

The Disciple's Master and Lord

Matt. 10:24-25

Introduction

Last week:

We learned that Jesus wants every believer to become a disciple, and that He us to become disciple-makers, by making disciples of all nations.¹ We discovered two important truths about discipleship:

1. Being a Disciple means that we become “learner-followers” of Jesus Christ.
2. Being a disciple of Jesus begins by following His example of “Daily Devotions.” This is where believers must begin to follow Jesus practically in their daily life.

The Proposition this week:

Being a disciple means following Jesus specifically, His teaching and example.

Discipleship is a Relational and not a Theoretical issue

Discipleship is connected to our relationship with Jesus

1. **It is to be a growing relationship with Jesus**

- 1.1 We all begin as a believer in Jesus and then at some point Jesus calls us to progress to becoming a disciple of His.

The example of Peter – he was already part of the crowd that gathered around Jesus, but it seems that he followed Jesus intermittently. John indicates that Peter became a disciple where John the Baptist was preaching, but Matthew and Luke indicate that it was some time later in Galilee.² So it seems that Peter was first a “Believer” and then shortly after that Jesus called him to be a “disciple.” If that is the case then it is not very different to many of us today, except that some believers don’t seem to progress into becoming disciples.

¹ This does not imply global conversion. By preaching the gospel, the disciples were to teach others to become learners-followers of Jesus—from every nation, tribe, people, and tongue.

² John 1:28,40-43; cp. Matt. 4:18-19; Mark 1:14-18; Luke 5:1-11.

1.2 Jesus intentionally called them and they followed Him.

- a) Every example in the New Testament of Jesus calling people to follow Him shows a specific and personal encounter with Jesus. He would walk up to a person and call that person to “follow” Him directly. I notice 2 important things here:
 - The term Jesus used “come follow” means to come to Him and to follow after Him.³
 - Their response was immediate – they left what they were doing and followed Jesus.⁴
- b) As time passed, many others became followers of Jesus in a general sense. But then Jesus started to challenge them, even to the point where many stopped following Him.⁵ He taught that being a disciple would cost something whereas being a believer doesn't.⁶

2. It must be a special relationship with Jesus

2.1 The Bible speaks of many people who had disciples. There were the disciples of John; of the Pharisees; and of Moses.⁷ So what made Jesus' call to discipleship special?

- Our relationship with Jesus begins with believing in Him – that is what makes us a “Believer” and one who is “born of God.”⁸
- Being a disciple of Jesus is different from being disciples of men. As His disciples we are following the Son of God and Saviour of the world. Being disciples of men was denounced by Jesus.⁹

2.2 Jesus calls believers to follow Him, not to be disciples of disciples.¹⁰

Jesus is the only Teacher and Lord

Jesus' spoke of being “like Him” in terms of our relationship with Him

1. Teacher and Disciples

1.1 Teacher¹¹ is one that teaches.

³ Matt. 4:19 etc. The Greek terms used are “*deute opiso*” meaning literally, “come (here to me) follow (behind me).” The other Greek word used to describe what the disciples did is “*akoloutho*,” which comes from the word, *keleuthos* (a road); and it means to be in the same way with, that is, to accompany (specifically as a disciple.

⁴ Matt. 4:20,22; 9:9 etc.

⁵ Matt. 8:18-22; 16:24-26; John 6:48-71

⁶ Matt. 10:37-39

⁷ Matt. 9:14; 22:16; Mark 2:18; John 9:28 etc.

⁸ John 1:12-13; 3:1-21

⁹ Matt. 15:1-20; 23:1-15ff.; see also Act. 20:29-31

¹⁰ Matt. 5:1; 10:1;

1.2 Disciples¹² are learners who follow the teacher's teaching and lifestyle.

2. Lord and Slaves

2.1 Lord¹³ is one supreme in authority.

2.2 Slaves¹⁴ are those bound in subjection and eager to follow the wishes or orders of the Lord.

Jesus' 3 Challenges to us as disciples and slaves¹⁵

1. Love Jesus above all others.¹⁶
2. Lose his life for Jesus' sake.¹⁷
3. Obey Jesus' instruction or teaching.¹⁸

Conclusion

The Key Issue

- For **the Disciples of the Pharisees** the key issue was religious practices as traditions taught by men.
- For **the Disciples of Moses** the key issue was the rabbinical teaching of the Law of Moses.
- For **the Disciples of John** the key issue was the lifestyle of repentance, prayer and fasting.
- For **the Disciples of Jesus** the key issue was the teaching and example of Jesus.

Where you in your relationship with Jesus?

11 The Greek word is *didaskalos*, which is "an instructor, master or teacher."

12 The Greek word is *mathetes*, which is "a learner."

13 The Greek word is *kurios*, which is one "supreme in authority," that is, "Lord, master."

14 The Greek word is: *doulos*, which is "a slave," that is, "one bound to his master (Literally or figuratively, involuntarily or voluntarily) in a qualified sense of subjection or subservience."

15 Matt. 10:32-39

16 Matt. 10:32-37

17 Matt. 10:38-39

18 Matt. 7:21-27; Luke 6:46