

Loris First Baptist Church
“Twelve Marks of a Mature Disciple of Christ”

TEST TWO OF DISCIPLESHIP MATURITY

Relationship #2 - “Who Am I?”

A careful study of the transformation of the Apostle Paul, from a brand new Christian (Acts 9) into a mature disciple of Jesus Christ (Acts 28), reveals that there were six key relationships he maintained which contributed significantly to his spiritual growth. The failure for a Christian to have and work on these relationships will severely hinder his or her ability to become Christ-like as has been commanded by The Word of God (Luke 6:40; Matthew 16:24; 1Peter 2:21; 1John 2:3-6).

The first and most important question for every human being concerns LORDSHIP. Who gets to be the “lord” (i.e. “captain”, “ruler”, “leader”, etc.) over your life? After a person has determined that Jesus Christ is the Lord of his or her life (and Not “themselves”!), the next question they need to ask themselves is “Who am I”? Who “AM I” now that I have a personal relationship with My Lord who is in charge? The Apostle Paul, before he became a disciple of Jesus Christ, thought very highly of himself and his family upbringing (Philippians 3:4; Acts 22:3). After Paul became a disciple of Jesus Christ, he re-evaluated “who he was” in relationship to his “Lord” (Philippians 3:7-9). Have you re-evaluated who YOU are now as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Directions: Please circle the number that best represents how you would rate yourself in response to each of the 12 questions and corresponding Scripture provided.

Scripture #1: *That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)*

Question #1: I understand that Jesus Christ is my “Lord” and the master of the universe; therefore, I live like I am His deeply loved “servant” and “disciple”.

Not Very Often (I struggle with this; not sure How to)	Usually (I am trying to, but need to improve)	Almost Always (I live like this daily)
1 2	3 4 5	6 7

Scripture #2: "Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." (Isaiah 1:18)

For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. (Ephesians 1:4)

Question #2: I know that all of my sins have been forgiven by God because of my faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior; therefore, I feel "clean" before Him and do not feel guilty for the sins in the past that I have confessed to Him.

Not Sure (I struggle with guilt for past sins)		Kind of Sure (I struggle with feeling forgiven sometimes)			Positive (I am very confident of this)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #3: *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I GIVE THEM ETERNAL LIFE, and they shall never perish; NO ONE CAN SNATCH THEM OUT of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; NO ONE CAN SNATCH THEM OUT of my Father's hand.* (John 10:27-29)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD-- not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Question #3: I know that my salvation was a "gift" to me by God when I placed my faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of my sins and saving of my soul.

Not Sure (I struggle with knowing I am saved)		Kind of Sure (I think so, but not totally positive)			Positive (I am very confident of this)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #4: *But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, NOT BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUS THINGS WE HAD DONE, but because of HIS MERCY...*(Titus 3:4-5)

"...All our righteous acts are LIKE FILTHY RAGS (before God!)...". (Isaiah 64:6)

Question #4: I know that it was because of God's kindness, love, and mercy that He chose to save me. I did nothing to deserve to be saved and was only saved because of my faith in Jesus Christ.

Not Sure (I struggle with trying to earn my salvation)		Kind of Sure (I think so, but not totally positive)			Positive (I am very confident of this)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #5: *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH; NO ONE CAN SNATCH THEM OUT OF MY HAND...*
(John 10:27-29)

MAY GOD HIMSELF, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body BE KEPT BLAMELESS at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls you is faithful and HE WILL DO IT. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

Question #5: I know that I have been saved by God’s grace through Jesus Christ and my salvation will be kept secure, not by what “I” do, but by what God does “FOR ME” through His grace.

Not Very Often (I am afraid I could lose my salvation)		Usually (I am pretty sure I cannot lose salvation)			Almost Always (I am assured of my salvation)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #6: *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 8:38-39)

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. (Ephesians 2:4-5)

Question #6: I know that I am a child of God through my relationship with Jesus Christ and neither I nor anyone else can do or say anything to keep God from loving me forever.

Not Very Often (I am not sure God loves me)		Usually (I know this, but don’t always feel loved by God)			Almost Always (I enjoy God’s love daily)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #7: *We (“believers”) have not received the spirit of the world BUT THE SPIRIT WHO IS FROM GOD, that we may understand what God has freely given us. (1 Corinthians 2:12)*

“... IF anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. (Romans 8:9)

Question #7: I know that the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of God) lives in me because of my faith in Jesus Christ.

