

Are You a Disciple 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 cannot be considered disciples 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. He is demanding (Matthew 10:37-39; Mark 8:34-35).
 2. 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 alongside 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?