

# **A Disciple: His Equipment, His Guidance, His Character**

*Gene Warr*

## I. Introduction.

A. The mission of the disciple is to preach, encourage and serve others. (1 John 4:17; Psalm 78:71-71)

B. The balanced Christian life is illustrated by a wheel.

1. The rim is our life which touches the world.

2. The center of the wheel is the hub, which carries all the weight and driving power. This is Jesus Christ.

3. The spokes include: the Word of God, prayer, witness, fellowship. (Luke 18:1-8; Proverbs 27:17; Ecclesiastes 4:9; Matthew 18:19-20)

## II. Another wheel illustration: the Christ-like character we need.

A. We need a true heart. (Ezra 7:10)

1. The starting point is a prepared heart. (2 Chronicles 12:14)

2. We need a guided heart. (Proverbs 4:23)

3. We need whole-heartedness. (Psalm 119; 2 Chronicles 31:27)

4. A true heart. (Proverbs 10:17)

5. A clean heart. (Jeremiah 4:3-4)

6. A plowed heart. (Hosea 10:12)

7. A trusting heart. (Hebrews 3:12)

8. A perfect heart.

B. The four basic traits of character that allow the guidance of God to accomplish God's task.

1. Spoke 1: positive attitude.

a. Believe God can do anything. (Philippians 4:13)

b. Have a positive outlook. (Philippians 4:8; Titus 1:15; Proverbs 15:15)

c. An expectant attitude. (Hosea 10:12)

2. Spoke 2: strong drive. (Psalm 18:29)

a. A clear objective. (Matthew 28:19-20)

b. Faith in the face of difficulty. (Job 23:10)

c. Enthusiasm. (Proverbs 15:30)

3. Spoke 3: steady persistence.

a. Seeing the invisible. (Hebrews 11:27; 2 Corinthians 4:18)

b. Believing the incredible. (Romans 4:20-21)

c. Attempting the impossible. (Joshua 3:14-17; Luke 5:4-6)

d. Patience. (Hebrews 10:36; Psalm 37:34)

e. Time. (Deuteronomy 7:22; Isaiah 28:9-10)

f. Steadfastness. (1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 6:13-14)

g. Panic proof. (Isaiah 8:12-13)

1) Know God is sovereign.

2) Know God is personal.

3) Know God is all powerful. (Matthew 28:18)

4) Know God loves you.

4. Spoke 4: mature personality.

a. This comes through a knowledge of Jesus. (Ephesians 4:13)

b. Keys.

1) Reliability. (Proverbs 25:19)

2) The ability to think through. (Proverbs 22:30; Acts 6:2)

3) Self control. (Proverbs 14:30; 1 Peter 2:23)

4) Decisiveness. (1 Corinthians 14:8)

5) Servant attitude. (1 Corinthians 9:19-22)

6) Stability. (Isaiah 33:6)

7) Getting along with others. (1 Peter 5:5-6)

8) Teachable. (Romans 12:16; Hebrews 13:17; James 3:18; Psalm 133:1; Proverbs 6:16-19)

III. Conclusion. (Psalm 78:71-72)

**Application questions:**

1. Why is a true heart a prerequisite to godly character?

---

---

2. What would you add to the spokes for obtaining godly character?

---

---

3. Which spoke of godly character do you need to work on the most? What is your plan?

---

---