

DISCIPLE SERIES #1

A CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

At the conclusion of Matthew in chapter 28, verse 18 we read:

“Then Jesus came to them and said “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you”.

The first thoughts that comes to our mind is what is a disciple and what is required of one? This lesson begins a six week study on discipleship were we will answer these questions and others as we strive to grow closer to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

In Luke 14:27 Jesus declared ”And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.”

As Christian’s we are all called to discipleship In this lesson we will look at Luke chapter 14, verses 25–33 for our reference scripture and will study how:

- A. A disciple is called to love Christ first, with all other loves only in and through Christ.
- B. A disciple is called to bear his cross.
- C. A disciple is called to forsake all that he has.
- D. A disciple is called to love God.

Before we start, let’s **PRAY** and ask God’s Holy Spirit to open our hearts to receive His Word and to show us how to apply it in our life.

Webster’s dictionary defines discipleship as “one who accepts and assists in spreading the doctrine of another” and states that it is synomonous with the word “Follower” which is defined as “one that follows the opinions or teachings of another” and “one who imitates another”.

Let’s look at the first calling: A disciple is called to love Christ first, with all other loves only in and through Christ. (Vs. 26)

1. What did Jesus mean in verse 26 in using the word hate? _____

2. What does the following scripture state?
Exodus 20:12 _____
3. List some ways that we can compromise the call to love Christ first?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____

If you want to be a disciple, Jesus must be your first love!

Let's look at the second calling: A disciple is called to bear his cross. (Vs. 27)

4. What does it mean to bear your cross?

Luke 9:23 _____

5. How does this contrast with the world today? _____

6. Does the following scripture describe our nation and world today?

2 Timothy 3:1-5 _____

If you want to be a disciple, you must be willing to bear the cross (Death to self) and live for Jesus.

Let's look at the third calling: A disciple is called to forsake all that he has. (Vs. 28-33)

7. What does the following scripture have to say concerning forsaking all?

Philippians 3:7-9 _____

8. Does putting Christ first before people, goals, and possessions mean these things will be taken from us? _____

If you want to be a disciple, you must be willing to forsake all and put Jesus first in everything!

Let's look at the fourth calling: A disciple is called to love God. (1 Cor. 13:4-8)

9. How does verse 4 and 5 describe love? _____

10. How does verse 6 and 7 describe love? _____

11. How do we ultimately demonstrate our love for God?

John 14:15 _____

In conclusion a Disciple of Jesus Christ is one who "really" loves Jesus, not only by word, but with the commitment of a sacrificed life. Jesus promised it is the best in life (John 10:10, Luke 9:245).