



Study Guide - 9

Training for Reigning



Pre-Study Survey

Please answer (Yes, No, or Maybe).

1. Are you in a condition right now to follow Jesus' teachings?
2. Do feel that you are a long way from being able to emulate Christ in your daily life?
3. Do you believe that you have a faith that will produce "works of love?"
4. Do you believe God has planned for you to live out "good works" in this life and for eternity?
5. Do you believe God's destiny for yourself is to become like Jesus?

DISCOVER

Every child who is born to the king or queen of England becomes a member of the royal family. However, before they can rule England, they go through an extensive training period. They don't train in order to become princes or princesses; they already are, simply by being born. They train so they can rule properly and effectively. The preparation of a monarch's children for their royal duties is long, arduous and painstaking. There is no easy path of preparation for future rulers.

When Christ calls you to be His disciple, it is an invitation for you to enter a life of growing, maturing, equipping and training for a glorious work here on earth and in the earth to come.

What is the goal of Christian discipleship? What is involved in becoming a fully-devoted follower of Christ?

SG9-2

QUESTION-1: What is God's ultimate purpose for you as a believer?

READ-1.01: Rom. 8:29

READ-1.02: Dan. 7:18; Rev. 22:1-5

DISCOVERY-1: IT IS MY DESTINY AS CHRIST'S FOLLOWER TO RULE WITH HIM FOREVER.

QUESTION-2: What is Christ's command to His followers?

READ-2: Mark 16:15-16; Matt. 28:19-20

DISCOVERY-2: CHRIST COMMANDED HIS FOLLOWERS TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM AND TO . . .

1. Baptize those who believe.
2. Make them disciples of Christ.

QUESTION-3: Why are the new believers to be baptized?

READ-3.01: Matt. 3:13-16

READ-3.02: Rom. 6:3-4; Acts 2:41

DISCOVERY-3: NEW BELIEVERS ARE TO BE BAPTIZED BY IMMERSION IN WATER BECAUSE:

1. Jesus was baptized by immersion at the beginning of His ministry.
2. Baptism is a sign that I am united to Christ and I am saved because of His:
 - Death - He set me free from the power of sin.
 - Burial - He forgave my past, sinful life.
 - Resurrection - He gave me a new life.
3. Baptism represents my commitment to follow Jesus and serve His church.

QUESTION-4: What is involved in the process of becoming a disciple of Christ?

READ-4.01: John 2:11; Eph. 4:13; John 13:34-35

READ-4.02: Luke 4:18-19; Matt. 4:23-24

The ministry of Christ during His time on earth was composed of the following:

- a. Evangelism - Preaching the Good News*
- b. Deliverance - Proclaiming liberty to captives*
- c. Healing - Making the blind see*
- d. Liberation - Freeing the downtrodden*
- e. Reconciliation - Releasing God's favor*

READ-4.03: Luke 4:1, 14; Acts 10:38

READ-4.04: 1 John 2:27; 2 Cor. 3:18

DISCOVERY-4A: A DISCIPLE IS ONE WHO IS LEARNING TO BECOME LIKE CHRIST.

1. To become like Him in character.
2. To work like Him in ministry.
3. To depend upon the Holy Spirit like He did.

READ-4.05: Eph. 4:11-16 **READ-4.06:** Acts 2:42

READ-4.07: 1 Cor. 12:7, 11-12

DISCOVERY-4B: A DISCIPLE BECOMES PART OF GOD'S VISIBLE COMMUNITY:

1. For teaching and growth into Christian maturity.
2. For corporate worship and fellowship.
3. For ministry of spiritual gifts.

READ-4.08: 1 John 2:15-17; Rom. 12:2

The Values of the World:

- a. Physical pleasure*
- b. Visual craving*
- c. Material possessions*

READ-4.09: Matt. 6:31-33

READ-4.10: Luke 14:26-27, 33

READ-4.11: Matt. 16:24-26

DISCOVERY-4C: AS A DISCIPLE, I LEARN TO LIVE OUT GOD'S KINGDOM HERE ON EARTH NOW.

1. I learn to live out God's Kingdom values.
2. I learn to make God's Kingdom my priority.
3. I learn to love Jesus above all relationships.
4. I learn to love Jesus above everything else that I possess.

QUESTION-5: What do Christ's followers have to look forward to?

READ-5.01: John 14:1-3

READ-5.02: 1 Cor. 15:50-55

READ-5.03: 1 Thes. 4:13-17

READ-5.04: Rev. 21:1-4

DISCOVERY-5: AS A DISCIPLE, I LONG FOR CHRIST'S RETURN.

1. Christ promised to be with me always.
2. Christ promised to give me a new body.
3. Christ promised to give me a new home.

**Key 9****MOVE TOWARD MY ROYAL DESTINY BY BECOMING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST.**

When I receive Jesus, I am also called to become His disciple, to follow Him, to learn from Him, to work for Him, and to be like Him. When I answer His call, God helps me to keep choosing Christ as my first priority in life until nothing on earth is more precious to me than my relationship with Him; until I am willing to lose everything – even my own life. For it is only by losing my life that I fulfill God’s destiny for me of ruling with Him forever.

SUMMARY

God saved me for a grander purpose than merely avoiding eternal punishment. I was saved so I could be restored to God’s original purpose for humankind – ruling earth. In the place of Adam, I now have Christ to rule with me. After my legal restoration to God’s Kingdom, I am called to undergo a process of growth, maturity and equipping for my royal duties in this life and for eternity. The process involves increasing levels of commitment as my value system changes, until Jesus becomes my first priority in life, above all of the things of this world.

After-Study Survey

Please answer (Yes, No, or Maybe).

1. Do you understand that you are saved for a far greater purpose than just avoiding hell?
2. Do you understand that God wants to restore you completely to His original plan for humankind to rule with Him forever?
3. Do you understand that you are called by Christ to learn to become like Him in everything, so you can reign with Him for eternity?
4. Do you understand that learning to live and serve like Christ will turn your life upside down and you have to give up everything?

What Now?

(Please Check)

- _____ I believe I have a glorious destiny with Jesus Christ in His kingdom.
- _____ I believe Christ’s desire and promise to return to be with me in the new earth.
- _____ I want to make a commitment to become a follower of Christ, whatever it takes.