



# Walking in the Steps of the Master:

A Twelve Step Guide to Discipleship

COME TO ZION MINISTRIES

Isaiah 49:6...I will give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be my salvation to the ends of the earth.

Located in the Western Galilee, Israel

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## Step Twelve: Becoming One Who Disciples Others

We have now come to the concluding point of the program and as Yeshua reached this point before His ascension, He gave final instructions to His disciples, Matthew 28:18-20 NLT:

*Jesus came and told His disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

Our first priority is to make disciples of all people. We accomplish this goal by first becoming the best disciple that we can be. Our Father understands that we will not be a 'perfect' disciple, but we should show forth a loving heart and a strong desire to walk in the ways of GOD. We may make mistakes and that is OK, as long as the people that we are discipling see our repent heart. They want to see us deal with real life situations, so they will know how to handle them. So don't buy into the lie that you have to be 'perfect in order to disciple.

Secondly, everything that we do should be done in a spirit of love and it must be motivated by compassion. I remember some years ago when I was going through some evangelism training, I was having a pride issue because I had done this before. But GOD humbled me by withholding 'fruit' until my heart was right. It was after we started each witnessing session with prayer for the compassion of Yeshua in our hearts, did the fruit come. So please be careful to do all things with the glory of our Father in mind.

We then need to learn how to flow in the plan that GOD has for each life that we encounter. It is tempting to rush people into a relationship with GOD, but we must be patient. The first characteristic of love is patience. GOD knows how to bring each person to Him and He desires that you would be a part of His plan, but do not get ahead of His plan.

A baseball analogy was used in this training that is very appropriate for learning patience. A batter is not going to hit a home run every time they are at bat; most of the time the batter may get a single, which is getting to share about GOD and what He has done in your life. This stage is equivalent to planting a seed. You might get a double, which is learning about their need for GOD. You might even get a triple, which is sharing about the opportunity to have a relationship with the Father. The latter two stages are equivalent to watering the seed. It is rare that you will hit a home run, where you introduce someone to GOD and they are ready to make a commitment. Usually it is taking someone a base at a time, meaning that your job is to get them to the next base or stage. This is where patience is most critical. It is only when GOD has properly prepared the heart and the person is prepared to make a 'commitment' to GOD, would you bring them 'home.' This is very important for many disciples lose motivation for discipleship because they came into the relationship prematurely, before the Holy Spirit had prepared their heart.

Once your disciple is in a committed relationship with the Father, the teaching may begin in earnest. It is very helpful that they understand the covenant relation of GOD with His people before studying the Gospels. It is tempting to start in the New Testament but it is important to get a proper understanding of the foundation of our faith before we study the new insights that Yeshua brought. The writer of Hebrews refers to it as the milk. We initially need to be nourished by the 'milk' of the Word, but then it is important to go on to the 'meat' of the Word.

Lastly, it is important that we do not try to mold our disciples into images of ourselves. We are to reflect the image of Yeshua in our life and it is the image of Yeshua that we need to pass on to our disciples. It is tempting to teach them our pet doctrines or to get them involved in the things that are meaningful to us. But this is not the role of the discipler. Rather, we must be sensitive to the plan that GOD has for each disciple. Our role is to aid GOD in His plan, not our plan for them. This role is especially important when working with their gifts, so we don't discourage them. Remember, our commission is to make disciples and then to teach them to obey all things that were commanded by Yeshua. Teaching them our pet doctrines or theories is not what Yeshua commanded. Yeshua commanded us to love GOD and our fellow man as the manner in which we fulfill the Torah instructions.