

September 6, 2014

DISCIPLED BY JESUS  
**Becoming What Jesus Envisions**  
**Acts 1:1-14**

Jesus called people to follow Him for a clear purpose. His purpose was to redeem and transform humanity giving life to all who follow Him. Jesus envisioned using ordinary people as the means of putting His plan into action. He called it the church. He told his disciples:

**“... and on this rock I will build My church,  
and the gates of hell will not overcome it.”**

As we see His plan unfold in the book of Acts, we need to look closely at what is necessary to become the church He envisions.

1. **We must live in obedient relationship to Jesus.**

*“On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about.’”*

**Acts 1:4 (NIV)**

*“To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, ‘If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples.’”* **John 8:31 (NIV)**

*“If you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love.”*

**John 15:10 (NIV)**

2. **We must focus on His mission and not get side tracked.**

*“So when they met together, they asked Him, ‘Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He said to them: ‘It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority.’”* **Acts 1:6-7 (NIV)**

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* **Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)**

3. **We must bear witness to His transforming power.**

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses ...”* **Acts 1:8 (NIV)**

*“But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to Me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.”*

**John 16:13-14 (NIV)**

*“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.”*

**1 Peter 2:9 (NIV)**

4. **We must let God to use us beyond our own plans.**

*“...and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* **Acts 1:8 (NIV)**

*“I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”* **John 14:12 (NIV)**

*“Now glory be to God! By His mighty power at work within us, He is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope.”* **Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)**

5. **We must make listening to Jesus the priority.**

*“They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”*

**Acts 1:14 (NIV)**

*“If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to My Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples.”*

**John 15:7-8 (NIV)**