



ANSWERS: Unit 4: Disciple of Christ

Live life as a disciple of Christ and intentionally make disciples for the glory of God.

Lesson 16 **Growing in Faith**

Day One ***Responsibility***

Read Romans 10:17 and answer questions 2–4:

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ. Romans 10:17 (Hearing in this context is receiving or believing the message, whether spoken or written.)

1. Where does faith come from?

Faith comes from hearing the message.

2. What is the message, and how does one learn about it?

The message is the word about Christ, and one learns about it by hearing or reading the gospel. The message comes from the Bible, the Word of God.

3. How can *you* give others an opportunity to have faith, and how can *you* grow your own faith?

Personal answer, but one can share the message of Christ with others, by sharing personal testimony, pertinent Scriptures, Christian books, sermons etc. One grows their faith by regularly hearing, reading, believing, and obeying God's Word. And by exercising faith in all situation, no matter how insignificant or life-changing.

4. In your own words, write a one-sentence definition of faith.

Personal answer, but faith is trusting fully in God's character, promises, and power—relying on Him with confidence in every part of life. Another one-sentence definition: faith is trust and confidence in God the Father through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

5. Read Ephesians 2:8–10. Why is it important to regularly reflect on this truth?

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:8–10

It is important to regularly reflect on this truth because it reminds us that our salvation is a gift from God, not something we earn—keeping us humble, grateful, and focused on living out the good works He has prepared for us.

Read Colossians. 3:23–24 and answer questions 6–8:

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians. 3:23–24 (An inheritance from the Lord includes eternal life, heavenly rewards, and a place in God’s kingdom as co-heirs with Christ.)

6. How should disciples approach their responsibilities and obligations (v. 23)?

With all their heart, as if working for the Lord, not for people.

7. Regardless of what you are doing in any area of life, who are you serving (v. 24b)?

The Lord Christ

8. When disciples fulfill their obligations as to the Lord, what reward will they receive (v. 24a)?

They will receive an inheritance from the Lord. An inheritance from the Lord includes eternal life, heavenly rewards, and a place in God’s kingdom as co-heirs with Christ. The Bible does specify what the heavenly rewards will be.

9. Prayerfully review your life and confess any times you have shirked (avoided or neglected) responsibility. How is God helping you now to fulfill your obligations?

Personal Answer

10. In light of Mary’s example, what opportunities have you had in the past week to stand firm in your faith?

Personal Answer

11. When the apostles heard Jesus' teaching on forgiveness, they were amazed at the high standard they were expected to follow. Read Luke 17:5 to see their response.

Take a moment to pray, asking the Lord to strengthen your faith. Seek Jesus for a faith that is strong, unwavering, and steadfast. After you have prayed, write a brief summary of your prayer.

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" Luke 17:5

Personal Answer

—End Day One—

Day Two
Strengthening Faith

Faith Statements

- (1) I will grow my faith based on who God is, not who I am.
- (2) I will grow my faith based on what God can do, not what I can do.
- (3) I will grow my faith based on how God wants to change me, not how I want to change.
- (4) I will grow my faith based on the truth of who God is, not on any misconceptions or false beliefs from myself or others.

Action Step

12. After concentrating on the four “Faith Statements” above, how will they alter or change your way of thinking about your faith?

Personal answer, but here are how some may answer.

“These statements help shift my focus off of myself and onto God—His character, power, and purpose. They remind me that faith isn’t about trying harder but trusting deeper.”

“They challenge me to let go of self-doubt and instead build my confidence on who God is and what He can do through me.”

“They encourage me to align my goals with God's will, instead of trying to fit God into my plans.”

They help me recognize and reject false beliefs or negative influences that have shaped my view of faith, and instead embrace the truth of Scripture.”

13. When have you faced a situation where you had to trust God completely? How did He provide for you?

Personal Answer

14. What doubts or fears have you struggled with when waiting on God’s provision? How can you surrender those to Him in faith?

Personal Answer

15. Have you ever questioned whether you truly heard God’s calling? How did you seek clarity and reassurance from Him?

Personal Answer

16. Mary recognized that, unlike David Livingstone, she was not moving forward. What about you? Are you progressing, falling behind, or standing still in God’s plan for your life? If you are not moving forward, what steps will you take to change that?

Personal Answer

17. Read the following “Faith Blockers.” Which of these obstacles are preventing you from growing in faith?

Personal Answer

Four Faith Blockers: Obstacles to Trusting God Fully

(1) Personal Satisfaction

Where do I seek fulfillment? Do I crave approval, love, or acceptance from others more than from God?

