



Week 2: What is a Disciple?

MV: *"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ... 21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him." (John 14:15, 21)*

2,000 years ago Jesus walked up to 12 men and said "Follow Me."

The disciples couldn't have fully understood what they were getting into when they responded to Jesus call (**maybe you didn't fully understand what you were getting into either—obedience, denying self, serving others, unconditional love, forgiving your enemies, etc.**)

What began as simple obedience ended up changing their lives and the world. The same should be said of you and me!

ASK: What is a disciple? (follower, literally "in their dust")

The disciples took Jesus' call literally and began going everywhere he went and doing everything He did.

It is impossible to be a disciple of someone and not end up like that person.

"A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher." (Luke 6:40)

That's the point of being a disciple of Jesus. We imitate Him, we carry on His ministry and become like Him in the process.

ASK: How does one become a disciple?

"And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matt 4:19)

But the verse BEFORE this is the key....

"17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matt 4:17)

REPENT!

ASK: What does repent mean? (to turn away from, change direction, head in the opposite way). IT INVOLVES ACTION!

Jesus was telling them to prepare themselves to change whatever needed changing because God's kingdom was coming.

ASK: How do we prepare for this King and His Kingdom?

REPENT! Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Romans 5:8; Romans 10:9-10; Romans 10:13

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Eph 2:8-9)

It's all about who Jesus is and what He has done.

Our part is to turn from believing anything else can save us and place our complete trust in Him alone for our salvation (what He's done).

Moses warned Pharaoh ten times about what God would do if he didn't repent. The final judgment was the death of the first born. The people of Israel had to trust in the blood of a lamb to save them then...and NOW!

Salvation is all about the GRACE of God.

There is NOTHING you can do to save yourself or earn God's favor.

Believing/Trusting is simple, but it's not easy. Why?

LORD? The word means master/owner. Do you believe Jesus is that to you? That you belong body, mind, soul to Him???

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body." (1Cor 6:19-20)

We want Jesus to save us from hell but NOT be our master, Lord on earth.

If He is Lord, He's the boss, He sets the agenda in every aspect of our lives.

He has a plan, agenda, and calling for you. You don't get to tell Him what you'll be doing today, tomorrow, or for the rest of your life.

"And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' "This is the great and foremost commandment. "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets." (Matt 22:37-40)

It all comes down to LOVE.

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. ... 21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him." (John 14:15, 21)

It's not about following a set of rules. It's about loving God and enjoying Him; falling in love with Jesus.

True love is all about sacrifice.

"We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." (1 John 3:16)

Love for God and obedience to Jesus can't be separated.

As you go, you'll be asked to "count the cost" of being a disciple.

"In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples." (Luke 14:33)