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# The Word on Being a Disciple

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***"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." - Acts 4:12, ESV***

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## **WE'VE ALL SINNED BUT JESUS SAVED US**

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

**- Jn 3:16-18, ESV**

*(See also Rm 3:22-24, 5:8, 6:23).*

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## **DISCIPLES BELIEVE IN & FOLLOW JESUS**

"but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." - **Jn 10:26-27, ESV**

*(See also Mt 4:19, 16:24-25, Rm 10:9-10).*

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## **DISCIPLES UNDERSTAND THE KINGDOM'S VALUE**

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." - **Mt 13:44, ESV**

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it." - **Mt 13:45-46, ESV**

*(See also Phil 3:7-11).*

"Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

**- Mt 19:21, ESV**

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## **DISCIPLES HAVE COUNTED THE COST**

"And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

**- Mrk 8:34, ESV**

## **COUNTED THE COST - *Cont'd***

"And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires."

**- Gal 5:24, ESV**

"Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple..." "...So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." - **Lk 14:27, 33, ESV**

*(See passage).*

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." - **Mt 6:24, ESV**

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## **DISCIPLES WALK WORTHY OF THE CALLING OF CHRIST**

"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

**- Eph 4:1-3, ESV**

*(See also 1 Thes 2:12, Col 1:9-12).*

"Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." - **Jn 14:21, ESV**

*(See also 1 Sam 15:22, 1 Ptr 1:14-16).*

"For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome." - **1 Jn 5:3, ESV**

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

**- Jn 14:15, ESV**

*(See also 1 Jn 2:5-7, Jer 7:23).*

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?" - **Lk 6:46, ESV**

*(See also Jms 1:22-25).*



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# The Word on Being a Disciple

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***“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” - 2 Cor 5:17, ESV***

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## **DISCIPLES DO EVERYTHING FOR GOD’S GLORY**

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” - **Col 3:23-24, ESV**

“and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”

- **2 Cor 5:15, ESV** (See also *Col 3:17, 1 Cor 10:31*).

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## **DISCIPLES BEAR LASTING FRUIT**

“...I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing...” ...“By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples...” - **Jn 15:5, 8, ESV**

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide...”

- **Jn 15:16b, ESV**

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” - **Eph 2:10, ESV**

“waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.”

- **Ti 2:13-14, ESV** (See also *Ti 3:8*).

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## **DISCIPLES GROW & MATURE IN THEIR FAITH**

“But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.”

- **Heb 5:14, ESV**

“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.” - **2 Ptr 3:17-18, ESV**

## **THEIR IDENTITIES ARE IN CHRIST**

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” - **Gal 2:20, ESV**

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”

- **Jn 1:12-13, ESV** (See also *1 Jn 3:1*).

“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

- **1 Ptr 2:9, ESV** (See also *Eph 2:19*).

“You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.” - **Jn 15:14-15, ESV**

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## **DISCIPLES ARE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT**

“For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.” - **Rm 8:14, ESV**

(See also *Is 30:21, Jn 14:15-17, Jn 16:13, Acts 6:3-5, Gal 5:17-25, Eph 5:18*).

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## **DISCIPLES MAKE DISCIPLES**

“and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” - **2 Tim 2:2, ESV**

“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - **Mt 28:18-20, ESV**  
(See also *Acts 18:24-26*).



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# Wisdom on Being a Disciple

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***"A true disciple has committed himself or herself without equivocation, without reservation to Jesus Christ the Savior." - A.W. Tozer***

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"Spiritual maturity is not reached by the passing of the years, but by obedience to the will of God."

- **Oswald Chambers**

"Until you have given up your self to Christ you will not have a real self..." - **C.S. Lewis**

"Only a disciple can make a disciple." - **A.W. Tozer**

"To be a disciple is to be committed to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and committed to following Him every day. To be a disciple is also to be disciplined in our bodies, minds, and souls." - **Billy Graham**

"We are God's own; to Him, therefore, let us live and die. We are God's own; therefore let His wisdom and will dominate all our actions. We are God's own; therefore let every part of our existence be directed towards Him as our only legitimate goal."

- **John Calvin**

"Obedience is the only reality. It is faith visible, faith acting, and faith manifest. It is the test of real discipleship among the Lord's people." - **J.C. Ryle**

"Grace is free, but it is not cheap. People will take anything that is free, but they are not interested in discipleship. They will take Christ as Savior but not as Lord." - **Vance Havner**

"You share what you know, but you reproduce what you are. You cannot impart what you do not possess. You can impress people from a distance, but you can only impact up close." - **Howard Hendricks**

"Jesus tells his followers to seek first God's kingdom, 'and all these things will be added to you.' We are to trust and obey God, and to follow his call in every inch of our lives, in every second of our time, and with every gift with which we have been given."

- **Os Guinness**

"Jesus' voice leads us not into timid discipleship but into bold witness." - **Charles Stanley**

"The disciple of Christ desires above all else to be like Him..." - **Dallas Willard**

"We are called to love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind (Matt. 22:37). The Great Commandment actually repeats 'with all' over and over again to remind us that nothing is worthy of our whole self but God alone. Discipleship, then, is about a redirection of loves to the One who is lovely. The next curriculum, the next conference, or the next community group will only help you grow deeper in your relationship with Christ insofar as it attempts to reorient your love toward the Triune God."

- **J.T. English**

"We pray that if any, anywhere, are fearing that the cost of discipleship is too great, that they may be given to glimpse that treasure in heaven promised to all who forsake." - **Elisabeth Elliot**

"Being a Christian is less about cautiously avoiding sin than about courageously and actively doing God's will." - **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

"Our Lord had only one desire, and that was to do the will of his Father, and to have this desire is characteristic of a disciple." - **Oswald Chambers**

"Disciples are to be rightly related to Jesus, to each other, and to the world. Disciples have three respective duties: to remain (abide), to love each other, and to testify." - **Edwin Blum**

"A disciple is a person who has decided that the most important thing in their life is to learn how to do what Jesus said to do." - **Dallas Willard**

"Jesus was never interested in having admirers. It's not fans he is looking for (but followers)."

- **Lee Strobel** (*paraphrased*)

"The mark of true discipleship is not simply hearing and believing, but believing and doing."

- **John MacArthur**

"The one indispensable requirement for producing godly, mature Christians is godly, mature Christians."

- **Kevin DeYoung**

