

October 2026

CALLED TO SHOW FORTH HIS GLORY

God created us to show forth His glory. The glory of God is the visible manifestation of His nature, character, and majesty. Everything around us points to His eternal power and divine attributes. Creation itself speaks of His greatness; from the rising of the sun to its setting, all nature reflects and declares His Glory.

The glory of God is most perfectly revealed in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Jesus Christ is the embodiment of God's glory, and through Him we come to know experience, and reflect that glory in our lives. All things were created for God's pleasure, for He is the creator of all things. Therefore, it is expected that those who have been created by Him will live in a manner that brings Him pleasure by displaying His glory in every aspect of life.

Being called to show forth God's glory means living a transformed life that reflects His character and proclaims His wonderful works to the world. It involves sharing goodness, mercy, and love of God with others through our words, actions, and daily conduct, so that people may see His light in us and give glory to Him.

Evening Online Bible Studies

Every Sunday evening at 7pm GMT, an online bible study is held on the Zoom platform following this study outline. If you miss the in-person Bible studies for any reason, you are welcome to join us online. Just scan the QR Code below and you will be logged in to join us!



Download Study Material

This study material can also be downloaded as a pdf file, on your device. You can access a soft copy of the study material by scanning the QR code below.



STUDY 1: CALLED TO DECLARE THE PRAISES OF GOD

"Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites." (Exodus 19:5-6 NIV)

Text: 1 Peter 2:9 -10

Introduction

In this passage, the apostle Peter describes Christians as "a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession" (1 Peter 2:9). This description is closely connected to Exodus 19:5-6, where God speaks to the Israelites whom He had delivered from slavery in Egypt and reminds them of their identity and calling as His treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation.

In our study today, we will discover the significance of being "a royal priesthood and a holy nation", and how this designation should impact the way we live our lives.

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation;

1. List the four specific titles Peter gives to Christians in this passage.

2. According to verse 9, from where to where have Christians been transferred?

3. What two contrasting states did Christians experience in the past and in the present? Verse 9

4. According to the second half of verse 9, for what purpose were Christians given these titles?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

5. What does it mean to be a “royal priesthood” and a “holy nation”?

Reflection/Application

6. In what practical ways can we fulfil our role as a “royal priesthood” and a “holy nation in our workplaces and communities?

7. What practical steps can we take to live as a “royal priesthood” and a “holy nation in a world that often opposes Christian values?

God has called us and transferred us from darkness into marvellous light so that we may declare His praises and proclaim the wonderful works He has done in our lives. We must therefore embrace this calling by allowing our daily actions, words, and character to serve as a living testimony of God's grace. Through the way we live, we should demonstrate His love, peace, and truth in ways that point others to Him and bring glory to His name.

STUDY 2: CALLED TO BE SALT AND LIGHT TO THE WORLD

Text: Matthew 5:13-16

Introduction

Jesus has given every Christian the purpose of glorifying God by blessing and positively influencing the communities in which we live. This is a great responsibility, but sadly, we do not always live up to this calling. In today's passage, Jesus warns us of two ways by which we can fall short of this responsibility.

Read Matthew 5:13-16 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. What two everyday elements did Jesus use to describe His followers in this passage?

2. According to verse 13, what happens to salt when it loses its saltiness?

3. What illustration did Jesus use in verses 14–15 to explain how Christians should let their light shine?

4. What direct command does Jesus give in verse 16 concerning our light, and what two results should follow when others see our good works?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

5. How do Christians hide their light or lose their saltiness? What behaviours, attitudes, or fears can be the cause of this?

Reflection / Application

6. Think about your workplace, school, home, or social group. Are you acting as a “*preservative*” (helping to prevent harmful or toxic behaviours) or as “*flavouring*” (bringing joy, hope, grace and positive influence on those around you)?

7. Is there any area of your life where you are “hiding your lamp under a basket” because of fear or shame? What practical step(s) can you take this week to let your light shine more openly?

