

Are you a disciple? By Mareneo Flourney

Becoming a disciple of Jesus is a process that will liberate you from all man-made dogmas, from every burden and oppression, from every anxiety and torture that afflicts your conscience. If you follow Jesus by His Holy Spirit, you will escape from the hard yoke of your own laws, and submit to the kindly yoke of Jesus Christ.

Joh 13:31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. 32 If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. 33 Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

a. A new commandment: The specific ancient Greek work used here for new here implies freshness, or the opposite of outworn, rather than recent or different. It isn't that this commandment was just invented, but it will be presented in a new, fresh way.

b. That you love one another: "Whereas the Old Testament demanded that men should love their neighbors as themselves, the New Law is that they should love the brethren better than themselves, and die for their friends." (Hoskyns)

"To love one another" was not a new commandment (cf.

Lev_19:18; What was new was that believers were to love each other as Jesus loved them (cf. Joh_15:12; Joh_15:17; 1Jn_2:7-8; 1Jn_3:11; 1Jn_3:16; 1Jn_3:23; 1Jn_4:7-8; 1Jn_4:10-12; 1Jn_4:19-20; 2Jn_1:5).

Love is the one characteristic that Satan cannot counterfeit. Believers are to be characterized by love (cf. 1Jn_3:14; 1Jn_4:7-21).

Tertullian (n) says the very Heathens did in his time; who would say, when they saw the Christians pass along the streets, and meet and express their affection to each other, "see how they love one another": would to God the same was as observable now. The distinguishing badge and character of a disciple of Christ, is not any outward garb, or any austerities of life, by which the disciples of John and of the Pharisees were known; nor were the ordinary nor extraordinary gifts of the Spirit, bestowed upon the disciples of Christ, what distinguished them as such; since those who were not truly his disciples, had these bestowed on them; but love to one another, brotherly love was the distinguishing character, and this is another reason or argument enforcing a regard unto it.

Matt 28:16-20

Mat 28:16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Before we can make disciples we have to make sure that we are a disciple.

(1) all who believed in Him, though they remained where He had found them, pursuing their former avocations, yet rendering no small service to His cause by confessing their allegiance and testifying to His grace.

A disciple walks in the Authority of Jesus (Eph 1:20-22)(Col 2:10)(1 Peter 3:22)(Luke 10:19) A police officer walks in the authority of the government

A disciple goes (poreuomai) to pursue the journey on which one has entered, to continue on one's journey (1Peter 3:15)(Acts 10:42)

A disciple is a student of Jesus who follows his commands and teaches others how to follow through lifestyle. (A disciple of Christ may now be defined as one who believes his doctrine, rests upon his sacrifice, imbibes his spirit, and imitates his example) (Farrar, Bibl. and Theol. Dict. s.v.). John 8:31;15:8

In the KJV it is a call to teach meaning A disciple is a scholar, a learner, or a student

The Bible does not emphasize decisions, but lifestyle faith. The key to evangelism is discipleship.(Bob Utley)

Example of what a disciplemaker looks like

Act 2:42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had

all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Devoted students of the word of God (1 Cor :58)(Acts 1:14)

Live in communitiy with other believers (koinōnia)

Partaker of communion

Live in the place of worship (proseuchē)

Should be teaching others

Heb 6:1 So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds and placing our faith in God. 2 You don't need further instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. 3 And so, God willing, we will move forward to further understanding.

We have the Holy Spirit to lead us and teach us everything that we need to know. John 14:26 John 15:26 1 Cor 2:13

A disciple is one who has a friendship with Jeus

According to John 15:15 Jesus calls us friends and if you love your friend you will do everything in your power to be there for them. Being that we are friends of Jesus we should share His words and teaching with everyone that will listen.

To show our loyalty and friendship we must obey Him. Discipleship is about proving you are who you say you are. John 15:9-17 In this passage we see that Jesus doesn't hold back anything from us. He tells us everything that the Father tells Him. All He wants from us is a complete yes.

Disciples live disciplined lives