

Discipleship in the Last Days

A practical course for new believers who want to live faithfully, stay spiritually ready, and follow Christ with discernment and hope in the last days.



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Course Objectives

- Live with greater holiness in daily decisions and habits
- Recognize and respond to the Holy Spirit's leading
- Practice spiritual watchfulness and discernment in a confusing world
- Share the gospel with clarity, courage, and love
- Prepare family life around faith, wisdom, and endurance
- Stand firm in persecution while keeping hope in Christ's return

Skills and Knowledge

Holy living

Spiritual readiness

Discernment

Evangelism

Family discipleship

Perseverance

Hope in Christ

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1. Introduction

1.1. Welcome



Stay Faithful in the Last Days

You are not just learning facts, you are learning how to live. In Discipleship in the Last Days, you will build practical habits for holy living, learn to walk in the Spirit day by day, and stay spiritually watchful without fear or speculation. You will also grow in discernment, learn a clear way to share the gospel with love and courage, and discover how to prepare your household around faith, wisdom, and endurance. Finally, you will strengthen hope for the hard days ahead, stand firm under pressure, and learn what it means to wait for Christ with steady readiness and expectation.

What You Will Learn



Daily Holiness

You will learn how to set apart your thoughts, words, habits, and relationships for Christ with repentance that restores, not represses.



Spirit-Led Living

You will practice simple signs of walking in the Spirit, using prayer and Scripture, and responding quickly when conviction nudges you.



Watchful Discernment

You will develop steady watchfulness and biblically grounded discernment to test messages and cultural noise, without becoming cynical.



Gospel Courage

You will gain a clear, doable approach to sharing the gospel, plus the confidence to listen well and speak with love.



Hope Under Pressure

You will strengthen endurance and hope for persecution, and learn to wait for Christ in an active, faithful way.

2. Holy Living

2.1. Living Holy Daily

Living Holy Daily

Holiness is not about acting impressive or trying to earn God's love. For a new believer, it means belonging to God and letting that belonging shape everyday choices. It shows up in what you think about, how you speak, how you treat people, and how quickly you turn back to God when you miss the mark.

A simple way to think about it

- **Set apart** for God, not mixed with whatever pulls you away from him.
- **Responsive** to God's love, not driven by fear.
- **Practical** in ordinary life, not just in church moments.

Holiness in daily life

Holiness becomes visible in small, repeatable choices. A holy life is not a flawless life, but a life that keeps returning to Christ.

You can practice it in everyday places:

- **Thoughts:** refusing to dwell on bitterness, lust, envy, or lies.
- **Speech:** choosing truth, kindness, and self-control instead of gossip or exaggeration.
- **Habits:** using time, money, screens, and energy in ways that honor God.
- **Relationships:** showing patience, honesty, forgiveness, and respect.
- **Repentance:** admitting sin quickly and asking God to change you.

Love, not legalism

Legalism says, "I obey so God will accept me." Holiness says, "God has loved me, so I want to live in a way that pleases him." The difference matters. One is heavy and anxious. The other is grateful and free.

Follow the 4 daily holiness steps and notice how each one shapes your choices.

1

Notice what is happening inside you. Pay attention to thoughts, desires, and attitudes before they turn into words or actions. A quiet moment with God can reveal what needs to change.

2

Turn from what pulls you away from Christ. Repentance means agreeing with God about sin and choosing a different direction. Even a small turn matters when it is honest.

3

Choose obedience in one concrete place. That might mean turning off a show, deleting a harmful app, telling the truth, or making peace with someone. Holiness grows through real decisions, not vague intentions.

4

Pray for help and keep moving forward. Ask the Holy Spirit for strength, wisdom, and a willing heart. When you fail, return quickly instead of staying stuck in shame.

INTERACTIVE SCENARIO

Choosing a Holy Response

Holiness

Speech

Media

Peer Pressure



You are a new believer hanging out with friends after work. A group chat starts sharing a funny video that is cruel about another person, and someone asks you to forward it. You want to fit in, but you also want your life to reflect Christ.

Make decisions across 4 turns to practice holy responses in speech, media, and peer pressure.

STEP 1

A friend asks you to send the video to the group chat right away. What do you do first?

Ignore the request and change the subject without saying anything.

Say you are not comfortable sharing it and leave it there.

Send it so you do not seem awkward.

Forward it and add a joke to fit in better.

STEP 2

Someone says you are being too serious and that it is just a joke. How do you respond?

Tell them they are bad people for laughing.

Say nothing and walk away angry.

Explain calmly that you do not want to mock someone else.

Laugh along and hope they move on.

STEP 3

Later, the same chat starts drifting into gossip about another coworker. What fits a holy response best?

Stay quiet while enjoying the conversation in your head.

Add one detail so you do not look left out.

Ask a question that makes the gossip more interesting.

Redirect the talk toward something neutral or positive.

STEP 4

After you get home, you feel guilty because you stayed longer in the conversation than you wanted. What is the wisest next step?

Ignore it and tell yourself you will do better tomorrow.

