

A HANDBOOK FOR TODAY'S DISCIPLES IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCIPLES OF CHRIST PAPERBACK Manual

a handbook for today's disciples in the christian church disciples of christ paperback serves as an essential guide for believers seeking to deepen their faith, understand their spiritual responsibilities, and actively participate in the life and mission of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. In an era where faith is often tested by societal shifts and cultural changes, such a handbook provides clarity, inspiration, and practical steps for living out Christian principles in everyday life. Whether you are a new believer or a seasoned disciple, this resource offers valuable insights into the core values, practices, and community engagement that define the Disciples of Christ tradition.

Understanding the Disciples of Christ: History and Core Beliefs

The Origins and Evolution of the Disciples of Christ

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) traces its roots back to the early 19th century in the United States, emerging from a desire for Christian unity and a return to New Testament principles. It was officially organized in 1832, emphasizing a movement that sought to restore the church to its biblical foundations, emphasizing individual faith, local autonomy, and unity among Christians.

This historical background informs the current identity of the Disciples, focused on inclusivity, social justice, and a commitment to the ongoing renewal of the church. The movement has grown to encompass a diverse community of believers committed to living out the gospel in contemporary contexts.

Core Beliefs and Theological Principles

The Disciples of Christ hold several foundational beliefs that guide their faith and practice:

- **Scripture as Authority:** The Bible is central, serving as the guide for faith and practice.
- **Christ-Centered Faith:** Jesus Christ is the Lord and Savior, whose life, death, and resurrection provide the path to salvation.
- **Christian Unity and Inclusivity:** Emphasizing unity among all believers, regardless of background, race, or social status.
- **Congregational Autonomy:** Each local church is autonomous but united through shared beliefs and mission.

- **Social Justice and Compassion:** Engaging actively in issues of justice, peace, and community service.

Understanding these principles helps disciples align their lives with the mission of the church and foster a sense of belonging and purpose.

Essential Practices for Today's Disciples

Personal Spiritual Growth and Devotion

A vital aspect of being a disciple is nurturing a personal relationship with God through various spiritual disciplines:

- **Prayer:** Regular communication with God, including gratitude, petitions, and listening.
- **Bible Study:** Engaging with Scripture to deepen understanding and application of God's word.
- **Worship:** Participating in communal and personal worship to experience God's presence and foster community bonds.
- **Fellowship:** Building relationships with other believers for mutual encouragement and accountability.

Encouraging consistent practice of these disciplines helps disciples stay rooted in their faith amidst life's challenges.

Communal Engagement and Service

Disciples are called to live out their faith through active service and community involvement:

- **Serving Others:** Volunteering in local outreach programs, food banks, shelters, and missions.
- **Advocating for Justice:** Addressing social issues such as poverty, racial inequality, and environmental concerns.
- **Building Inclusive Communities:** Welcoming diverse individuals and fostering environments of acceptance.

Participation in service projects not only transforms communities but also deepens personal faith and understanding of Christ's love.

The Role of Discipleship in the Modern Church

Discipleship as a Lifelong Journey

Discipleship is more than a one-time decision; it is an ongoing process of growth, learning, and transformation. The handbook emphasizes that:

- Disciples continually seek to emulate Christ in their daily lives.
- Growth involves both spiritual disciplines and active engagement with the world around them.
- Mentorship and accountability are key components of nurturing mature disciples.

Encouraging a mindset of lifelong learning and humility helps believers stay adaptable and committed to their spiritual journey.

Discipleship in Community

While personal faith is vital, the Disciples of Christ emphasize the importance of community in discipleship:

- Small groups and Bible studies foster deeper relationships and collective growth.
- Church programs and ministries provide avenues for service and leadership development.
- Shared worship experiences unite believers and reinforce communal identity.

By engaging with others, disciples create a supportive environment that encourages spiritual accountability and mutual encouragement.

Practical Tips for Living Out Your Faith as a Disciple

Developing Daily Habits

Success in discipleship often hinges on intentional daily routines:

- Start each day with prayer or scripture reading.
- Practice gratitude and mindfulness to keep focus on God's presence.
- Set specific spiritual goals, such as memorizing scripture or acts of kindness.

These habits build a strong spiritual foundation and keep faith at the center of everyday life.

