

## Biblical Discipleship

### Lesson 11 – Discipleship with Grace and Truth

At all levels of discipleship, we recognise our human vulnerability to become legalistic and harsh. In our genuine efforts to share God's truth, self-righteousness can sometimes show. In Christ, we find the sweetness of both grace and truth synchronised through the power of the gospel.

**Colossians 1:5-6** *...in the word of the truth, the gospel... since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth...*

Gospel truth carries God's grace. Just as the God of the gospel is gracious, we too, as the ambassadors (2Co 5:20) of the gospel, are to be gracious. God's truth and grace are inseparable. If you try to separate them, the power of the gospel is lost. Therefore, ensure your hearts are softened with divine grace before you boldly share God's truth.

Paul's instruction is critical in all of our efforts to disciple others. *Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience* (Colossians 3:12). These

Christlike qualities are indispensable for effectively growing healthy babies in Jesus towards maturity.

Pride, ego, arrogance, or self-centeredness is removed from all discussions. Rather, self-control prevents self-promotion for the purpose of promoting Christ instead. Being the hero of your own stories has no place. Rather, humility best expresses Christ and the truth of His Cross-centred gospel. Our discipleship is to expose others to all the grace shown in every aspect of the Cross.

Prayerful patience will be needed as young believers stumble and make mistakes. They will most likely do the same weak things you and I do. As they learn how to put biblical truth into action, they will need your humble guidance and correction. Your encouragement, your prayers with them, and your gracious instruction with God's Word will provide the heavenly resources required by them.

*The grace of God in truth* needs to be carefully designed into our attitudes, behaviour, speech, and responses. In this way the discipler leads the ones being disciplined into Christlikeness with a deeper application of biblical truth which is visible for all to see.