We live in a world that is often characterized by darkness, but Christ has called us to shine His light in that darkness, and to be salt in the world without losing our saltiness. This means that we should remain engaged with the world without allowing its ungodly values to influence or contaminate our lives. We are also called to allow our good life and actions to be seen by others for God’s glory rather than our own. This involves living out our faith through our everyday actions and interactions, positively influencing the world around us and pointing others to God.

The two illustrations of salt and light can be summarised as follows:

- **Salt enhances flavour:** Salt adds flavour to food and influences whatever it touches. Similarly, Christians are called to positively influence the people and communities around them through their character, values and actions.
- **Salt preserves:** Salt is also used to preserve food. Likewise, Christians are called to uphold what is good, resist moral decay and promote godly values in society.
- **Salt is distinct:** Salt has its own unique taste and properties. Similarly, Christians are called to be distinct from the world by living according to God’s standards. Being distinct does not mean withdrawing from society but rather remaining a positive influence within it.
- **Light provides visibility and radiance:** As Christians, we are called to make the light of Jesus Christ visible in society. The Gospel is the light, and it should radiate through our lives, words, attitudes, and actions.

STUDY 3: CALLED TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," (Matthew 28:19 NIV)

Text: Roman 10:13-15

Introduction

Today's passage highlights a key requirement that must be fulfilled for a person to become a Christian and be saved from the penalty of hell. The important thing about this requirement is that, the person who is to be saved cannot do anything about this requirement being met. Instead, God has provided an avenue through which this requirement can be fulfilled, and it involves all of us who are already Christians.

Read Roman 10:13-15 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. According to verse 13, what specific action must a person take to receive salvation?

2. What qualities must a person have to receive salvation?

3. What two things must happen before a person can call on the name of the Lord? Vs 14-15

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

4. What does it mean to "call on the name of the Lord" and how does this go beyond simply mentioning His name?

5. How do verses 14 and 15 illustrate the process by which a person comes to faith in Christ?

Reflection/Application

6. What does this passage teach us about the role and responsibility of the one sharing the message of salvation in God's plan?

7. What prevents you from sharing the Gospel in your daily life, and how can you rely on God to overcome those barriers and share the Gospel more boldly this week?

Today's study reminds us of our responsibility to take the Gospel to those who have not heard it. We should therefore seek to give as many people as possible the opportunity to hear the Gospel and respond to it. This responsibility has not been given to angels or reserved for miraculous appearances. God has chosen to work through ordinary people like us, whom He has sent to proclaim the Good News.

As beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, we should ask ourselves: Who among our friends, family members, co-workers, classmates, or neighbours has not yet heard the Gospel? We can take the initiative to give them an opportunity to hear about Jesus Christ and His saving grace. When we faithfully proclaim the Gospel, we fulfil the calling described by Paul: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

November 2026

PRACTICAL DISCIPLESHIP AND DISCIPLE MAKING

Discipleship and disciple making lie at the heart of the life of the church. Indeed, the primary purpose of the church is to respond to the Great Commission that Christ gave to his first disciples:- to ***go and make disciples*** (Matthew 28:19). The church was birthed in fulfilment of this Commission – not as a club where newly baptised believers could ‘hang out together’, but as a place where they could be built up into a united body of Christ, where *every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work* (Ephesians 4:16). As such, when Christians gather, they form a church – a manifestation of the body of Christ, and at such gatherings we need to be discipled.

So, what is involved in discipling or disciple making? How does one qualify to become, or be called a disciple? Does it require a course of study similar to that used in training the clergy? Can one be discipled simply by attending church regularly and listening attentively to the sermons that are preached? Is becoming a disciple a qualification that must be earned through a period of study? These, and many other questions will be answered in our studies this month.

THE DISCIPLE AS A LEARNER

(Personal Study)

John 13: 12-17

Introduction

A disciple is a kind of student, but not an ordinary student. In the general sense, students study to gain knowledge and expertise that will enable them pass tests and earn qualifications, but a disciple goes beyond a simple search for knowledge and aims to become like the teacher. Disciples adopt the teacher's character, habits, and behaviour, and in that sense the teacher becomes a role model. Disciples are also required to obey their teachers, and this creates a master-servant relationship more commonly associated with apprenticeship.

