Disciples? The goal of discipleship is not only teaching ministry skills, but developing someone to be like Christ. You can teach ministry skills to almost anyone, but true discipleship is not so much what we do but who we are.

Jesus sought to develop three qualities in the lives of His disciples, qualities that He Himself manifested and which were also cited by the apostle Paul: Faith, Hope and Love. These three virtues were the template for the lives of His disciples. They must become the pattern for our lives and the lives of those we disciple, as well! Class Time: Thursday, March 30, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

**6.** <u>The Process</u>: "Last words are lasting words." The final words people utter before passing into eternity are usually full of significance for their audience. Gone are the superficial niceties, for when time is short, words of consequence are conveyed. Jesus' last words to His disciples before ascending to His Father's throne are recorded in Matthew 28:18-20. They convey His heart's desire and final instruction to those into whom He poured His life. In these instructions are found both the priority and the program for His disciples' to follow.

Class Time: Thursday, April 13, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

7. <u>Count the Cost</u>: Everything worth doing has a cost. And it is incumbent upon each of us to consider the cost and weather being a disciple of Jesus Christ is worth paying the price. Jesus Himself stated the challenge in Luke 14:28-30.

Class Time: Thursday, April 27, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

**8.** <u>The Eternal View</u>: Jesus was unique. He said and did things that set Him apart from the world. One reason was the way He viewed things. Jesus saw everything form an eternal perspective and always lived with eternity in mind.

As a disciple for Christ, it is essential that we live in this world while viewing it from the next. We do this by holding fast what God's Word reveals about our eternal destiny and the destiny of the world. The Bible says that at the end of time, everyone will stand before God to give an account of their lives.

Class Time: Thursday, May 11, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. Education Building

Note: Every student who participates in 6 out of 8 Discipleship Principle classes will receive a Certificate of Completion for the course. Classes are available online for those who cannot the scheduled class times. Register online at: www.clinganridgebaptist.org.

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