Connect Study—Discipleship—Learn, Live, Love

**The Price of Discipleship**

Martin Luther said, “A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.”

Billy Graham “Salvation is free but discipleship costs everything we have”

Matt 10:37 If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it

Jesus used the phrase “more than” twice in these verses. Discipleship is not a book, a program or a class. The starting point of discipleship is to love Jesus more than we love anyone or anything.

God broke the yoke of slavery when we are saved but now we are meant to take on Jesus yoke and live unto him.

**The Principle of Discipleship**

Discipleship is relational. The early church devoted themselves to fellowship. We are called to “belong”, not just to “believe”.

Discipleship needs to take place in the context of relationship or community.

**The Practice of Discipleship**

A disciple is one who **learns** to **live** the new life in Christ through **love.**

**Learn**

Col 1:10 Then the way you live will always honour and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, *you will grow as you LEARN* to know God better and better.

2 Tim 1:13 Hold on to *the pattern of wholesome teaching you LEARNED from me*—a pattern shaped by the faith and love that you have in Christ Jesus.

**Live**

Phil 1:21 - For to me to *live* is Christ, and to die is gain

Rom 13:13 - We must *live* decent lives for all to see.

**Live** speaks of actions. A change in lifestyle.

**Love**

Matt 22:37-39 Jesus replied, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

Discussion:

What does it look like to love Jesus more than anyone or anything? What sacrifices do you need to make to engage with the Discipleship 360?

Discipleship is relational. You can be in a connect group and not experience discipleship but you can’t experience discipleship without being part of a small group/connect group. Do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer.

Are there any areas you need to live out what you know? A common area is prayer. Many Christians know they need to pray yet do not practice a lifestyle of prioritising time with God.