In our study today, we look at a well-known incident during the last supper to illustrate the nature of the disciple and teacher relationship between Jesus and his disciples.

Read John 13:12-17 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. In verse 13, what did Jesus say that his disciples called him?

2. In verses 14 and 15, what did Jesus say was the significance and lesson that the disciples were supposed to learn from his washing of their feet?

3. What relationship pairs does Jesus liken his relationship with his disciples to in verse 16?

4. What is the condition for the disciples being blessed by the knowledge they have gained (v17)?

Interpretation

5. In verse 13, Jesus endorses his position as both Teacher and Lord (or master) of the disciples. What do these roles suggest about the relationship between Jesus and his disciples?

Reflection /Application

6. How should seeing Jesus as Teacher and Lord impact the way we live our lives?

7. What do the words “*Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them*” tell you about the usefulness of the things we learn in church or from our study of the Bible?

STUDY 1: THE ESSENCE OF DISCIPLESHIP

Acts 2:38-47

Introduction

The last chapter of the gospel of Matthew, captures the last instruction of Jesus to His disciples in what we call 'The Great Commission':

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20 NIV)

It is worth noting that;

1. The command is to **make disciples**; meaning that Christians being disciples is central to the purpose and mission of Christ.
2. The command involves **baptism** (in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and
3. The command includes **teaching** (obedience to all the commands of Jesus).

This however raises several questions about discipleship and how one becomes a disciple:

- *Does being baptised mean that we have become disciples?*
- *Is one required to sign up for a course of instruction or undertake a specific study scheme?*
- *Are all Christians disciples of Christ or is it only a section of Christians who qualify for that title?*

In our study today, we examine these questions by looking at how the disciples responded to the command of Jesus at Pentecost.

Read Acts 2:38-47 in a simple English Bible version.

Observation

1. Which instructions from Matthew 28 do we see the disciples following in this passage?

2. According to verse 41, who did the apostles/disciples baptise?

3. From verse 42, what did those who believed the message do after they were baptised?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

The word *disciple* is not mentioned in Acts Chapter 2, but we can assume that the events capture the response of the Apostles to the command of Jesus in Matthew 28.

4. Who were disciples at the beginning of Acts 2, and who were disciples at the end of the chapter?

5. What turned the new believers into disciples?

Reflections /Application

Verse 42 tells us that they **devoted** themselves to: (1) the apostles' teaching, (2) fellowship, (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) prayer.

6. What is involved in each of these four things?

7. How "devoted" are you to teaching and fellowship? Do you need to enhance your devotion to teaching and fellowship? How can you do this?

STUDY 2: THE DISCIPLE AS AN IMITATOR OF CHRIST

“Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you.” (Philippians 3:17 NIV)

1 Thess 1:4 -10

Introduction

In our previous study, we saw how the new disciples at Pentecost “devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles”. This would obviously have involved learning about Jesus and the teachings of Jesus, but being a disciple goes beyond learning theology, understanding Christian doctrines, and memorising creeds. Discipleship involves adopting the lifestyle and values of the teacher to the extent that it reflects the lifestyle and values of Christ Himself, and in our study today we will examine the impact that discipleship had on one of the early churches.

Read 1 Thess 1:4 -10 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. How does Paul describe the Thessalonian Christians in verse 4, and what reason does he give for saying that they are “chosen by God”?

2. From verse 6, what did the Thessalonian Christians become following their “deep conviction” described in verse 5 and what else did they do as a result?

3. What was the wider impact of their response to the gospel (v7-10)?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

4. Paul speaks of the “deep conviction” of the Philippians. What does this mean to you, and how does it relate to the call on hearers of the gospel to “believe in the Lord Jesus”?

5. What is the significance of the “severe suffering” that the Philippians experienced at the time that they welcomed the message of Paul?

Reflection /Application

6. What impact is your faith having on you and the way you live your life? If you were accused of being a disciple of Christ, would there be enough evidence to ‘convict’ you? Is there something you need to do about this?

