

3. Discipleship: The Apprentice

Introductory prayers

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

**Here are some notes from the Cathedral talk.
We recommend you to listen to the podcast
when using this study.**

1. Disciple = Learner, Apprentice
When learning really matters – e.g. surgery, driving, bomb disposal, lion-taming, map-reading, market research, legal advice, childcare, following Jesus. The Church is a learning society, a school for wisdom.
The Church in Nyamata, Rwanda, 1994: no services, no mercy, and killing of Tutsis headed by a teacher, a deacon and the leader of the choir
2. The Three Core Secrets of Discipleship
 - i) The crucified and risen Jesus in person:
Follow me!
 - ii) The Spirit in abundance: Come, Holy Spirit!
 - iii) Loving God for God's sake: Hallowed be your name!
3. The First Apprenticeship Task: Learning to Pray
'Pray without ceasing' (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
Main melodies: Our Father; Daily Prayer with Collects; Holy Communion
Improvising on those melodies
More and more prayer
Against fear
4. The Second Apprenticeship Task:
Learning to Learn
'Jesus increased in wisdom' (Luke 2:52)
Seeking wisdom through listening, conversation, reading, study, thinking
The centrality of the Bible
The Bible and other scriptures
More and more wisdom
Against foolishness
5. The Third Apprenticeship Task: Learning to Love
'Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another' (John 13:34)
Apprenticed to saints
More and more love and compassion
Against hardheartedness
6. Kigali 2009:
Dancing and Weeping after Genocide
The apprenticeship of Lent

The Path of Discipleship

The Bishop of Birmingham's
Lent Lectures 2010

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