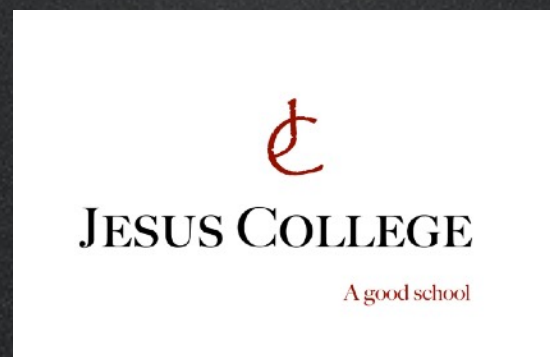


WELCOME to a 8 session course
PRACTICING THE WAY
by John Mark Comer
with the Jesus College student body of Christ



The Course Vision

To invite a community of apprentices of Jesus to be with Jesus to learn from Jesus how to become like Jesus to do as He did.

The Course Intention

- * Proclaim biblical truth.
- * Teach the way of life that is life Jesus revealed and taught.
- * Present spiritual practices for training into *Christlikeness*.
- * Provide weekly encouragement and accountability.

The Course Means

- * 8 interactive sessions with optional, extended Q&C.
- * Study Guide with resources and spiritual growth practices.
- * A global guild of Jesus apprentices

Format - 30 minutes

- Welcome, Focus & Review
 - Session Highlights
 - Your Q&C's
 - Summary & Blessing

— — —
- After: Optional more Q&C

Recorded sessions, slides,
& study guide in the
[Jesus College Library](#)

Your Fellow Practitioner

Doug Webster

- * Following Jesus for 51 years & working with Him since age 18
- * Vanguard University & Fuller Seminary
- * In 2013 a fresh hearing of Jesus awakened Jesus College in me.
- * This is Jesus College's 37th course engaging 3400+ students from 61 Countries.
- * Jesus College offers a Master's in the Master spiritual training.
- * A blessed family of 17 + Sadie



Session 1 - Following Jesus

I - Who am I following?

II - Apprentice of Rabbi Jesus

III - What is a Disciple?

IV - Practicing a Way of Life that is Life



Session 1 - Following Jesus

I - Who am I following?

We are all following somebody.

Put another way:

We're all disciples.

Not, "Am I a disciple?"

More accurately,

"Who or what am I disciple of?"

A First Century Rabbi and His Students

The word rabbi means “master” or “teacher.”

- Rabbis were the revered teachers, not just of the Torah, (the Jewish Bible), but of life with God. Most of them were itinerant traveling teachers.

- Rabbis had a small group of students called talmidim means “learner”, “student,” or “follower”, and most commonly “disciple.”

It wasn't informational; it was formational. The goal wasn't just to learn about something, but to become someone.

Discipleship – or “apprenticeship”—was the pinnacle of the first century Jewish educational system.

If the disciple made it through the long process of apprenticeship, the rabbi would say something like,

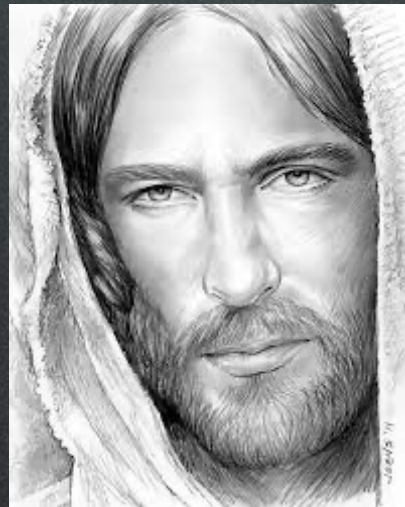
“I think you're ready: Go make disciples.”