Not Very Often (I am not sure if the Holy Spirit is in me)		Usually (I am pretty sure, but not positive)			Almost Always (I am very sure of this)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #8: *So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. THEY ARE IN CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER... (Galatians 5:16-17)*

Question #8: I know that now that I am saved, I have a battle going on “within me” for control over what I do. My new nature is under the control of the Holy Spirit and is trying to get me to obey God and do the right things. My old nature is under the control of sin and is trying to get me to disobey God and do the wrong things. This battle began when I was saved and I know it will not stop until I am in heaven with my Lord.

Not Very Often (I do not know this)		Usually (I have heard about this, but now sure what it means)			Almost Always (I know about this battle)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #9: *So I say, LIVE BY THE SPIRIT, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. (Galatians 5:16)*

“... BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.” (Ephesians 5:18)

Question #9: I know how to “live by” and “be filled with” the Holy Spirit that is living within me so that I can regularly obey God and resist the power of sin that my old sinful nature is trying to use to get me to disobey God.

Not Very Often (I do not know how to)		Usually (I am trying to, but often struggle with this)			Almost Always (I am filled with the Spirit daily)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #10: *But THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)*

Question #10: I know how to allow the Holy Spirit to control my thoughts, emotions, and will in such a way that I exhibit a “Christ-like” life that is described as “fruit” of the Spirit.

Not Very Often (I struggle with this; not sure How to)		Usually (I am trying to, but need to improve)			Almost Always (I demonstrate Holy Spirit fruit daily)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #11: If anyone else thinks he has reasons TO PUT CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. But whatever was to my profit I NOW CONSIDER LOSS for the sake of Christ. What is more, I CONSIDER EVERYTHING A LOSS COMPARED TO THE SURPASSING GREATNESS OF KNOWING CHRIST JESUS MY LORD, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ...I WANT TO KNOW CHRIST and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, BECOMING LIKE HIM IN HIS DEATH... (Philippians 3:4-10)

In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE. (Luke 14:33)

Question #11: I know that as a “disciple” of Jesus Christ that I am loved by Him, forgiven by Him, and will one day be with Him in Heaven. Therefore, I get my sense of self-worth from my relationship with Jesus Christ (i.e. “knowing Him”) not from what people of this world think of me. And my priority in life is to “be like Him” not accomplishing my own worldly self-set goals.

Not Very Often (I don't know how to let Jesus control me)		Usually (I struggle letting Jesus be in control)			Almost Always (I am crucified with Christ)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Scripture #12: BE IMITATORS OF GOD, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, JUST AS CHRIST LOVED US and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:1-2)

It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and THE SERVANT LIKE HIS MASTER. (Matthew 10:25)

Question #12: I know that a Christian is a “disciple”(student & servant) of Jesus Christ (his teacher & master). Therefore, until I am in heaven with Him, my goal as a disciple of Jesus is to learn how to be like Him in what I think, say, or do...so that my life on earth will become a “fragrant offering and sacrifice” to God.

Not Very Often (I do not know how to)		Usually (I am trying to, but often struggle with this)			Almost Always (I strive daily to imitate God)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

How to Grade Yourself on “Who am I”?

- 1) Add up all of the numbers you circled for the 12 questions above. (Max score “84”).
- 2) Compare your scores to the scales below and take action as the Lord leads you:

84 – 56 *You understand “WHO YOU ARE” in Jesus Christ and how to live in fellowship with Him through the help of the Holy Spirit living within you!*

55 – 29 *You are struggling with “WHO YOU ARE” in Jesus Christ. This will prevent you from becoming a true disciple of Jesus Christ and keep you from allowing the Holy Spirit to control your life so that you resist sin, exhibit the fruits of the Spirit, and walk in fellowship with Jesus! (Galatians 5:16-23)*

28-7 *Are you sure you are really saved? If you know that you are, it is critical that you seek to be “discipled” by more mature Christians so that you learn that you are loved by God and saved eternally, but need to understand how to allow the Holy Spirit to control your life so that you resist sin, exhibit the fruits of the Spirit, and walk in fellowship with Jesus! (1 Corinthians 3:1-3)*