

Discipline for the Disciple

The word ‘disciple’ and ‘discipline’ comes from the Latin word ‘discipulus’

A disciple is one who is taught by another; he is learner. In the Gospels the word is frequently used of disciples of Moses (John 9:28), of John the Baptist (John 3:25) and of Jesus Christ. The word is used in the Book of Acts 25 times as synonym for “believer”.

Acts 11:26, “So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The **disciples were called Christians** first at Antioch.”

The word ‘disciple’ does not appear at all in the rest of the New Testament. This may be because a disciple was expected to physically follow his teacher wherever he went, leaving family and occupation. After Christ’s ascension this was impossible. Joseph of Arimathea was for a time a secret disciple (John 19:38).

1 Peter 2:21-22, “To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should FOLLOW in his steps. He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

Revelation 17:14, “They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb (Jesus) will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings--**and with Him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers.**”

**The believers are called the Followers of the Way.
Christ is the Way, the Truth and the Life.
The Word of God is the Way of the Lord.
We must follow The Living Word and the Written Word.**

The word ‘discipline’

Deuteronomy 8:5, “Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you.”

Job 5:17, "Blessed is the man whom God corrects;
So do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.”

Psalms 94:12, “Blessed is the man you discipline, O LORD,
the man you teach from your law.”

Proverb 1:7, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge,
but fools despise wisdom and DISCIPLINE.”

Proverb 3:11-12, “My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline
and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those He loves,
as a father the son he delights in.”

Proverbs 6:23, "For these commands are a lamp,
this teaching is a light, and the CORRECTIONS OF DISCIPLINE ARE THE WAY
OF LIFE."

God's Word teaches us that discipline must become our way of life.

Proverbs 12:1, "Whoever loves disciplines loves knowledge,
but he who hates correction is stupid."

Proverbs 13:24, "He who spares the rod hates his son,
but he who loves him is careful to discipline him."

2 Timothy 1:7, "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love
and of self-discipline."

Hebrews 12:6-8, "because the Lord disciplines those he loves,
and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son. Endure hardship as discipline; God is
treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not
disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and
not true sons."

Hebrews 12:10-11, "Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but
God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems
pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness
and peace for those who have been trained by it."

Revelation 3:19-20, "Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and
repent. Here I am! (Jesus Christ) I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice
and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me."

CONCLUSION

The discipline of the Lord consists of God's part and our part.

God's part is teaching, training, rebuking and correcting and even punishing and using
the rod

Our part is listening, learning, reading His Word, suffering, enduring hardship repenting
from wrong actions and open the door and invite Jesus Christ into our heart and life..

The Purpose of Discipline is that we may SHARE IN HIS HOLINESS

1 Peter 1:13-16, "Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your
hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient
children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. **But
just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy,
because I am holy."**