

Summary of Discipleship Responses

1. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?

Being a person who chooses to follow Jesus

To try and imitate his ways, to love, nurture and respect others as he would have

To love Jesus as he loves us

To show his love and goodness to others through word and actions

To share his love with others

Being a disciple of Jesus is about living a life by His example

I think the most important thing about being a disciple of Jesus is to love your neighbour as yourself, just as He loves you

To learn and follow His precepts

Following Jesus

To love one another

To serve the Lord

To be windows for His brilliant light and love

Doing what Jesus would do

Learning about and from Jesus

To try to follow his teachings

Being shaped and molded by what Jesus says

To be following, learning and drawing close to Him daily.

Strive to become more like Him each and every day

Share the Good News with others

Make God's love known to all

Be a good steward of creation

Follow Jesus, learn from Him and other disciples, share, build relationship with Jesus and others

To be willing to be taught by Jesus the way of life because He has given us atonement for our sins and reconciled us with God the Father through His death, and when we come to terms with this, we are at the starting point in following Jesus' example of life.

I have seen discipleship as only an ongoing activity: Jesus charged the disciples to go out into the world and preach the gospel. But the I Intend program, on the national website, shows that it is more than that: it is necessary to deepen one's faith, to journey with Jesus, to open one's heart and tailor one's life toward spiritual growth. I believe that the beginning of discipleship is to live a life that inspires others to ask questions about the goodness of God. Part of spiritual growth is to learn about our faith and the lessons Jesus taught about how to live. <https://www.anglican.ca/gifts/i-intend/>

To be a disciple is also to minister to others. As we grow in our faith, we will show the love of God and be able—as Gordon said tonight—to “be a witness to others what we know to be true.”

For me this means following the example and concepts of Jesus of Nazareth into an indwelling relationship with God through Father, Christ and Spirit

It means applying the interpretation of these examples and concepts in concrete actions, attitude, and disposition today

Interpretation and experience refocus the disciple in place and time

2. Name the most important activity that you do to deepen your discipleship

Pray

I have been doing meditation and prayer together which has strengthened the way I see God in everything

I make sure to say one good thing about people every day

Read scripture

Respond to need of others

Talk about god with friends, both Christian and non-Christian

Worshiping with others (services, bible studies, workshops/conferences) they refresh me to do all the other activities

children's ministries and children's Bible study

read/study scripture

read a daily devotional —turning things over to God —daily prayer and study

spend time in prayer, Bible reading, reflection

My most important activity is formal study, and staying in touch with fellow parishioners for mutual support.

In these uncertain times, recording services and sermons has made me realize how many people are searching for hope, encouragement and a way to find or deepen their faith. It has deepened my discipleship to be able to provide these things in such a time of need.

There is no single "most important activity." Discipleship deepening is a product of experiences within "existence". Experiences happen in many areas. (I happen to like Augustine's assertion in Confessions that God is Existence,

and Paul Tillich's perception of God as Being (writ large) and the Ground of Being). To paraphrase Paul: we move and have our being within Existence.

An experience decades ago may become a significant factor in shaping me today's if it merges with something in today's experience

I would list: reflecting on past experiences, engaging more than one viewpoint, thinking critically, being open to new ideas and new old ideas, reading, listening, dialogue, outreach.

Prayer and studying the Bible

3. What is one event in your parish during this time of COVID-19 that is currently building disciples for Jesus?

Personal Support Partner at hospital

Weekly reflection on the serenity prayer via snail mail

drive by blessings

Online worship, bible studies and FFS workshops

I think our prayers of reconciliation on Fridays is really helping to build disciples

Weekly message that is shared on a variety of platforms so it is accessible

Provide a short weekly Bible Study on the Gospel of the Sunday.

Sunday services on Facebook are giving all of us a chance to worship (together/apart). It is attracting people who normally do not come. We think there is potential for this to lead to a greater ministry when the pandemic is over.

Zoom bible studies which give us an opportunity to go beyond phone Three events: online community, outreach, Christian study via Zoom

Sending (by email) the readings each week for personal reflection, with an accompanying homily. Encouraging (providing links) people to tune into live-streamed services.

Bible Studies

4. Name an additional event that you would like to see done in your parish?

Encourage the children by reminding them that others are also lonely and to reach out by mailing a picture they drew or a homemade card to senior members of the parish or to each other

wrestling with Sunday School and how to offer it

A bible study

More phone calls by parishioners to each other, some are doing this but I would like all to be comforting each other. There are several people who have talked about missing music and singing together. If this is to continue for a long time, we need to find a way (technologically?) to address this.

More Christian study on varieties and breadth of Christian thought.

More justice focused outreach

Bible study via Zoom (and a study of Romans in the context of developing Christian community in the heart of empire begins on June 3)

I would like to see more children's events, as they are struggling perhaps more than the adults are, and need more activities and interaction with others... perhaps after supper for kids who have online classes?

Drop off fresh garden produce to Grace Place

5. What discipleship activities could be done at the Deanery Level?

highlighting online learning opportunities or ideas that people have discovered

Phone calls or letter of encouragement to parishioners.

At the Deanery Level, can we provide more opportunities for people to interact; Deanery Council online is a start. (As background to this comment, I am really missing members of Executive Committee; it is not just about decision making; it is also about friendship and fellowship.)

Perhaps still a Mutual Ministry Event Via Zoom.

reach out to church leaders and see how they are holding up (maybe this is already being done?)

Deanery game nights or 'coffee hour' via skype or zoom (there is also programs you can download that are table top simulators that allow you to play table top games with people via the internet/computer

speakers from other parts of the country on Zoom —a Zoom-based quiet half day with one of the SSJD sisters or a bishop

Perhaps a deanery wide workshop on line or more services such as the Joint Ascension Day service

I would enjoy a Bible Study that is open deanery-wide, either on Zoom or even just via Facebook posts in a group so that people can contribute at their own leisure and within their own schedules, for those who are still working or have classes, maybe even after supper as well

Host another deanery livestreaming service with involvement of all churches