



Waipuna Chapel's Profile Of A Disciple

"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19–20).

What does it actually mean to be a "disciple" of Jesus?

Because of God's awakening grace, *a disciple is someone who learns from Jesus to live like Jesus.*

A disciple is a: devoted **worshiper**, a faithful **servant**, and a bold **witness** graciously **connected** in the body of Christ.

- **A Disciple Of Jesus Is A Devoted Worshiper**

Most fundamentally, to follow Jesus means to worship him exclusively. This is not only with our lips but especially with our lives. This is at the heart of Jesus's ministry on earth.

As he told the woman at the well, *the Father is seeking true worshipers* (John 4:23–24).

As our lives reflect a lifestyle of worship, we reflect back to Jesus the radiance of His worth as our devoted response to Him. Each day we follow Jesus we grow in intimacy and connection with Him enjoying living for His glory instead of our own.

As you look at your life, what are some things that have held you back from worshiping Him exclusively?

- **A Disciple Of Jesus Is A Faithful Servant**

God has personally designed each of us to live by faith serving with the unique gifts He has given us.

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."- Ephesians 2:10

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others."- Philippians 2:4

The Bible teaches that every member is a minister who serves by giving generously of time, talents, and treasure (1 Peter 2:9). It is this type of love through service that identifies us as disciples of Jesus to a watching world (John 13:35).

What are your God-given Spiritual gifts? <https://giftstest.com>

Consider sharing your Top 5 Spiritual Gifts with Waipuna using this form: <https://bit.ly/373EJS8>

- **A Disciple Of Jesus Is A Bold Witness**

As we embrace God's heart, we are empowered to step into this world as his witnesses locally and globally (Acts 1:8).

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-10

As disciples of Jesus, we live differently. As people notice a difference in our lifestyles, we boldly begin inviting others into the new life we have found.

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..." - 1 Peter 3:15

How comfortable are you sharing your faith with others?

- **A Disciple Of Jesus Is Graciously Connected in Community**

God intends for us to live connected to the body of Christ.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." - John 13:34

Someone wisely said: "We are not just called to believe, we are also called to belong." In community, we grow in our faith, practice Biblical love for one another, and do life better together.

"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works." Hebrews 10:24

Being connected in community is a gift God gives us to help us grow in love, holiness and impact.

In what ways do you desire to be more connected in community?

CORE PRACTICES OF A DISCIPLE

A disciple has personally encountered the resurrected Christ and has publicly identified with Christ through baptism. Growing as a follower of Jesus includes putting into practice the things you are learning about Him and from Him:

1. Reads The Word

¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
-2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Bible is God's revelation to mankind and reveals much about God and ourselves. Through the Bible we are invited into a vital relationship with God. His Word is of immense value to the Christian (Psalm 119:105; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

As you look at your life, what are some things that have held you back from worshiping Him exclusively?

Prayer & Action Step:

2. Prays

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. - Philippians 1:6

Prayer is simply talking to God as we would with anyone we love and trust. Prayer is important because it helps us to stay close to God. When we pray, we are opening up our hearts to Him and He is able to work in us and through us (Luke 5:15-17, 1 Thessalonians 5:17).

What are some specific times in which you plan to pray during the next day? During the next week?

Prayer & Action Step:

3. Fellowships

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. - Hebrews 10:24-25

Fellowship is a mutual bond that Christians have with Christ that puts us in a deep, eternal relationship with one another. No matter where we are in our faith, we learn and grow as we

fellowship with other believers. Because God loved us first, we love one another in community (Romans 12:15, 1 Corinthians 12:12-26).

What are ways you have seen people connect in negative and positive ways? What does Christian community look like to you?

Prayer & Action Step:

4. Gives

³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." -Luke 6:38

Generosity is the natural expression of someone who understands how much he or she has been given. By giving monetarily and sharing the gifts the Lord has given us, we get to be a part of the work of the local church and the mission of Jesus (2 Corinthians 8:2, Romans 12:8, 1 Timothy 6:18).

What are some ways giving and receiving has impacted your life?

Prayer & Action Step:

5. Witnesses

*'Come follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will make you fishers of men.'
Just as Jesus called the early disciples, He calls us to follow Him. As we follow Jesus, He promises to make us fishers of men. - Mark 1:17*

The first and last thing Jesus said to His disciples is "follow me." The more we seek to share our faith, the more we will understand God's purpose and will for our lives. As we follow Jesus, we cannot help but talk about what we have seen, heard and experienced. (Matthew 4:19, Acts 4:20, Colossians 4:5, Philemon 1:6; 1 Peter 3:15).

How has witnessing impacted your life? How would you like witnessing to be a part of your future?

Prayer & Action Step:

6. Serves

¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.- 1 Peter 4:10

Jesus modeled a life of service. Serving God by serving others is something that grows out of our love for God and gratitude for all He has done for us. As we use our God-given gifts we experience God's presence in new ways as we see Him change the world around us (Mark 10:45; 1 Corinthians 15:58, Galatians 5:13, James 1:27).

When you hear "faithful servant" what do you think about?

Prayer & Action Step:

7. Disciples

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.
- 2 Timothy 2:1-2

Jesus calls us to pour out what we have learned from Him into the life of another. Someone defined a disciple as a "self-reproducing, fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ." This life-on-life process of being changed by Jesus compels us to love God, love people, and serve the world (Matthew 28:19-20, 2 Timothy 2:2, Colossians 3:16, Hebrews 5:11-13; Luke 9:23).

How can our church support you in discipleship?

Prayer & Action Step:

Scripture Reference Page

*All of the following scriptures are from the English Standard Version.

A Disciple Of Jesus Is A Faithful Servant (page 1)

1 Peter 2:9 "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

John 13:35 "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

A Disciple Of Jesus Is A Bold Witness (page 2)

Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Reads The Word (page 3)

Psalms 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

2 Peter 1:20-21 "knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

Prays (page 3)

Luke 5:15-17 "But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray. On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal."

1 Thessalonians 5:17 "pray without ceasing,"

Fellowships (page 4)

Romans 12:15 "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you,' nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together."

Gives (page 4)

2 Corinthians 8:2 "for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part."

Romans 12:8 "the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."

1 Timothy 6:18 "They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,"

Witnesses (page 4)

Matthew 4:19 "And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"

Acts 4:20 "for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."

Colossians 4:5 "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time."

Philemon 6 "and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ."

1 Peter 3:15 "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,"

Serves (page 5)

Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

1 Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

Galatians 5:13 "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."

James 1:27 "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

Disciples (page 5)

Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

2 Timothy 2:2 "and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

Colossians 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Hebrews 5:11-13 "About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child."

Luke 9:23 "And he said to all, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.'"