

Jesus the Messiah

Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did
1 John 2:6 (NIV)

BOOK THREE: Jesus Taught Discipleship and Leadership

Based on the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John



A programmed instruction study on the life and teachings of Jesus the Messiah (the Christ):

Suggested use: leadership training and small group Bible study

GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

Jesus the Messiah

Live as Jesus lived (1 John 2:6)

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PREFACE:

A secondary theme of this study is to *live as Jesus lived* based on 1 John 2:6. Apostle John challenged us when he wrote, “*Whoever claims to live in him [Jesus] must live as Jesus did.*” You should have some idea of how Jesus lived after completing two of the ten-week courses on *Jesus the Messiah*. You have learned about his life style. You have seen his love for others. You have observed his patience with those who opposed him.

In this third course we will examine our own life to see if we are living as Jesus lived. We cannot live the perfect sinless life as Jesus lived. We cannot be the perfect spiritual shepherd as Jesus was. However, we can take Jesus’ lifestyle as our example. We can examine his teachings to understand his heart, his goals and his attitudes. And, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can learn to live as Jesus lived.

Jesus said much about discipleship (following him). Jesus said much about leadership. Before we can be leaders in Jesus’ Kingdom, we must be his disciples.

We must learn the heart and mind of Jesus. He was resolute to complete his purpose in this world. He sacrificed comfort and worldly goals to accomplish his purpose. He chose the best over that which was only good or better. Jesus pointed out the difference between ritual and righteousness. He explained to us the purpose of the resources he puts into our hands. He taught us the value of a human soul. He is our mentor in humility and love. Do we have the heart and mind of Jesus? Someone has said, *you cannot teach others what you do not know*. You cannot be a leader in the Kingdom of God until you have the heart and mind of Jesus.

Jesus was a shepherd (servant) leader. Leadership is a responsibility not a privilege. The Lord’s work has eternal goals, not worldly goals. It is not the work of the Lord’s Kingdom (the Church) to bring health, wealth and popularity to its members. The purpose of the church is to bring reconciliation between God and his lost sheep – to rescue them from the deceptions of Satan.

Jesus called seventy-two to be evangelists for his work. He did not call them to do something they were not qualified to do. He did not ask them to do it on their own power. Instead, he sent them out in his name, under his authority promising that the Heavenly Father would provide for their needs and enable them to do the work. They came back praising God for the success and the joy they experienced. Jesus told them He saw Satan fall that day. Jesus told them to rejoice because they had treasures waiting for them in Heaven.

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