

## Living on Mission Part 11: Learn

**1<sup>st</sup> Question:** What was an Adventure you had with God last week?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Question:** Who is a Famous (Non-Fiction) Person you know a lot about? (Could be an Artist, an Athlete, an Actor)

The Expression to “Learn Christ” was a common one among the earliest Followers of Jesus.

It was not until the city of Antioch in Syria, where the followers of Jesus were first referred to as “Christians.” The word was likely used as a term of mockery by the people of Antioch, but it eventually gained acceptance among believers and became a common term used to describe followers of Jesus.

**What Does it Mean to Be a 'Little Christ'?** Scholars say “Christian” comes from the Greek word *christianos*, meaning “little Christ.” Stories say the term was used as a jeer, as their enemies would poke fun at them by calling them diminutive versions of their Savior — as in, “Look at those ‘little Christs.’”

In the early centuries of the Christian Movement, conversion to Jesus involved denying the pagan gods and entering a time of catechism- committing oneself to intensive study of the person and work of Jesus.

### LEARN JESUS TO BE LIKE JESUS

When we live our life in such a way that it causes people to BE CURIOUS, TO QUESTION WHY WE DO/DO NOT Act a certain way- it is when our LEARNING ABOUT JESUS AND LIVING ON MISSION INTERSECT... **What is Discipling You?** - What/Whom do you spend the most time learning about and from? Whom/What (social media, Sound & Video Bites, ETC) is the loudest voice in your life?

We need to be students of ALL HOLY SCRIPTURE to understand the Gospels- Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.

What if instead our question when LEARNING CHRIST IS: **“What would Jesus want me to THINK, BE, & DO in the HERE & NOW?”**

### To THINK, BE & DO LIKE JESUS IN THE HERE IN NOW WE MUST LEARN CHRIST

THIS IS what is called being INCARNATIONAL...Being Incarnational means that we LIVE ON MISSION IN SUCH A WAY that we are not just Sent on Mission, or we wait for people to come to us.... It refers to another dimension of Living on Mission. Not simple going or waiting but

instead **DOING THE DIFFICULT WORK OF BOTH GOING DEEP WITH AND DWELLING AMONG THOSE TO WHOM WE ARE SENT...**(Discipleship!)

And to LIVE Incarnationally (The Active & Alive Presence of Jesus) you will need to be an avid Student of JESUS!

By Pursuing Jesus in this way, you will start to know who Jesus would BE in any instance...

“Would Jesus attend that Superbowl party on a Sunday?” “Would he laugh at that Colleague’s joke?” “Would he disagree with that neighbor’s opinion?”

## **LEARN CHRIST AND YOU WILL LEARN TO RESPOND LIKE CHRIST**

Learning the Gospels must be done in partnership with pursuing the WHOLE OF HOLY SCRIPTURE. We LEARN CHRIST IN CONTEXT OF THE WHOLE BIBLE

**MATTHEW 5:17-20** A Few thoughts to consider on LEARNING CHRIST IN CONTEXT of the Whole Bible...

- All Scripture is the Word of God
- Jesus as part of the Triune Godhead, is the Author of the WHOLE BIBLE
- The Character of Jesus will not be incongruent with the Character of God- Jesus is a direct reflection of the Father.

**John 14:9-11**      **John 10:30-38**

AND IN ORDER TO THINK, BE & DO LIKE THE LORD spend a period of time each week:

### **1- STUDY THE GOSPELS**

Read. Re-Read again & again the 4 Gospels. But not instead of Other Holy Scripture, but ALONG WITH. Develop a habit of marinating, saturating your mind & soul in Jesus.

### **2- READ /LISTEN TO AN AUDIOBOOK ABOUT JESUS: There are so many Good Books about the Jesus. Pick one and start reading it. ...**

### **3- WATCH JESUS: There are many great Films & Shows about Jesus. No single depiction is perfect or can do Him justice, but could help FLESH OUT who HE IS.**

## **APPLICATION/RESPONSE**

- Bless 3 People (Peace/Shalom) this Week (One of whom is not following Jesus yet)
- Eat with 3 People this Week (One of whom is not following Jesus yet)
- Ask God to Show you the Adventure He has for you (Daily)
- Spend at least one allotment of time this week Learning Christ.
- DEEPER DIVE: Making Disciples Training: Beginning Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30PM