

DECLARATION

TRUE DISCIPLESHIP: AN INDISPENSABLE TOOL FOR INTEGRAL MISSION

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ABSTRACT

This study is a form of hypothesis aimed at correlating true discipleship with integral mission. It is titled "true discipleship: an indispensable tool for mission integral". Observing the dichotomy of evangelism and social action in contemporary time coupled with the method used in propagating the idea of integral mission which has been generally accepted to be biblical as exemplified by the Master, Jesus. Thus, encyclopedia, relevant books and journals are consulted. Internet equally proved very useful with interview. The author went into history to see the concepts of discipleship with its methods and effects. A further study was done to get what is obtainable today through the study of the same in contemporary time. In an attempt to balance the research, discipleship in the time of Jesus is considered with his methods. This is referred to as the biblical discipleship through which some inferences are drawn as the difference. With the assistance of the interview conducted it was discovered that the discipleship as a concept has a varieties of meaning with several methods yet, it is effective when purposely utilized. Based on the study, conclusion and recommendations are given which includes the fact that biblical examples must be followed with a definite correct goal since inception and must not be limited to theory.

CONCLUSION

It can be inferred through all information gathered that discipleship is indispensable for transmission of legacy, tradition and formation of formidable human resources in the society. Pastors and Church leaders equally found this to be a useful tool in their ministry. Thus, if mission is seen as the major ministry of the Church with integral mission as the “whole gospel” to be proclaimed in word and deeds, then

discipleship can be the driving force to achieve this when properly understood and practicalised.

As long as the goal of true discipleship is becoming like Jesus, seeing him through the Scripture, he healed the sick, gave hope to the poor and even fed the hungry, without asking anyone to make a commitment first or to sign a doctrine basis before he would pray for them. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus inevitably calls for missions in words and deeds which is the glamour of integral missions' proponents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All leaders must understand properly the correct concept of discipleship and work with its goal right from on-set. The goal is to be like Jesus and so must be defined.
2. Discipleship must not be seen as only for the Church workers, rather all believers must get involved. This must also be seen as a life-long process rather than a program for specific period.
3. The Cultural setting of the people must be evaluated before a method is chosen so as to enhance its effectiveness and attain its goal.
4. Biblical examples must be followed in all our discipleship and missions.
5. All Christian must be encouraged to willingly submit themselves for discipleship all their life time and never for just a period of time.
6. It is expedient disciplers are also properly disciplined so that their word can match their deeds or actions. This implies that even ordinarily, discipleship continues outside the formal time or schedule.