

Rediscovering the Kingdom of God



A photograph of a small, weathered church building constructed from corrugated metal. The building features a steep gable roof with a cross on top. The metal is heavily rusted and discolored, showing a mix of brown, orange, and grey tones. There are several windows with arched tops and a central door with a small porch. The church is situated on a dry, dusty ground under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The text "How is the Australian Church doing?" is overlaid in yellow on the left side of the image.

How is the Australian Church doing?



Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Matthew 28: 18-20

What is a disciple?

What is a disciple?

Reads Bible ✓

Goes to Church ✓

Prays regularly ✓

Tithes ✓

Attends prayer meeting ✓

What must I do to stay true to the Faith and go to heaven?

Obey the rules - Do the right things - Focus on the exit strategy

Defined by Sin

Identity: Sinner saved by Grace

Behave right I will get to heaven



- Focus on Human failure and sin with Jesus coming to the rescue
- Jesus is mediator between angry God and sinful people
- Can over emphasise Justification
- The cross is the point of eternal significance - Fixed problem of sin
- Can create a worldview of legalism, judgement, self centeredness, religious = Communities view of the Church

What is a disciple



Disciples value and significance is measured by:

- Loved when I am doing well
- Not loved when I am not doing well
- What is God like? Holy / Sovereign = Head
- How does God live? Relationship = Heart

Performance based view of Gods love for us.

Shaped by our culture which has a performance bias

Relationship with God tends to be viewed as Contractual
I do these things in order to get relationship

What is a disciple



What must I believe for heaven to invade earth through me?

Defined by Forgiveness

- Focuses on the overwhelming vision of the Godhead reaching out to share their life and glory with us
- Forgiveness ushers us into the life of God and the very secret of our existence
- Jesus himself is the point of eternal significance as He became human so that he could mediate His divine life to us
- Emphasis is upon adoption, where forgiveness serves a higher goal that is inclusion in the Trinity

Identity: Son of God

Bringing heaven's reality to earth

Compassion for others

What is a disciple?

Disciples value and significance is measured by:

- Relationship - I live in the Godhead

His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 2 Peter 1:3

- Relationship - I am a divine being:

And giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light Colossians 1:12.

Belief that I am commissioned to be like Him on earth

My relationship with God tends to be viewed as Covenant:

We are..... Therefore we do.....

We do..... Then we become.....



What is a disciple?

Re-engineer how we define discipleship

Deconstruct the erroneous way we see ourselves

Deconstruct the performance mentality

Reconstruct a conquering Saints Mindset



What is a disciple?

1. Self Governing

- Personally Aware - Knows where they are at
- Personally Responsible - Not excusing or blaming others

2. Innately Powerful

- Chooses to manifest the fruit of the Spirit - Not Flesh

3. Inherently Supernatural

Identity = Intimacy = Inheritance = Impact