Session 1 - Following Jesus

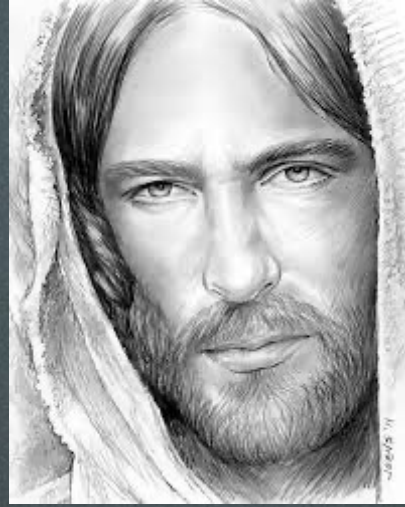
II - Apprentice of Rabbi Jesus

The Three Driving Goals of an Apprentice, a student of Jesus

- 1) Be with Jesus
- 2) Become Like Jesus
- 3) Do as Jesus Did



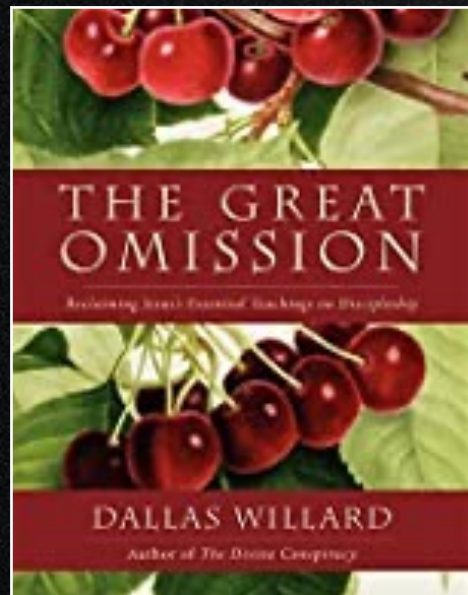
“He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach.” Mark 3:14



1) Be with Jesus

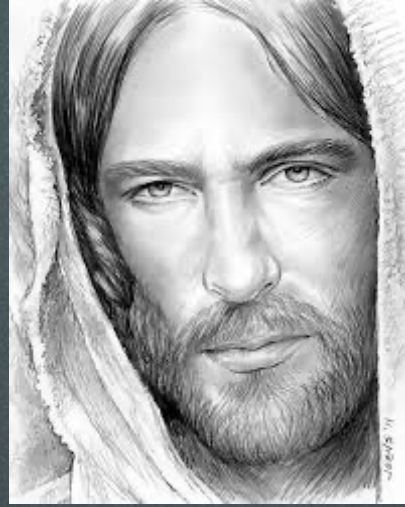
Jesus himself said to his apprentices, “I have called you friends.” (John 15:15) and through friendship with Jesus, we enter into the inner life of God himself — the trinitarian community of love; through Jesus, we are enveloped in the love and joy and peace that is flowing between the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. And we live in connection to this love all day long. Jesus calls this “abiding.” (John 15:5)

“The first and most basic thing we can and must do is to keep God before our minds... This is the fundamental secret of caring for our souls. Our part in this practicing the presence of God is to direct and redirect our minds constantly to Him. In the early time of our ‘practicing’ we may well be challenged by our burdensome habits of dwelling on things less than God. But these are habits — not the law of gravity — and can be broken. A new, grace-filled habit will replace the former ones as we take intentional steps toward keeping God before us. Soon our minds will return to God as the needle of a compass constantly returns to the north. If God is the great longing of our souls, He will become the pole star of our inward beings.”



Dallas Willard, *The Great Omission*

2) To become like Jesus



This is the bleeding heart of an apprentice — to be transformed from the inside out to think like Jesus, feel like Jesus, talk like Jesus, live and love like Jesus.

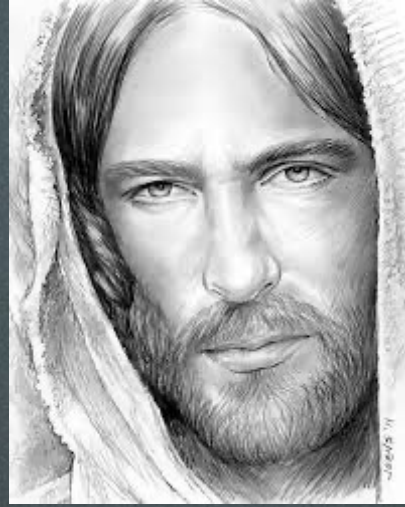
This is a process; none of us become like Jesus in a flash from heaven, but through a long process of training and apprenticeship to him. This process is “spiritual formation,” by which our “spirit” is formed to be like Jesus himself.