Confess it to God, ask for help, and plan one boundary for next time.

Spend the rest of the night replaying the failure and feeling ashamed.

Text everyone in the chat and apologize for everything in a dramatic message.

Expand the 4 questions below to explore common concerns about holiness, grace, failure, and starting again.

Grace and holiness



Grace does not excuse sin, and holiness does not cancel grace. God's grace saves and also trains believers to live differently.

What if I fail



Failure does not mean you are finished. Confess it, receive God's mercy, and take the next faithful step.

Is this legalism



It becomes legalism when obedience is used to earn God's approval. Biblical holiness flows from love, trust, and gratitude.

How do I start



Begin with one area at a time. Ask, "What choice today would help me follow Jesus more clearly?"

Scan the 4 summary cards below and compare the core practices and mindset of holy living.



Belonging

You are set apart for God. Your life starts with his claim on you, not your performance.



Daily Choices

Holiness shows up in thoughts, words, habits, and relationships. Small decisions matter.



Quick Repentance

When you sin, turn back fast. Confession and a new direction keep your heart soft.



Love First

Obedience is a response to God's love. That keeps holiness from becoming fear-based rule keeping.

Walking in the Spirit

Walking in the Spirit means living with ongoing dependence on the Holy Spirit instead of relying on impulse, pride, or old habits. For a new believer, that shows up in ordinary places like what you think about, how you speak, how you handle stress, and how you treat people. It is not about trying harder in your own strength, it is about staying close to God and responding when He leads.

Spirit-led patterns	Flesh-led patterns
Prays before acting, asks for wisdom, and stays teachable	Acts quickly on impulse, self-reliance, or emotion
Searches Scripture for truth and direction	Follows feelings, habits, or peer pressure
Chooses obedience even when it costs something	Makes excuses, delays repentance, or resists correction
Shows patience, kindness, self-control, and peace	Shows irritability, envy, strife, or uncontrolled desires
Feels conviction and turns back to God	Hardens the heart and keeps justifying sin

Practices that sharpen spiritual sensitivity

The Holy Spirit often guides through simple, steady habits. Prayer keeps your heart open to God, Scripture gives you a clear standard, and obedience trains you to respond when you know what is right. Over time, these habits make it easier to notice conviction, reject temptation, and follow quiet promptings toward love, honesty, and self-control.

A helpful test is this: when a choice comes up, does it move you closer to Christlike character or closer to self-centered living? If the answer is not clear, pause and pray, check what Scripture says, and choose the next faithful step.

Flip each of the 5 cards below to connect fruit of the Spirit with a simple everyday expression.



Love

- Putting others first
- Speaking and acting with care, not self-interest



Joy

- A steady gladness in God
- Not depending on easy circumstances



Peace

- Calming trust in God
- Refusing panic or constant worry



Patience

- Waiting without snapping
- Giving people room to grow



Self-control

- Saying no to harmful impulses
- Choosing what honors God

INTERACTIVE SCENARIO

A Heated Conversation

Prayer

Conviction

Self-control

4 turns



You are talking with a friend who criticizes your new faith, and the conversation starts to feel tense. You want to honor Christ, but your emotions are rising and you feel the urge to defend yourself sharply. Your choice will show whether you lean on the flesh or on the Spirit.

Make decisions across 4 turns to practice Spirit-led responses in a tense conversation.

STEP 1

The comment lands harder than you expected, and your first reaction is anger. What do you do next?

Pause, pray silently, and ask God for self-control

Change the subject without addressing the tension

Walk away and never return to the conversation

Answer right away with a sharp comeback

STEP 2

You remember a verse that speaks to gentleness and truth. How do you respond?

Share the verse calmly and explain what Christ is teaching you

Quote the verse to win the argument

Stay silent even though the other person is asking honest questions

Mock the other person for not understanding faith

STEP 3

The other person keeps pressing, and you feel your emotions rising again. What is the wisest next step?

Keep pushing until you get the last word

Agree with everything just to avoid discomfort

Ask for a short break so you can pray and return calmly

Bring up their flaws so the focus shifts away from you

STEP 4

The conversation ends, and you are still unsettled. How do you respond afterward?

Tell everyone the story just to prove you were right

Ignore the whole event and never think about it again

Thank God for helping you stay calm, then reflect on what you need to repent of

Replay the argument all night and imagine better insults

Scan each of the 4 cards below and compare the marks of Spirit-led living.



Daily Dependence

Prayer keeps the heart open and teachable. It helps you pause before acting.



Scripture Guide

God's Word gives truth for choices, correction, and direction.



Quick Obedience

When God shows the next right step, respond without delay.



Soft Heart

Conviction leads to repentance, not excuses or hardening.

Section 1 Quiz

QUESTION 1

Which of the following best describes 'walking in the Spirit'?

- ☐ Only attending church services on Sundays.
- ☐ Living according to one's own desires and impulses.
- ☐ Consistently seeking to choose actions that align with God's will.
- ☐ Following religious traditions without understanding them.

QUESTION 2

What is the primary purpose of the spiritual fruit produced in a believer's life?

