

## Accountability of Discipleship

**2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.**

Most times when people hear the word *accountability*, they think about an accountability partner, a team, or a club that we are accountable to. Today, God wants us to focus on being accountable to **Him**. What does being accountable to God and his work look like? Let's discuss!

The origin of the word *accountability* comes from the Latin word *computare*, which means "to count."

### **Can Jesus count on you to feed his sheep?**

In the Kingdom, accountability means being responsible for what God gives you. Can God count on you to walk in freedom? Can He count on you to be a mature Christian? Paul says in 2 Corinthians that we must all appear before the Lord and give an account for the things we have done.

At the gates of heaven, your accountability partner will not speak for you. Your lawyer will not stand up and give an opening statement for your case. Bishop Quincy who loves you dearly, will not leave his spot and run to the front and tell Jesus to let you in because he saw you at one VBS. You will appear before the seat of Christ and give your own account of what you've done.

What does this mean? How do we get to a place where God can count on us? Glad you asked!

### **First Point: Leave your OLD LIFE!!**

What are some *old* things we need to leave behind?

When Jesus called His first disciples, they were running a successful fishing business. They were not broke or bored. I am not saying you should quit your job!

**Matthew 4:18-20 - As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.**

Jesus is not someone you can say, "Hold on Lord, let me finish dating real quick," or "I'll be at church after making that money." You don't get your life right *before* coming to God.

### **How do you clean up your life without God?**

To be accountable as a disciple means you have to go cold turkey and leave the world behind. Choose Christ! You cannot have the world and God.

Old friends won't always understand.

**1 Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."**

When it comes to people, you must be accountable to yourself first. Friends will remind you of who you used to be. Do not believe that you're strong enough to go back to your old life and not be tempted. That is a trick of the enemy. Surround yourself with friends who are on the same journey you are.

**Leave that old life!**

Before you can be an accountability partner for someone else, GET FREE!!

**Second Point: Crucify your Flesh!**

**Galatians 5:24 - And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.**

Before you can lead, you have to die to your flesh. There are some things we must say *no* to in order to belong to Christ Jesus.

Remember, the Latin definition of *accountability* means "to count." Can Jesus **count** on you to help someone struggling while you struggle with jealousy? Or will the jealousy you haven't crucified make things worse for that person?

We want God to reveal deep things to us—like when the war will end or what our future holds—but today, God is more concerned with holding us accountable for the pride we haven't surrendered, the jealousy we're still carrying, and the constant comparisons we make with people who may not even have what we have.

Church, Please evangelize but if you are still working on some stuff. Please bring them in and allow someone else in the body to help them out spiritual.

**1 Corinthians 3:7 - I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.**

**Crucify your flesh so God can use you to make disciples in His Kingdom!**

**Last Point: Stay with God!**

If you want to be trusted, you need intimacy with the Lord. God desires *relationship*. The problem is, we want God to trust us with **His thoughts** like we trust strangers on social media with ours.

**Jeremiah 29:13 - You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.**

Stay with God by spending time with Him. Stay with God by obeying His commandments. Stay with God by finding a church home and serving! Serving is good for the body, but more importantly, serving is good for *YOU*.

Serving helps you witness the genuine love others have for God and prepares you for the next level God is calling you to.

Serving connects you with people who will love you.

- If you want to be an accountability partner—**stay with God.**
- If you want responsibility—**stay with God.**
- If you want to be loved—**stay with God.**

Staying with God will show you that **Jesus is accountable to you, too.**

**Psalm 139:8 - If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**

**2 Corinthians** says we must all appear and give our own report of what our life has been.

**What will yours show?**

If you don't like the answer, you can change that today—by starting to be accountable to Jesus.