

LAYMAN'S SCHOOL OF TRAINING
HOLE 2 - ADVANCED BIBLE STUDY SEMINAR
LECTURE 8 - WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A DISCIPLE OF JESUS? - PART 1

Should these notes/courses be a blessing please partner with us at www.GoodNewsWithSmiley.com

© January, 1987 ~ All Rights Reserved ~ Univers font 11 - Paragraph line spacing 'Multiple 1.1'

Each student must receive a "Blessed Protection Through Accountability" Sheet.

1. What is a disciple?

A disciple is one who **follows** another as a **pupil** in order to **learn**. He **diligently applies** himself to such **training**.

*Matt 4:19-20 (NASB) "And He (Jesus) said to them (Peter and Andrew), '**Follow Me**, and I will make you fishers of men?'*

*20 And they **immediately** left the nets, and **followed Him**."*

*Luke 9:23 (NASB) "And He was saying to them all, 'If anyone wishes to come after me, let him **deny himself**, and **take up his cross daily**, and **follow Me**.'"*

*Mark 10:28 (NASB) "Peter began to say to Him, 'Behold, we have **left everything and followed You**.'"*

*John 10:27 (NASB) "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and **they follow Me**."*

John 21:21-22 (NASB) "Peter therefore seeing him (John) said to Jesus, 'Lord, and what about this man?'

*22 Jesus said to him, 'If I want him to remain until I come, **what is that to you? You follow Me!**'"*

*Isa 50:4 (NASB & Isaac Leeser) "The Lord God has given me the tongue of **disciples**, that I may know how to strengthen the weary with the Word. He awakens me morning by morning. He awakens my ear to **listen** like those who are **well taught**."*

2. How does a disciple learn?

By **verbal instruction** which is followed by **on the job training**.

*Matt 7:28-29 (NASB) "The result was that when Jesus had finished these words, the multitudes were **amazed** at His teaching;*

*29 for **He was teaching them** as one having **authority** (i.e. under the anointing), and not as their scribes."*

*Mark 6:6 (NASB) "And He wondered at their **unbelief**. And He was going around the villages **teaching**."*

*Luke 5:17 (NASB) "And it came about one day that he was **teaching**...and the **power of the Lord was present** for Him to perform **healing**."*

*Luke 21:37 (NASB) "Now during the **day** He was **teaching** in the temple, but at **evening** He would go out and spend the night (in prayer) on the mount that is called Olivet."*

*Prov 1:8 (NASB) "Hear, my son, your **father's instruction**, and **do not forsake your mother's teaching**."*

*Eph 6:1 (NASB) "(Spiritual) Children, **obey your parents IN THE LORD**, for this is right."*

*Luke 10:1-5,8-9,16 (NASB) "Now after this the **Lord appointed seventy** others, and sent them two and two ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come.*

2 And He was saying to them, 'The harvest, is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech (or pray) the Lord of the harvest to send (drive or cast - Greek) out laborers into His harvest.

3 Go your ways...

4 Carry no purse, no bag, no shoes; and greet no one on the way.

5 And whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house.'

8 And whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat what is set before you;

*9 and **heal** those in it who are sick, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'*

*16 The one who **listens to you listens to Me**, and the one who **rejects you rejects Me**; and he who **rejects***

Me rejects the One who sent Me.' "

The **Fishers of Men** course will give you this necessary **practical on the job training**.

3. What will the result of such training be?

Willing and submissive disciples will flow in tremendous **power and authority**. They will also **develop in spiritual maturity very quickly**. (E.g. Rodney Pienaar and Tony Palmer).

Luke 10:17-19 (NASB) *"And the **seventy** returned with joy, saying 'Lord, even the **demons are subject to us in Your name.**' "*

18 *And He said to them, 'I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.*

19 *Behold, I have **given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you.**' "*

Every believer needs to find out in **practical experience** that the **Gospel works**.

Luke 6:40 (NASB) *"A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been **fully TRAINED**, will be like his teacher (or reach his teachers level). "*

4. What is an important characteristic of a true disciple?

Total submission and willingness to obey the instructions of his teacher.

In **Luke 10:29-32** they obeyed Jesus in the **fetching of the colt**.

In **Luke 9:12-17** they obeyed Jesus in the seating and **feeding of the 5000 men** from five loaves and two fish.

In **Luke 22:7-13** Peter and John obeyed Jesus in going to **prepare the Passover meal** in the large furnished upper room.

If today's Pastors had asked some of their men to do the above tasks they would have responded, "No way, That's woman's work! I'll do what you ask when you give me some great important visible task." They will never be used by God.