- ☐ To impress others with one's good deeds.
- ☐ To gain personal benefits or rewards.
- ☐ To fulfill religious obligations and duties.
- ☐ To demonstrate a character transformed by the Holy Spirit.

QUESTION 3

Which of the following is a sign of responding in the flesh rather than in the Spirit?

- ☐ Reacting with anger and frustration in difficult situations.
- ☐ Exhibiting love and kindness towards others.
- ☐ Practicing patience and self-control.
- ☐ Seeking reconciliation and understanding.

QUESTION 4

How can daily obedience to God's teachings impact a believer's life?

- ☐ Makes one feel superior to others.
- ☐ Limits personal growth and experiences.
- ☐ Develops deeper relationships and spiritual maturity.
- ☐ Creates a rigid lifestyle with no room for fun.

3. Spiritual Readiness

3.1. Remaining Watchful

Remaining Watchful

Spiritual watchfulness is a steady way of living awake to God. It is not panic, and it is not endless guessing about dates or events. It means staying prayerful, honest, and ready to obey Christ in daily life.

A watchful believer pays attention to the heart, notices temptation early, and keeps hope anchored in Jesus rather than in speculation.

Rhythms that keep the heart alert

Watchfulness grows through ordinary habits practiced with care:

- **Prayer** keeps the heart open to God and dependent on His help.
- **Scripture intake** renews the mind with truth when the world feels noisy.
- **Confession** clears away sin that dulls sensitivity to God.
- **Self-examination** asks honest questions about motives, choices, and desires.

These rhythms do not earn God's love. They help a believer stay responsive to it.

Read the 5 readiness habits below and notice how each one helps spiritual alertness.

1

Begin the day with prayer. A short, sincere prayer can re-center your mind before distractions take over. Ask for wisdom, purity, and a willing heart.

2

Read Scripture regularly. God's Word gives shape to your thinking and helps you recognize what is true, wise, and clean.

3

Confess quickly. When you notice sin, bring it to God without delay instead of hiding it or excusing it.

4

Examine your motives. Ask whether your choices are guided by love for Christ or by comfort, approval, or impulse.

5

Stay ready to obey. Watchfulness is not only noticing danger, it is being prepared to respond when God calls you to act.

“

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

~ **1 Corinthians 16:13**

INTERACTIVE SCENARIO

Spiritual Drift at a Busy Week

Watchfulness

Prayer

Discernment

4 turns



You are trying to follow Christ faithfully, but your schedule is crowded and your focus keeps slipping. Prayer feels rushed, Scripture gets postponed, and small temptations are becoming easier to excuse. You want to stay alert without becoming anxious or overwhelmed.

Make decisions across 4 turns to practice noticing spiritual drift and choosing wise next steps.

STEP 1

You realize several days have passed with only brief, distracted prayers. What is the wisest first response?

Wait until you feel more spiritual before praying again.

Ignore it, since everyone has busy weeks.

Set aside a few quiet minutes now and speak honestly to God.

Compare your prayer life with other believers to see if you are doing better or worse.

STEP 2

You notice a tempting pattern has started to feel normal. What helps most at this moment?

Keep it private so no one thinks less of you.

Ask God for help, name the temptation clearly, and take one concrete step away from it.

Focus only on willpower and avoid prayer.

Assume the temptation is harmless because you have resisted it before.

STEP 3

Your mind feels crowded and spiritually dull after a long week. What habit best helps you regain clarity?

Skip reflection and move on to the next task.

Fill the silence with more news and social media so you do not think about it.

Read a small passage of Scripture and ask what it shows about God and your response.

Wait for a major crisis before taking your spiritual life seriously again.

STEP 4

You are thinking about Christ's return and feel unsure what to do with that hope. How should watchfulness shape your outlook?

Use it as a reason to fear every event in the world.

Think about it only when you feel spiritually motivated.

Keep serving faithfully today, trusting Christ and staying ready for His return.

Treat it like a date to predict so you can feel prepared.

Scan the 4 cards below and compare the habits and attitudes that describe spiritual watchfulness.



Prayerful Attention

Stay open to God throughout the day, not only in emergencies. Prayer keeps the heart responsive and awake.



Honest Self-Check

Notice motives, habits, and temptations early. Small issues are easier to address before they harden.



Word-Shaped Thinking

Let Scripture correct your instincts and steady your hope. God's truth helps you recognize what pulls you off course.



Ready to Obey

Watchfulness ends in action, not worry. A ready believer keeps serving Christ faithfully while waiting for His return.

3.2. Spiritual Discernment

Testing Truth Wisely

New believers often hear confident voices from sermons, social media, friends, and culture. Some sound spiritual, but not every message points to Christ or matches Scripture. Discernment means testing what you hear with God's truth so you can hold on to what is good and let go of what is not.

What discernment does

- It asks, **Does this agree with Scripture?**
- It seeks the Holy Spirit's help through prayer.
- It notices the kind of **fruit** a teaching or influence produces.
- It listens carefully to wise, mature believers instead of trusting every strong opinion.