Engaging in Outreach and Evangelism

Sharing faith respectfully and authentically is crucial:

- Build genuine relationships with those outside the church.
- Share personal testimonies and the message of hope in Christ.
- Participate in community events and outreach programs.
- Invite others to church or faith-based activities without pressure.

Effective evangelism is rooted in love, authenticity, and listening.

Overcoming Challenges in Discipleship

Discipleship can be challenging, especially when facing doubts, setbacks, or societal opposition:

- Seek mentorship and spiritual guidance when needed.
- Maintain a support network within the church community.
- Practice patience and perseverance through difficult times.
- Remember that growth often involves struggle and learning from mistakes.

Resilience and reliance on God's grace are essential for sustaining a vibrant discipleship journey.

Resources and Tools for Disciples Today

Recommended Reading and Study Materials

In addition to the handbook, consider exploring:

- Commentaries on Scripture for deeper understanding.
- Books on Christian living and social justice.
- Devotional guides tailored for daily inspiration.

These resources enrich personal faith and provide varied perspectives.

Technology and Digital Platforms

Modern discipleship benefits from digital tools:

- Online Bible studies and virtual small groups.
- Faith-based podcasts and video sermons.
- Social media outreach to share testimonies and events.

Harnessing technology can expand the reach and impact of faith practices.

Conclusion: Embracing the Call to Discipleship

A handbook for today's disciples in the Christian Church Disciples of Christ paperback offers more than just guidance; it invites believers to live intentionally as followers of Christ in a complex world. Embracing the core beliefs, engaging in meaningful practices, and actively participating in community life are vital steps toward fulfilling God's call. Discipleship is a dynamic and lifelong adventure marked by growth, service, and unwavering hope. As you journey forward, remember that you are part of a larger movement committed to love, justice, and the ongoing renewal of the church and the world. Let this handbook be your trusted companion in walking faithfully and boldly in your discipleship journey.

Handbook for Today's Disciples in the Christian Church: Disciples of Christ Paperback ? An Expert Review

In the rapidly evolving landscape of contemporary Christianity, faithful discipleship remains at the heart of spiritual growth and community engagement. The Handbook for Today's Disciples in the Christian Church: Disciples of Christ paperback emerges as a compelling resource tailored for modern believers seeking to deepen their faith, understanding, and participation within the Disciples of Christ tradition. This detailed review examines its structure, content, and relevance, offering insights into why it stands out as a vital guide for both new and seasoned disciples.

Overview and Context of the Handbook

The Handbook for Today's Disciples in the Christian Church is designed to serve as a comprehensive, accessible guide rooted in the theological and practical tenets of the Disciples of Christ denomination. Its primary goal is to equip believers with a clear understanding of their faith commitments, church practices, and personal spiritual disciplines.

This handbook recognizes the unique challenges faced by modern Christians—an age marked by technological advancements, cultural shifts, and a pluralistic society—while emphasizing the timeless principles of Jesus Christ's teachings. It aims to foster a sense of community, encourage active discipleship, and provide practical tools for living out the gospel daily.

Structural Breakdown and Key Features

The book is thoughtfully organized into sections that reflect the multifaceted nature of discipleship, blending theological insights with practical guidance. Here's an in-depth look at its main components:

1. Foundations of Discipleship

This opening section lays the theological groundwork, exploring what it means to be a disciple of Christ in today's world. Topics include:

- The nature of Christian calling
- The significance of baptism and communion
- The role of Scripture in daily life
- The importance of personal and communal prayer

By establishing these core principles, the handbook ensures readers understand the spiritual identity and responsibilities inherent in discipleship.

2. Living Out Faith in Daily Life

Recognizing that faith is not confined to church walls, this section offers practical advice on integrating Christian values into everyday activities:

- Ethical decision-making in personal and professional contexts
- Acts of service and social justice
- Building authentic relationships rooted in love and humility
- Managing challenges and doubts with grace

It includes reflective questions and actionable steps to help readers translate beliefs into tangible actions.

3. The Disciples' Community and Worship

Community lies at the heart of the Disciples of Christ tradition. This part emphasizes the importance of communal worship, fellowship, and shared mission:

- Understanding the role of local congregations
- Participating in inclusive and participatory worship services
- Engaging in church-led outreach and mission projects
- Fostering a supportive environment for spiritual growth

Practical tips on active involvement encourage believers to become integral parts of their faith communities.

