



What does daily discipleship look like?

ON A DAILY BASIS HOW WE PUT GOD AT THE CENTRE IS SHAPED BY SIMPLE PRINCIPLES:

1.) PAYING ATTENTION TO GOD

"We are what we hear from God." (Emil Brunner.)

At the heart of being a disciple is wanting to be open to God's presence by recognising the moments where He is close. Jesus' first sermon was, "The kingdom of God is near!"

Certain events - positive or negative become the doorway to us recognising it, and asking, "God, how do you want me to respond?"

God may speak through our successes or failures, through things we see, hear or read; large or small happenings, things we do or are done to us.

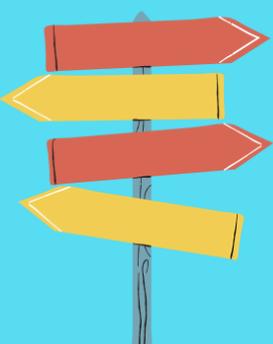


Pope Benedict 16th: "Faith is above all a personal, intimate encounter with Jesus, and to experience his closeness, his friendship, his love..."

Archbishop Rowan Williams: "The true disciple is an expectant person, always taking it for granted that there is something about to break through from the master... The master is going to speak or show something."



2.) RESPONDING TO WHAT GOD IS DOING BY CHANGING OUR WAY OF THINKING (REPENTING) AND STARTING TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY - (BELIEVING AS REVEALING WHAT YOU TRUST THROUGH YOUR ACTIONS)



3.) GROWING IN KNOWING GOD'S TEACHING *AND PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE.*

The wise person in the parable of the two builders, whose house remains standing, is the one “who hears these words of mine ***and puts them into practice.***” ***Getting on a ship and trusting it*** to take you to the other side of the sea is the act of faith.



4.) TO DO THIS OUT OF LOVE, NOT DUTY, AND BECAUSE YOU ARE LIVING INTO YOUR GOD-GIVEN IDENTITY IN CHRIST.



The motive for being a disciple can only be because we are loved, forgiven and accepted by God, even before we think about obeying Him. “We love, because He first loved us.” The more we grow in receiving His grace, the more we will ***want to*** pay attention and obey. Responding to God in obedience is therefore effort, but it is never earning. The best reason for responding to God is not to gain an identity but because He has ***already given*** us an identity.

BEING A CONFIDENT DISCIPLE

As disciples, God promises a new relationship (covenant) through Christ, which, if we can receive it, restores our identity completely.

In this new covenant everything that is true of Christ becomes true of us.

This gives ***restored confidence in obeying.*** Although I am not divine like Jesus, because I share in the same restored identity revealed in Jesus I do things “in His name”.

“I am no longer sitting in a world of troubles looking up to God for help; rather, I am seated with Christ, looking down from the same vantage point He has.” (Pete Grieg)