

**Bible Study**  
**Based upon the Inspirational Story**  
**of the**  
**Life of Hudson Taylor**  
**Using the Holy Bible**  
**&**  
**Chronicles of Faith: Hudson Taylor**

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**\*Suggested Scripture for Memory**

## Chronicles of Faith

# Hudson Taylor

### I. Discipleship

#### a. Obedience & Discipline

When Hudson Taylor was a little boy, he liked to sit with his father while he worked. Hudson's father was a chemist in England, that is what we call a pharmacist. The Taylor family lived in rooms behind the chemist shop.

Hudson Taylor's parents were Christians who raised their children to have Godly behavior. Just as Jesus when He lived called the disciples to follow Him, He calls His children to be disciples today. Being Jesus' disciple means that we are students, and Jesus is our teacher.

The word disciple and discipline go together, the first meaning the student, the second meaning how we learn. Learning takes regular, daily study, and that is discipline. When Hudson's mother and father lovingly insisted that he obey their rules, it is discipline and training for life as an adult. To obey is to be obedient, and obedience is a Christian virtue—the best behavior we can have.

Using a dictionary, **write what the word *virtue* means.**

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Jesus taught His disciples when He gave the Sermon on the Mount. He talked about how we are to behave, and gave us the blessings we will receive when we do. These blessings are called The Beatitudes. Jesus told His disciples that they are to be light in the world, and that the light shines out from on top of a hill, like a lighthouse.

The Sermon on the Mount can be found in Matthew 5-7, and also in Luke 6. **Read the Sermon in Matthew *or* Luke. Place a checkmark here when you have finished.** \_\_\_\_

After Jesus taught his disciples, He then sent them out on their own in pairs. This is something like on-the-job training, a time to use what they have learned. **Read Mark 6: 7-13, then place a checkmark here when you have finished.** \_\_\_\_

We Christians obey God because we love him. We do it with joy. When we do obey and depend upon God, we have nothing about which we need be afraid.

In Deuteronomy 5 and 6, Moses is speaking to the people of Israel. Because God's Word in the Holy Bible is the Living Word, it is alive for us today. We can apply the message in these words to our lives.

In Deuteronomy 5, Moses gives the Ten Commandments. **What is the commandment in Deuteronomy 5: 16?**

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In the same verse, God tells us how we will be blessed when we follow this command. **What will happen when we obey?**

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We are again told what will happen when we obey in Deuteronomy 6: 3. **What does it say in this verse?**

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**Find Deuteronomy 6: 5\* and write it here. How much are we to love God?**

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Jesus repeated this message to us in the New Testament. You can find it in these books. **Look the verses up. After you read them, put a checkmark in the blank below.**

\_\_\_ Matthew 22: 37

\_\_\_ Mark 12: 30

\_\_\_ Luke 10: 27

What does it mean to love God this much? It means to love God more than anyone or anything else. This is important to learn, remember and obey.

When we love God so much that it is bursting out of us, Jesus wants us to share it with others. **Jesus tells us so in John 13: 34\*, the New Commandment. Please look this verse up and write it down. This is what tells us how Jesus wants us to treat others.**

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The next verse, Deuteronomy 6: 7, is for parents. Write the verse down.

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These are important verses about how we are to live our lives. What does God say we are to do with them in Deuteronomy 6: 6, and 6: 8-9?

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Our biography of Hudson Taylor in chapter one gives us two examples of his obedience. Write what the two examples are.

- 1.
- 2.

**b. The Call**

When the family has guests that talk about their missionary work, Mr. Taylor talks about how concerned he is that missionaries are needed in China. Becoming a missionary where we live or in another country is the call given to every Christian by Jesus Christ. Jesus told us to do this in the **Great Commission**.

In your Bible, look up Matthew 28: 19-20\*. Write the two verses here.

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**c. Salvation through Jesus Christ**

Hudson Taylor grew up in a home with Godly parents who loved him and his brothers and sisters. They taught their children to know and love God. There still came a time when Hudson needed to make his own promise to God, and ask Him to be Lord of his life.

When Hudson began working in a bank, he was interested in what his new friends were saying, even though they were not loving God as they should. It sounded like fun to him. He wanted to belong to the group and do what they were doing, think what they were thinking.

A time came when Hudson prayed and asked God to forgive him, and become Lord of His life. It was after this that God told Hudson what he was to do. God said that Hudson was to go and tell people in China about Jesus.

No other verse in the Bible is probably known better than **John 3:16\*** You may already know it, but if you don't this will be a good time to memorize it. God's message of salvation is free and simple. If people come to you and give you all kinds of complicated rules, it will be best to pray for God's wisdom and truth.

Who was praying for Hudson while he was reading about Jesus, and then asked Jesus to be his Savior and Lord?

**Hudson's \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_**

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**d. Getting Ready**

Hudson Taylor was now a true disciple of Jesus Christ, and he needed to prepare himself for the work God called him to do. How did Hudson prepare?