The Bible teaches that he, who is proven to be faithful in little, will be entrusted with much.

5. Will there be a price to pay as a true disciple?

Yes, there always is a **price to pay to separate yourself unto God** in a degenerate society.

2 Cor 6:17 (NASB) *"Therefore, **come out from their midst and be separate**', says the Lord. 'And do not touch what is unclean; And I will welcome you.' "*

Rev 18:4 (NASB) *"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying '**Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues...**' "*

Matt 5:8 (NASB) *"Blessed are the **pure in heart**, for they shall see God."*

Rom 6:22 (NASB) *"But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, **resulting in sanctification** (holiness) **and the outcome, eternal life.**"*

Heb 12:10,14 (NASB) *"For they (our parents) **disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness.***

14 *Pursue peace with all men, and the **sanctification** (holiness) **without which no one will see the Lord.**"*

It will require tremendous **self discipline and personal discipleship to maintain the anointing**.

Isa 40:31 (KJV) *"But they that **wait upon the LORD** shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."*

Are you an eagle or a turkey Christian? Eagle Christians are Heavenly minded, busy with the things of the Spirit, while turkey Christians are scratching in the dirt, gobbling away at everyone else's problems.

Col 2:5 (NASB) *"For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your **good discipline** and the **stability of your faith in Christ.**"*

1 Tim 4:7b (NASB) *"...discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness."*

We need to discipline ourselves in the following 7 areas: (i) in Bible meditation; (ii) prayer; (iii) worship; (iv) fellowship; (v) witnessing; (vi) discovering and fulfilling our ministry; (vii) maintaining Godly family relationships.

A true disciple has a **strong commitment** and **determination** for the cause of Christ - to actively serve Him above all else, at any price, to win the lost.

Matt 10:24-25,28,32-39 (NASB) *"'A **disciple** is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master.*

25 *It is enough for the **disciple that he become as his teacher, and the slave as his master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul (dung-god, lord of the flies, a name of satan), how much more the members of his household!***

28 *And do not fear those who kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; but rather **fear Him (God) who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.***

32 *Everyone therefore who shall **confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My father who is in heaven.***

33 *But whoever shall **deny Me** before men, **I will also deny him** before My Father who is in heaven.*

34 *Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.*

35 *For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;*

36 *and a man's enemies will be the members of his household.*

37 *He who **loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me;** and he who loves **son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.***

38 *And he who does not **take his cross** and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.*

39 *He who has **found his life shall lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake shall find it.**"*

NB. Christ's cause needs to be the all consuming passion and desire of our souls.

6. Does the Bible illustrate the principle that authority and submission to authority are directly related?

Yes, this is very clearly illustrated in the account of the **Roman Centurion** whose servant was paralyzed and suffering great pain.

Matt 8:5-10,13 (NASB) *"And when He had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, entreating Him, **6** and saying, Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering great pain.'*

7 *And He said to him, 'I will come and heal him.'*

8 *But the centurion answered and said, 'Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but **just say the word,** and my servant will be healed.*

9 *For I, too, am a man **under authority,** with **soldiers under me;** and I say to his one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it.'*

10 *Now when **Jesus** heard this, He **marveled,** and said to those who were following, 'Truly I say to you, **I have not found such GREAT FAITH with anyone in Israel.'***

13 *And Jesus said to the centurion, 'Go your way; **let it be done to you as YOU HAVE BELIEVED.'** And the servant was healed that very hour."*

NOTE: There are **3 things** the centurion understood about authority.

- i) He understood authority for he was a **man UNDER authority**.
- ii) He understood authority for **he EXERCISED authority** over the 100 who were placed under him.
- iii) He understood authority for **he RECOGNIZED authority** that Jesus had over satan, disease and circumstances.

A man not UNDER authority will never operate in the authority of Jesus Christ through His name. When satan rebelled he lost his authority.

James 4:7 (NASB) *"Submit therefore to God (first). (Then you can) resist the devil and he will flee from you."*

ILLUSTRATION: After resigning from DCC to come to CFC, I handed over to the new Pastor. When I went to worship at my old church the following Sunday, I experienced a strange feeling. Last week I was their Pastor, with full authority over the flock. This week I was their brother in Christ. When I took myself out from being under authority, I lost all authority.

In every local church today we need to **recognize the importance of submission to God's appointed authorities**.

1 Cor 12:28 (NASB) *"And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues."*

7. Is the principle of submission to church leadership illustrated in the bible?

Yes, in the life of Moses and the children of **Israel** in the wilderness who were a **type of the New Testament church**.

