

“Ecclesiology: The Doctrine of the Church:  
”Discipleship: Making Disciples is Gloriously Hard!”  
2 Timothy 2:1-7; Exodus 20:3; Luke 14:33; Matthew 28:18-20

*“We enjoy Christ to the utmost in this life by making disciples (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 & 3:8-10; 3 John 1:4).  
Discipleship is the expression of our joy in Him.”*

*“If the goal and the joy of the christian life is to glorify God and hallow His Name by making disciples, then we should live this out to our fullest capacity so that no one on the planet would think that being a Christian is anything less. And when we don’t, thank God for His grace, and get back to work.”*

- What is a Disciple/Christian (Acts 11:26) in the most basic sense?
  - It is a person who has been saved (Romans 10:9-13); It is a person who desires to be taught the Word of God so that they know how to think, act, and feel as a Christian (Romans 6:3-14); It is a person who desires to help others grow in these areas (Ephesians 4:11-16); It is a person that desires for others to be saved (1 Corinthians 10:31-33).
    - Every Christian should be helping unbelievers become believers by showing them Christ, in word and deed.
    - Every Christian should be helping other believers grow more and more in maturity.
    - Every Christian should be seeking to get help for themselves from others to keep growing.
- It will cost us greatly to make disciples (2 Timothy 2:1-7):
  - It will cause suffering. We will be hurt and disappointed in making disciples (2:3).
  - We will have to give up worldly pursuits (2:4).
  - We will have to give up pleasing people for pleasing God (2:4).
  - Obedience is hard but it has a greater reward than the fleeting pleasures of sin (2:5).
  - It is hard work like farming, you can’t be lazy (2:6).
  - It is going to require great patience (2:6).
- What are the means of “making disciples”?
  - It is valuing Jesus above all other things in this world (Mark 8:34-37).
  - When I am a hearer and doer of the Word (James 1:22 & 2:14).
  - Celebrating when others are walking in obedience to God’s Word (1 John 1:4; 2 John 1:4; 3 John 1:4).
  - Love one another according to God’s Word (John 13:34-35; 1 John 5:2-3).
  - Dealing with sin properly by putting it to death and reconciling with one another (Romans 8:12-13; Matthew 18:15).
  - Thinking of others more highly than ourselves (Philippians 2:3-4; Ephesians 5:25).
  - Loving your spouse and children biblically (Ephesians 5:22-6:4).
  - Encouraging one another (Hebrews 3:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:11).
  - Use the gifts that God has given you to serve one another (1 Peter 4:10).
  - Help others grow in their understanding of scriptures (Acts 18:24-26; Romans 15:14).
  - Value Biblical preaching (2 Timothy 4:1-2).
  - Submit to and imitate Biblical leadership (Hebrews 13:7 & 17).
  - Going to church to stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:23-24).

(continued→)

- What is cultural “Christianity”?
    - *I affirm that the most important attribute of God is love.* Tolerance and acceptance of all behaviors is the definition of love. Unless you disagree.
    - *How I feel is supreme.* The Bible is relative and says what you want it to say and means what you want it to mean.
    - *Jesus understands.* He understands you are too busy for Him, and He understands that you are tired from doing worldly stuff. Jesus is here to help, but simply wants you to be happy doing what you want to do.
    - *Jesus gives me heaven because of how awesome I am.* He would not want a heaven without me.
    - *Jesus doesn't have a standard for me.* I can live life my way and Jesus doesn't want me to be burdened with commitment. God loves me and accepts me just the way that I am.
    - *Authority can't be trusted.* Anyone who uses the Bible is judgmental and trying to control and manipulate people.
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#### **Announcements:**

\***Volunteers:** We have a wonderful opportunity for our church members to get involved in serving our church body in the CHILDREN'S MINISTRY. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please talk to Kalen and Courtney!

\***Donations:** ***Next Sunday is the last day*** we will be collecting donations for Vertical 196. They are in need of the following items: men's medium boxers, regular coffee, powdered drink mixes, hard candy, toilet bowl cleaner, dessert plates, 12 oz plastic cups, 12 oz paper coffee cups.

\***Members Meeting:** We will be having a short business meeting TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for that meeting. We do not anticipate this meeting lasting more than 30 minutes!

\***Fellowship Dinner:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, April 25th, immediately following the worship service! There is a sign up list on the back table, please sign up to bring something for the dinner. We invite EVERYONE to stay and enjoy dinner and fellowship with us!