4. Spiritual Disciplines and Growth

To sustain and deepen faith, the handbook dedicates a significant section to spiritual disciplines, such as:

- Prayer and meditation practices
- Bible study methods
- Fasting and solitude
- Journaling and reflection

It provides step-by-step guidance and recommended routines to cultivate a vibrant spiritual life, emphasizing that discipline and consistency are key.

5. Navigating Contemporary Challenges

In an era of cultural complexity, the handbook addresses issues like:

- Engaging with religious diversity
- Responding to societal injustices
- Addressing personal doubts and questions
- Maintaining faith amidst uncertainty

This section encourages honest dialogue, critical thinking, and compassionate engagement, equipping disciples to navigate modern challenges thoughtfully.

Design, Accessibility, and Usability

The Handbook for Today's Disciples distinguishes itself not only through its content but also through its user-friendly design. Its paperback format is portable, making it ideal for personal study groups or individual reflection.

Key design features include:

- Clear headings and subheadings for easy navigation
- Summaries at the end of each chapter to reinforce learning
- Reflection questions that prompt engagement
- Action lists to facilitate practical application
- Inspirational quotes from Scripture and Christian thinkers

Moreover, the language is accessible, avoiding theological jargon that might alienate newcomers, while still providing depth for seasoned believers.

Strengths and Unique Offerings

What makes this handbook particularly valuable are its distinctive strengths:

- Holistic Approach to Discipleship

It balances theological depth with practical application, ensuring readers don't just learn about faith but are empowered to live it.

- Emphasis on Inclusivity

Reflecting the Disciples of Christ's commitment to inclusiveness, the book advocates for open participation regardless of background, gender, or status, fostering a welcoming environment.

- Focus on Personal and Communal Growth

The handbook underscores that individual faith development and community involvement are mutually reinforcing, encouraging a dynamic, participatory faith experience.

- Adaptability for Various Settings

Whether used for personal reflection, small groups, or church training programs, its flexible structure makes it adaptable to diverse contexts.

- Up-to-Date Content

Addressing contemporary issues with sensitivity and relevance, it speaks directly to the concerns of modern disciples.

Potential Areas for Improvement

While the handbook excels overall, some areas could be enhanced:

- Digital Integration: Incorporating QR codes linking to supplementary online resources or videos could modernize its utility.
- More Interactive Elements: Features like guided exercises or journaling prompts might deepen engagement.
- Broader Ecumenical Perspectives: While rooted in Disciples of Christ theology, additional insights into wider Christian traditions could broaden understanding.

Conclusion: Is It a Must-Have for Today's Disciples?

Considering its comprehensive content, accessible language, and practical orientation, the Handbook for Today's Disciples in the Christian Church: Disciples of Christ paperback stands out as an essential resource for modern believers. It effectively bridges theological foundations with real-world application, fostering a faith that is both rooted and active.

Whether you are a new convert seeking guidance, a seasoned member aiming to refresh your understanding, or a church leader looking for a teaching tool, this handbook offers valuable insights and encouragement. Its emphasis on inclusivity, community, and personal growth aligns perfectly with the Disciples of Christ's mission to embody Christ's love in tangible ways.

In sum, this handbook is more than just a book—it's a catalyst for transformative discipleship, inspiring believers to live out their faith authentically and actively in today's complex world.

Question What key topics does 'A Handbook for Today's Disciples in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)' cover? The handbook explores foundational Christian beliefs, discipleship practices, spiritual growth, community engagement, and ways to live out faith in contemporary society. How is this handbook relevant for new members of the Disciples of Christ denomination? It provides practical guidance, biblical insights, and spiritual practices tailored to help new members understand their faith, integrate into the church community, and grow as committed disciples. Does the handbook address contemporary social issues from a Christian perspective? Yes, it discusses issues such as social justice, inclusion, environmental stewardship, and racial reconciliation, encouraging disciples to engage thoughtfully and compassionately with the world. Can this handbook be used for personal spiritual development or church study groups? Absolutely, it is designed to be accessible for individual study and also serves as a valuable resource for church classes and discipleship training groups. What distinguishes this handbook from other Christian discipleship resources? It emphasizes the unique identity and mission of the Disciples of Christ, focusing on progressive faith, inclusive community, and active discipleship in today's cultural context. Is the 'A Handbook for Today's Disciples' suitable for all age groups within the church? While primarily aimed at adult disciples, its clear language and practical approach make it a helpful resource for older youth and those seeking to deepen their faith journey.