“The apprentice is not above the rabbi, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their rabbi.”

Luke 6:40 (paraphrase)

Imagine if you were to become more loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, and kind ... if you were to become like Jesus?





3) To do as Jesus did

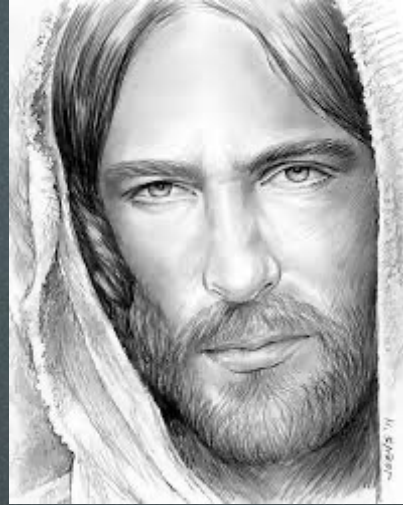
The goal of an apprentice of Jesus isn't just to know all about Jesus, but to be able to do the kinds of things he did — to join Jesus in his work of preaching, teaching, serving, healing, prophesying, and deliverance.

This may sound impossible to you, but as you are with Jesus, and become like him, you will naturally find yourself saying and doing the kinds of things he said and did.

“Come, follow me ... and I will send you out to fish for people.”

(Matthew 4:19)

Matthew 4:19



- 1) Be with Jesus
- 2) Become like Jesus
- 3) Do as Jesus Did

This is what “practicing the way” of Jesus means.



Session 1 - Following Jesus

III - What is a disciple?

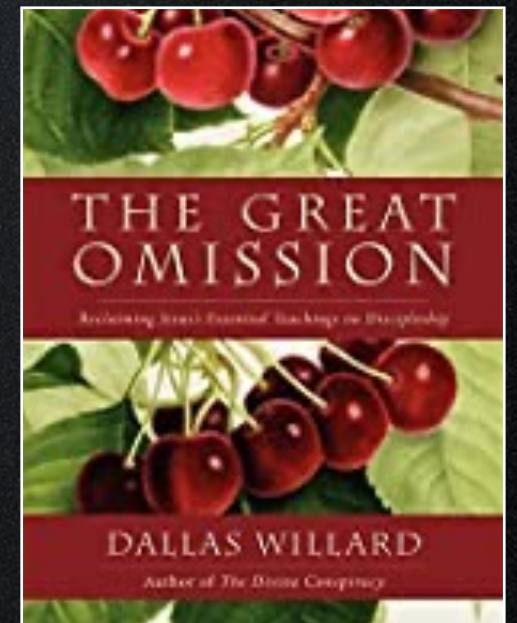
Am I a Christian or an apprentice; a consumer of religious goods and services or an intentional student of Jesus wanting to learn from Him how to become like Him if he lived my life?

“In America, for all the talk about how the West is post-Christian, 63% of people still self-identify as “Christians”, but a number of independent surveys put the number of people who are actually following Jesus at around 4%.” JM Comer

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24

“The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heart-breaking needs, is whether those who...are identified as “Christians” will become disciples — students, apprentices, practitioners — of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from him how to live the life of the Kingdom of the Heavens into every corner of human existence.”

Dallas Willard
The Great Omission, xv





Session 1 - Following Jesus

IV - Practicing a Life that is Life

The Crux

The good news of the gospel of the Kingdom* is this:
God has come to you and me in Jesus, and made a way
for us to apprentice under him, as Paul describes,
“the LIFE that is truly LIFE.” 1 Timothy 6:19 (* PtW, p. 17, 22, 217)

† In Jesus, God has taken on our death, to give us his life.

† Jesus took on our brokenness for us to take on his healing.

