



BALLARAT & CENTRAL HIGHLANDS CHURCH OF CHRIST

FIRST PRINCIPLES | STUDY 4 OF 11

Discipleship

A self-guided Bible study. Read the passages for yourself, then write down your own answers, questions and conclusions.

This week

Day 1: Christian or disciple?

Day 2: Jesus' invitation

Day 3: Excuses and competing priorities

Day 4: Follow me

Day 5: Making disciples

Day 6: What matters most?

Day 7: Count the implications

Christian or disciple?

Read

- Acts 11:25-26 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Think about it

1. What are Jesus' followers called?
2. What connection does the passage make between 'disciples' and 'Christians'?
3. What do you normally understand the word disciple to mean?

For yourself

What would being a disciple of someone involve?

If I became a disciple of Jesus, what would I need to learn or change in my own life?

Jesus' invitation

Read

- Luke 9:23-27 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Think about it

1. Who does Jesus say may come after Him?
2. What three things does He ask of that person?
3. What might 'deny yourself' mean?
4. Why does Jesus talk about gaining and losing life?

For yourself

Where might following Jesus require me to set aside my own preferences? What could that look like today?

Excuses and competing priorities

Read

- Luke 9:57-62 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Think about it

1. What does each person say?
2. How does Jesus answer?
3. What seems to prevent wholehearted following?
4. Why do you think Jesus responds so strongly?

For yourself

What am I tempted to put off until later when it comes to following Jesus? What is behind that hesitation?

Follow me

Read

- Mark 1:16-20 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Think about it

1. What does Jesus invite these men to do?
2. What does He say He will teach them?
3. How quickly do they respond?
4. What changes because of their decision?

For yourself

What would responding to Jesus' invitation mean for me? Is there a step I am ready to take?

Making disciples

Read

- Matthew 28:18-20 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Think about it

1. What authority does Jesus claim?
2. What does He command His followers to do?
3. What is a disciple supposed to learn?
4. What promise closes the passage?

For yourself

Who could I share what I am learning about Jesus with? How could I begin that conversation?

What matters most?

Read

- Matthew 22:34-40 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Think about it

1. What does Jesus call the greatest commandment?
2. What is second?
3. What does loving God with 'all' suggest?
4. How are love for God and love for people connected?

For yourself

How could I show love for God and for another person in a practical way this week?

Count the implications

Read

- Luke 14:25-33 - [Read NIV on YouVersion](#)

Look back

1. What does Jesus actually ask of His followers?
2. Which parts seem attractive?
3. Which seem difficult?

For yourself

Based on these passages, how would you define a disciple of Jesus?

Which part of following Jesus would be hardest for me? What do I need to consider before deciding how to respond?