

# Pursuing a Culture of Discipleship

## Session 4: Information isn't enough: Discipleship or Deception

### Small-Group Study Guide

#### 1. Introduce the Session: Read pages 31-39

5 Minutes

##### Key Verse

*John 13:17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.*

- In this session we will explore the idea that simply gaining information without putting it into practice will not increase our walk as a disciple but will only increase our deception.
- Begin the session by opening with prayer.

#### 2. Watch the video

20 minutes

##### Bible Passage

James 1:22, 1 Corinthians 12:27, Romans 12:4-5, 1 John 4:8-20

##### Summary Points

The Great Commission of Matthew 28 isn't about making disciples (followers) who gain information about God's word but seek to put it into practice.

Biblical discipleship isn't information based but obedience based

Gaining Biblical information without Biblical obedience increases our deception (James 1:22).

God's blessing comes when we obey His word, not simply hear it (James 1:25-26, John 13:17).

Walking in real relationships causes both the challenge that reveals sin and the encouragement that helps refine it out our lives.

We need to realize that discipleship isn't gaining information but becoming more obedient.

### 3. Discussion Questions

20 minutes

Q. What is a time in your life when you discovered you felt blessed by the word of God but were not obedient to it?

Q. Why is it important to be honest with others about how much you are actually practicing God's word?

Q. How can we begin to change the idea that discipleship is when we gather for Bible studies?

Q. "God's word brings light (Psalms 119:30) which is a blessing but how is that different than the blessing of obedience?"

Q. Recall a time when you were in deception because you felt blessed by knowing instead of obeying His word.

Discussion Quote: "We need to study the Word of God diligently. But we don't need to know more. We need to do more with what we know. At the end of the day, God will not say, 'Well thought, Intellectual,' or 'Well said, Orator.' There is only one commendation: 'Well done, good and faithful servant!'" Mark Batterson

### 4. PIP (Put it into Practice)

15 Minutes

Every time you are in a group that looks at something from God's word ask these three questions amongst yourselves: What is Jesus saying to me in this passage, what is one step I can begin to take to put it into practice, and how can we help each other obey?