

Living As Royals – Following Jesus

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 1 Peter 2:9,10 (ESV)

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12 (ESV)

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me". Luke 9:23 (ESV)

"To be a disciple of Jesus means to be with Jesus, learn from Jesus and become like Jesus."

Be With Jesus

- By spending time together with Him (John 15:5)
- By conversing in prayer with Him (John 15:7)
- By praising & worshiping Him (Hebrews 12:28,29)

Learn From Jesus

- Through the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16)
- Through the Holy Spirit (John 14:26)
- Through the community of believers (Hebrews 10:24)
- Through a personal Mentor (Proverbs 20:5)

Become Like Jesus

- By applying the bible into your life (Joshua 1:8)
- By living in the Spirit, close to the Father, knowing and doing what pleases him (Galatians 5:2)
- By shepherding others in their Christian life (1 Peter 5:2)

Questions

1. What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ? What makes Christ disciples different from followers of other faiths?
2. What difference does it make to have someone disciple you in your Christian walk?
3. How are you following Jesus daily in your life?
4. What areas in your life do you desire to experience greater intimacy with God?
5. How do you experience the Holy Spirit's guidance in your learning from Jesus?
6. Do you have a spiritual mentor? What areas do you want your mentor to walk alongside you with?
7. Are you discipling someone in their Christian walk? What are some obstacles to this?

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

1. If you truly believed that you are the child of the King of the Universe, what are some things you would stop saying to yourself? What are some things you would start doing?
2. What word would you use to describe your experience of being part of the Kingdom of God (challenging, exciting, monotonous, frightening, depressing, joyous....) - explain your choice.
3. Was there any part of your old identity that you had to give up in order to take up your new identity as a Child of God? Share about the process
4. What have you gained with your new status as a child of the King?
5. Look back to a time before you knew Jesus. How has being a Child of God changed you?