

# Study QUESTIONS

## Ep. 1170: Does Being a Christian Have to be Difficult?

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1170-following-jesus/>

See:



1. Why was Jesus so discouraging when speaking to the crowds in Luke 14:25-28? Did he really mean anyone who follows him must hate their family? What must we do before we decide to become a disciple? (See Luke 14:25-28)
2. Discipleship begins with what action from God? Do many choose to follow this call? Why not? How does Jesus soften the difficulty of discipleship? (See Matthew 22:14, 11:28-30, Luke 13:23-24)
3. Explain the difference between being a *good Christian person* who is inspired by the word of God and being a *disciple* of the Master. (See Luke 9:24-25)
4. How do we know that Jesus had to abandon his own human will at times to follow the Father's will? Did Jesus want *the cup* of having to die for the sins of the world removed, or was the cup representing something else? How do we know? (See Psalms 40:7-8, Matthew 26:39, Revelation 13:8)
5. Was the rich young ruler a bad person? Why is it difficult for a wealthy man to enter the kingdom of God? Would it be difficult for you? (See Mark 10:21-23, Philippians 4:19)
6. If we let go of our earthly possessions, how will we get by in the world? If we abandon our will, our wants, how will we survive in life? What reassurances does God give us that our needs will be supplied? With what are our earthly ambitions replaced? How can we possibly do this? (See Matthew 7:7-11, James 4:3, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27)
7. How can we look at Jesus' life to change our mindset on *suffering*? How is our suffering different from anyone else's? What should our focus be when we are going through trials - what is their purpose in our lives? (See Hebrews 5:8, Philippians 1:29)
8. What is the comfort Paul gives us? What is our mission? (See Romans 8:14-18, 2 Corinthians 4:16-17)
9. How do we apply the discipline of discipleship? How do we acquiesce? (See 1 Peter 4:12-13, 2 Timothy 2:15-16, 1 Corinthians 10:13, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19)
10. What does our acquiescence to trials and difficulties in our lives accomplish? Why is this necessary? What is our beautiful mission now, and in the future? (See Matthew 5:10-12, John 14:1-3, 1 Corinthians 9:24, Matthew 28:19-20, 2 Timothy 2:2, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21)
11. What are the four "building blocks" of discipleship described in Luke 9:23? What does *aspire* mean to you? What old ways would you, or did you, abandon as a disciple of Jesus? Where can we find the inspiration to *acquire* this new mission? (See Hebrews 12:2-3) What does *acquiesce* mean to you?