

The Instruments of Discipleship



Week One

inTro



Read This Week's Passage:
Matthew 28:16–20

THE TASK

Each generation has emphasized different aspects of Christianity. Some eras have emphasized doctrine, others piety. Some have seen true Christianity as organized institutions, while others reacted and sought de-centralized systems of power. Still others have seen their faith manifested in bloodshed and martyrdom, while others see their faith online and spread by satellite technology. Some generations have wanted to be the hands of Christ, serving the poor and needy, while others were moved to become the feet of Christ, entering territories that the church dared not venture into aforesaid.

Whether it's wearing a Christian T-shirt or identifying with religious images and slogans, each generation has seen new creative expressions of Christianity as well as restoring and reviving the virtues of the past. While this ebb and flow of trends and ideas is inevitable, it is also just as important a task for the Christian to find that which is core.

Regardless of trend or time period, whether institutionally loyal or individualistically minded, every Christian needs to follow Jesus personally, to become His disciple, and to discover what discipleship means on a daily basis. This is the most basic interaction between Christ and Christian, among Christians, and within Christianity. Handed down from one person to another starting from two millennia ago, the art of Christian discipleship has kept the movement of Jesus alive and the gospel spreading from person to person, and from age to age. It is in this discipleship context that the teachings of Jesus, the work of the church, lifestyle commitments and habits, and the evangelistic spread of the gospel all take place.



inScribe

Write out Matthew 28:16–20 from the translation of your choice. You may also re-write the passage in your own words, or outline or mind map the chapter.



Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you



Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?



Memorize your favorite verse in Matthew 28:16–20. Write it out multiple times to help memorization.

How is this explanation of the Great Commission similar or different to your previous understanding of it?



Read more at www.inverseible.org/disc01-3



After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?



What questions emerge after studying this passage?
What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What are areas your church needs to work on in discipleship?



Read more at
www.inverseible.org/disc01-4



What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

- Romans 6:3-10
- 1 Thessalonians 1:5-7
- Mark 8:34-38
- 1 Peter 5:2, 3



What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with discipleship and people?

A large grid of dotted lines for writing answers to the questions above.

Review your memorized verse from Matthew 28:16-20.



Meditate on Matthew 28:16–20
again and look for where Jesus is.



How was Jesus wholeheartedly
and daily obedient to God's will?

What is Christ impressing you to
do in your discipleship with Him?

What is He saying to you through
these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently
or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to
seeing Jesus in this way?



Read more at
www.inverseible.org/disc01-6



Review the memory verse.
How does it apply to your
life this week?



After this week's study of
the chapter, what personal
applications are you convicted
of in your life?

What practical applications
must you make in your school,
family, workplace, and church?

A large grid of small dots for writing answers.



Read more inSight from the
Spirit of Prophecy at
www.inverseible.org/disc01-7



Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.



How does one differentiate the core from the peripheral in Christianity?

Which of the participles are easiest? Hardest? Why?

Why does God use people as instruments of discipleship?

How do you, personally, and how does your church, corporately, "make disciples"?

Why are personal effort and time so precious in discipleship?

How was Christ your personal example this week? How was He your personal Lord and Master this week?