Compare the 4 tests below, then click through each tab and notice how they work together.

Scripture



God's Word is the first test. A teaching may sound helpful, but if it twists the gospel or conflicts with the Bible, it should not be followed.

Prayer



Prayer keeps the heart humble and alert. It asks God for clarity, exposes pride, and helps you depend on the Holy Spirit instead of impulse.

Fruit



Look at the results over time. Truth leads toward holiness, humility, love, and obedience, while error often produces confusion, pride, fear, or division.

Counsel



Wise believers can help you see what you might miss. God often uses mature Christians to confirm truth and warn against a convincing mistake.

Error is often persuasive because it borrows Christian words, quotes a Bible verse, or promises quick results. That is why discernment needs humility, not self-confidence. A teachable heart is less likely to be fooled and more willing to change when God's Word corrects it.

Maya, a new believer, sees a popular post that says, "If you truly trust God, you will never struggle with anxiety or doubt." It sounds encouraging at first, and several people share it. But when Maya compares it with Scripture, she remembers that believers are still called to cast their cares on the Lord, seek peace, and grow in faith over time. She prays for wisdom, talks with a mature Christian at church, and notices that the message can leave people ashamed instead of helped. She decides the post is too absolute and does not reflect the full biblical picture.

Expand the 4 questions below to explore common questions about discernment and watch how the answers stay both honest and loving.

Can I judge?



Believers are called to judge teachings by God's truth, not by personal preference. Discernment is careful testing, not harsh criticism.

What if I am wrong?



That is normal for a learner. Stay close to Scripture, stay prayerful, and stay willing to be corrected.

How stay loving?



Speak with gentleness and respect. You can reject a message without attacking the person who shared it.

What to watch for?



Be cautious of teachings that downplay sin, add rules to the gospel, promise easy success, or make you depend on feelings more than Christ.

Scan the 4 cards below, then compare the tests and posture that keep discernment steady and trustworthy.



Truth Test

Compare every message with Scripture first. God's Word gives the main standard.



Prayer Test

Ask for wisdom and a humble heart. Discernment grows best in dependence on God.



Fruit Test

Notice what a teaching produces over time. Good teaching leads toward Christlike growth.



Counsel Test

Listen to mature believers. Wise counsel can confirm truth and spot danger early.

3.3. Section 2 Quiz

Section 2 Quiz

QUESTION 1

What is the primary purpose of maintaining spiritual watchfulness?

- ☐ To evaluate others' faith continuously.
- ☐ To avoid discussing faith with non-believers.
- ☐ To ensure others are adhering to religious practices.
- ☐ To enhance personal spiritual growth and remain alert.

QUESTION 2

When testing a new teaching or doctrine, what is a critical question to ask?

- ☐ Does it align with Biblical truths and teachings?
- ☐ Is it popular among local leaders?
- ☐ Is it endorsed by social media influencers?
- ☐ Does it promise immediate benefits?

QUESTION 3

Which of the following can be a sign of spiritual drift?

- ☐ Losing interest in prayer and scripture.
- ☐ Engaging in discussions about faith with friends.
- ☐ Volunteering for community service regularly.
- ☐ Consistent attendance at church services.

QUESTION 4

What is one effective practice to enhance spiritual readiness?

- ☐ Listening to music rather than engaging in active faith.
- ☐ Set aside specific times for prayer and reflection.
- ☐ Avoiding conversations about faith to prevent conflicts.
- ☐ Reading various spiritual books without focus.

4. Witness and Family

4.1. Sharing the Gospel

Sharing the Gospel

The gospel in simple words

The gospel is the good news that God sent Jesus Christ to save sinners, forgive sin, and bring people into a restored relationship with Him. You do not have to be a polished speaker to share that news, because the message itself has power. A clear, loving witness starts with understanding the message well enough to say it plainly and personally.

A simple way to talk about Jesus

Start with what people can understand, then move toward the heart of the message.

1. **God created us and loves us.** We were made for Him, not just for ourselves.
2. **Sin separates us from God.** Every person has turned from God's ways.
3. **Jesus lived, died, and rose again.** He took the penalty for sin and offers forgiveness.
4. **Response matters.** People are called to repent, believe, and follow Christ.

A short testimony can fit here too. Share what your life was like before Christ, how you came to believe, and what has changed since then. Keep it honest and brief, and point the focus back to Jesus, not to your own story.

Follow the 5 witness steps below to start a conversation, share the gospel clearly, and invite a response.

1

Begin with a real conversation. Ask a sincere question about the other person's life, beliefs, or needs. Listening first helps the gospel sound like good news, not a speech. When people feel heard, they are more open to continue talking.

2

Look for a natural opening. A conversation about stress, guilt, hope, family, or purpose can become a bridge to spiritual things. Keep the transition gentle, and do not force it. A simple line like, 'Can I share what gives me hope?' can open the door.

3

Share the message clearly. Explain who Jesus is, what He has done, and why it matters. Use plain words instead of church language that may confuse someone new to faith. Clarity helps people understand what response is being asked of them.

