INTRODUCTION TO DISCIPLESHIP

I. THE WORDS “DISCIPLE,” “DISCIPLESHIP” AND “DISCIPLER” DEFINED.

A. The Word Disciple Is Defined as, “a learner, a scholar, one who receives instruction from another; a follower, an adherent to the doctrines of another.”

B. The Word Discipleship Is Defined as, “the process of a disciple (follower) being brought up, taught or trained in doctrines and precepts.”

C. The Word Discipler Is Defined as, “one who trains, teaches or instructs another in basic Christian doctrine.”

II. THERE ARE “SIX STEPS” NEEDED TO BECOME A DISCIPLER:

A. The first Step needed Is to Be a Believer in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 20:28-29; Acts 8:36-37; Rom 10:9-10).

B. The second Step needed Is to Be a Follower of Jesus Christ (John 8:12; Mat 4:19) or a Follower of one of His Disciples (1 Cor 11:1; Phil 3:17; 1 Thes 1:6).


D. The fourth Step needed Is to Be a Learner of the Truth (Mat 11:29; Mark 4:34; Luke 11:1; Isa 28:9-10).

E. The fifth Step needed Is to Be a Doer of the Word of God (Jas 1:22; Eph 2:10; 1 John 2:17).

A. The sixth Step needed Is to Be a Teacher of Others (Mat 28:19-20; Acts 20:20; 2 Tim 2:2).

III. THERE ARE “SEVEN RESPONSIBILITIES” OF A DISCIPLER:

A. The first Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Study and rightly Divide the Word of God (2 Tim 2:15).

B. The second Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Teach others (2 Tim 2:2; Eph 4:11-12).
C. The third Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Teach the Word of God (Heb 5:12-14; 2 Tim 2:24-26).

D. The fourth Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Guard against false Doctrine (1 Tim 6:20; 2 Tim 2:23; 2 Pet 2:1-3).

E. The fifth Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Be a good Example to Others Who Disciple (1 Cor 11:1; Phil 3:17).

F. The sixth Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Take Persecution (Rom 8:16-18; 1 Pet 4:12-16).

B. The seventh Responsibility of a Discipler Is to Persevere (to continue in spite of opposition) (Gal 6:9; Heb 12:1).

IV. THERE ARE “THREE COSTS” FOR A DISCIPLER:

A. The first Cost for a Discipler Is His Love (see 1 John 2:15-17; Mat 22:34-38 & cf. Luke 14:26; Mic 7:5-7).

B. The second Cost for a Discipler Is His Life (Luke 14:26; Mat 10:39).

C. The third Cost for a Discipler Is His Service (Mat 6:24; 16:24).

V. THERE ARE “FIVE REWARDS (Crowns)” FOR A DISCIPLER:

A. The first Reward for a Discipler Is an Incorruptible Crown for Self-denial (denying the flesh) in His Ministry to Others (1 Cor 9:24-27).

B. The second Reward for a Discipler Is a Crown of Rejoicing for His Soul Winning and Discipling of Others (1 Thes 2:8-13, 19).

C. The third Reward for a Discipler Is a Crown of Righteousness for His Loving of Christ’s Appearing (2 Tim 4:6-8).

D. The fourth Reward for a Discipler Is a Crown of Life (during Christ’s reign in the “Millennium”) for His Perseverance (Jas 1:12; Rev 2:10).

E. The fifth Reward for a Discipler Is a Crown of Glory for His Pastoring or Nurturing (spiritual training) of those who will Teach Others (1 Pet 5:1-4; 2 Tim 2:2).
VI. THERE ARE “TWO DANGERS” FOR DISCIPLES:


B. The *second Danger* for Disciplers Is **Falling away from Serving Jesus Christ** (Mat 13:20-21; John 6:66).