

# **DISCIPLESHIP**

## **SEPTEMBER 17, 2017**

### **MATTHEW 28:18-20 (ESV)**

Jesus told his disciples to evangelize the world and make disciples of all nations. The goal of evangelism is discipleship. What is a disciple? The goal of our study is to have Jesus define what a true disciple is.

### **DISCIPLESHIP DEFINED**

1. A disciple is a learner, student or apprentice. One who follows another's teachings.
  - A. The Jews were disciples of Abraham and Moses.
  - B. The Greeks were disciples of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.
  - C. The Apostles were disciples of Christ.
2. A disciple does more than believe.
  - A. **JOHN 8:39** – A disciple strives to be like his teacher.
  - B. **LUKE 6:40 (ESV)** – Discipleship involves training.
  - C. **JAMES 2:19** – The devils believe and tremble.
3. The goal of Christian discipleship is to conform to Jesus' image.
  - A. **ROMANS 8:29 (ESV)** – A disciple is one who sits at his master's feet, listens to his teachings, observes his conduct and strives to be like him.
  - B. Remember Mary who sat at Jesus' feet?

### **MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP**

1. A true disciple continues in the Word. **JOHN 8:30-32**
  - A. The goal is to be a doer of His teachings. **LUKE 6:46**
2. A true disciple loves as He loved. **JOHN 13:34-35**
  - A. His love has breadth, length, depth and height. **EPH. 3:17-19**
3. A true disciple bears Christian fruit. **JOHN 15:8 (ESV)**
  - A. This involves conduct that glorifies God. **1 PETER 2:12 (ESV)**

## THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

1. Salvation may be free, but there is a cost to discipleship. Jesus taught us to count the cost for being His disciple in **LUKE 14**.
  - A. Relationships. **LUKE 14:25-26**
  - B. Personal goals and aspirations. **LUKE 14:27**
    - A crucified man faces one way, is not going back, and has no future plans. **GALATIANS 2:20 (ESV)**
  - C. There's a cost to building. **LUKE 14:28-30**
  - D. War has a cost. **LUKE 14:31-32**
    - It's better to follow Jesus and make peace with God than to be His enemy.
  - E. It may cost everything. **LUKE 14:33**
    - Someone may pay our college tuition for us, but paid tuition doesn't guarantee graduation.

## THE REWARD'S OF DISCIPLESHIP - 1 TIMOTHY 4:7-8 (ESV)

1. Future blessings.
  - A. **2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8** – Crown of righteousness, life, rejoicing, glory and an incorruptible crown – **1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27**
  - B. **REVELATION 21:1-8** – Eternal sonship and inheritance.
2. Present blessings.
  - A. **2 CORINTHIANS 6:17-18** – We will experience God's presence, power, peace, promises, provision and protection.
  - B. The assurance of salvation (**1 JOHN 5:13**) and protection from the wrath that is to come.

**CONCLUSION:** There's a difference between someone who says he believes and a disciple. It's one thing to say we believe in Jesus, it's another to say we are His disciples. A disciple receives Him as Savior and is committed to following Him, learning from His teachings and obeying His commandments.