4

Tell your own story briefly. A personal testimony makes the message relatable, but it works best when it stays focused. Mention one or two specific changes, such as peace, forgiveness, or a new direction. Testimony supports the gospel, it does not replace it.

5

Invite and leave room. Ask if they have questions, offer to pray, or suggest reading a Gospel together. A patient invitation gives the other person space to think. Faithful witness is honest about the message and respectful of the person's response.

Flip each of the 5 cards below to explore common fears about evangelism and practical responses.



I need all answers

You do not need to know everything. Be ready to share what you do know, and be willing to say, 'I do not know, but I can find out.' Humility can build trust.



I will seem pushy

Kindness matters as much as clarity. Ask permission, listen well, and respect the other person's freedom. A gentle approach is often more persuasive than pressure.



My story is too small

A brief, honest story can still point to Jesus. You do not need a dramatic past to speak about Christ's work. Even simple changes in peace, hope, or direction can encourage others.



I might get rejected

Rejection can happen, but it is not the same as failure. Your role is to witness faithfully, not to control the outcome. God can use a conversation long after it ends.



I am too new

New believers can still share what they have learned about Jesus. Start with the basics, keep it simple, and keep growing. Sharing often deepens your own understanding.

INTERACTIVE SCENARIO

Talking with a Family Member

Evangelism

Family

4 turns



You are at a family dinner, and a relative mentions feeling overwhelmed and unsure what to believe about faith. You want to speak with love and courage, but you also do not want the conversation to turn tense. Your goal is to point to Jesus clearly while keeping the relationship warm and respectful.

Make decisions across 4 turns to practice sharing truth with grace in a family conversation.

STEP 1

Your relative says, 'I just do not know what to believe anymore.' What do you do first?

Tell them they just need to have more faith.

Ask what has been making faith feel confusing.

Launch into a long explanation of doctrine.

Change the subject to avoid tension.

STEP 2

After listening, the person asks, 'So what do you actually believe?' How do you answer?

Tell them church attendance is the main answer.

Share only your favorite Bible verse and stop there.

Give a clear summary of Jesus, sin, and forgiveness.

Ask them to read a whole theology book first.

STEP 3

The conversation slows, and you want to share your own experience without making the focus all about you. What is the best move?

Use your story to prove you are better than others.

Share one or two changes and connect them back to Jesus.

Describe every detail of your past before coming to faith.

Say that nothing changed for you at all.

STEP 4

The relative says, 'I need time to think about this.' How do you respond?

Tell them their hesitation is a bad sign.

Walk away without acknowledging the conversation.

Thank them for listening, offer to pray, and leave the door open.

Pressure them to decide right now.

Scan and compare the 4 cards below to review the core message and habits of faithful witness.



Core Message

God saves through **Jesus Christ**.

Share the good news simply: creation, sin, Jesus, response.



Personal Story

Keep testimony brief and honest.

Focus on what changed and how Christ is helping you now.



Good Listening

Ask real questions first.

Listening helps you understand the person's concern and respond with care.



Faithful Courage

You are not responsible for forcing results.

Speak clearly, pray, and trust God with the outcome.

4.2. Preparing Your Family

Preparing Your Family

Preparing a household spiritually is not about panic. It is about helping the people under your roof, or the people you regularly care for, stay anchored in Christ with calm, steady habits.

For single believers, that may mean building a faithful rhythm at home. For married couples or parents, it may include leading conversations, prayer, and choices that shape the whole household toward peace, wisdom, and endurance.

Read through the 5 cards below to see a practical home checklist for spiritual readiness.



Daily prayer

Set aside a regular time to pray for faith, wisdom, and peace. Even a few focused minutes can help keep the home centered on God instead of on worries.



Scripture rhythm

Keep God's Word visible in daily life through reading, memorizing, or discussing a short passage. Consistency matters more than length.



Honest conversations

Talk about fears, questions, and decisions with care. Family discipleship grows when people can speak truthfully and listen without pressure.



Support plan

Think through practical needs together, such as contact names, basic supplies, and who can help if routines are disrupted. A simple plan can reduce anxiety.



Shared faith

Encourage one another to keep trusting Christ in ordinary life. Mutual support helps a household stay peaceful when life feels uncertain.

Wise preparation should never turn a home into a place ruled by fear. Children and adults alike need to hear that readiness is part of faithfulness, not a sign that God is absent.

A peaceful household speaks truth, prays honestly, and prepares sensibly without constant alarm. That kind of atmosphere makes room for trust, not confusion.

Swipe through the 4 examples below to see how different households can live out spiritual preparation.

Single believer

A young adult living alone can build a simple habit of morning prayer, Bible reading, and a weekly check-in with a mature Christian friend. The goal is not to imitate a large family setup, but to create a stable pattern of faith at home.

Married couple

A husband and wife can pray together before making decisions, discuss how they want their home to feel, and agree on a few spiritual habits they will keep. Shared direction often brings more peace than separate assumptions.

Parents with children

Parents can use short, repeated conversations to help children connect Scripture with daily life. Simple questions like, 'What did we learn about trusting God today?' can shape a family culture over time.

