

# Jesus: The Model of a Disciple, Part 1

Lesson for Sunday, January 17, 2020

TEACHER'S NOTE: There are a lot of Bible verses referenced in this lesson. You will NOT have the time to look up every verse, but you might be able to assign verses to volunteers so they are ready when you call on them. Or, you can divide the class up into three groups and let them do the work and then present their point to the class.

## INTRODUCTION:

- Last week we asked the question: *Are you a disciple?*
  - We saw that the mission given to us by Christ, and recorded five times in the New Testament, is crystal clear. Jesus left nothing to our imaginations.
- Each account of the Great Commission gives us the blueprint for carrying out the mission:
  - Matthew 28 – The Method: Go, baptize (church them), teach them to obey
  - John 20 – The Model: We follow in the footsteps of Jesus.
  - Mark 16 – The Magnitude: We have a world-wide mission.
  - Luke 24 – The Message: We are to preach the complete Gospel.
  - Acts 1 – The Means: We carry our mission fully dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit.
- We finished our discussion with an illustration of four chairs which represent the different stages of spiritual growth.
- Our desire is to see a new generation of disciples developed in our church. We live in serious times which require a serious faith.
  - Being a disciple is not a status reserved for super-Christians. Every Christian is to be a disciple, and you can be one!
- Today we will look at three characteristics of Jesus's life that model for us what a disciple looks like. The question we must ask ourselves: Are these traits evident in our lives? Are we disciples?

## BIBLE STUDY:

1. Jesus modeled full dependence upon the Holy Spirit.
  - a. Every aspect of Jesus's life and ministry was saturated with the Spirit of God.
  - b. Quickly make these points:
    - i. Jesus was conceived of the Spirit (Luke 1:35).
    - ii. Anointed by the Spirit (Luke 4:18; Acts 10:38; Isaiah 61:1)
    - iii. Filled with the Spirit (Luke 4:1, 14; John 3:34)
    - iv. Sealed by the Spirit (John 6:27)
    - v. Led by the Spirit (Luke 4:1)
    - vi. Rejoiced in the Spirit (Luke 10:21)
    - vii. Gave commands by the Spirit (Acts 1:2)
    - viii. Performed miracles by the power of the Spirit (Matthew 12:28; Luke 4:14-15, 18)
    - ix. Was resurrected by the Spirit (Romans 8:11)
    - x. Through the Spirit He presented Himself fully obedient (Hebrews 9:14)
  - c. A disciple "walks in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25). Are you a disciple?
2. Jesus modeled the centrality of prayer in His life and ministry.
  - a. His ministry began in prayer (Luke 3:21).

- b. His ministry ended in prayer (Luke 23:46).
  - c. He launched His ministry with 40 days of prayer (Luke 4:1).
  - d. He prayed when He was busy (Mark 6:31).
  - e. He prayed before major decisions (Like 6:12).
  - f. Over 45 passages in the Gospels record how He would often slip away to pray (Luke 5:16).
  - g. Jesus modeled the idea we read in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, “Pray without ceasing.”
  - h. Disciples are people of prayer. Are you a disciple?
3. Jesus modeled the importance of obedience to His Father’s will.
- a. Early in His earthly life, when He was 12 years old, Jesus was obedient to His early parents, Mary & Joseph (Luke 2:51).
  - b. He suffered for His obedience, and He learned obedience through what He suffered (Hebrews 2:18; 5:8).
  - c. Jesus sought to please His Father (John 5:30) and His will was to do what the Father desired (Luke 22:42).
  - d. Jesus commanded His disciples to teach others *to obey* everything He had commanded them (Matthew 28:19-20).
  - e. Disciples not only know what Jesus taught, they seek to put it into practice in every area of their lives. Are you a disciple?

#### APPLICATION:

- Being a disciple is God’s will for your life.
  - Disciples fully depend on the Holy Spirit.
  - Disciples make prayer a key habit in their lives.
  - Disciples seek to know and do what the Bible teaches.
- How do you measure up?
  - Review the 4 chairs illustration – Which chair are you in?

#### CONCLUSION:

- As we stated in the introduction, one of our goals as a church is to raise up a new generation of disciples. Does this interest you? Do you want to take the necessary steps to become a disciple in 2021?
- If so, encourage them to talk with you about the opportunities that are available. Post either your email address or cell number on the board so they can contact you.