

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS
What It Means To Be A Disciple
Matthew 10:16-39
Week 20 October 25, 2020
Pastor Mike Popovich

What should a follower of the God of the universe look like?

What Jesus suffered through here on earth would set the bar for what we would be expected to endure here on earth also.

After Jesus prepares to send them out He tells them what the life of a disciple will look like.

Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.
Matthew 10:16 NAS

We Are Sheep

Shrewd means to be clever and discerning.
Be innocent as a dove.

Raw strength or pure evil will never overcome a shrewd and innocent sheep.

A sheep knows:

- The Shepherd is always on watch.
- The Shepherd will always defend us.
- Anger and revenge are not stronger than truth and the Shepherd

We are shrewd avoiding conflicts where possible.
We are innocent but not so cautious we turn it into fear.

THE WAY IS DIFFICULT

Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. 18 On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Matthew 10:17-20 NIV

DESCRIPTION OF A DISCIPLE

"The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. 25 It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!"

Matthew 10:24-25 NIV

A Disciple is:

- Not greater than the Master
- If they persecuted the Master also the disciple
- Serves the truth which will always come out
- A soul who will live forever
- God knows and protects all followers of Jesus

A DISCIPLE CONFESSES JESUS

Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

Matthew 10:32-33 NIV

TAKE UP YOUR CROSS

"Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10:37-39 NIV

You are created by God and your life has been given to you and you must decide what to do with it.

Jesus is referring to a plan God has for each one of us.
If we accept that plan that will be our cross and our life to give as a follower of Jesus.

Have you accepted the plan God has for you?