(2) Personal Significance

Do I define my worth by what I have (money, family, appearance) or what I do (career, achievements, talents)?

(3) Personal Reputation

How much do I allow others’ opinions to shape my identity?

(4) Personal Reality

Am I trapped by my past? Do I let other people define who I am?

17. Read the following ways to overcome “Faith Blockers.” Which of these four truths about God speaks to you the most and why?

Personal Answer

Overcoming Faith Blockers: Shifting Our Focus from Self to God

(1) God Satisfaction

I will grow my faith on the basis of who God is and not who I am. I will not allow the pursuit of personal satisfaction—seeking to be gratified, pleased, loved, or accepted—to block my faith.

(2) God Significance

I will grow my faith based on what God can do, not on what I can do. I will not allow my desire for personal significance—focusing on what I have (money, family, looks) or what I do (sports, work, talent)—to block my faith.

(3. God Reputation

I will grow my faith based on how God wants to transform me, not on my personal reputation. I will not obsess over how others perceive me, but instead focus on how my actions reflect God's holy character.

(4. God Reality

I will grow my faith based on the truth of who God is, not on negative attitudes from myself or others. I will not allow my past or what others say about me to define my reality or block my faith.

—End Day Two—

Day Three

Faith over Fear

18. If the warrior had hurt or even killed Mary, would her faith have been any less valuable in the eyes of God? Yes No (Underline One) Explain your answer:

If the warrior had struck or injured Mary Slessor, she would still have had the opportunity to live out her faith in love and humility among the people. If she had died, she would have died serving Christ. The *outcome* of our faith rests in God's sovereign hands. Our role is to be obedient, placing our trust in Him, and continuing to love Him no matter what we face or how it plays out.

Read 2 Timothy 1:7–8 and answer questions 19–23:

*For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.
8 So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. 2 Timothy 1:7–8*

19. What qualities does the Spirit of God give us (v. 8)? How do these qualities help us overcome fear and anxiety?

The Spirit gives us power, love, and self-discipline. These qualities replace fear by giving us strength to face challenges, love to act with compassion, and self-discipline to remain steady and focused in our faith.

21. Mary Slessor stepped forward in faith despite personal fears and past trauma. What challenges in your own life require you to rely on God's power, love, and self-discipline instead of fear?

Personal answer, but one challenge might be stepping out to share our faith with others, even when you feel unqualified or afraid of rejection. We need God's power to be bold, His love to care more about others than our own comfort, and self-discipline to follow through.

22. Paul invites Timothy to "join with me in suffering for the gospel." In what ways did Mary Slessor suffer for the gospel?

Mary endured harsh living conditions, illness, isolation, loss, and danger while serving among the tribes of Calabar. She gave up personal comfort and security to bring the gospel to people in need.

23. How did Mary's hardships strengthen her faith rather than weaken it?

Her hardships deepened her dependence on God, proved His faithfulness in difficult circumstances, and built her trust that He would sustain her as she followed His calling.

24. Read Job 1:20–22. After Job lost everything, including his children, how did he respond?

At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship²¹ and said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.”²² In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing. Job 1:20–22

“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.”

25. What fears or difficulties have you faced that increased your faith over fear?

Personal Answer

26. How have you learned to be more focused on God rather than on His blessings?

Personal Answer

27. Read Psalm 56:3–4. What should you do when you are afraid?

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.⁴ In God, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me? Psalm 56:3–4

Put my trust in God.

28. Read Isaiah 41:10. Why should we not fear?

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

We should not fear because God is with us. He will strengthen and help us.

29. Read Nehemiah 2:4–5, 8c. When anxiety rises in a difficult moment, how can you follow Nehemiah’s example and turn to God with a quick prayer for courage and clarity?

The king said to me, “What is it you want?” Then I prayed to the God of heaven,⁵ and I answered the king . . . Nehemiah 2:4–5

And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests. Nehemiah 2:8c

When anxiety rises, we can follow Nehemiah’s example by quickly turning to God in silent prayer—even in the middle of a conversation or decision. Nehemiah didn’t panic; he paused and sought God’s help for courage and clarity before responding. We can do the same by silently asking for wisdom, strength, or the right words in the moment.

