

12. Provide for yourself through your own labors (by not living in an idle and irresponsible fashion or keeping company with those who do, expecting God to prosper you as you obey God's Word).
13. Function in collective body ministry (by exercising your spiritual gifts as follows: speaking God's Word and/or serving others through the power and love of God; performing ministry work for the benefit of others in effective ways that get positive results).
14. Function as a teacher (by becoming capable of teaching others the basic principles of the New Covenant through word and action).
15. Continue in submission to those who oversee you (by demonstrating voluntary obedience toward those in oversight; by displaying appreciation knowing that God's overseers watch out for your soul as those who must give account; by striving to bring joy to your overseers by submitting to their Biblical direction).
16. Develop as a leader (by growing in your ability to Biblically lead others as you learn and obey the instructions in this training guide and the Training Guide for Apostolic Leaders).
17. Become mature (perfect) like Christ (by progressing in your ability to consistently demonstrate the love of Christ in every situation and to consistently prophesy truth that convicts, edifies, exhorts and comforts people).
18. Become perfectly united like the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (by collectively following this training guide and by constantly working to answer Christ's prayer in John 17:20-23 for perfect unity in the body of Christ. This involves: working for doctrinal unity in the Lord's body; seeing yourself and all other Spirit-filled disciples including Jewish and Gentile believers as "one new man" (literal members of Christ's body, of His flesh and of His bones), and, therefore, recognizing that you and all other Spirit-filled disciples are literal members of each other; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love; demonstrating the same care for one another; being joined and knit together [united] by what every member supplies according to the effective working by which every member does its share for the benefit of all members to cause Christ's body to build itself up in love so that there be no division in the body). This is our war cry, "We are one."^{*}

^{*} (Psalm 133; John 17:20-23; Acts 1:4,2:42, Romans 12:5, 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,3:1-9, 12:12-13,25; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 2:13-16,3:10-11,4:13-16; Philippians 2:1-5; Hebrews 12:22-24; Revelation 5:9-13)

PROGRESS REPORT REGARDING YOUR
TRANSFORMATION INTO A CHRIST-LIKE PERSON

GOD SAYS, "EXAMINE YOURSELF"

(1Corinthians 11:28; 2Corinthians 13:5)

PLEASE ANSWER YES OR NO	YES/NO
ARE YOU A LOVER OF TRUTH?	
ARE YOU REPENTANT/FORGIVEN?	
ARE YOU BORN AGAIN THROUGH FAITH?	
HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP?	
ARE YOU BAPTIZED IN WATER?	
ARE YOU BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH CONTINUING EVIDENCE?	
ARE YOU JOYFULLY ENDURING THE BAPTISM IN FIRE?	
PLEASE RATE YOUR PROGRESS IN FUNCTIONING AS AN APOSTOLIC DISCIPLE BY PLACING A NUMBER FROM 1 TO 10 AFTER EACH OF THE BIBLICAL PRACTICES LISTED BELOW.	
1. Equipped for the work of ministry	
2. Learning the Apostles' Doctrine	
3. Practicing what you have learned	
4. Loving others as Christ loved you especially by carrying out the Great Commission	
5. Participating in prayer	
6. Participating in worship	
7. Participating in sacrificial giving	
8. Participating in hospitality	
9. Participating in and occasionally leading the Celebration of the New Covenant	
10. Establishing Biblical relationships	
11. Attaining wholeness/peace (shalom)	
12. Providing for yourself	
13. Functioning in a ministry	
14. Functioning as a teacher	
15. Continuing in submission to those who oversee you	
16. Developing as a leader	
17. Becoming mature (perfect) like Christ: a. consistently demonstrating love to all people b. consistently prophesying truth to all people	
18. Becoming perfectly united	



L I F E S T A F F

Through God's Grace We Are
Helping People Of Truth To Obey
The New Covenant In Christ's Blood
And To Be Transformed Into Christ-like People
So They Can Live In Peace (Shalom*) And
Attain Eternal Life With Great Reward
By Equipping Them To Be Whole,
Ministers, Teachers, Mature And United.

TRAINING GUIDE & PROGRESS REPORT FOR APOSTOLIC DISCIPLES

H.O.P.E.

CENTER for CHRISTIAN UNITY



HOUSES OF PRAYER & EVANGELISM

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*Shalom is the result of God's activity in your life when you keep the new covenant in Christ's blood. Shalom is often translated as "peace" but can also be defined as completeness, unity, well-being, prosperity, health, security, and perfect wholeness. (Proverbs 16:17; Isaiah 9:6,32:17,35:1-10,40:1-8,49:8-12,53:5,54:10, 62:10-12; Numbers 6:24-26,25:12; Luke 2:14; James 3:18)

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AS AN APOSTOLIC DISCIPLE YOU ARE TO OBEY THE NEW COVENANT AND BE TRANSFORMED INTO A CHRIST-LIKE PERSON THROUGH GOD'S GRACE BY DOING THE FOLLOWING:

The Lord Jesus Christ, full of grace and truth, commands each of His disciples to obey the Word of God, especially the New Covenant also known as the Gospel and the Apostles' Doctrine.