Extended family care

Some believers help parents, siblings, or older relatives who live nearby. In that case, preparation may mean checking on needs, offering prayer, and being ready to serve with patience and respect.

Expand the 4 questions below to clear up common concerns about leading spiritually at home.

Lead gently



Start with small steps: prayer, Scripture, and calm conversation. Spiritual leadership is often more about consistency than intensity.

Handle resistance



If someone in the home is hesitant, avoid forcing the issue. Keep your tone respectful, keep serving faithfully, and look for moments of trust.

Teach peace



Peace grows when the home hears both truth and reassurance. Speak honestly about challenges, but also remind one another that Christ is present and trustworthy.

Keep it simple



A strong household rhythm does not need to be complicated. One passage, one prayer, and one honest conversation can be a meaningful start.

Scan and compare the 4 cards below to review the main habits that shape a peaceful, faithful home.



Prayer first

Let prayer shape the tone of the home before practical plans do. A praying household stays more centered and less reactive.



Word daily

Keep Scripture close through reading, memory, or discussion. Regular exposure to God's Word builds steady faith.



Plan wisely

Make simple practical arrangements without turning them into a source of fear. Preparedness should support peace, not replace trust.



Support one another

Encourage each person to grow in faith and responsibility. A supportive home helps everyone stay resilient under pressure.

4.3. Section 3 Quiz

Section 3 Quiz

QUESTION 1

What is the primary focus of gospel witness within a family context?

- ☐ Establishing strict family rules.
- ☐ Discipleship and sharing the message of faith.
- ☐ Maintaining harmony through silence.
- ☐ Encouraging regular family outings.

QUESTION 2

Which of the following is a key component to achieving clarity in your gospel witness?

- ☐ Sharing personal experiences of faith.
- ☐ Using complicated theological jargon.
- ☐ Focusing solely on church attendance.
- ☐ Avoiding discussions about personal beliefs.

QUESTION 3

How can families foster peaceful discussions about faith without conflict?

- ☐ Taking turns talking without allowing interruptions.
- ☐ Using open-ended questions and listening actively.
- ☐ By agreeing to avoid any challenging questions.
- ☐ Setting strict boundaries on topics to avoid.

QUESTION 4

What is a practical step for cultivating household discipleship?

- ☐ Hosting family meetings weekly to discuss lessons learned.
- ☐ Meeting only on special holidays for prayers.
- ☐ Reading scripture individually without interaction.
- ☐ Encouraging everyone to find their own spiritual path.

5. Endurance and Hope

5.1. Enduring Persecution

Enduring Persecution

Followers of Jesus should not be shocked when faith brings pushback. Opposition can be mild, like jokes or pressure to stay quiet, or it can be more serious, like being left out, misunderstood, or directly challenged. Learning to expect pressure helps you respond with steadiness instead of fear.

What endurance looks like

- **Courage** without harshness
- **Wisdom** without compromise
- **Love** without losing conviction
- **Hope** that keeps you faithful when results are slow

Forms of pressure

Not all persecution looks the same, so the response should fit the situation. Sometimes the right step is a calm explanation. Sometimes it is silence, prayer, or stepping back from a tense moment. The goal is not to win every argument, but to keep honoring Christ.

Matching pressure with a wise response

You may face social cost, workplace tension, or direct hostility. In each case, the best response is shaped by truth, self-control, and love.

Form of opposition	What it can look like	Wise response
Mockery	Jokes, sarcasm, or being treated as naive	Stay calm, answer gently, and do not repay insult with insult
Exclusion	Left out of plans, groups, or conversations because of faith	Keep a respectful spirit, build healthy friendships, and do good quietly
Pressure	Being pushed to hide your beliefs or act against conscience	Speak clearly, set boundaries, and choose obedience over approval

Form of opposition	What it can look like	Wise response
Direct hostility	Open criticism, threats, or strong pushback	Seek safety, ask for prayer and support, and keep a clear conscience before God

A hard week at work

Maya is new in a small office where most coworkers talk openly about weekend plans that center on drinking and gossip. She does not lecture anyone, but when asked why she leaves early for church or declines some invitations, a coworker starts making comments about her being "too serious." Maya feels the pressure to blend in.

She decides to stay polite, avoid arguing at work, and keep doing her job well. When the comments continue, she privately asks one trusted coworker to stop, and later she asks her church group to pray for courage and kindness. Over time, she learns that quiet faithfulness can be stronger than trying to impress everyone.

Expand the 4 sections below to see practical support for staying faithful when pressure comes.

Pray First



Ask God for courage, calm speech, and a clean conscience. Prayer does not remove pressure, but it keeps your heart steady.

Lean on Church



Do not carry opposition alone. Trusted believers can pray, listen, and help you think clearly about next steps.

Speak Wisely



Use short, honest words. You do not need to argue every point, and you do not need to answer with anger.

Keep Going



Endurance grows when you keep obeying in small ways. Faithfulness over time matters more than one dramatic moment.

Scan the 4 cards below and compare the main ways to stay faithful under pressure.