Related keywords: Christian discipleship, church leadership, spiritual growth, biblical study guide,

religious education, faith development, church community, Christian living, discipleship resources, spiritual formation

NOT I BUT CHRIST

not i but christ: Embracing the Supremacy of Christ in Our Lives

In a world often centered around personal achievement and individual identity, the biblical principle of "not I but Christ" reminds believers to shift their focus from self to Savior. This phrase encapsulates the core message of humility, surrender, and the supremacy of Jesus Christ in every aspect of life. Understanding and applying this principle can transform how we view ourselves, others, and our purpose, fostering a deeper relationship with Christ and aligning our lives with God's divine plan.

Understanding the Meaning of "Not I but Christ"

Biblical Foundation

The phrase "not I but Christ" is rooted in the teachings of the Apostle Paul, particularly in Galatians 2:20, which states:

- "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."

This verse emphasizes the believer's death to self and the life of Christ within, highlighting a spiritual transformation that prioritizes Christ's lordship over personal desires.

Historical and Spiritual Significance

Historically, this phrase was popularized during the 19th-century holiness movement, emphasizing sanctification and complete surrender to God. Spiritually, it calls for believers to:

- Recognize Christ as the central figure in their faith and actions
- Humble themselves beneath God's mighty hand
- Live a life that reflects Christ's character and teachings

The Core Principles of "Not I but Christ"

Humility and Surrender

At its core, "not I but Christ" demands humility—a recognition that our own strength and wisdom are insufficient without Christ. It calls for surrendering personal ambitions and desires, trusting that God's plan is better.

Crucifixion of Self

This principle involves a daily death to self:

- Letting go of ego-driven pursuits
- Rejecting pride and self-sufficiency
- Embracing God's sovereignty in our lives

Living Through Christ

Living "not I but Christ" entails:

- Allowing Christ's love and righteousness to guide our actions
- Reflecting His character in our interactions
- Prioritizing God's kingdom above personal gains

Practical Applications of "Not I but Christ"

In Personal Life

Applying this principle involves intentional daily choices:

- Starting the day with prayer, surrendering to God's will
- Practicing humility in relationships and decisions
- Serving others selflessly, following Christ's example

In Church and Community

Within the church and community, "not I but Christ" encourages:

- Leading with humility and love

- Prioritizing unity over personal recognition
- Engaging in service projects that uplift others

In Challenges and Suffering

During difficult times:

- Trust in God's sovereignty rather than self-reliance
- Endure hardships with faith, knowing Christ's strength sustains
- Use trials as opportunities to grow closer to Christ

Benefits of Embracing "Not I but Christ"

Deeper Relationship with Jesus

Surrendering self and focusing on Christ deepens intimacy with Him, fostering spiritual growth and maturity.

Enhanced Humility and Compassion

Living with a Christ-centered perspective cultivates humility, making us more compassionate and understanding toward others.

Authentic Christian Witness

A life that exemplifies "not I but Christ" serves as a powerful testimony to others, drawing them toward faith.

Inner Peace and Joy

Letting go of self-centered pursuits relieves burdens of pride and anxiety, replacing them with peace rooted in God's grace.

Challenges in Living "Not I but Christ"

Self-Centeredness and Worldly Influences

In a culture that celebrates individualism, surrendering to Christ can be countercultural and challenging.

Spiritual Warfare

The enemy often seeks to distract believers from humility and dependence on Christ through temptation and doubt.

Maintaining Consistency

Living this principle daily requires perseverance, prayer, and accountability.

Steps to Embrace "Not I but Christ"

1. Daily Surrender

Begin each day with a prayer of surrender, asking God to help you live through Christ.

2. Study the Word

Immerse yourself in Scripture to understand Christ's character and teachings more deeply.

3. Practice Humility

Seek opportunities to serve and put others' needs before your own.