30. What areas of your life are still affected by fear or anxiety?

Personal Answer

31. What steps can you take to replace fear with faith

Personal answer, but here are some suggestions:

- Pray and ask God for courage and peace in the face of fear.
- Meditate on Scripture that reminds you of God's promises and faithfulness (e.g., Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 56:3).
- Recall past experiences where God provided or protected you.
- Speak truth over fear, replacing lies with the truth of God's Word.
- Surround yourself with faith-filled people who encourage and support you.
- Take small steps of obedience, trusting God even when you don't feel brave.

—End Day Three—

Day Four

Faith as a Gift

(1) Change your body posture.

Your physical posture can affect your emotional and spiritual state. If you are discouraged, try sitting or standing tall. If your face is downcast, lift your head and smile. If you feel tense, stretch or take deep breaths. If you feel sluggish, move, walk, or even dance—express joy in your body.

But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high.
Psalm 3:3

(2) Surround yourself with worship.

Music has a unique way of ministering to our spirit. Whether you sing or simply listen, praise music and hymns can lift your soul and refocus your heart on God's faithfulness.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. 1 Chronicles 16:23

(3) Replace harmful thoughts with truth.

When negative or anxious thoughts take over, write down positive, faith-filled truths instead. Recall all the Lord's faithfulness. Consider all the Lord has done in the past and what He will do.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2a

32. Which of these three actions—changing your posture, surrounding yourself with worship, or replacing negative thoughts with truth—do you most need to practice right now?

Personal Answer

33. Do you have the spiritual gift of faith—a deep, unwavering confidence in God's promises, power, and presence? Yes | No (Underline One)

Personal Answer

34. If you have been given this gift, how are you using it to strengthen and encourage other believers?

Personal Answer

35. Have you ever thanked God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit for your gift of saving faith and your faith to trust, obey, and remain steadfast? Yes | No (Underline One)

Personal Answer

36. Whether or not you have ever done so before, take a moment to thank God for your gift of saving faith and daily faith to trust and obey. I thanked God: Yes | No (Underline One)

Personal Answer

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:3 and answer questions 35–36:

“We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more . . .” 2 Thessalonians 1:3

35. Why does the apostle Paul give thanks for the believers in Thessalonica?

Because their faith is growing more and more.

36. In what ways is your faith growing more and more?

Personal Answer

37. Read Luke 17:5 / Who did the apostles ask for help to increase their faith?

“The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’” Luke 17:5

The Lord Jesus

38. In what areas of your life are you currently relying on sight rather than faith?

Personal Answer

39. How does Mary Slessor’s example challenge or inspire your own walk of faith?

Personal answer, but faith is believing Jesus has the power to save, transform, and empower. Faith is not a one-time event—it is a way of life. Mary Slessor’s example of discipleship, bravery, and courage reminds us to continually seek and dwell in the power of Christ.

Read Matthew 17:20 and 1 Corinthians 13:2 answer questions 40–43:

He replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” Matthew 17:20

If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 1 Corinthians 13:2

40. What image (figure of speech) does both Jesus and Paul use in describing a strong faith?

Ability to move mountains.

41. How do you know that Jesus and Paul did not mean for believing saints to go around moving mountains of dirt and rock?

Because neither Jesus nor Paul was speaking literally. They used the image of moving mountains as a metaphor for overcoming seemingly impossible challenges. Jesus often taught in parables and figurative language to communicate spiritual truths, and Paul used the phrase to emphasize the potential power of faith—not to alter geography, but to trust God in situations that appear insurmountable.

42. What did Jesus and Paul mean by using this phrase, “move mountains”?

They meant that genuine faith has the power to overcome great obstacles. Jesus used the phrase to encourage believers that even a small amount of faith placed in God can accomplish what seems impossible. Paul used it to underscore that even if someone has incredible faith, it means nothing without love—faith must be expressed in love to have true spiritual value.

43. What is the relationship between faith and love? Why is love essential? (1 Corinthians 13:2)

Faith and love go together. Faith is our trust in God, while love is the expression of His character in us. Paul teaches that even the most impressive spiritual gifts or acts of faith are meaningless if not motivated by love. Love is essential because it reflects God’s nature and is the greatest evidence of a transformed heart. Without love, our faith lacks the very heart of God’s purpose for us.

—End Day Four—

Day Five

Presumption and Perseverance

When John the Baptist was imprisoned by Herod, he too wrestled with doubt. Despite having once declared Jesus as “*the Lamb of God*,” John now questioned, “*Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?*” (Luke 7:19). Jesus did not rebuke him. Instead, He sent a reassuring message: “*The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor*” (Luke 7:22). Jesus, knowing John was familiar with the Scriptures, pointed him back to fulfilled prophecy—reminding him that God’s Word could be trusted, even in a prison cell.

