

**Sermon Notes – “From Believer To Disciple”**  
**(September 18, 2022)**

**Sermon Text:** James 1:2-4, James 4:4-10, John 5:19-24

**Memory Verse:** *“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.”* **John 5:24**

**Introduction:** Receiving God’s gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ is not the “Be all, end all!” of your relationship with God. It is **only the beginning**. Once you receive the gift of faith the **real work** begins ... the work of becoming **Jesus’ disciple**.

**Focus Question:** *What does discipleship look like, and how do I get there?*

**I. Why is Discipleship Is Important**

- Some Christians believe, but you **could not tell that** by the way the live.
- Being a Friend/Servant of God - doing God’s will. (James 4:4)
- A Jealous God. (James 4:5, Exodus 20:5)

**II. Three Lifestyles That Thwart Effective Discipleship**

- Putting **career** above God
- Putting **family/friends** above God
- Putting **enjoyment of life/pleasure** above God

**III. What Discipleship Looks Like**

- Submission (James 4:7)
- Repentance & Sanctification (James 4:8)
- Humility (James 4:10)

**IV. The Purpose of Testing**

- **Fact:** Christians will face “trials of many kinds.” (James 1:2)
- Trials are testing in the sense of “purification.” (James 1:3, 4:8)
- **Christian Maturity** – Looking like God. (James 1:4)

**Faith Challenge:** *Make a list of three things in your life that are not consistent with God’s will. Make a plan to intentionally work at overcoming those three things.*