Expect Pressure

Faith can bring social cost, not just comfort. Expect that reality so it does not surprise you.



Respond Wisely

Choose calm words, clear boundaries, and respectful actions. Wisdom protects both your witness and your conscience.



Stay Connected

Prayer and church support matter. Other believers help carry fear, confusion, and fatigue.



Hold Hope

Endurance is possible because Christ is faithful. Hope keeps you steady when pressure lasts longer than you hoped.

5.2. Keeping Hope

Hope in Christ

Christian hope is not wishful thinking or a positive mood. It is confident trust that God will do what He has promised in Christ, even when the present feels slow or hard.

Hope gives strength in the waiting

When believers know that Jesus will return, that evil will not last forever, and that God keeps His word, they can keep obeying today with steady hearts. Hope helps the soul stay anchored, so pressure does not have the final word.

“

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

~ **Hebrews 6:19**

Click and compare the 4 tabs below to see how hope shapes daily faithfulness.

Patience



Hope helps believers wait without giving up. God's promises remind the heart that delay is not the same as defeat.

Endurance



Hope gives strength to keep going under pressure. It turns hardship into a place where faith can still stand firm.

Joy



Hope makes room for joy before the final outcome arrives. Even in trouble, believers can rejoice because Christ's future is secure.

Obedience



Hope keeps present choices connected to future reward. A believer obeys today because Christ is worth it and His promises are sure.

Waiting does not mean standing still

Christian waiting is active. A believer keeps praying, serving, forgiving, and telling the truth while trusting God's timing.

For example, someone who is overlooked at work or misunderstood by friends can still respond with integrity and kindness. Future hope makes present obedience feel meaningful, because every faithful choice is lived before Christ.

Scan and compare the 4 cards below to review how hope supports steady faithfulness.



Confident Trust

Hope rests on God's promises, not on guessing the outcome.



Present Strength

Hope helps believers endure pressure without losing heart.



Steady Joy

Hope supports joy even while waiting for fulfillment.



Faithful Action

Hope keeps obedience
active, patient, and
purposeful.

Waiting for Christ

Waiting with open hands

Waiting for Christ is not passive staring at the sky. It is a way of living that stays ready, keeps obeying, and keeps serving with confidence that Jesus will keep every promise.

When the future feels uncertain, believers do not need to guess dates or chase rumors. The call is simpler and stronger: stay faithful today, trust Christ tomorrow, and let hope shape each ordinary choice.

Read through the 5 habits that shape faithful waiting and think about one step to practice this week.

1

Keep obeying in daily life. Faithful waiting shows up in small choices, like honesty, self-control, and forgiveness. Readiness is not only about big moments, it is built in ordinary habits.

2

Stay alert to what pulls your heart away. Distraction, fear, and constant speculation can crowd out trust. A watchful believer pays attention to what weakens faith and turns back to Christ quickly.

3

Serve people around you. Waiting well includes love in action, such as helping at church, encouraging a friend, or meeting a practical need. Service keeps hope active instead of inward-looking.

4

Pray with confidence. Prayer keeps your focus on God's power instead of your own anxiety. It also trains you to ask for wisdom, strength, and endurance as you wait.

5

Hold on to hope. Christian hope is confidence in God's future, not wishful thinking. That hope gives courage to keep going, even when life feels slow or hard.

INTERACTIVE SCENARIO

Staying Ready When Rumors Spread

Discernment

Hope

4 turns

Practical Faith



You are a new believer in a small church, and several people online are sharing confident predictions about Christ's return. A friend sounds worried and asks whether everyone should stop normal plans and wait for a specific date. You want to respond with wisdom, calm, and faithfulness.

Make decisions across 4 turns to practice watchful readiness, steady hope, and wise responses to end-times rumors.

STEP 1

Your friend asks what to do about the date prediction. You need to respond first.

Suggest that the prediction might be right and everyone should prepare for a sudden change.

Encourage them to keep watching the news closely for more clues.

Tell them no one can know the exact time, so they should ignore the prediction and keep following Christ.

Say it is best to wait and see whether other people confirm the prediction.

STEP 2

The conversation becomes tense, and one person says they feel panicked about the future.

Change the topic so the group does not have to deal with the tension.

Invite them to pray, remember God's promises, and take the next faithful step today.

Tell everyone that panic is a sign they are taking the issue seriously.

Recommend that they stop all regular responsibilities until the matter is settled.

STEP 3

Later, your friend asks what faithful waiting should look like in real life this week.

Spend extra time looking for hidden meaning in world events.

Keep obeying, serving, praying, and sharing Christ with love where God has placed you.

Pause all plans until the future becomes clearer.

Focus only on private prayer and avoid people who are not already interested in faith.

STEP 4

At the end, the group asks how to leave the conversation with peace and hope.

Leave them with the reminder that Christ is faithful, so today is for endurance, not fear.

Encourage them to stay calm because the exact timing is probably not very important.

Tell them that if they are uncertain, they should look for a more dramatic sign.

Suggest that people who disagree should keep arguing until they reach the same conclusion.

