

What does it mean to be a disciple?

What are you seeking?

John 1:35-51

October 19, 2025

--"Discipleship is being an intimate follower, having an intimate relationship,

following to the point where you would go as far as death out of love. There's no

question about the fact that the only message Jesus ever proclaimed was a message

of discipleship. The call that Jesus gave was a call to follow Him, a call to submission,

a call to obedience. It was never a plea to make some kind of momentary decision to

acquire forgiveness and peace and heaven and then go on living anyway you

wanted. The invitations of Jesus to the lost were always direct calls to a costly

commitment."—Macarthur

Why are we even reading John?

1. John 20:21-Jesus said to them "Peace be with you, as the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.
1. The book of John is a personal account of the Apostle John and the time that he spent walking with Jesus in ministry.
2. By walking through the book of John we can see Jesus through the eyes of a close friend and eye witness to all Jesus did. This gives a clear picture of who Jesus is and proof that He truly is the Son of God.
2. 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 reveals to us that Christ intentionally used common lowly people to build His ministry in order that He may glorify the father even more. so , as we get started this morning, let us put to bed the thought and idea that you are not capable of being used by the Lord for His will.
1. 26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards,[\[a\]](#) not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.
3. Consider your calling;
 1. is it a calling of evangelism, encouragement, teaching, service
 2. Every believer has been gifted in order to serve the church in order to advance the Kingdom of God.

4. Know that you can never be so insignificant or unimportant that you can not be used for His glory. Verse 26&27

Behold the Lamb of God!

1. We see in chapter one that John has broken it up into 3 main points after giving the intro of John the Baptist.

1. The messiah is coming (verse 25&26)

1. 25 They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" 26 John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know,

2. The Messiah is here (verse 29-31)

1. 9 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel."

3. Go and follow the Messiah (verse 35-37)

1. 35 The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

2. This is exactly how our life works with Christ!

1. Before we meet Christ there is a longing in our hearts to know something greater than ourselves. This is knowing that something must be coming!
2. This longing also creeps back into our hearts in dry seasons of our walk with Christ. When we have turned to our own ambitions rather than the Father's will for us.

1. Everyone is searching for the "meaning of life"
2. We are drawn and often fall slave to the next big thing
3. We never understand why our things aren't good enough because we place our importance and identity in what we have or what we do. (marriage, dating, kids, toys, jobs, ect...)

3. When we hear the truth of the gospel under the prompting of the Holy Spirit, and we have a collision with Christ everything begins to change.

1. Suddenly the meaning of life begins to have a little bit of clarity as we consider that we have been made for a purpose. That the life that we live was never intended for us to achieve greatness but rather to make great the Father and in the process of lifting His name high we are covered with blessings to make our life abundant.
2. As we compare our next big thing to Him and His might. If He truly is who He calls Himself to be that big thing doesn't seem so attractive anymore. Are you weighing your decisions and struggles in light of right now or in light of eternity?
3. We begin to realize that He truly is the one to fill the hole in our life. To give meaning that is steady and does not increase and decrease with the tides of change and struggle. Rather than we are precious in His eyes regardless of our situations.

4. Once we buy into the fact that Christ is more than enough to fulfill our life it produces a desire to follow him.

1. Look at John 1:36-37, John the baptist simply states that Jesus is the Lamb of God and immediately John's disciples abandon the man and cling to the Savior.

1. and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

2. They do not follow in blind ambition:

1. They are drawn to Him and His presents and to seek for an opportunity to grow closer to Him. All because John spoke the truth of who Jesus is to them before hand..

2. Their hearts have been prepared by the declaration of the truth of scripture so that at the moment of revelation the Holy Spirit brings prompting to follow Christ.

3. This is evangelism, this is discipleship.

3. Jesus also takes notice of the fact that they are now behind Him and addresses them, then welcomes them into His daily life.

1. Let me give you a secret oh how to get Jesus to work in your life..... When you choose to actively follow Him, He takes notice of your choice and welcomes you into what He is already doing and begins to work things in your life according to His will! If you want Jesus guidance and protection in your daily life, follow Him by reading his word, staying in prayer, and dwelling on the eternal kingdom rather than today's inconvenience.

Who are we calling to join us?

1. In verse 40 and 41, Andrew does something odd. He met Jesus and discovered who He was then immediately went to his brother and brought him to Christ.
1. 40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus[a] was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).
1. You see when we have a collision with the creator of the universe, we are forever changed. There is something inside of us that causes us to want to tell people about it.
2. Andrew doesn't run to his brother and tell him that they have found a new teacher or a friend.....but THE MESSIAH!!
3. Can you imagine if Andrew did not go after his brother? Can you imagine the disciples or our bible without Peter? You never know what the Lord has planned for the ones that we are being prompted to bring the gospel to.
2. Jump to verse 43-45, We see almost the exact same thing happen!
1. 43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.
4. Jesus decides to go to Galilee and comes to Philip. He tells Philip

to follow Him and first thing Philip runs to Nathanael saying "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth"

5. See there is a pattern here, one person meets Christ and they bring the ones close to them to Him to find grace. And this is how Christ built His ministry!!!

1. How are we going about it? Waiting for someone else to tell those close to us that they have found the Messiah?
2. Have we placed ourselves on the side lines because we are looking for a pastor?
3. Are we afraid to dive into the life of the church for fear of the uncertainty of the future of the church?
4. Waiting for an unbeliever to come to church to find Christ?

1. Look, waiting for a nonbeliever to come to church to find salvation is like waiting for a sheep to walk into a bear's den to find a place to take a nap, it may happen once in a while, but not enough to make the bear grow.

He knew me before I met Him

1. As Nathanael is approaching (verse 47) Jesus declares "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit"

1. The first thing out of His mouth is "How do you know me?"
2. Jesus proceeds to tell him what he was doing before Philip came to him, and Nathanael begins to exalt Jesus as the Son of God!
3. Jesus responded by asking (verse 49) if he believes because Jesus had seen him.....then tells Nathanael that he would see much greater things than this! As if to say you think it is a big deal

that I saw you? Just wait until I am working through you!

2. The same is true for our life! Christ sees us, He knows our hurts, and sees our passions! He knows the deep longings in our souls to have purpose and meaning, and before we even knew of Him..... He could see the potential to glorify Himself and the Father through our life!
3. Luke 19:10 says "Behold the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost"

What do you seek?

Why are we here?

Why do we as believers gather together every week and sing some songs and read this book??

Have you come today so that you can check the box of church off your calendar, or have you come so that you can have an encounter with the King and be energized and equipped to be effective for Christ in the next 7 days?

. Are you here to seek the one who came to take away the sins of the world or are you here to seek the approval of your fellow church members?

--A disciple should look different today than he did in the past.

--I've known people like that...who've been in church 40 years and they are

believers but haven't cultivated their relationship with Christ. They've

not grown

into the disciple that Christ has called them to be.

1. Every believer has been gifted in order to serve the local church in a specific way.
2. The messiah is coming (verse 25&26)
3. The Messiah is here (verse 29-31)
4. Go and follow the Messiah (verse 35-37)
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