1 Cor 10:5-6 (NASB) *"Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they (the children of Israel) were laid low in the wilderness."*

6 *Now these things **happened as examples for us**, that we should not crave evil things, as they also craved."*

Exo 18:13-27 (NASB) *"And it came about the next day that **Moses sat to judge the people**, and the people stood about Moses **from the morning until the evening**."*

14 *Now when **Moses' father-in-law** (Jethro) saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, 'What is this thing that you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge and all the people stand about you from morning until evening?'*

17 *And Moses' father-in-law said to him, 'The thing that you are doing is not good.*

18 ***You will surely wear out**, both yourself and these people who are with you, for **the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone**.*

19 *Now listen to me: I shall give you counsel, and God be with you. You be the people's representative before God, and you bring the disputes to God,*

20 *then **teach them the statutes and the laws** (training), and make known to them the way in which they are to walk, and the work they are to do.*

21 *Furthermore, **you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these over them, as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens.***

22 *And let them judge the people at all times; and let it be that every **major dispute** they will bring to you, but every **minor dispute** they themselves will judge. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you.*

23 *If you do this thing and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people*

also will go to their place in peace.

24 So Moses listened to his father-in-law, and did all that he had said."

Moses follows the advice of his Father-in-law Jethro, to appoint leaders over the children of Israel to help him judge and lead the people.

As they had leaders of 1000's, 100's, 50's and 10's, so we too in the church today have **Pastors, voluntary Pastors, Home Fellowship Leaders, and Prayer Friends.**

NB. We need to **submit to these leaders as representatives of Jesus Christ** just as we would submit to our Lord if He were here in person.

Rebellion against God's appointed leaders is rebellion against God. (Every member must come to the realization that their are no perfect leaders, as their are no perfect members. If God could only use perfect leaders, then He would never be able to use anyone. He would not have been able to use one character in the Bible. We must all learn to submit to leaders with imperfections, just like ours. If you one day happen to find the perfect church, please do not join it, because you'll spoil it).

1 Sam 15:22-23 (NASB) *"And Samuel said, 'Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat or rams.*

23 *For rebellion is as the sin of divination (or witchcraft - KJV), and insubordination (or stubbornness, disobedience - KJV) is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king."*

The **heathen nations** who practiced witchcraft, divination, etc. were to be **destroyed** from the promised land.

Deut 18:9-13 (NASB) *"When you enter the land which the Lord your God gives you, you shall not learn to imitate the detestable things of those nations.*

10 *There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,*

11 *or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.*

12 *For whoever does these things is detestable to the Lord; and because of these detestable things the Lord your God will drive them out before you.*

13 *You shall be blameless before the Lord your God."*

In the Old Testament the sin of witchcraft which is equal to **rebellion** was so serious that it **was punished by death.**

Deut 21:18-21 (NASB) *"If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them,*

19 *then his father and mother shall seize him, and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gateway of his home town.*

20 *and they shall say to the elders of his city, 'this son of ours is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey us, he is a glutton and a drunkard.'*

21 *Then all the men of his city shall stone him to death; so you shall remove the evil from your midst, and all Israel shall hear of it and fear."*

8. Are there any examples of God's judgment against rebellion?

Yes, there are 2 very clear examples in the book of Numbers.

Numbers 12:1-10 (NASB) "Then **Miriam** and **Aaron SPOKE** (in the Hebrew the verb is in the feminine singular) **AGAINST MOSES** because of the Cushite (a black) woman whom he had married for he had married a Cushite woman;

2 and they said, 'Has the Lord indeed spoken **ONLY** through Moses? Has He not spoken through us as well?' And the Lord heard it.

(The real reason they spoke against Moses, was not because of the Cushite woman whom he had married, but because of spiritual jealousy. God choose Moses, with all his weaknesses to be the leader, and not them. They thought, "Whose Moses? We can do a better job than him." Have you heard this song before?)

3 Now the man **Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth.**

4 And suddenly the Lord said to Moses and Aaron and to Miriam, 'You three come out to the tent of meeting.' So the three of them came out.

5 then the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the doorway of the tent, and He called Aaron and Miriam. When they had both come forward,

6 He said, 'Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, shall make Myself known to him in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream.

7 Not so, with My servant **Moses**, He is faithful in all My household;

8 With him I speak mouth to mouth, Even openly, and not in dark sayings, And he beholds the form of the Lord. Why then were you **not afraid To speak against My servant**, against Moses?'

