

Becoming the Missionary Disciple God Created You to Be

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What is Jesus' Call?

Mathetes is used 269 times in NT

(Learner, student, disciple)

“Christian” is used 3 times.

3 Goals of an apprentice

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.

Luke 6:40 No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher.

Mt 28:19-20: Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing..., and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you...and lo, I am with you always...

Identity: Beloved Daughter/Son

Transformation

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world but *be transformed* by the renewing of your minds

2 Cor 3:18 And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are *being transformed* into the same image from one degree of glory to another; this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

The Process: How Do We Change / Transform / Become?

We're all becoming/changing/being formed. The question is: into who / what?

Training vs. Trying

God's part and our part

4 main factors:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

10 Practices of a Jesus-Led Life

A disciple not only believes Jesus' or the Church's teachings with the mind but also strives to follow Jesus' teachings and example as a way of life. The following ten practices summarize core ways to participate in Jesus' way of life as his disciple or apprentice.



Pray from the Heart

Draw close to God in silence and solitude, praying daily in intimate dialogue from the depths of your heart.



Dwell in God's Word

Soak in the Scriptures—more than reading the words, meditate on them, coming over time to make your home in them, dwelling and abiding in God's Word.



Grow in Freedom

Fight for freedom *from* sin and *for* love by embracing Jesus' offer of healing and growth in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and detachment from sin.



Worship the Lord

Give praise and honor to God, offering him the best of your attention, focus, gratitude, and trust, especially through celebration of the Eucharist.



Love Your Neighbor

Serve others with the compassion of Jesus becoming more loving, self-sacrificing, empathetic, and moved by the suffering and needs of others.



Encourage One Another

Draw strength from a community of disciples who support each other and spur one another onward.



Follow God's Lead

Discern the Holy Spirit's promptings and grow in sensitivity and docility to the Lord's guidance in your life.



Call on Mary and the Saints

Follow the examples of Mary and the saints and lean on their prayers for heavenly help toward a fully transformed life in Jesus.



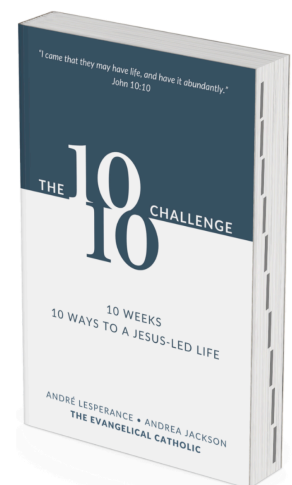
Entrust Your Life to Jesus

Rely on God in every circumstance: big and small, joyful and sorrowful life and death. Every suffering and joy can be received as training in trust.



Share the Good News

Witness to the saving power of God in your actions and words. "Freely you have received," Jesus says. "Freely you are to give." "Go and make disciples."



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A Rule of Life – A trellis for the vine and branches

Bodily Needs: What rhythms and practices of physical health and balance do you want to live by? (Think of things like sleep, exercise, diet, play, and rest)

Key Relationships: Which relationships are important to prioritize, and what does prioritizing each one look like for you right now?

Prayer and Sacraments: In addition to the bare minimums (the five precepts of the Church), which rhythms and practices of prayer, study, and sacraments do you want to live by?

Mission: In what ways and to whom are you called to bring the light of faith, hope, and love offered by Jesus? Who are you called to witness to and accompany closer to Christ? What, concretely, does this look like right now?

Christian Community: With whom will you share and discuss your rule of life? Who will you talk to about how it is going? How often will you gather with a few other disciples of Jesus to discuss and pray about life, spiritual growth/challenges, and mission?

CS Lewis, from *Mere Christianity*

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on: you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently he starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of- throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself.

The command Be ye perfect is not idealistic gas. Nor is it a command to do the impossible. He is going to make us into creatures that can obey that command. He said (in the Bible) that we were "gods" and He is going to make good His words. If we let Him—for we can prevent Him, if we choose—He will make the feeblest and filthiest of us into a god or goddess, a dazzling, radiant, immortal creature, pulsating all through with such energy and joy and wisdom and love as we cannot now imagine, a bright stainless mirror which reflects back to God perfectly (though, of course, on a smaller scale) His own boundless power and delight and goodness. The process will be long and in parts very painful; but that is what we are in for. Nothing less. He meant what He said.