
[SERMON NOTES]

Acts – Week 14 (*Acts 14:1-14, 19, 21-23, 27-28; Galatians 6:7-10, 17*)

Strong disciples _____ in their
_____ of God.

Strong disciples have _____ hearts.

Strong disciples _____ one _____.

Onscreen Graphic (3 parts)

1. _____ Knowledge
2. Heart _____
3. Helpful _____

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

Most of us have foods or ingredients that we can't stand. On the flip side, we all have ingredients that we absolutely love. You know, the kinds of additions that completely change a meal. For example, I'm (Samuel) a sauce guy. I LOVE sauces. Sauces make everything better. But I hate goat cheese. Can't stand it. Tastes like the way a goat smells. Ruins everything. **What are some of your favorite and least favorite ingredients in a meal or dish—ones that you can't get enough of or simply cannot stand?**

[DIGGING DEEPER]

As Eric shared this week with us, there are just certain ingredients that go together. Important foundations that cannot be changed without ruining a dish. As we learned, this also applies to discipleship. So this week we're going to do a deeper dive into some additional 'ingredients' to being strong disciples of Jesus.

Read the passages below. **What are some of the common 'ingredients' of discipleship in these scriptures?**

Mark 1:16-17

Matthew 28:19-20

John 15:1-5

John 17:3

One of the great mysteries and joys of the Christian life is that we get to live it *with* God. As each of these previous verses suggest, a foundational aspect of our discipleship is to **Be With Jesus**. This is echoed in an ancient Rabbinic blessing: *May you be covered in the dust of your Rabbi*. There is no discipleship apart from presence to Jesus. But discipleship doesn't end there. **Read these other passages below. What are some more themes of discipleship present in these texts?**

1 John 2:6

Luke 6:40

Gal. 5:22-24

Mark 8:34

2 Cor. 3:18

While being *with* Jesus is the foundation, the road we walk with him will inevitably lead to the reality that a disciple of Jesus will **Become Like Jesus**. Once we encounter Christ we will never leave the same, as as we walk with him daily, we cannot help but be shaped, molded, and formed into his likeness. This is a great hope of the Christian faith. But still, there is at least one more goal of discipleship. **Read these final passages below. What are a few more core aspects to discipleship seen in these scriptures?**

Matthew 10:1-6

Matthew 7:24-27

John 13:34-35

Our journey of walking *with* Jesus will not only lead to transformation into Christlikeness, but also toward obedience. If we are a disciple we will learn to **Do what Jesus did**. Our character and morals will not only be formed, but our actions will run parallel to the Life and Way of Christ. It is through practice, discipline, and obedience that we are able to fully imitate our Rabbi, our Master, and our Lord.

Of these three key aspects of discipleship (be with Jesus, become like Jesus, do what he did), **which one is the easiest for you? The hardest? Which one do you long for most in this particular season of life?**

[WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (*1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17*). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend's message. We encourage you to take notes in your Bible, and ask yourself: *What does this teach me about God? Myself and others? And how do I follow Jesus better?*

Acts 14

Luke 9

Galatians 6

Luke 15