



Disciple of Christ Part 1

True Christianity has survived throughout the centuries by believers relaying the faith baton from one generation to another, guarding the Gospel of Grace that was commended firsthand to the apostles, especially the apostle Paul, all the way down to you and I, all because the Holy Spirit flowed through a faithful bunch.

2 Timothy 2:2

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

For one thing, not everyone that has been considered a part of Christianity has been obedient to the faith. From those that have been obedient to the faith, many are still not considered a part of the faithful bunch.

-What do you mean?

Christianity is composed of two types of people:

- Christians
- Believers in Christ

Firstly, the word *Christian*, which means “little Christ,” was a tag given to believers in Christ by non-believers out of mockery. The Bible never calls the believer in Christ a “Christian” as to embrace it as our identity. It was only used three times and every time it was used derogatorily. It is a label that is no longer apt to distinguish a believer in Christ from a non-believer in our current culture.

Today, Christians are people who imitate a religion and live a lifestyle according to their denominational standard. Most of what they consider Christianity is just a set of vain traditions, outer conformity to religious laws and standards, and mystical beliefs rather than believing in Christ and walking by faith. For this reason, many Christians are not believers in Christ.

On the other hand, believers in Christ are people that believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord (Christ’s finished work). These have placed saving faith in Jesus and worship Him as the only way, the only truth, and the only life. These do not devote themselves to any other deity, being, or image. They have been born again of the Spirit, have taken the step of faith to be water baptized and show enough fruit in their lives to be convicted as believers.

-So what’s a disciple?

Disciples are simply believers in Christ who are students of God’s grace. They continually seek to grow in the grace of Christ through the Word of God by revelation.

John 8:31

Jesus said to those that believed in Him, “You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings.”

These believers in Christ have taken the step of faith to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. They are grounded in the gift of righteousness – the heart of the Gospel – and the new covenant of grace.

They have been compelled by love to live a life of effortless commitment to the faith by bringing glory to Jesus in everything they do; they understand, defend and spread the Gospel of Grace, and bless His Church above their own agenda and pursuit of their own ambitions.

The bold teacher, John Wesley, stated once:

“The Church changes the world not by making converts but by making disciples.”

However, the majority of believers in Christ settle and never move on to further grow in the revelation of the grace of Christ. They are satisfied with just receiving eternal salvation but never wholeheartedly seek to further know His grace and His finished work. Others regress to performance oriented Christianity and live by performance instead of by faith. Yet, these same believers wonder why they are not walking in the supernatural and aren't prospering the way the Bible promises. This is not consistent with the New Testament. Every believer in Christ should be a disciple of Christ.

Galatians 4:1, ESV

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything...

Discipleship is very important to be able to enjoy everything the Father has for us.

Notice that it doesn't matter if a child is an heir to everything His father has, he will not be any different than a slave as long as he is a child. In other words, maturity as believers in Christ is important to be able to enjoy all that the Lord has for us. As long as we settle and never move on to further grow in the grace of Christ, we will not enjoy it all because it takes maturity to enjoy our inheritance in Christ.

When a believer in Christ presses forward towards maturity and has it in his or her heart to be a disciple of Christ, they begin to walk in all the fullness of God. They discover their purpose and experience true fulfillment. They find, follow, and fulfill God's will for their life. They live a selfless life wanting to live to bless and give to others. They live under God's best for them and run the race swiftly. All of a sudden, their whole life is brought into right perspective and begins to see it in light of eternity.

For this reason, Joyner Briceno Ministries is developing a program to fully train believers in Christ to be pillars of the grace of Christ. Below is a link to the **eDiscipleship School** program.

<https://www.joynerbriceno.org/ediscipleship/grace-devo.html>

By Joyner Briceño