

## Faith Christian Fellowship of Tucson

### Real Disciples Guide: Introduction

The Apostle John recorded a thought-provoking quotation: Then Jesus said to those Judeans who had believed him, “If you continue to *follow my teaching, you are really my disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*” John 8:31-32 (NET)

Three things in these verses challenge some of our assumptions:

1. Simply believing does not make you a real disciple of Jesus Christ.
2. Real disciples continue in the study and practice of the Lord’s teachings.
3. Real discipleship leads to a knowledge of truth that brings freedom.

What, then is “Real Discipleship?” Jesus tells us: Real disciples are three-fold lovers:

1. Real disciples love Jesus enough to follow Him, no matter the cost. Luke 14:33-35
2. Real disciples love the Word of God. John 8:31 / 1 Peter 2:1-3
3. Real disciples love others sacrificially. John 13:34-35

Part of the commission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. That process begins with faith in Him, but must continue in a Bible-guided lifestyle of faith. Every person whom God sends in our door is precious. Therefore, we have identified 8 biblical concepts that we believe are vital to real discipleship. Here is a brief overview of these 8 concepts.

### ***8 Things a Real Disciple Needs to Know***

- 1) **Jesus came to rescue you and you needed it.** Because of sin, You were hopelessly lost, separated from God. Jesus came to rescue you. This is called “redemption.” John 3:16-19
- 2) **You must be born again.** You can’t just try to do better. You must be fundamentally changed. Becoming a Christian is a miraculous death and rebirth of the spirit. John 3:1-8
- 3) **Water baptism is not optional.** It doesn’t save us, but it is the required first step in a life of discipleship. It is meaningful and powerful. Matthew 28:18-20
- 4) **You need the Word.** The Christian life requires that you read your Bible, the Word of God. Life, faith, and growth come from the Word. Matthew 4:4 / Romans 10:17
- 5) **You need the power of the Holy Spirit.** Without supernatural help, religious form sets in. The Holy Spirit Baptism provides power to fulfill the will of God. Acts 1:3,4,8
- 6) **Communion is not a religious ritual.** It is a holy ordinance observed with reverence and self-examination. It is a time to remember what Jesus did for you. 1 Corinthians 11:23-32
- 7) **You and I need each other.** The Christian life is a team activity. You cannot fulfill the will of God alone. Hebrews 10:24-25.
- 8) **The world is waiting.** Your spiritual life is never just about you. Jesus came to reach the world. He left you here to help in that process. Romans 10:13-15

**Somebody Said:** One can believe in the divinity of Jesus Christ and feel no personal loyalty to Him at all - indeed, pay no attention whatever to His commandments and His will for one's life. -- Catherine Marshall

**Here’s the Point:** We are here to make real disciples of Jesus Christ. Please accept these simple tools as a token of our esteem, and our desire to be a blessing.

**Actions Steps:** If you’re a Christian, they offer a simple reminder and measure of where you are in your walk with Jesus. If you are working with new believers, they provide a guided path for intentional growth.

If you have questions, please contact us at 520-792-3238 or [fcftoffice@fcftucson.org](mailto:fcftoffice@fcftucson.org).