

Are You a Disciple of Jesus?: 3 Essential Practices of a Disciple

A Disciple Is a Learning Imitator of Jesus:

Matt 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Being a Disciple of Jesus Requires 3 Elements:

1. **Learning:** Putting God's truth in my head.
2. **Living:** Putting God's truth to practice.
3. **Leaving:** Prioritizing God's truth in my life.

Being a Disciple of Jesus Requires 3 Priorities (Luke 14:26-35):

1. **God Precedes All PEOPLE** (God Displaces All Relationships)
2. **God Defines All PURSUITS** (God Replaces All Ambitions)
3. **God Controls All POSSESSIONS** (God Governs All Belongings)

Being a Disciple of Jesus Requires 3 Practices (John 8, 13, 15):

1. I am to continually _____ myself with God's Word

John 8:30-36 ³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. ³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." ³³ They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, 'You will be made free'?" ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. ³⁵ And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

a. Observations (30-31):

- Belief is not _____ to discipleship. (Eph 2:8-9)
- Condition: "_____ you abide in My Word..."
- Effect: *lit.* "truly disciples of Me you are"

b. Definition (31b):

- Discipleship = _____ in God's Word.
- Discipleship = _____ by God's Word.

c. Results (32):

- Result #1: _____ of the Truth!
- Result #2: _____ from Sin and Lies

d. Focus: My relationship to God's _____.

2. I am to sacrificially _____ for fellow believers.

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

a. Observations:

- Command: _____ One Another [*Is this new? Lev 19:18*]
- Comparison: The _____ of our love is... (v.34)
- Condition: "_____ you have love for one another."
- Effect: "All will _____ that you are My disciples."

b. Definition (35):

- Discipleship = _____ our brethren

c. Results:

- Result #1: _____ → Unconditional Care
- Result #2: _____ → Supernatural Evidence

d. Focus: My Relationship to God' _____.

3. I am to be glorifying God by doing eternity-impacting _____.

John 15:5-16 I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

a. Observations:

- We are to bear _____ fruit ("fruit" 8x in vv. 1-17!)

b. Result: God Is Glorified (how?)

- Doing works _____ by God
- Drawing _____ to God

c. Definition (8):

- Discipleship = _____ Much _____
- Discipleship = _____ Many Good _____

d. Focus: My relationship to God's _____.