

PHASE



Believe in Me

Jesus' process for discipling his followers:

BELIEVE
in
ME

FOLLOW
ME

OBEY
ME

SERVE
through
ME

SHARE
about
ME

PHASE



Phase One

of Jesus' discipleship ministry
could be described as:

Come-See-Believe

PHASE

1

In Phase One

Jesus challenged his disciples to **come** to him, **see** the things that he did and to **believe** the things he said.

PHASE



1

This **Come-See-Believe** stage lasted approximately **15 months** and covers the time when Jesus first called new disciples to himself, performed several miracles and taught primarily on the need to repent and believe.

PHASE



Phase One

**is highlighted in the
first 6 chapters of
the book of John.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all **might believe through him.**

John 1:6-7

He said to them, **“Come and you will see.”**
So **they came and saw** where he was staying,
and they stayed with him that day... Jesus
answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw
you under the fig tree,’ **do you believe?** You
will see greater things than these.”

John 1:39, 50

This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And **his disciples believed in him.**

John 2:11

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, **many believed in his name when they saw** the signs that he was doing.

John 2:23

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that **whoever believes in him should not perish** but have eternal life.

John 3:16

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

John 3:18

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever **hears my word and believes him** who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

John 5:24

How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God? ...For if you believed Moses, **you would believe me**; for he wrote of me. But if you do not believe his writings, **how will you believe my words?"**

John 5:44, 46-47

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, **that you believe in him** whom he has sent." So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, **that we may see and believe you**? What work do you perform?"

John 6:29-30

“I am the bread of life; whoever **comes to me** shall not hunger, and whoever **believes in me** shall never thirst. But I said to you that **you have seen** me and **yet do not believe.** John 6:35-36

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and **we have believed,** and **have come to know,** that you are the Holy One of God." **John 6:68-69**

PHASE

1

Phase One

of our discipleship **efforts** must **mirror** the **emphasis** of Jesus' first stage with his disciples.

PHASE

1

The major emphasis
by Jesus in this stage was
the **necessity** to **believe!**

The big question then is:

What were the core beliefs that Jesus required of his disciples during Phase One.

Core Beliefs

We will try to summarize these beliefs near the end.

PHASE

1

Phase One

of our discipleship efforts must *mirror* the *distinctives* of Jesus' first stage with his disciples.

Phase One

DISTINCTIVES

DISTINCTIVES

(1) Low commitment.

Jesus did not require or even really discuss commitment at this stage. It was enough that the disciples simply came & listened and were involved in the activity that was happening.

DISTINCTIVES

(2) **Event oriented:**

This stage was centered more around events than teaching. Some of the more significant events occurred during this stage: *Water into wine at the wedding, the woman at the well, feeding of 5,000, walking on water.*

DISTINCTIVES

(3) Attraction vs training:

This stage was centered more on Jesus attracting followers than on training disciples. He wasn't concerned about their ability to teach or lead, he was simply trying to get their attention.

DISTINCTIVES

(4) Casual vs intense:

This stage was more casual and didn't have the intensity of the latter stages (*take up your cross daily, let the dead bury their dead*). In fact, after each event the disciples returned home and did not constantly live with/follow Jesus.

DISTINCTIVES

(5) Belief vs behavior:

In this stage Jesus was more concerned about his disciples believing the true meaning of his coming and his deity vs. their behavior, character and attitudes.

PHASE



Phase One

of our discipleship efforts must *mirror* the *life indicators* of Jesus' first stage with his disciples.

Life

Indicators:



In Phase One:

Potential disciples responded to Jesus invitation to begin to know him. (John 1:39, 45)



In Phase One:

Potential disciples spend a lot of social/unstructured time with a disciplemaker.
(John 1:39, 2:2)



In Phase One:

Potential disciples are **exposed** to truth/information that they won't be able to fully **understand** until later.

(John 3:4, 4:27, 32-33)



In Phase One:

Potential disciples witness the disciplemaker's passion to please and serve God. (John 2:17, 4:34)



In Phase One:

Potential disciples witness the supernatural
acts of God. (John 2:23, 3:2, 4:19, 53)



In Phase One:

Potential disciples are involved with/experience ministry. (John 3:22, 4:2)



In Phase One:
Disciples share
their testimony with others.
(John 1:19, 1:45, 4:39)



In Phase One:

**Disciples witness their disciplemaker
sharing the gospel with others.**

(John 3:15-18, 4:41)



In Phase One:
Disciples are baptized.
(John 4:1)



What were the **core beliefs**
that Jesus required of his disciples
during **Phase One**?

Core Beliefs

There are **19 distinct things** that the disciples are said to have believed in **Phase One**. By grouping similar beliefs we can pair them down to **10 Core Beliefs**.

God made the *world* and everything in it
through Christ. (John 1:1-4, 6-7)

Jesus came from heaven, is full of glory
and is above all. (John 2:11, 3:31)

Jesus was sent to the world by
God to *testify* about the truth.
(John 3:31-34)

Whoever believes this testimony has *eternal* life and will not see punishment. Jesus words are eternal life. (John 3:36, 5:24, 6:68)

Jesus is the *Messiah*, whom the
Law & Prophets spoke of.
(John 1:45, 4:25-26, 6:69)

Through belief you must be *born* again. Those who believe will become a *child* of God.
(John 1:12, 3:2-6)

Jesus is the Lamb of God who will be/was
raised up to take the sins of man.
(John 1:29, 3:14-16)

By believing we have eternal life, we will not
perish & never be *condemned*. (John 3:15-18)

Jesus is the 'Son of man' who will *return* to
earth one day. (John 5:25-29)

Jesus is the *judge* of all. He will raise & judge the
dead and assign their eternal destiny.

(John 5:22-29)

Let's Summarize



The early stages of discipleship should focus on building relationships around common events.



In the early stages of discipleship we should not burden people with unnecessary hurdles...we should invite them to simply come



When teaching others (beliefs) we should teach gradually. When expecting application from others (behavior) we should do so incrementally.



When seeking application from a disciple,
guide them in the **life indicators** that
Christ sought in Phase One.



The process of discipleship *begins*
with what we *believe*.



Disciples don't need to believe everything there is to believe about Jesus all at once. There are stages of understanding & belief.



When deciding which truths to teach in Phase One; focus on **emphasizing** the beliefs that Jesus **required** of his disciples during this stage.



The emphasis of our teaching should be what the Bible says concerning Christ. Who he is, What he did and Why he came.