**Hudson learned the \_\_\_\_\_ language.**

**Hudson went to school and studied \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.**

It was hard, because Hudson didn't have a lot of money. He trusted God to give him what he needed, and asked God to take care of him when he prayed. One time, a man asked Hudson to pray for his wife who was sick. The family was very poor, and Hudson had only one coin left for his own needs, but he gave it to the man. **Jesus tells a story about a woman who gave from the little she had in Luke 21: 1-4. Read this story, and then put a checkmark here when you have finished.** \_\_\_\_

When we care for others and share what we have, God knows it and loves us for it—because we have given out of our love for God.

## II. Following Jesus Call

Hudson hadn't completed the training he felt was necessary to do God's work, but the people sending him to China felt that he was ready, and that it was time – and God must have felt that way, too, because his commission was about to begin. Hudson Taylor was now on his way to China.

### Fill in the blanks.

Our book gives the names of two of the ships on which Taylor traveled. They are the **D** \_\_\_ **mf** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ **s** and the **L** \_\_\_ **mm** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ **m** \_\_\_ \_\_\_ **r**.

While Hudson was in China, his wife and three of their children died. Though he was sad and missed them, he was happy that they were in heaven with Jesus. To be happy when we are sad is possible only when we know Jesus, because we then have hope of a beautiful future that will last forever.

**Read about it in Revelation 22: 1-5, then put a checkmark here.** \_\_\_

We can believe these verses about heaven because they are true, as it says in **Revelation 22: 6**. **Write down this verse.**

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There is a Christian hymn written by a man named Joseph Scriven for his mother, who was going through difficult times. Because the words are so true, people have been singing it for over 100 years.

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

**Use a dictionary if you need to, and write what these words mean.**

**grief** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**privilege** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**evangelize** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**forfeit** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What does Joseph Scriven's hymn tell us to do when we are having problems, or if we are sad or worried?

**Take it to the Lord in \_\_\_\_\_.**

There is another hymn written by a father whose family was in a shipwreck. Because of Horatio Spafford's faith in God, he was able to come through all of his sadness.

When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll,  
Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

The language is old-fashioned, but what they tell us is true.

**What does the word *thou* mean in this hymn?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What is a *billow*?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What is a *sea billow*?** \_\_\_\_\_

Hudson Taylor, after his wife died, married again. He was blessed with two Godly wives who had the same vision as he did for following the Great Commission in China. **Write their names.**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

When Mr. Taylor first went to China, he went through the Chinese Evangelization Society. His vision included more, and to achieve it he created a new organization. **He named it the**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Hudson trusted God to provide, both the needed money and the people to go to China. At first he had a hard time trusting. Mr. Taylor wondered how he could ask people to go when they might have no food and even die. While walking and praying on a holiday in Brighton, he received the answer he needed. **What was the answer?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hudson Taylor never limited God in what He can do. He believed, and had faith that when God gave him something to do it could be completed. The number needed to do the work of evangelism in China was great, because China is a vast country with millions of people. Hudson asked for larger and larger numbers of workers to go throughout China.

**What were the numbers?** \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_.

Mr. Taylor wrote a book and a pamphlet to spread the word about what was needed in China.

**What were the names?**

**Book** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pamphlet** \_\_\_\_\_

One of Hudson and Maria's children also became a missionary in China. **His name was**

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ **He was a particular kind of missionary, called a**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **missionary.**

**a. Multiple Choice**

1. Hudson spent over \_\_\_\_ years working to bring the message of salvation through Jesus Christ to China. (p. 209)

- a. 10
- b. 100
- c. 50
- d. 44

2. Hudson Taylor met his first wife in the city of

- a. Beijing
- b. Peking
- c. Ningpo
- d. Chun King

3. Hudson Taylor married his first wife on

- a. January 20, 1858
- b. January 20, 1948
- c. December 25, 1848
- d. none of the above

4. Hudson Taylor met his second wife

- a. on a trip to the United States
- b. on a ship to England
- c. on a ship to Australia
- d. while walking on the Great Wall of China

5. Hudson Taylor's missionaries came from

- a. England only
- b. German only
- c. Canada and Germany
- d. All over the world

6. Hudson Taylor died when he was

- a. 33
- b. 73
- c. 103
- d. 83

**b. True or False**

- T F** God calls all Christians to be missionaries.
- T F** God calls Christians to be missionaries in countries not their own.
- T F** God calls some Christians to be missionaries right where they live.
- T F** God wants us only to say He is God when we are in church.
- T F** God wants to say we are Christians all of the time.
- T F** Everything in the Bible is true.
- T F** Children only have to obey their parents when they feel like it.
- T F** Each person must accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord themselves.
- T F** Prayer is not just a way to handle problems, it is the best way.

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**c. Word Scramble**

Several cities in China are named in this biography of Hudson Taylor's life. Unscramble the city names.

PONANG \_\_\_\_\_

IASHNGAHV \_\_\_\_\_

WOKNAH \_\_\_\_\_

NANHUA \_\_\_\_\_

ANGYCHOW \_\_\_\_\_

# NOTES