

Discipled By Matthew! A Great Disciple?

We switched from Comcast back to AT&T U-Verse for our cable, internet and phone service recently and with that comes the hassle of syncing everything up and making sure the remotes all work. I started to try to wrap my mind around all the changes and quickly went from the more detailed instruction book to the quick set up guide with the pictures and graphics. Then, the technician sat me down and went over everything. He set up my remote, got me registered on the new account and walked me through the entire process. Some things are so complicated that it helps to have a guide for the journey.

Being formed in Christ is like this. Life in and through Jesus is so different than our past estranged life from God that we need someone to help us sync up with Christ. To live life as Jesus meant for us to live it – it takes an instruction book (Bible). But beyond instruction, we need real tech support to help us with the new installation (life in the Spirit), to explain the various components of our walk with God (spiritual disciplines) and what to do about problem solving (trouble shooting). Disciples are spiritual tech support – people who come along side of us to help explain the Christian life through the lens of their own life journey. They know how to encourage, unpack and help solve the mysteries of our new life in Christ because they've been on the journey for a while. Being discipled by another devoted follower of Jesus is like having our own personal tech support on the journey from death to new life in Christ.

Journey Together:

- 1). Who was the first real Christ follower that made a lasting impression on you?
- 2). What impressed you most about them?
- 3). What things did you see and learn from them that you have incorporated in your life?

Road Map: Matthew 9:9-13.

- 4). What are some things Jesus taught Matthew about discipleship in this first encounter with him? What surprises you most about Jesus calling of Matthew?
- 5). In Matthew 10:2-4, Matthew is listed as one of the original twelve disciples. What is unique about Matthew among the other eleven disciples listed here? What was important about Matthew's occupation and why does he seem to keep bringing it up?
- 6). What kind of issues and questions did Matthew struggle with in his call to follow Jesus? What made his call so different from the rest of the twelve?
- 7). What can we learn from Matthew about discipleship with Jesus? How do you feel about being discipled by Matthew? How can you relate to Matthew as a follower of Jesus?
- 8). What are some of the great things that Matthew accomplished in Jesus name? How can Matthew help us accomplish great things in Jesus name?
- 9). What further questions do you have from this weeks reading?
- 10). How can this group pray for you right now?

My Journey:

- 1). How has God been using journey in your life this week to do *Great Things* for Him?
- 2). How has the life of Matthew been a significant witness and influence in your walk with God this week?
- 3). How can this group pray for you today?