Scan the 4 cards below and compare the core marks of faithful waiting.



Watchfulness

Stay alert to distractions, fear, and speculation. Readiness is a steady posture, not anxious guessing.



Endurance

Keep obeying when pressure builds. Faithfulness under stress is part of waiting well.



Witness

Serve, encourage, and share Christ with love. Waiting includes active discipleship toward other people.



Hope

Trust Jesus' promises with confidence. Hope gives strength for patience, joy, and perseverance now.

5.4. Final Quiz

Final Quiz

QUESTION 1

What is one practical step you can take to live a Spirit-led life?

- ☐ Avoid conversations about faith to prevent conflict.
- ☐ Focus solely on personal achievements and goals without seeking guidance.
- ☐ Prioritize reading the Bible and praying regularly to stay connected to God.
- ☐ Engage in community service to gain social recognition.

QUESTION 2

How can watchfulness help believers in their daily lives?

- ☐ It allows believers to predict the future and avoid all troubles.
- ☐ It prepares them for unexpected challenges and distractions that might lead them away from their faith.
- ☐ It encourages believers to avoid all forms of entertainment.
- ☐ It helps them to monitor what others are doing without offering support.

QUESTION 3

Which of the following best describes discernment in a believer's life?

- ☐ Simply having a good sense of right and wrong based on personal experiences.
- ☐ The ability to judge character and circumstances wisely through prayer and insight from the Holy Spirit.
- ☐ An unavoidable judgmental attitude toward others to maintain a strong moral stance.
- ☐ The process of analyzing Scripture only for personal gain or knowledge.

QUESTION 4

What is an appropriate way to prepare your family for enduring challenges in faith?

- ☐ Encouraging family members to rely solely on their own understanding of faith.
- ☐ Providing them only with resources about life skills unrelated to faith.
- ☐ Having open discussions about faith, prayer, and developing coping strategies together.
- ☐ Isolating your family from difficult situations to keep them safe.

QUESTION 5

What does hope in waiting for Christ entail for a believer?

- ☐ Believing that hope guarantees immediate fulfillment of one's desires.
- ☐ Waiting passively without taking any action or responsibility.
- ☐ Using time spent waiting to criticize others' beliefs and practices.
- ☐ Living each day actively anticipating Christ's return while remaining faithful and engaged in their community.

6. Summary

6.1. Key Takeaways

Key Takeaways

Congratulations on Completing the Course!

Dear New Believer,

First and foremost, a heartfelt congratulations on completing the 'Discipleship in the Last Days' course! This is an important milestone in your spiritual journey, and we are thrilled to have guided you through this practical exploration of what it means to live faithfully in these challenging times.

Course Overview

This course was designed specifically for new believers like you, focusing on how to maintain your faith, stay spiritually prepared, and follow Christ with discernment and hope in the last days. Together, we delved into crucial biblical principles that will empower you to navigate a world that can often seem overwhelming and confusing.

Course Objectives

By participating in this course, you should now be equipped to:

- **Live with Greater Holiness:** Make daily decisions and cultivate habits that align with your faith.
- **Recognize the Holy Spirit's Leading:** Learn to attune your heart and mind to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life.
- **Practice Spiritual Watchfulness and Discernment:** Develop the ability to discern truth amid the noise and chaos of the world around you.
- **Share the Gospel with Clarity, Courage, and Love:** Equip yourself to communicate the message of Christ effectively and compassionately.
- **Prepare Family Life Around Faith:** Create a family environment grounded in faith, wisdom, and endurance to face challenges together.
- **Stand Firm in Persecution:** Gain strength and hope in Christ's return to remain steadfast in the face of adversity.

Remember, the lessons you've learned are not just for you—they are to be shared with others, reflecting Christ's love and truth in both your actions and words. Continue to lean on God's promises and stay spiritually vigilant as you navigate the days ahead.

Once again, congratulations on this achievement! May your journey in faith continue to blossom.

This course has multiple sections. Expand to learn about each section's topic and summary.

1: Introduction



- Overview of course objectives and structure.
- Key topics to be covered throughout the course.

2: Basics of Subject



- Introduction to foundational concepts.
- Essential terminology and definitions.

3: Intermediate Principles



- Exploration of more complex ideas.
- Discusses applications and real-world relevance.

4: Advanced Topics



- In-depth analysis of specialized subjects.
- Examination of cutting-edge developments.

5: Practical Application



- Hands-on activities to reinforce learning.
- Strategies for applying knowledge in real situations.

6: Summary and Review



- Recap of key insights and takeaways.
- Guidance on next steps for continued learning.

Further Readings

If you would like to find out more information about this course, follow the links below:

- [Yesterday, Dr. Cloer shared with us that in a world flowing ...](#)
- [Stand Firm in the Last Days - Christian Daily Devotional](#)
- [Finding Power to Live a New Life: Discipleship and the ...](#)
- [ABSTRACT Developing an Effective Discipleship Process for ...](#)
- [10 Spiritual Disciplines to Strengthen Your Faith](#)