

So I'm a Christian – now what?

Congratulations! Whether you are new to the family of God, or now making the decision to grow deeper in relationship with Him, you have incredible things in store for you!

God wants all of His children to have a meaningful relationship with Him. He created each of us for a special purpose, and the only way we will ever learn that purpose is through discipleship!



What is Discipleship?

You may be asking yourself “Ok – so what exactly *is* Discipleship?” At Real Life Church, we define Discipleship pretty much how the Bible describes it: *an intimate, intentional relationship with Jesus Christ that is developing on a daily basis*. Discipleship isn't just a good idea – it's something Jesus wants for all of us!



Marks of a Disciple

✓ Intentional

In Luke 9:23, Jesus says that "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Did you catch that? Jesus wants us to follow Him *daily*. If we ever want to grow in relationship with Him, we have to be intentional in our efforts. This means we have to decide, every day, that following Jesus is something we *want* to do. It won't just happen – we need to put out the effort!

✓ Fruitful

In Matthew chapter 7, Jesus makes an interesting statement about the authenticity of a believer; He says “By their fruit you will recognize them.” If I plant apple seeds in the ground, but the tree that grows produces oranges, what can I say about the seeds I planted? Likewise, Jesus says that we will be recognized by the *spiritual fruit we grow*. A follower of Jesus must *look* like a follower of Jesus. Our Discipleship must be fruitful!



Road Map for Life

Following Jesus Christ is an exciting relationship! In your lifetime, you will experience many things: joy and happiness, challenges and difficulties, trials and sorrows – and just about everything inbetween! Through it all, however, you can cling to the promise of Jesus, that He will always be there for you. When you walk in true Discipleship with the Lord, you will never lose your way.