4. Seek Community Support

Surround yourself with fellow believers who can encourage and hold you accountable.

5. Reflect and Repent

Regularly examine your heart, confess shortcomings, and realign with Christ.

Conclusion: The Transformative Power of "Not I but Christ"

Living with the mindset of "not I but Christ" is a lifelong journey of humility, surrender, and transformation. It challenges believers to shift their focus from self-centered pursuits to a Christ-centered life marked by love, service, and spiritual growth. As we embrace this principle, we not only deepen our relationship with Jesus but also become powerful witnesses to the world, demonstrating the transformative power of living through Christ. Ultimately, it is in surrendering ourselves that we find true purpose, peace, and fulfillment?living not for ourselves, but for Christ alone.

Not I but Christ: A Deep Dive into the Centrality of Christ in Christian Faith

Understanding the core of Christian faith requires a focus on one fundamental truth: Not I but Christ. This phrase encapsulates the essence of Christian humility, surrender, and the transformative power of Christ's presence in the believer's life. This review explores the theological, historical, and practical dimensions of this profound declaration, illustrating its significance across various facets of Christianity.

The Origin and Biblical Foundations of "Not I but Christ"

Historical Context

The phrase "Not I but Christ" finds its roots in the writings and teachings of early Christian figures who emphasized the importance of surrendering personal agency to Christ. It gained prominence through the ministry of figures like Charles Wesley, who often emphasized the necessity of divine empowerment over human effort. The phrase also echoes biblical scriptures that highlight the humility and reliance on Christ rather than self.

Biblical Passages Supporting the Concept

Several key scriptures serve as the foundation for the declaration "Not I but Christ":

- Galatians 2:20 ? "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me."
- John 3:30 ? "He must increase, but I must decrease."
- 2 Corinthians 5:15 ? "And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."
- Philippians 1:21 ? "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

These verses underscore the biblical principle that the believer's identity and life are rooted in Christ, emphasizing dependence rather than independence.

Theological Significance of "Not I but Christ"

Humility and Surrender

At the heart of this phrase lies a call for humility. Recognizing that salvation, sanctification, and spiritual growth are not achieved through human effort but through Christ's divine work. It is an acknowledgment that:

- Human strength and wisdom are insufficient for salvation.
- Christ's sacrifice is the only foundation for redemption.
- The believer's role is to surrender and allow Christ to work through them.

This attitude fosters a mindset of humility, reducing pride and fostering dependence on divine grace.

Union with Christ

Theologically, "Not I but Christ" emphasizes the doctrine of union with Christ. Believers are seen as joined to Him through faith, making His life, death, and resurrection integral to their own spiritual existence. This union:

- Transforms the believer's identity.
- Empowers them to live righteous lives.
- Ensures that Christ's victory over sin is reflected in their daily walk.

Sanctification and Transformation

The phrase also relates to sanctification—the process of becoming more like Christ. It implies that:

- True change occurs when Christ's life is lived out through the believer.
- Human effort alone is insufficient; only Christ working within can produce genuine holiness.
- The believer's role is to surrender, allowing Christ to mold and shape their character.

Historical Figures and Movements Emphasizing "Not I but Christ"

John Wesley and the Wesleyan Movement

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, championed the idea that spiritual progress depends on divine grace rather than human effort alone. His teachings emphasized reliance on Christ's power, which aligns closely with "Not I but Christ." Wesley's sermons and writings often highlighted the necessity of surrendering oneself entirely to Christ for sanctification.

William Booth and the Salvation Army

William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, preached a message centered on complete reliance on Christ's saving power. His emphasis on personal surrender and divine empowerment echoes the principles behind "Not I but Christ."

Revival Movements

Throughout history, various revival movements have invoked this phrase or its principles, emphasizing the need for believers to relinquish self-reliance and yield fully to Christ's lordship.

Practical Implications of Embracing "Not I but Christ"

In Personal Spirituality

Living out "Not I but Christ" involves:

- Daily surrender in prayer, acknowledging dependence on God.
- Recognizing that personal efforts are insufficient without divine grace.
- Cultivating humility, acknowledging one's limitations and need for Christ's strength.