STUDY 3: THE DISCIPLE AS AN AMBASSADOR

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God." (2 Corinthians 5:20 NIV)

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Introduction

Being an ambassador is seen as an honour, and a position of prestige, and most people would love to have the title of Ambassador placed before their names. Yet there is much more to being an ambassador than having a nice title before our names, and basking in the prestige of the position. An ambassador is a person that represents a state or an organisation (e.g., *brand ambassadors*). In general, the ambassador must reflect the views of the country or brand they represent, and their behaviour and actions must be compatible with those views and positions. An ambassador for *CocaCola* cannot be seen drinking Pepsi in public!

The role and task of some ambassadors is so special that they are often described as *extraordinary* and *plenipotentiary*: "**Extraordinary** historically denoted an official sent on a special or temporary mission beyond the "ordinary" resident ambassadors who handled day-to-day matters. **Plenipotentiary** derives from Latin roots meaning "full" and "powerful". It signifies that the individual is entrusted with "full powers" to act, negotiate, and make commitments on behalf of their home country." (Google AI summary)

In our study today, we will explore the significance of being ambassadors of Christ.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. According to verse 17, what is the position of anyone who is "in Christ"?

2. What is the ministry that God has given to those who are "in Christ" (v19)?

3. What appeal does God make to the world through His ambassadors?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

4. What message does verse 19 say has been committed to us – how does this relate to the commission in Matthew 28 to go and make disciples?

5. How does taking up the ministry of reconciliation make us Christ's ambassadors? What values or position are we asked to reflect in verse 20?

Reflection/Application

Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:20 that we are Christ's Ambassadors. We are not striving or training to become ambassadors – **we are ambassadors from the day we respond to His call**, but we must train ourselves to properly represent Jesus. We are representatives of the Son of the Most High God here on earth and cannot live our lives like those around us.

We are Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary:

- **We are extraordinary** because Jesus set us a special mission to *go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all His commands.* (Mt 28:19-20a NIV)
- **We are plenipotentiary** because Jesus sent us out with His full unchallenged authority, saying: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Mt 28:18 NIV) as basis for the mission.

6. Do you see yourself as an ambassador for Christ? Are you properly representing Jesus in your life and actions? What changes do you need to make to your life and actions?

STUDY 4: MATURITY: THE GOAL OF DISCIPLESHIP

“We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.” (Colossians 1:28 NIV)

Ephesians 4:11-16

Introduction

In our studies so far, we have seen that discipleship involves teaching and learning, imitating good examples of Christian living, and being a representative and envoy of Christ and the church. This is why fellowship with other Christians is so important – it is through our interaction with other Christians that we observe the examples we need to follow as well as practice the lessons we have learnt.

So now that we have a clearer picture of what discipleship is, we can address the issue of its objective. Is the aim of discipleship to become a sort of biblical scholars, or a bible study leader? Since we cannot all be bible scholars and leaders in church, what is the purpose of discipleship for those of us who prefer to remain in the background? In our study today, we focus on the goal of discipleship.

Read Ephesians 4:11-16 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. According to verse 11, who has Christ provided to equip His people?

2. What is the body of Christ being equipped to do and what is it being built up to attain (v12-13)?

3. From verses 14-16, what is the effect of reaching the desired goal?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

4. Verse 14 states that “***Then*** we will no longer be infants...”. What does this tell us about ourselves if we do not get disciplined and move towards maturity?

Reflection /Application

5. Are we (congregation/church) infants in the faith? How can we tell, and what can we do about it?

6. Are you an infant in the faith? What steps are you taking to “equip yourself for works of service”, to “reach unity in the faith” and to “become mature”?

December 2026

KEEPING CHRIST AT THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS

During the month of December, our discussion will focus on how to keep Christ at the centre of all that we do to celebrate Christmas. There will be no bible studies, but we will use this month to reflect and discuss ways in which we can enrich our celebration of Christmas and create opportunities for sharing the gospel with others. Below are four meditation/discussion starters to use in your homes or groups over December. Each one is based on a scripture passage and relates to our reaction, response and interaction with the Messiah and His coming to earth.

