

Discipleship and Lordship

Optional points are marked with “◊”. Supplemental Scriptures are in parentheses ().

Introduction

- Review how after we hear and believe, our obedience completes true, saving faith
 - Next, the question to ask is: “How does Jesus want us to follow him?”

The Call to Discipleship Matthew 28:18-20

- Jesus wants everyone to be a disciple. How do a disciple and Christian differ?
- Which is the more popular term: disciple or Christian? Christian
 - Many perceive that disciples are “super” Christians
 - The word “disciple” occurs over 270 times in the New Testament. The word “Christian” only appears three times
- “Christian”, is used for the first time. Disciple was used first Acts 11:19-26
 - Christian and disciple are supposed to mean the same thing
- We must be **disciples** in order to be true Christians and to be **truly saved**
- Jesus wanted everyone to be disciples, because he wanted everyone to be saved
- We will examine how Jesus defined and called people to discipleship

Loving the Lost: The Mission of a Disciple

- Jesus called the first disciples: “Come, **follow** me...” Mark 1:14-20
 - Disciples follow Jesus. Disciples are under the Lordship of Christ
- Following Jesus changed the mission of their lives: fishermen to fishers of men
- What has been your mission in life? Are you willing to be a fisher of men?
- They also saw Jesus’ mission was to help those in need physically.... Mark 1:32-34

Loving God: The Marriage Transformation

- Disciples are defined by **love**: for God and other people Mark 12:30-31
True love for God changes our lives in a manner similar to getting married.
- Unrivaled Love: “If anyone”, this applies to all people..... Luke 14:25-26
 - “Hate”: We can have only one Lord, Jesus. No competition
In marriage, how do people feel about whatever competes for their spouses’ affection? Hate. We must be devoted completely to Jesus
 - Disciples love Jesus more than anybody or anything**
 - Opposition, persecution and distraction can come from our closest relationships
Are you devoted to loving Jesus more than anybody or anything?

Sacrificial Love: “...carry his cross” means we must sacrifice..... Luke 14:27

- On a daily basis**, we are called to sacrifice and **deny ourselves** Luke 9:23-26
In marriage, there is a big life change of daily sacrifice from being single to married.
- Disciples make a big life change of daily sacrifice and self-denial**
- Start with your daily personal time with God (v. 3)..... (Luke 11:1-4)

Count the Cost: Think carefully, before calling yourself a disciple Luke 14:28-33

- Were you taught to count the cost before you called yourself a Christian?
- Jesus was clear and upfront at the beginning, even when addressing a large crowd
In marriage, a person thinks carefully before picking a spouse.
- True discipleship requires hearing the message and watching your doctrine closely
- When considering the alternatives, following Jesus is wise..... Luke 14:31-32
- Give Up Everything Luke 14:33
 - Jesus taught with integrity. When he called people to follow him, he was clear about what he expected: **Everything**
In marriage, people expect complete devotion. 99% faithful is not acceptable
In marriage, a couple shares everything. Everything is given to the relationship
 - How willing are you to give your time, energy, heart, resources and finances over to God?

Loving One Another: The Mark of a True Disciple

- Love for one another is a defining characteristic of a disciple John 13:34-35
- ◊ Disciples have a sacrificial love for one another (John 15:12-14)
- ◊ Disciples have a deep love for one another (1 Peter 4:8)
 - Loving each other covers over sin and connects to our salvation
- ◊ We cannot love God unless we love the disciples we see near us... (1 John 4:19-20)
- ◊ Love is expressed through action and truth (1 John 3:18)
- ◊ We live by the truth by being open with each other (John 1:5-10)
 - A lifestyle involving confession builds fellowship and cleanses us from sin
- Does your love for other disciples show yourself as a true, disciple of Christ?

Conclusion Matthew 28:19

- Who is a candidate for baptism? Those who have made the decision to be a disciple (H.B.O.).
 - Jesus directs us to go disciple or teach people before they are baptized
 - People must be accurately taught what it means to be a disciple before they are baptized
- Have you been taught to be a disciple accurately? Am I a disciple? Am I a Christian? Am I saved?
- “Teach them to obey everything...”
 - After baptism, people are important in teaching us to be mature in Christ
 - Jesus’ command to make disciples was given to be passed down to all

Year	Preacher	Disciple
1	365	2
2	730	4
3	1095	8
13	4,745	8,192
32	11,680	The world: billions

Discipleship and Lordship

Optional points are marked with “◊”. Supplemental Scriptures are in parentheses ().