In Evangelism and Ministry

Ministers and evangelists who adopt this mindset:

- Avoid preaching or ministering in their own strength.
- Rely on the Holy Spirit to empower their work.
- Emphasize Christ as the source of salvation, not human wisdom or charisma.

In Relationships and Community

Applying this principle promotes:

- Forgiveness and humility within relationships.
- Serving others selflessly, reflecting Christ's love.
- Building community on Christ's principles rather than personal agendas.

The Role of "Not I but Christ" in Christian Worship and Devotion

Worship Practices

Many Christian worship traditions incorporate this mindset through:

- Hymns and songs that emphasize surrender (e.g., Wesley's "And Can It Be").
- Personal testimonies of surrender and reliance on Christ.
- Liturgical prayers focusing on divine empowerment.

Devotional Life

In personal devotion, believers are encouraged to:

- Confess dependence on Christ daily.
- Seek empowerment through the Holy Spirit.
- Allow Christ's life to manifest in their thoughts, words, and actions.

Challenges and Misunderstandings

Potential Misinterpretations

While the phrase promotes humility and dependence, some may misunderstand it as:

- Diminishing personal responsibility.
- Encouraging passivity rather than active faith.
- Overemphasis on surrender to the point of neglecting personal growth.

Balancing "Not I but Christ" with Personal Responsibility

True Christian life involves a balance:

- Recognizing that faith involves active obedience.
- Understanding that surrender is ongoing, not a one-time act.
- Engaging in spiritual disciplines to foster dependence on Christ.

Conclusion: Embracing the Heart of Christian Discipleship

The declaration "Not I but Christ" encapsulates the essence of Christian humility, dependence, and transformation. It challenges believers to relinquish self-reliance and embrace Christ's lordship fully. Rooted in biblical teaching and echoed throughout Christian history, this principle serves as a

guiding beacon for authentic discipleship.

Living out this truth requires daily commitment, spiritual discipline, and an ongoing surrender to the work of Christ within. Whether in personal devotion, ministry, or community life, embracing "Not I but Christ" leads to a more profound experience of grace and a life that truly reflects the character and love of Jesus Christ. It is not merely a slogan but a life-changing reality that, when embraced wholeheartedly, transforms believers into vibrant witnesses of Christ's power and presence in the world.

Question What is the meaning behind the phrase 'Not I but Christ'? The phrase emphasizes that believers should prioritize Christ's life and work over their own, acknowledging that it's through His strength and guidance that they live and serve. **Answer** How can I apply 'Not I but Christ' in my daily life? You can apply this principle by surrendering your desires and efforts to Christ, seeking His guidance in decisions, and allowing His character to be reflected through your actions. Who popularized the phrase 'Not I but Christ'? The phrase is closely associated with the hymn 'Not I, But Christ,' written by Christina Georgina Rossetti and popularized by Christian evangelists and hymnwriters as a reminder to rely solely on Christ. What biblical verses support the idea of 'Not I but Christ'? Verses like Galatians 2:20 ('I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me') and John 3:30 ('He must increase, but I must decrease') support this concept. Is 'Not I but Christ' a common theme in Christian sermons and teachings? Yes, it is a prevalent theme emphasizing humility, surrender, and the importance of Christ's work over personal efforts in spiritual growth. How does 'Not I but Christ' relate to Christian humility? It encourages believers to recognize their limitations and to rely on Christ's power, fostering humility and acknowledging that salvation and service are through Him alone. Can 'Not I but Christ' help in overcoming personal struggles? Yes, focusing on Christ rather than oneself can provide strength, hope, and encouragement to overcome challenges by trusting in His sufficiency. What role does surrender play in embodying 'Not I but Christ'? Surrender involves yielding one's own will and efforts to Christ, allowing Him to work through you and guiding your actions in accordance with His purpose. Are there famous Christian figures associated with the message 'Not I but Christ'? Many Christian ministers and evangelists, such as D.L. Moody and others, have emphasized this message to inspire believers to live Christ-centered lives. How can believers share the message of 'Not I but Christ' with others? Believers can share their testimony, live lives exemplifying humility and reliance on Christ, and teach others about the importance of surrendering self to serve and honor Jesus.

Related keywords: Christianity, Jesus Christ, faith, salvation, surrender, spiritual growth, disciple, grace, surrender to Christ, divine guidance

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