Apprentices Of Jesus

(Matthew 28:19-20)

Introduction: 1. For some, the idea of becoming a disciple of Jesus seems out of reach.

- 2. This is often probably due to a problem defining the term "disciple."
- 3. Some see this term as identifying one who has his act together, and who rarely struggles with sin.
- 4. However, the term disciple means "learner," In other words an apprentice.
- 5. Let's talk about discipleship.

I. How Does One Become A Disciple/Apprentice Of Jesus?

- A. (Matthew 28:19-20).
- B. Many people will study the life of Jesus from afar, but could not be considered a disciple of Jesus.
- C. A disciple is one who has been baptized and taught to observe all the things that Jesus taught

II. The Challenges Of Disciples/Apprentices Face

- A. Being an understudy to Jesus is rather challenging.
 - 1. This is seen in at least two respects.
 - a. He demands our all (Matthew 10:37-39; Mark 8:34-35).
 - b. He does all things well (Mark 7:37; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:22).
- B. Consider some of the challenges we face as we attempt to become skilled and proficient as Christians.
 - 1. Our Tongue (James 1:26; James 3; Colossians 4:6).
 - 2. Our Attitudes (1 Corinthians 13:6-7).
 - 3. Our Benevolence (Luke 10:29-37; Acts 10:38).

III. Where Does The Church Come In?

- A. The church is our workshop.
 - 1. It's where we work and learn along side of other disciples who may be more skilled than we.
 - 2. And it's where we can help others less proficient than ourselves to better model Jesus in their lives.
- B. The church is a collection of apprentices/disciples who have committed themselves to the vocation of following Jesus (Ephesians 4:1).

Conclusion: 1. When we finally surrender fully to Jesus:

- a. Sinners become saints.
- b. Self centeredness gives way to compassion.
- c. And apprentices become skilled practitioners.
- 2. Have you fully surrendered yourself to Jesus?