

**“The first time you say something, it’s *heard*,
The second time, it’s *recognized*, and
The third time, it’s *learned*.”**

William H. Rastetter

Divine Alignment of Jesus Christ

Communion Service

Working Definition for Divine Alignment

Positioning oneself so that one is in tune (harmony, agreement) with God's perfect will for their life.

(1) Obedience is proof of Divine Alignment

Example 1

Luke 2:48-51 (NIV)

48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"

50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51 Then **he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient** to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV)

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself **by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!**

Example 2

John 14:23 (NLT)

²³ Jesus replied, “All who love me will **do what I say**. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.

(2) Humility is proof of Divine Alignment

Example 1

Philippians 2:5-8 (NIV)

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ **Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;**

⁷ rather, **he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant**, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he **humbled** himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Example 2

2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV)

14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall **humble** themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

(3) Making Disciples is proof of Divine Alignment

Example 1

Matthew 4:8-22 (NKJV) - Four Fishermen Called as Disciples

18 And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

19 Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

20 They immediately left *their* nets and followed Him.

21 Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James *the son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them,

22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed Him.

Luke 6:12-16 (NKJV) - The Twelve Apostles

12 Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray and continued all night in prayer to God.

13 And when it was day, He called **His disciples to *Himself*; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:**

14 Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew;

15 Matthew and Thomas; James the *son* of Alphaeus, and Simon called the Zealot;

16 Judas *the son* of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.

Example 2

Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV) - The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

18 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."

(4) Consistent implementation of spiritual disciplines is proof of Divine Alignment

Example 1

Luke 5:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ But Jesus **often** withdrew to lonely places and **prayed**.

Example 2

Luke 18:1 (NIV)

¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should **always pray and not give up**.

1 Peter 4:7 (NLT)

⁷ The end of the world is coming soon. Therefore, **be earnest and disciplined in your prayers**.

**(5) Suffering in the kingdom is proof of
Divine Alignment**

Example 1

1 Peter 3:18 (NLT)

1⁸ Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He **suffered physical death**, but he was raised to life in the Spirit

Example 2

Suffering for being a Christian - 1 Peter 4:12-16,19 (NLT)

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you.

13 Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world.

14 If you are insulted because you bear the name of Christ, you will be blessed, for the glorious Spirit of God rests upon you.

15 If you suffer, however, it must not be for murder, stealing, making trouble, or prying into other people's affairs.

16 But it is no shame to suffer for being a Christian. Praise God for the privilege of being called by his name!

19 So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.

The Apostle Paul's Statement of Alignment

Philippians 3:10 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

¹⁰ My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and **the fellowship of His sufferings**, being conformed to His death,

Conclusion

- **Purpose in your heart to divinely align yourself just as Jesus Christ divinely aligned Himself.**

- **One purpose of the cross is divine alignment.**
- **A divine exchange took place on the cross.**
 - **He took from us what we ought not to bear in exchange for all that we must endure to live as victorious kingdom citizens.**

■ **To divinely align will mean that we ought to willingly accept certain experiences and lifestyles. For example,**

- **Obedience**
- **Humility**
- **Discipleship Making**
- **Spiritual Disciplines**
- **The fellowship of His sufferings.**
- **Persecutions**

1 Peter 2:21-25 (NLT)

21 For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.

22 He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone.

23 He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God who always judges fairly.

24 He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed.

25 Once you were like sheep who wandered away. But now you have turned to your Shepherd, the Guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 1:18-20 (NLT)

18 For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value.

19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.

20 God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake.

i) Final Greetings

2 Corinthians 13:14 NIV

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ii) Assurance of God's Promises to us

Psalms 23:6 NIV

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.