The Lord's purpose in this command is to bring every disciple into covenant with Him so they can be empowered by His grace and truth to be transformed into Christ-like people. The goal of this transformation is for all disciples to consistently manifest love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith thereby demonstrating the maturity (perfection) of Jesus Christ and the unity of the Father, Jesus Christ (the Son) and the Holy Spirit. This is accomplished when each disciple learns the Apostles' Doctrine and practices it through collective body ministry under Biblical order (Matthew 5:48,28:20; Luke 6:40; John 1:14,14:12,15:1-17,16:7-15,17:3,17-23,20:22; Acts 2:42; Romans 8:28,29,12:1-21; 1Corinthians 12-14; 2Corinthians 3:18,4:4,6,5:14,15; Galatians 2:20,5:6; Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 2:1-8).

Since the Lord Jesus Christ requires His disciples to make a total commitment from their hearts to learn and obey the New Covenant made known in the Apostles' Doctrine, each disciple must make the following commitment to God knowing that the Holy Spirit will empower them to learn and obey God's Word! *I commit to be trained for the work of ministry to build up the body of Christ until we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. To accomplish this I commit to be crucified with Christ so that it is no longer I that live but **Christ lives in me**, and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. From now on the love of Christ controls (compels, constrains) me. Christ died for all so that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. I have considered the cost of discipleship and I commit to live this way by God's empowering grace* (Luke 9:23-26,14:25-35; Ephesians 4:12-13; Galatians 2:20; 2Corinthians 5:14a,15).

BE A LOVER OF TRUTH

By God's grace, wisdom calls aloud in the streets. Her mouth speaks truth. Wise people love truth. Christ's Word is truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears Christ's voice. Christ's disciples walk in truth and are fellow workers for the truth.

BE REPENTANT/FORGIVEN

By God's grace, people repent when they accept God's gift of repentance by committing to stop all sinful behavior and to obey all of God's will according to the light they have, to seek reconciliation and make restitution whenever possible, and to prove their repentance is genuine by their remorse for past actions and by their doing works of obedience to God. Without repentance there is no forgiveness of sin, and without forgiveness of sin there is no eternal life.

BE BORN AGAIN THROUGH FAITH

When a person is born again by God's grace through faith, his/her spirit which was dead is made alive by the Word of God. People are born again when they not only repent but also understand they must choose to receive Jesus Christ as the Lord God Almighty who came in the flesh to die for their sins and rose again and they must commit to learn and obey all of His teachings revealed in God's Word, especially the New Covenant. This is how disciples demonstrate faith toward God. One of Christ's teachings requires all potential disciples to consider the cost of discipleship by recognizing who cannot be His disciple (Luke 9:23-26,14:25-35).

BE BAPTIZED IN WATER

Disciples are immersed in water after they receive prior instruction to fully understand the meaning of this symbolic act and commit to live accordingly.

BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Disciples receive divine empowerment through the baptism in the Holy Spirit after being born again so they can receive help to be transformed into Christ-like people. This is a tangible experience. They are to continually demonstrate the Spirit of Christ in their lives as confirmation of their salvation. The Holy Spirit is demonstrated through the consistent manifestation of the fruit and gifts of the Spirit.

BE BAPTIZED IN FIRE

True disciples will experience fiery trials, persecutions and sufferings as Christ did. Through God's grace disciples joyfully endure these purifying and refining activities of God in their lives, which occur when they undergo various tests that strengthen their faith, hope and love. This purification by the Holy Spirit is part of the process of sanctification, and it serves to mature and unify Christians so that they can be transformed into Christ-like people.

FUNCTION AS AN APOSTOLIC DISCIPLE IN THESE WAYS

1. Be equipped for the work of ministry by apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor-teachers, deacons and other leaders (by being trained under the Lord's discipleship plan).
2. Learn the New Covenant known as the Apostles' Doctrine (by studying the approved curriculum).
3. Practice what you are learning as a disciple of Christ

(by working to perform the important Biblical practices detailed in numbers 4 to 17).

4. Obey Christ's commands to love God, to love fellow Christians as Christ loved us, and to love your neighbor as yourself especially by carrying out the Great Commission (by making disciples, preaching repentance and forgiveness of sin, teaching people to obey all of God's Word, expecting signs and wonders, handing out evangelism tracts, baptizing others in water, feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, visiting the sick and those in prison, meeting other needs, witnessing in other ways, and doing all these things in Christ's name and for His glory through God's empowering love).
5. Participate in prayer (by learning to pray without ceasing in the Holy Spirit and in unity; by audibly praying for people and asking for and receiving prayer; by offering to pray for people whenever the opportunity arises; by spending time with God).
6. Participate in worship (by enthusiastically celebrating the supreme worthiness of God as follows: singing, playing music with or without singing, giving things you value to God, shouting, dancing, clapping, lifting hands, singing in tongues with the interpretation; and by always making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks for all things to God, and presenting your body as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God).
7. Participate in sacrificial giving (by giving God your best in donating time, resources, and money where tithing is the minimum goal).
8. Participate in hospitality (by having communal meals at least once a month; by inviting strangers and the needy to attend).
9. Participate in and lead the Celebration of the New Covenant in Christ's Blood (by eating the bread and drinking the cup in remembrance of both Christ's sacrifice and our total commitment to share in Christ's example of sacrificially serving others; by leading this celebration on occasion).
10. Establish Biblical relationships with members of the body of Christ (by engaging in fellowship to develop Christ-like community; by loving each other as Christ loved us).
11. Attain wholeness (shalom) by actively seeking peace (shalom) in every area of your life, which is available to those who keep the New Covenant (by continuing to be truly repentant, born again, Spirit-filled, persevering and humble; by exercising faith which is expressed in loving actions; by receiving healing/deliverance ministry; by practicing good stewardship in all areas—spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically, relationally, financially, and environmentally).