

Original followers of Jesus had a distinct discipleship advantage — after all, Jesus' example was in their lives on a daily basis! However, can you imagine how tough it was for the early disciples? What if someone requested that you say a prayer immediately after Jesus said one...that's a tough act to follow.

Many of us are blessed to have good, Christian examples among us too — our own “tough acts to follow.” They're people living out discipleship in word and deed, showing us how to follow Jesus in today's world.

The Christ-like people in my own life and their examples of discipleship led me to develop [the Christian Playbook](http://christianplaybook.longmemories.info/), [*link to http://christianplaybook.longmemories.info/*], an online resource of daily practices gathered from various sources, designed to help me – and others – grow and mature as disciples.

Following the “plays” in the Christian Playbook (CP) daily helps nurture my faith, share joys of discipleship with others and buoys me during turbulent times. It also motivates me – when my day doesn't include all of the CP activities, life just seems less focused.

The practices and links to resources in the Christian Playbook include: **Open Up** (Devotional), **Express Yourself** (Music), **Focused Attention Time** (Prayer), **Learn & Grow** (Study) and **Show Love** (Action).

Today's pace of life can be an obstacle to discipleship. Arming ourselves with a “Christian Playbook” equips us to continue practicing our faith on a daily basis even as we ‘make a suitable number of mistakes,’ endeavoring to become more like Christ in everything we do.

Colossians 3:14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ... 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.