44. When your faith falters, what do you learn from Jesus’ response to John the Baptist above?

Personal answer, but from the lesson: Jesus meets us in our doubts with compassion and truth. He does not dismiss our questions—He gently brings us back to what is true. When we struggle with faith, we turn to God in prayer and immerse ourselves in His Word. We study the Scriptures that speak of His goodness, mercy, and love. We surround ourselves with truth—through Christ-centered books, podcasts, teachings, testimonies, and encouragement from fellow believers.

Read Numbers 14:42–45 answer questions 45–46:

“Do not go up, because the LORD is not with you. You will be defeated by your enemies, ⁴³ for the Amalekites and the Canaanites will face you there. Because you have turned away from the LORD, he will not be with you and you will fall by the sword.” ⁴⁴ Nevertheless, in their presumption they went up toward the highest point in the hill country, though neither Moses nor the ark of the LORD’s covenant moved from the camp. ⁴⁵ Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and attacked them and beat them down all the way to Hormah. Numbers 14:42–45

45. What do you learn about the sin and danger of presumption?

Personal answer, but from the lesson: God is under no obligation to bless delayed obedience or impulsive action. The Israelites failed to proceed into the promised land when they were originally given the mission. God’s door of opportunity closed and when they finally went forward, they were not in God’s will. They were not acting in faith but disobedience. They acted rashly presumptively, ignoring both God’s Word and His prophet, Moses.

46. How would you determine whether you are acting in faith or presuming on God?

Personal answer, but from the lesson: Determine to trust this fact—God *wants* us to know His will. We should seek Him daily, reading and meditating on the Word—asking Him what we are to do. Expecting God’s answer and not being discouraged when God does not act in the way we had hoped or desired. Be still and know that God acts perfectly and in His timing.

Read Romans 1:17 and answer questions 46–49:

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’ Romans 1:17

46. Define righteousness and unrighteousness?

Righteousness is living by faith in God and unrighteousness is not living by faith.

“Human righteousness in the New Testament is absolute faith in and commitment to God. The one who in faith gives oneself to the doing of God’s will is righteous, doing righteousness, and reckoned righteous by God.” Holman Bible Dictionary, p. 1195.

47. Why does God view faithlessness as unrighteousness?

Because faith is the foundation of a right relationship with God. Without faith, we are essentially saying we do not trust God, His Word, or His ways. Faithlessness denies God's truth and His rightful place in our lives, which leads us away from the righteousness He desires for us.

48. Why must faith be a continual and ongoing part of your Christian life?

Because the Christian life isn’t just started by faith—it is lived by faith every day. As Romans 1:17 says, righteousness is “by faith from first to last.” We rely on faith not only for salvation but also for guidance, strength, obedience, and perseverance. Faith keeps us connected to God and dependent on His grace throughout our journey.

49. How does your response to life’s challenges impact your relationship with God?

Personal answer, but our response to life’s challenges can either draw us closer to God or create distance. When we respond with faith—trusting God even when circumstances are hard—it deepens our relationship with Him and strengthens our spiritual maturity. But when we respond with doubt, fear, or self-reliance, it can hinder our trust and weaken our sense of connection with Him. Challenges are often opportunities to grow in faith and experience God’s faithfulness in a personal way.

50. Read John. 8:31 According to Jesus, how are His true disciples expected to persevere in faith?

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. John. 8:31

Hold on to Jesus’ teachings.

51. Read James 1:12. What is the result for those who persevere in their faith under trial?

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. James 1:12 (See also Colossians 1:23; Revelation 2:7)

They are blessed and will received the crown of life.

52. What challenges have you faced, and how have you persevered in your faith?

Personal Answer

53. Read 1 Corinthians 1:8–9. When you face challenges to your faith, what promise from God can you hold onto?

He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 1 Corinthians 1:8–9

God promises that He will also keep us firm to the end, so that we will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

54. Read Philippians 1:6. What assurance do you have as a disciple of Christ?

... being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6

God will carry on the good work in us and will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

55. Write an outline of how you would encourage someone struggling in their faith. Include how you would listen, what Scripture you would share, and how you would support them. If someone comes to mind, reach out and encourage them this week.

Personal Answer

56. In closing Lesson 16, pray the following prayer. I prayed. Yes | No (Underline One)

Personal Answer

—End of Answers Day Five and Lesson 16—

Next—Lesson 17: Love, Unit 4: Disciple of Christ

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