May the words of our hearts and the meditation of our hearts be pleasing in His sight! (Psalm 19:14)

1. Preparation for the Messiah's Advent (Luke 2:1-7)

How can/should we prepare for Christmas?

In the story of the birth of Jesus, his parents travelled to Bethlehem to be registered in the upcoming census. Nobody in Bethlehem knew of the timing of God's visitation to their town. They knew that there would be lots of "returnees" coming into town as a result of the census, and as the hotels, guest houses and "Air BnB establishments" of that time filled up, people who lived in the town would probably have been complaining about how the influx of people into town had made life inconvenient and caused prices to rise. Meanwhile Jesus was coming into town...

As we prepare for Christmas 2026, how are we remaining aware of how those seemingly annoying disturbances to our lives and routines could be an invasion of the divine into the hustle and bustle of our lives?

2. Welcoming the coming Messiah: (John 1:9-13)

How can we be sure we welcome those God sends to us this Christmas?

According to John 1:11, Jesus came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Think about that: A community that had built its whole existence on waiting for the Messiah, missed his coming and failed to recognise him. As Christians, we are also waiting for Christ to return – but unlike the case of the Jews in those days, we are not generally too eager for him to come "now" – times are not so bad that we want the world as we know it to come to an end (yet!). Does that put us at even more risk of missing His coming? Jesus said in Matthew 25:40 that: "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." So how can we recognise those people that God sends our way this Christmas as His own special visitation to us?

3. Honouring the Messiah: (Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11)

What should we prepare to give away to God this Christmas

We all know the story of the Magi, Kings or Wisemen who made the long arduous journey from the East to pay homage to a newborn King they did not know. They did not come empty handed, but apart from dedicating weeks of their time, and choosing to forego the comforts of their homes and kingdoms, they also brought gifts for this King. So how important is this Messiah to you? How much of your time do you set aside for prayer and fellowship with him? How much of your comfort and convenience do you set aside to serve him? What other gift of value are you prepared to deprive yourself of in his name and honour? Or is He not worth celebrating in 2026?

4. Proclaiming the Messiah: (Luke 2:16-18)

How should we communicate the true meaning of Christmas?

The shepherds were not special. They were ordinary people who had experienced an extraordinary event. They could not keep quiet about it. Today, when we receive information that is not commonly known or that we think might be of interest to others, we are quick to share it to our contacts on WhatsApp or other social media platforms. Many of us have unwittingly become conduits for fake news, because we hardly ever check the accuracy of the information we receive, but are quick to forward it.

This does not however apply to truths of scripture or insights about faith that we receive. We normally restrict this to our few church contacts – or sometimes do not share at all. We assume that the world is not ready to hear about this and are reluctant to come across as preachy or religious. Can we break that reluctance during Christmas? Is everyone not busy celebrating the birth of Christ? If not now, then when?

OCTOBER ONCE A MONTH STUDY CALLED TO SHOW FORTH HIS GLORY

Text: 1 Peter 2:9-12

Introduction

God created us to show forth His glory, His glory is the evident manifestation of His nature, character, and majesty. God's glory is most perfectly revealed in Jesus Christ, who is the embodiment of God's glory. Through Him, we come to know and experience the glory of God.

Peter describes Christians as “a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God”. These titles describe our identity and calling as believers. According to Ephesians 1:4, God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world. As Christians, we belong to a new spiritual family; not a race defined by flesh, blood, colour, or nationality, but by faith in Jesus Christ. Our most important identity is therefore spiritual. This identity transcends our differences and unites believers from every tribe, language, and nation as one family, the family of God.

God has brought us out of darkness into His marvellous light and set us apart to reflect His divine nature to the world. Therefore, we must embrace this calling by allowing our daily actions, words, attitudes, and character to serve as a living testimony of God's grace. Our lives should demonstrate His love, peace, truth, and goodness, while our words should proclaim His wonderful works. We are called to share the goodness and mercy of God with others so that, through both our lives and our testimony, people may see God's glory and be drawn to Him.

