

Jesus: The Model of a Disciple, Part 2

Lesson for Sunday, January 24, 2020

TEACHER'S NOTE: Again, 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.

INTRODUCTION:

- The last two weeks we have 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.
 - 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 have used an illustration of four chairs which represent the different stages of spiritual growth (review each of the chairs).
- Last week we looked at the life of Jesus and how He specifically modeled for us the life of a disciple. We saw three characteristics: fully dependent on the Holy Spirit, He made prayer central in all He did, and He not only knew God's Word – He obeyed it.
- Today we will look at three more characteristics of Jesus's life that model for us what a disciple looks like. The question we must ask ourselves again: Are these traits evident in our lives? Are we disciples?

TIP: Once again, this lesson sets up nicely for group work.

BIBLE STUDY:

1. Jesus modeled that the Word of God was central in His life.
 - a. Jesus said He came not to set aside the Scriptures but to fulfill them (Matthew 5:17).
 - b. The Pharisees grieved Jesus because they didn't study the Word diligently (Mark 12:25).
 - c. Jesus recognized Scripture as His guide for knowing the Father's will and understanding His role in the world (John 13:1; 19:28).
 - d. Jesus knew the Word and used it as He encountered the everyday issues of life.
 - e. He referred to the OT more than 80 times, quoting from over 70 different chapters.
 - f. The Word of God is the disciple's sword – the primary means for both offense and defense (Ephesians 6:17). The disciple's mind is soaked in the Scriptures. Are you a disciple?
2. Jesus modeled the pattern of exalting His Father in every area of life.
 - a. This was evident in His early ministry (John 3:21).
 - b. It was still true at the end of His ministry (John 17:7).
 - c. Jesus claimed, "I do nothing on My own" (John 8:24; 14:10).
 - d. Jesus's motive to please His Father was clearly stated in John 6:38. His goal was to carry out the will of His Father – to glorify Him in all.

- e. What percentage of your life brings glory to God? Are there areas that need addressing? Are you a disciple?
3. Jesus modeled intentional relationships of love & integrity with others.
 - a. Sanctification happens most often within the context of relationships with others.
 - b. The very essence of the incarnation underscores this truth: He became flesh and dwelled among us (John 1:14).
 - c. Jesus prioritized building relationships with a broad base of people.
 - d. He was proactive with the lost, and He intentionally identified others with whom He went deeper.
 - e. Love was the basis of Jesus's relational life and He challenged the disciples to have the same love in their relationships (John 13:34-35).
 - f. Christianity (being a disciple) is not a Lone Ranger life. We are made for relationships. Are you a disciple?

APPLICATION:

- How do you measure up? How closely are you following the example of Jesus?
- Review the 4 Chairs and ask, "Which chair are you in?"
- Remind them that it is your desire to see them move to the next chair this year.
- We have a plan to help them, but we cannot give the "want to" (desire). If they are interested, encourage them to seek you out regarding the opportunities that are coming.

TEACHER'S NOTE:

- Has anyone approached you about being discipled? If so, keep a list so you do not forget who has expressed interest.
- What should you tell them? Simply tell them you are keeping a list and in a couple of weeks you will be in touch to share more about our plans.