

Disciple of Christ Study
Application Letter

Dear Brother/Sister in Christ,

Jesus had a mission. The Bible's overarching theme is about this mission to restore the broken relationship between God and man. It was broken through the sin of disobedience by Adam and Eve. Thus sin entered the world and we inherited a sin nature. But just as sin entered into the world through one sin, so Christ with His one act of righteousness brought life to all who believe. Christ died on the cross and took the punishment for Adam and Eve's sin and all acts of disobedience. His mission was completed perfectly.

But how would Jesus inform the world of His completed mission? How would they know of this good news? He was not going to stay on the earth in bodily form but was returning to His original place with God before the world began.

Jesus had a plan. He would make "disciples." Although this is not a common word in our language, it comes from a Greek word meaning student or follower (μαθητής, oũ m disciple, pupil, follower). It was common for a teacher to choose pupils to teach and model his ideas before them. In this way he would pass on his wisdom to future generations. In other words, he would choose those he felt would learn from him and teach other disciples. The greater the reputation of the teacher, the more difficult it was to be chosen. Thus it is an honor to have the greatest Teacher of all time choose you and me to follow in His footsteps and pass on His unparalleled wisdom!

Jesus has the message of life and meaning for all mankind. While on earth, He took this message and lived it out before His 12 disciples as they followed Him and learned from Him throughout each day. They in turn would make disciples, not replicating themselves, but the Master. Their mandate and now ours was given to us on the day Jesus ascended back into heaven:

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Notice that Jesus did not say go and witness, although this is an important aspect of discipleship, but He commanded us to make disciples. In other words, make followers who will obey Me and they in turn will make disciples. Spend time with them. Immerse them in our ways so that they are One like the Father, the Holy Spirit and I am One.

Therefore Christian Library International has designed a discipleship program for you. We understand that we cannot be with you on a daily basis but we can communicate by mail. It may be more difficult. However, "nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). Plus you will have others around you that you *will* be able to disciple in person.

One particular volunteer (disciple) will review your lessons and write to help you live your life as a disciple of Christ and intentionally make disciples for the glory of the triune God. He or she will be with you by mail and in the Holy Spirit for a two-year period. During this time, we want you to begin to disciple those near you. We will be assigning women with women and men with men.

This is a serious two-year commitment for being discipled and a life-time commitment to disciple others. Prayerfully consider your answer. We have enclosed an application for the Disciple of Christ Program. If you feel led by God to be part of this program, please fill out the attached application and return it to CLI. We will also prayerfully consider your application. The program is not being offered to everyone at this time.

We are excited to see how the Lord is working in your life. He is the answer to all of life's problems, issues and joys. May you be filled with His inexpressible joy – always!

In Jesus,



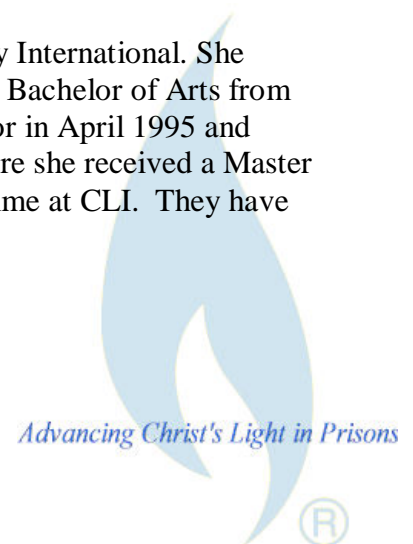
Kathleen Skaar
Executive Director

being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6

About the author of the CLI Disciple of Christ Study:

Kathleen Skaar is the founder and executive director of Christian Library International. She holds a Master of Business Administration from Meredith College and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Florida. Kathleen accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior in April 1995 and continued her studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary where she received a Master of Divinity. Kathleen is married to Anders Skaar, who also serves full time at CLI. They have three married children and seven grandchildren.

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Disciple of Christ Study: A two-year program designed to help you live your life as a disciple of Christ and intentionally make disciples for the glory of the triune God. Upon acceptance you will be assigned a CLI volunteer who will disciple you by mail for a two-year period.

Application for *Disciple of Christ Study* (Please Print Clearly)

Name _____ **Inmate ID#** _____
First **Last**

Circle one: Large Print (14 pt) or Regular Print (12 pt)

Prefiero este curso en espanol _____

Date of Application: _____
Month Day Year

Complete Mailing Address:

Home Address:

Institution/Housing

Street or P.O. Box

Street or P.O. Box

City

City State Zip Code

State Zip Code

I trusted or put my faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior on (date or year) _____

Here is my personal testimony (how my salvation happened) _____

How has your life changed since trusting Jesus? _____

Please Circle: Male or Female Date of Birth: _____ Earliest Outdate _____

I want to be accepted for the *Disciple of Christ Study* because: _____

Your Signature

Rev 1/2/2015 (Use back of application as needed for your answers)

Mail to the address below

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Advancing Christ's Light in Prisons