In today's passage, the apostle Peter describes Christians as “a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession” (1 Peter 2:9). This description is closely connected to Exodus 19:5-6, where God speaks to the Israelites whom He had delivered from slavery in Egypt and reminds them of their identity and calling as His treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation.

God has called us and transferred us from darkness into His marvellous light so that we may declare His praises and proclaim the wonderful works He has done in our lives. We must therefore embrace this calling by allowing our daily actions, words, and character to serve as a living testimony of God's grace. Through the way we live, we should demonstrate His love, peace, and truth in ways that point others to Him and bring glory to His name.

Observation

Read 1 Peter 2:9-12 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

1. How does Peter describe Christians in 1 Peter 2:9?

2. What were Christians chosen and called out of darkness to do? (Verse 9)

3. What contrast does Peter present in verse 10 between the believers' former and present identities?

4. According to 1 Peter 2:11, how did Peter describe the status of Christians in the world?

5. What are Christians commanded to abstain from, and what effect do these things have on our lives?
Verse 11

6. What command did Peter give at the beginning of verse 12 regarding how Christians should conduct their lives?

7. What is the ultimate purpose or result of our good deeds?

Interpretation

8. How can Christians fulfil their role as a "royal priesthood," and what is the role of a priest?

9. Why was Peter concerned about how Christians live among non-Christians, and how can our good deeds lead non-Christians to glorify God?

Reflection/Application

10. Think about your workplace, school, or neighbourhood. How would you describe your conduct in these settings? What is one specific good deed you can do this week that could point others toward God?

11. Does your life reflect the “marvellous light” into which God has called you, or are there areas where you are still walking in the “darkness” you were called out of? What practical steps will you take to “proclaim” God’s goodness and make His love known to those around you?

NOVEMBER ONCE A MONTH STUDY

THE ESSENCE OF DISCIPLESHIP

Acts 2:38-47

Introduction

The last chapter of the gospel of Matthew, captures the last instruction of Jesus to His disciples in what we call 'The Great Commission':

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20 NIV)

It is worth noting that;

1. The command is to **make disciples** (not converts or church members); and this means that Christians being disciples is central to the purpose of God as revealed by Christ.
2. The command involves **baptism** (in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and
3. The command includes **teaching** (obedience to all the commands of Jesus).

In our study today, we examine these questions by looking at how the disciples responded to the command of Jesus at Pentecost, and determine the ultimate goal of discipleship from one of the epistles of Paul to the church.

Read Acts 2:38-47 in a simple English Bible version.

Observation

1. Which instructions from Matthew 28 do we see the disciples following in this passage?

2. According to verse 41, who did the apostles/disciples baptise?

3. From verse 42, what did those who believed the message do after they were baptised?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

The word *disciple* is not mentioned in Acts Chapter 2, but we can assume that the events that capture the response of the Apostles to the command of Jesus in Matthew 28.

4. Those who heard the message at the beginning became disciples and a part of the new church that was formed. What did they do to become disciples?

5. Verse 42 tells us that they **devoted** themselves to: (1) the apostles' teaching, (2) fellowship, (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) prayer. What is involved in each of these four things?

Disciples learn from *and* imitate the Christlike example of their teachers

“Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you.” (Philippians 3:17 NIV)

You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. (1Thessalonians 1:15 NIV)

PART 2: MATURITY: THE GOAL OF DISCIPLESHIP

Read Ephesians 4:11-16 in two Bible versions (including one simple English/Paraphrase version)

Observation

1. According to verse 11, who has Christ provided to equip His people?

2. What is the body of Christ being equipped to do and what is it being built up to attain (v12-13)?

3. From verses 14-16, what is the effect of reaching the desired goal?

Discussion Questions

Interpretation

4. Verse 14 states that “**Then** we will no longer be infants...”. What does this tell us about ourselves if we do not get disciplined and move towards maturity?

Reflection /Application

5. Are we (our congregation/church) infants in the faith (How can we tell)? How can “devotion to teaching and fellowship” help us to grow in our faith?

6. Are you an infant in the faith? Are you ‘devoted to teaching and fellowship’? What steps are you going to take to “equip yourself for works of service”, “reach unity in the faith” and “become mature”?
