

# Discipleship 101

30 CE, Every Day

## Instructor

Jesus H. Christ,  
Master of Divinity,  
Doctorates in Carpentry, Healing,  
and Saying Weird Things

## Email

Water2wine@God.edu

## Office Location & Hours

Prefer mountains or lakes,  
By appointment

## General Information

### Course Description

This course will teach you how to recognize God's grace in your life and then to walk in the footsteps of God, participating in the new vision God has for the world. Much of the course will emphasize field education and practical learning. Be prepared for cryptic sayings and lots of stories; these are designed to excite your imagination, foster critical thinking and a tolerance for ambiguity, and invite you to discover truth yourself. Crying is totally OK in this class.

### Course Objectives

As a result of this course, you will be able to:

- Be grateful for God's loving care and blessing,
- Endure persecution, misunderstanding, and hate when speaking truth and living righteously,
- Be just,
- Be kind,
- Be humble.

### Prerequisites

None (God has already given you everything you need to begin.)

### Course Warning

As a result of this class, students may completely change their lives, upset their families, give away their belongings, associate with "undesirables," pursue careers that earn absolutely no money or power, and begin saying weird things too. Also, your teacher will die. (And please don't tell him he won't; he once called a student "Satan" for saying that, and the dean of faculty would prefer to avoid an incident like that again.) The university waives all liability.

## Course Materials

### Required Texts

**The Prophets:** particularly Isaiah

**The Torah:** particularly Exodus and Deuteronomy

But your most important texts will be the lives of the people around you, and the interior landscape of your mind and soul, where dwells the Holy Spirit.

## Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Reading	Exercises
Week 1	Sources of Joy	Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1-12)	Find God's comfort and purpose in times of trouble
Week 2	Being Unabashedly Yourself	Salt and Light (Matt. 5:13-16)	Embrace how faith makes you different from the world, and let your light shine
Week 3	Healing Vicious Cycles <sup>1</sup>	Anger, Desire to Possess Others, Broken Relationships, Manipulation, and Revenge (Matt. 5:21-42)	Reconcile with someone with whom you're in conflict, respect others as people not objects, keep your promises, tell the truth, respond in surprisingly loving ways to those who seek to do harm
Week 4	Love	Love everyone (Matt. 5:43-48)	Love even your enemies, love people who are different
Week 5	Humility	Do good for good's sake, not for the attention of others (Matt. 6:1-6, 16-18)	Give and pray quietly
Week 6	Prayer	How to Pray (Matt. 6:7-15)	Recite the Lord's Prayer, use prayer to forgive others
Week 7	One Lord Alone	One Treasure, One Master (Matt. 6:19-21, 24)	Do not serve money or other earthly "lords"
Week 8	Trust	Do Not Worry (Matt. 6:25-34)	Observe the birds and the lilies; focus on today
Week 9	Judgment	Do Not Judge Others (Matt. 7:1-5)	Focus on your own needs for improvement, rather than others'
Week 10	God as Good Parent	Ask, Search, Knock (Matt. 7:7-11)	Go to God with your needs
Week 11	Kindness	The Golden Rule (Matt. 7:12)	Do to others as you would have them do to you
Week 12	Action	Bear Fruit (Matt. 7:15-20, 24-29)	Discern the truth and goodness of someone/something by observing its results and actions; practice what you preach

<sup>1</sup> Glen Stassen uses this term "vicious cycles" in his book "Living the Sermon on the Mount."

## Exam Schedule

Date	Subject
Before You Were Born	Automatic A: You're Already Known, Loved, and Chosen
Anytime	All You Have To Do Is Say: Yes

## Additional Information

### Extra Credit Courses

“Lepers, Demons, and Centurions, Oh My”

“Feed Thousands of People on a Limited Budget”

“Why Fig Trees Are Awful”

“Parables, or Telling Cryptic Stories Only Farmers Will Understand”

“Water, Water, Water: Walking on It, Turning It into Wine, Calming Storms, Baptism”

“The Evils of Money, and Other Ways to Ensure a Very Small Group of Followers”

“Taxes, and Why Even Disciples Have to Pay Them”

“Challenging Authority, Nonviolent Civil Disobedience, and Table Turning”

“Communion, or How to Sit on One Side of the Table with All Your Friends”

“All You Need Is Love, and the Greatest Commandment”

“The Art of Resurrection”