**Christian Discipleship**

**Pr. David M. Choi, Summer 2021**

Contact: david.choi@aya.yale.edu

Lecture Hours: 6:30-7:45pm || Tuesdays (bi-weekly)

Location: Calvary Youth Ministry Center

Grades: 6-7

Discussion Facilitator: Tchr. Kitty Fan

Discussion Hours: 11:30am-12:45pm || Sundays (bi-weekly)

Location: Calvary Youth Ministry Center

**Description**

Welcome to Christian Discipleship! In this course, we will examine the central tenets of what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ, by not only looking at what disciples do but *who disciples are*. Therefore, we will pay close attention to scripture, particularly the gospels, in order to discover what sort of lives Christ is calling us to lead. We will look at the individual and communal forms of discipleship, the theological virtues we are meant to embody and grow in, and how God’s action in our lives moves us to respond to the greatest needs and challenges of our world today.

**Objectives**

1. To develop a biblical and theological framework of Christian discipleship

2. To consider the deep cost of following Christ

3. To understand the central significance of scripture, worship, church-community, and friendship

4. To critically work out the social, cultural, economic, and political implications of discipleship

5. To become committed disciples ourselves as we take up our cross and follow Christ (Matt. 16:24)

**Discussion Group**

Class meets bi-weekly (or every other week) on Tuesday evenings. On weeks when we don’t have class, students will meet on Sundays with Tchr. Kitty for discussion section. Please make sure to show up on time, to have thoughtful reflections ready to share, and to be engaged. (Remember, you’ll only get out what you’re willing to put in!)

**Texts**

Bible [English Standard Version (ESV) preferred]

Williams, Rowan. *Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2016.

*Other reading handouts for Christian Discipleship*.

**Assignments**

1. Reading Quizzes: To help keep you accountable in your readings, throughout the course, there will be unannounced quizzes related to that week’s reading assignment(s).

2. Short Papers: To think critically about key biblical texts and ideas, a total of two short response papers will be written (about 300-350 words) in response to related prompts.

3. Attendance and Participation: Students will be allowed up to *two excused absences*. For students who repeatedly skip or miss class, their attendance will be raised in conversation with Pastor David with a parent present, and their future involvement in the course will be reconsidered. Likewise, for students who demonstrate a lack of effort or engagement, their participation will be raised in conversation with Pastor David, and their future involvement in the course will be reconsidered. In short, show up, and give God the best of your heart, soul, and mind.

**Class and Reading Schedule**

**Class 1 [6/22]: Call to Discipleship**

Due: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “Who Do You Say That I Am?” [handout]

**Class 2 [7/6]: Being of Disciples**

Due: *Being Disciples*, pp.vii-18

**Class 3 [7/20]: Virtues of Disciples: Faith, Hope, and Love**

Due: *Being Disciples*, pp.20-36

**Class 4 [8/3]: Virtues of Disciples: Forgiveness and Holiness**

Due: *Being Disciples*, pp.37-57

**Class 5 [8/17]: Disciples in the Public Square**

Due: *Being Disciples*, pp.58-74

**Class 6 [8/31]: Life in the Spirit**

Due: *Being Disciples*, pp.76-87

 N.T. Wright, “Living by the Spirit” [handout]