

BASIC BIBLE DOCTRINE

LESSON # 9

“A DISCIPLER: WHY? HOW?”

Compiled

by

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In this series of Basic Bible Doctrine, you can copy and paste each lesson or simply print from your file menu. If you like, you can send each lesson to the address listed below for grading. May the Lord bless you as you study His Word!

(The King James Bible should be used to answer the questions.)

(Be sure to include a self addressed stamped envelope for your lesson to be graded and returned.)

A DISCIPLER! WHY?

I. IN THE BIBLE CHURCH MEMBERS WERE CALLED

“DISCIPLES”

(Acts 13:52; 20:7).

A. According to Acts 13:52 and Acts 20:7, what were the members of the church called? _____
The word "**disciple**" means "one who learns, **a learner**." In Matthew 11:29 the Lord Jesus **invites** us to become His disciples (learners): "Take my yoke upon you, and _____ of (from) Me."
Have you accepted this invitation? Those who have accepted this invitation are called
"**D**_____ (LEARNERS) of the **L**_____" (Acts 9:1).

B. Read John 3:2. What other name besides "*Rabbi*" did Nicodemus call Jesus?

T_____
A disciple must **learn** from a teacher. Are there learners and teachers in your church, Sunday School? If you are in a Sunday School class, attend church, could you say: "I am a _____ because a teacher is teaching me and I am a learner?" (circle one: **YES/NO**)

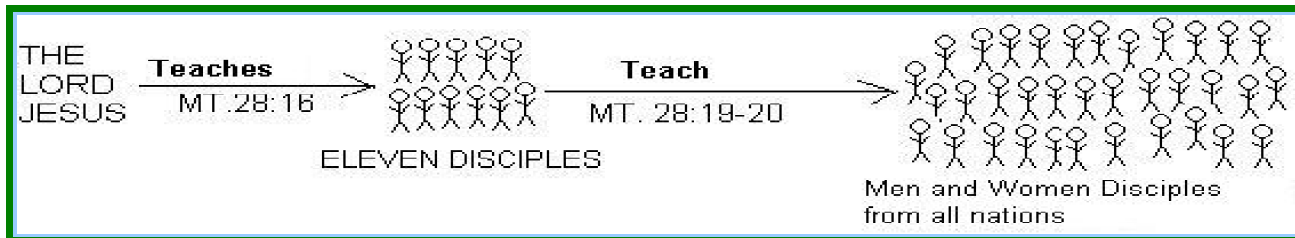
C. In Bible times, the teacher/disciple relationship was much more than classroom instruction. Often the disciple would work with his teacher, walk and travel with his teacher, eat with his teacher and spend much time with his teacher. The disciple learned not just by what his teacher said to him (verbal instruction), but he also learned by observing his teacher. The teacher was an **example** to the student by the way he lived. The disciple would learn from his teacher's **lips** but also from his teacher's **life**.
According to John 3:2 who is the Teacher who has come from God? _____
Read Matthew 5:1. Who came to this teacher? _____ (**His learners**). And thus He opened His mouth and _____ them (Matthew 5:2). ***Disciples must be taught by a teacher!***

D. As we study the New Testament we discover that **disciples** can also be **teachers**. In Matthew 28:18-20 the Lord Jesus spoke to whom? (The answer is found in verse 16)

He told these **disciples** to "GO, therefore, and _____ all nations" (v. 19). The word "**teach**" in this verse means "make disciples of."

The Lord told His disciples to make disciples (learners) of all nations! And the only way to make disciples is to **teach** them: " _____ them to observe _____ things" (v. 20). This is explained by diagram #1.

DIAGRAM #1



This is exactly what the early church did. They made disciples. In Acts 14:21 we read, "And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had _____." The expression "**taught many**" means that Paul and Barnabas "**made many disciples**" as shown on diagram #2:

DIAGRAM #2



A DISCIPLER! WHY?

II. MAKE LEARNERS WHO WILL THEN BE TEACHERS OF OTHERS!!
(2 Timothy 2:2).

A. This same disciple making program is described in 2 Timothy 2:2. In this verse the pronoun "me" refers to what person (see 2 Timothy 1:1)? _____. The pronoun "thou" refers to what person (see 2 Timothy 1:2)? _____. With this in mind we can illustrate 2 Timothy 2:2 as follows:

DIAGRAM #3

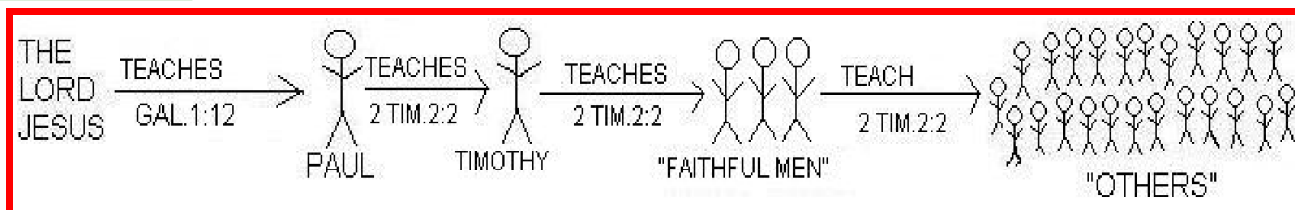


Diagram #3 shows us that **disciples can also be teachers**. For example, the Apostle Paul was a **disciple** of the Lord Jesus, but he was also a **teacher** of Timothy. The following matching problem will help you to understand the teacher/disciple relationship.

Diagram #3 will help you as you answer the following matching problem.

