

ARE YOU A DISCIPLE?

3/26/2023 AM

INTRO.:

A. Text: Matt. 28:18-20

B. Regarding the text:

1. These words were spoken by Jesus prior His ascension into heaven.
 - 1) Great Commission. (Go, teach and baptize. ASV "Go make disciples.")
 - 2) The word disciple or disciples are found in 119 verses in the N/T.
2. Who is a disciple of Jesus?
 - 1) Some believe in Jesus and they regularly attend church services.
 - 2) Does this alone make them a disciple of Jesus?
3. We must realize what is involved in being a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

DISCUSSION: WHO IS A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST?

I. DISCIPLE DEFINED.

A. A disciple is "a learner." Vines: "one who follows another's teaching."

1. To be a disciple of Christ, one must learn His teachings and follow them.
2. Acts 11:26.

B. As disciple we are to "conformed to the image of his Son" (Rom. 8:28-29).

II. THE MARKS OF A DISCIPLE.

A. A disciple lives according to the Word. (John 8:31).

1. This requires that we study (2 Tim. 2:15) and be a "doer" of the word" (Matt. 7:21-25; James 1:22).
2. The disciple of the Lord learns His teachings and follows then in his daily life.
3. If we are disciples of the Lord, it will be evident (1 Thess. 2:12; 1 Pet. 2:12).

B. A disciple is one who loves the brethren (John 13:34-35).

1. The **command**: "love one another." The **pattern**: "as I have loved you." The **result**: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples."

C. A disciple is one who bears fruit for the Lord (John 15:8).

1. Note: "much fruit." He is not speaking of an occasional good deed, but a lifestyle that cause others to glorify God. (Matt 5:16 "Let your light...")
2. **THIS IS SO IMPORTANT** (John 15:1-2).

III. THE COST OF BEING A DISCIPLE.

A. Jesus must come first (Luke 14:26).

1. Before anyone else, including family (Matt. 10:34-37 READ).
2. Before our own self (Luke 9:23).

B. We must be willing to suffer for Christ. (Luke 14:27; 2 Tim. 3:12).

C. Simply stated: We must forsake all to be a disciple (Luke 14:33).

IV. THE BEGINNING OF DISCIPLESHIP.

A. According to Jesus, this involves learning (Mark 16:15-16).

1. We must have faith. (Heb. 11:6) Faith is obtained through the word of God. (Rom. 10:17)
2. Learning is the first step. Obedience must follow.

B. It involves being baptized. (Mark 16:15-16)

C. At baptism we "put on Christ." (Gal. 3:27).

D. After baptism one must continue to learn and obey (Matt. 28:20).

V. CONCLUSION.

A. Being a disciple is to believe IN Jesus & believe WHAT He taught.

B. After learning, we obey.