



**Study Guide for Defining Discipleship Presentation 4:
Discipleship from a Global Perspective
with The Rev. Canon Ranjit Mathews**

[Click here to access the Defining Discipleship video presentations via YouTube.](#)

Notes:

Ranjit cites Matthew 16:24:

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.” (NRSV)

Discipleship is an invitation to lead a “cross-shaped life.”

Ranjit’s friend Shaheen in Capetown asked him, “Why are you here?” This led him to examine his privilege as an American missionary, and to think about how he wanted to do his mission and development work in relationship to the people among whom he was serving.

Ranjit shares that while he was a missionary with the Young Adult Service Corps, his friend Zackie, an atheist, evangelized him, through his example of solidarity with those who could not afford drugs for HIV/AIDS.

Ranjit speaks about “Power with” vs. “power over” in our relationships: centering Christ instead of ourselves. He talks about “bending our hearts” to the gospel, and to each other. He also distinguishes between being political and being partisan in our Christian faith and witness.

Questions:

- Who is an example for you of someone living a “cross-shaped life”?
- Ranjit spoke about how so many of the people he encountered in his travels now “live in his heart.” Who are the people across the globe who live in your heart?
- Have international or inter-cultural friendships ever challenged you or your understanding of the gospel?
- Does your congregation or faith community or your diocese currently have any global partnerships? If not, how might you begin to discern a global partnership or relationship?

Going Deeper:

- Watch this video series from the Anglican Communion, [“Being Anglican: Learning from Global Perspectives”](#) on YouTube