Correctly identify the following:

1.	_____	Teacher of Paul (Gal. 1:12)	A.	The Apostle Paul
2.	_____	Disciple of the Lord Jesus and Teacher of Timothy (Gal. 1:12; 2 Tim. 2:2)	B.	"others"
3.	_____	Disciple of Paul and Teacher of "faithful men" (2 Tim. 2:2)	C.	"faithful men"
4.	_____	Disciples of Timothy and Teacher of "others"(2 Tim. 2:2)	D.	The Lord Jesus
5.	_____	Disciples of "faithful men" (2 Tim. 2:2)	E.	Timothy

Therefore we can think of the local church (the local assembly) as a **schoolhouse** where there are teachers and learners and where disciples are being made.

Answer the following TRUE (T) or FALSE (F):

1.	_____	The word "disciple" means "one who teaches."
2.	_____	The Lord Jesus has invited all men to come unto Him and be His disciples (Matthew 11:28-29).
3.	_____	Just as a slave must have a master, so also a disciple must have a teacher (Matthew 10:24).
4.	_____	Disciples can never be teachers.
5.	_____	The Lord Jesus Christ commanded His disciples to "teach" or "make disciples" of all nations (Matthew 28:19).
6.	_____	We learn in Acts 14:20-21 that Paul and Barnabas disobeyed the Lord's command in Matthew 28:19-20.
7.	_____ _____	The Apostle Paul was a disciple of Timothy. Timothy was a disciple of the Apostle Paul (1 Timothy 2:2).
8.	_____	The Pastor must be a teacher (Ephesians 4:11).
9.	_____	Every single member of the Church needs to be taught except for the Pastor.
10.	_____	The Lord expects us to learn and to grow up so that we will be able to teach others also (Hebrews 5:12).

B. True or False:

- 1) Every believer is to be a disciple of God (John 6:45). _____
- 2) Does **every** single member of the church need to be taught (Col. 1:28)? _____
- 3) The Pastor must be a teacher (Eph. 4:11), but should he be a **learner** also _____ (see 2 Timothy 2:7 and 2:15)?
- 4) Who is the only Person who does not need a teacher (Isaiah 40:13-14; Romans 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 2:16)? _____

A DISCIPLER! HOW?

III. HOW TO BE A DISCIPLER

(John 3:6-7).

(We have looked at briefly “WHY BE A DISCIPLER AND WHO IS TO BE A DISCIPLER” now, let’s look at “WHO CAN BE, or, HOW TO BE A DISCIPLER?”)

A. Who can be a discipler?

- 1) Read John 3:3. Jesus said “... Except a man be born again, he cannot _____ the kingdom of God.”
- 2) In order to teach (disciple someone) you must first **be able to see, be a disciple**, be “born _____ (John 3:3).
- 3) You must “B _____ on his name”. (John 1:12)
- 4) Believing on Jesus’ name means you have called “...U _____ the name of the Lord...” (Jesus) (Romans 10:13).

**WHO CAN BE A DISCIPLER? A DISCIPLER HAS TO FIRST BECOME A DISCIPLE = “Be Born again”.
John 3:3; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:13).**

A disciple of Christ is a saved person. Just as every saved, born again, person is a disciple, every saved person is to be a discipler. Nowhere in the Bible does it say you have to have a certain spiritual gift to be a discipler. Jesus simply said: disciple, “*teach*” (Matthew 28:19-20). The command Jesus gave in Matthew 28:19 to “*teach*” (disciple) is given to every Christian. No spiritual gift is involved. The only gift involved is the free gift God gives. Of course, the free gift is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord! (John 3:16; Romans 6:23b)

Only saved people can be disciplers for Christ.

Remember: when you got saved you became a disciple. You learned you were a sinner and the only way to Heaven was by trusting Christ to save you. You learned through teaching just as Nicodemus learned when he came to Jesus. Jesus taught Nicodemus what it meant to be saved and how to be saved (John 3:3).

Remember: soul winning is only the beginning of being a discipler. You tell others how to be saved, after you, yourself, have become a disciple by trusting Christ. After being saved, you then start discipling other people who you lead to the Lord or that others have lead to the Lord. You are to study the Word (2 Timothy 3:16). (**NOTE:** The word “doctrine” found in 2 Timothy 3:16 means teaching.) You are to help other Christians grow in the Lord (“*And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same C _____ thou to faithful men, who shall be able to T _____ others also.*” 2 Timothy 2:2)

"ASSEMBLE TOGETHER"

When you assemble together in God's Schoolhouse, the church, do you come with a desire to learn? Do you pray and ask God to teach you? Are you **learning** so that you will be able to teach others also or are you still a "baby disciple" who needs someone to teach you the ABC's of God's Word (see Hebrews 5:12-13)? If a person walks and lives just as the unsaved do (see Ephesians 4:17-19), then has that person really **learned** his lesson (see Ephesians 4:20-21)? _____

**If you have never trusted Christ as your Savior,
why not listen to what the Bible says. Learn from God's Word.**

HOW IS A PERSON SAVED?

A person is saved by taking God at His Word, by believing that Jesus is the Son of God, that Jesus is God, that Jesus died on the cross and that Jesus rose from the dead for all. The word all includes everyone, and all includes you. If you have never trusted Jesus to save you, why not ask Jesus to save you now?

Ask Him: "Lord, I believe you died for me and I now receive you as my Savior".

If you ask Jesus to save you, you will have eternal life as **1 John 5:12** says: "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

To be graded, and returned to you, send completed lesson
and self addressed stamped envelope to:

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