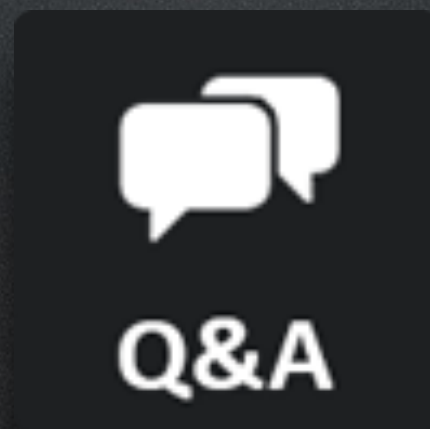
† Jesus entered our mortality. We can enter his immortality.

“I came that you might have life and have it abundantly.” John 10:10

Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)





Whether you are in Southern California or South Africa, Malaysia or Mauritius, each one of us is a steward of 10,080 minutes every week. If you spend 80 minutes weekly in personal study plus our course discussion, you have 10,000 minutes to flesh it out in your ordinary life. Each session offers life application to help you make every effort to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Spiritual Practice - Prayer Rhythm (study guide p.13)

Application

VISION - What does a 21st century disciple of Jesus look like to me?

INTENTION - "Whoever wants to be my disciple..."
Do I really want to follow Jesus?

MEANS - On what day(s) will I schedule the Prayer Rhythm in the next 10,000 minutes?



† Cross Fit

Spiritual Practice - Prayer Rhythm (study guide p.13)

There's no "right" way to do this. We want to develop a daily time and place to commune with God through the practices of silence, solitude, and prayer. Whether five minutes or an hour, start where you are not where you "should" be.

Find a quiet place and quiet time that is distraction-free. The general rule is: Give God your best time of the day. Start with a few deep breaths and let your mind and body calm down. This may take a few minutes. You're not in a hurry. Open your heart to God in prayer. Consider praying these Psalms:

Psalms 1, 23, 37, 40, 42-43, 63, 84, 86, 103, 139

Develop a Daily
Prayer Rhythm

01 — Identify a quiet place

02 — Identify a quiet time

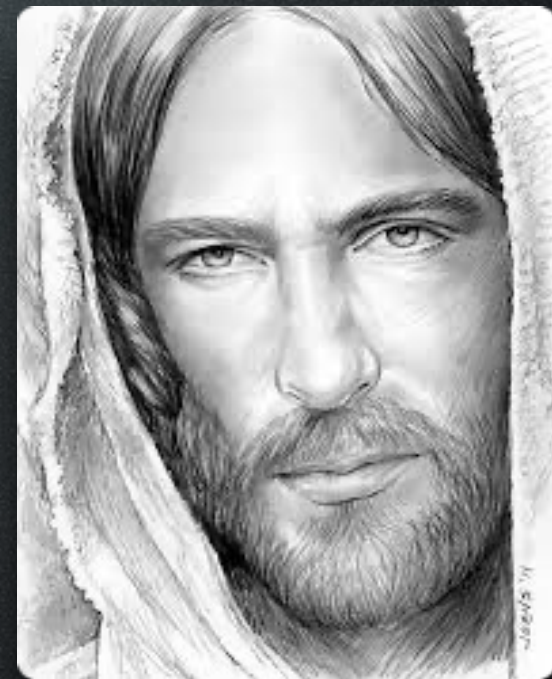
03 — Come to quiet

04 — Open your heart to God in prayer

Summary of Session 1

You are invited to be a student of history's greatest teacher and most influential human to be with Him to become like Him to live a life like He did.

The choice is yours today beginning with a regular rhythm of a conversational friendship with God.



*“Come, follow Me.”
Jesus of Nazareth*

LEVEL 1 — WATCH the teaching by John Mark Comer on free videos (link below) or [Practicing the Way YouTube](#) before each Jesus College session.

LEVEL 2 — After you WATCH the teaching and participate in the Jesus College session, PRACTICE the action for each session (link below) the next week. The practices are also in the Jesus College study guide.

LEVEL 3 — STUDY the suggested pages below from the *Practicing the Way* book as you WATCH the teaching videos and PRACTICE the way each week.