9 So the anger of the Lord burned against them and He departed.

10 But when the cloud had withdrawn from over the tent, behold, **Miriam was leprous**, as white as snow. As Aaron turned toward Miriam, behold, she was leprous."

Here we see **Miriam and Aaron opposing Moses' authority** (because they were jealous) and God's judgment of leprosy on Miriam.

Numbers 16:1-3,8-15,24,31-35 (NASB) "Now **Korah...with Dathan and Abiram...and On...took action**,

2 and they rose up before Moses, together with some of the sons of Israel, **two hundred and fifty leaders** of the congregation, chosen in the assembly, men of renown.

3 And they assembled together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, 'You have gone far enough, for all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is in their midst; so why do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?'

8 Then Moses said to Korah, 'Hear now, you sons of Levi,

9 is it not enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the rest of the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the service of the tabernacle of the Lord, and to stand before the congregation to minister to them;

10 and that He has brought you near, Korah, and all your brothers, sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking for the priesthood also?

11 Therefore **you and all your company are GATHERED TOGETHER AGAINST THE LORD**; but as for Aaron, who is he that you grumble against him?

12 Then Moses sent a summons to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab; but they said, 'we will not come up.

13 Is it not enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to have us die in the wilderness, but you would also lord it over us?

(God's leading does not always instantly bring us into the promised land. Unspiritual leaders could not see or understand this.)

14 Indeed, you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor have you given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards. Would you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up!'

15 Then Moses became very angry and said to the Lord, 'Do not regard their offering! I have not taken a

single donkey from them, nor have I done harm to any of them."

24 *Speak to the congregation, saying, 'Get back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.'*

31 *Then it came about as he finished speaking all these words, that **the ground that was under them split open;***

32 *and **the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households, and all the men who belonged to Korah, with their possessions.***

33 *So they and all that belonged to them **went down alive to Sheol (hell); and the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the assembly.***

34 *And all Israel who were around them fled at their outcry, for they said, 'The earth may swallow us up!'*

35 ***Fire also came forth from the Lord and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering the incense."***

Korah, Dathan, Abiram and On led 250 leaders of the congregation in a rebellion against Moses and Aaron - challenging their authority and calling, for they wanted a more prominent spiritual role than carrying the sacred Ark and its utensils.

God's severe judgment was that they **descended down ALIVE into Hell** and the 250 were consumed with fire.

9. What can we conclude from this study?

The **church** of Jesus Christ today needs to have a **far greater regard and respect for God's anointed servants**. They need to **be fearful of entering into any CRITICAL CONVERSATION** against God's servants.

Psa 105:15 (NASB) *"Do not touch (with your words) My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm."*

1 Sam 26:9 (NASB) *"But David said to Abishai, 'Do not destroy him (backslidden king Saul), for **who can stretch out his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?**' "*

(Notice David's respect for God's chosen leader, King Saul, even in his backslidden condition).

The way up in God's kingdom is to **get behind God's authorities in faithful service and prayer support**, and then God's gift in your life will promote you. In the kingdom of God self-promotion by scheming is a big No-No.

1 Tim 1:12 (NASB) *"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has **strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service (or the ministry - KJV).**"*

1 Tim 2:1-2 (NASB) *"First of all, then, I urge that (TCNT) petitions, **prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings (NASB) be made on behalf of all men,***

2 for kings and ALL who are in authority..."

That means for our spiritual and civil leaders.

Prov 18:16 (NASB) *"A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men."*

10. What must I do if I have yielded my tongue to the devil by speaking against God's authorities?

REPENT before God and man and make restitution.

In future if anyone wants to talk against God's authorities to you, do not listen to them.

If they persist, tell them that you will listen to everything they have to say, but only in front of the person they are wanting to scandal about.

There's an interesting book that every Christian should read. It's titled, "GOSSIP - Talking your way into Hell."

1. Memorize **1 Samuel 15:23** in point 7 of this lecture.
2. **Determine** from this day on **to become a disciple of Jesus Christ** in some form of **active service**, and not just a pew warmer.
3. If you are not under authority in your local church, then rectify that situation in a hurry.
4. Be sure to **flow under the authority of God's appointed leaders in your life** and **pray for them** regularly.
5. If you need to repent of speaking against God's authorities in your life, then do so in sincerity and truth.
6. Spend 10 minutes a day meditating on your notes so that these truths can register on your spirit man and as preparation for a true or false test next week.
7. Your memory verse counts for 10% of your test results.
8. A pass mark of 80% is required.
9. Each student needs to attend at least 80% of all lectures and get the tapes and notes of all lectures he has missed in order to be credited.