

THE THREE I'S OF DISCIPLESHIP – PAUL'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Discipleship - Growing into Christ's likeness is a lifelong journey.

³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

Acts 9:3-6 NIV

³⁰ For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. ³¹ Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 28:30-31 NIV

Paul's recommendations for successful discipleship:

I – Integrated: Following Christ means you involve your whole person.

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires, ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:22-24 NIV

I – Instructional: Following Christ means you grow in your knowledge and depth of insight.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:9-11 NIV

I – Inspired: Following Christ means God's Spirit works in you to make you more like Christ.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Romans 8:28-29 NIV