# & Date	WATCH ¹ (minutes)	PRACTICE ²	STUDY ³ (pages)
1 - 9/9/25	Following Jesus (18:21)	Prayer Rhythm	1-31
2 - 9/16/25	Formation 1 (14:03)	Formation Audit	32-63, 101-102
3 - 9/23/25	Formation 2 (17:09)	Daily Scripture	64-84
4 - 9/30/25	The Practices (15:10)	Sabbath	118-155, 174-205
5 - 10/7/25	Pain & Suffering (18:05)	Naming Emotions	112-117, 206-221
6 - 10/14/25	Healing from Sin (16:21)	Confession	84-102
7 - 10/21/25	Rule of Life (16:42)	Craft a Rule of Life	156-173
8 - 10/28/25	Life Together (19:21)	Community Life	108-112

Go to practicingtheway.org for teaching and practices plus testimonials and a companion guide. Consider inviting a small group of people to join you.

NOTES:

1 - Full John Mark Comer teaching on video (VIMEO)

2 - Short tutorial videos for each session's practice from practicingtheway.org

The practices are summarized for each session in the Jesus College study guide.

3 - *Practicing the Way* reading suggested by Jesus College to align with session themes.

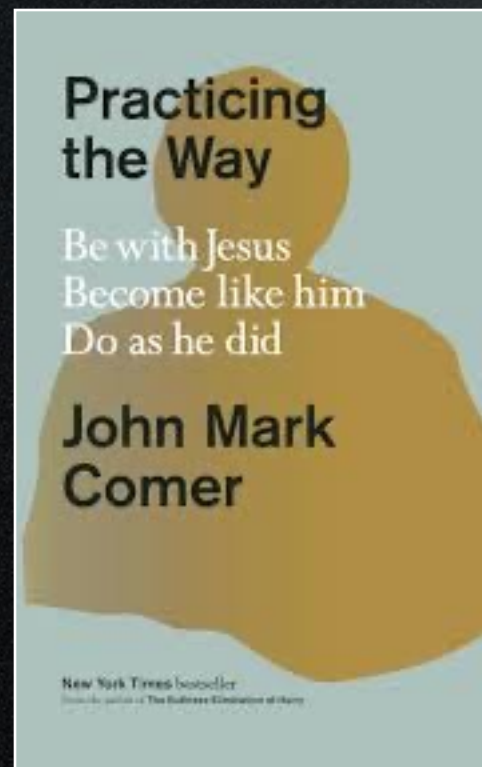
Next Week — Session 2

Formation 1

Video [14:03]

Book (32-63, 101-102)

Practice - Formation Audit



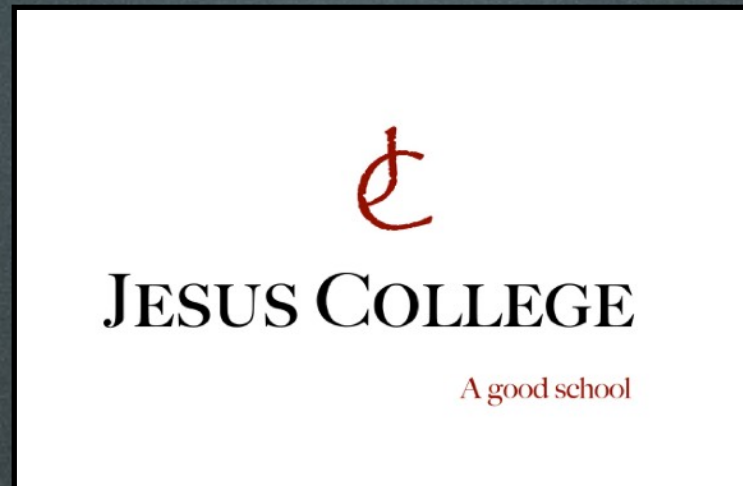
Invite others?

Register at info@JesusCollege.com

May you choose to
follow Jesus in your
next 10,000
minutes to forever
change your next
10,000 years.

Doug





Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns
“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs
“Training to be proficient in willing the good”

Jesus College Mission - To Empower Apprentices of the Master Teacher Jesus as the One, great truth to live a good life found in Him.

Jesus College Vision - Equipping Trainers—Parents, Pastors, Professionals, Professors, Politicians—to mentor Senior Apprentices who will make Apprentices of Jesus.

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teachings, and life of Jesus.



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