



DEVOTION: December 15, 2019

Stay the Course **MIKE CAUTHORNE**

Colossians 2:6-7

Eugene Peterson defines discipleship as “a long obedience in the same direction.” As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to “Go and make disciples.” Unfortunately, it seems to be missing in most of our Christians lives. I was reminded recently that discipleship is similar to hiking. I was hiking in Nova Scotia with my family, and we passed an elderly couple on the trail. This trail, called The Middle Trail, was about a 2- to 3-hour hike to an overlook on the North Atlantic. For this couple, it was a 6- to 8-hour hike. They taught me that the hike was part of the destination. Whether it took 2 hours or 6 hours, we both ended at the same destination.

The key is getting to the end and knowing we were faithful to what God has called us to. At the end of the trail, we both experienced a breath-taking view, but this couple enjoyed the trail and taking in all of God’s creation. Discipleship is as much about the journey as it is about the final destination. Discipleship can be messy, but also quite beautiful. It can have many ups and downs, but, in the end, when we present a mature follower of Jesus Christ, God is glorified.



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