

WHO IS A DISCIPLE? – Lecture 1

Aim: This lecture is to help you understand who a disciple of Christ is, so that your life may be totally transformed to the life of Christ.

John 15:16 “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit-fruit that will last. Then the father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”

A) Key Scripture

Read all these scriptures together before going into the definition:

1 Peter 2:21; Luke 6:40; John 8: 31-32;
Colossians 3:17; 2 Timothy 2:2;1 John 2:6

B) Who is a Disciple?

The Greek word for disciples is 'mathetes' which means 'one who learns instruction from another'. It was used in the secular Greek world for an apprentice to a tradesman. A disciple was not only a pupil but an adherent; hence they were spoken of as imitators of their teachers.

Every Christian is called to be a disciple to Jesus and this means they will follow Jesus and put the claims of Jesus first in their lives, regardless of the cost to themselves. So a Christian disciple is a person who is determined to follow Jesus Christ, with the desire to learn from Him and live according to His example.

Eph 5: 1-2 “Be imitators of God”

Jesus gave this answer and said “I tell you the truth, the son can do nothing by himself; he

can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son does also” John 5: 19

“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work” John 4:34

Example of the 1st Disciples

Acts 4: 13 “When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realised they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus

****We must emulate Jesus in his life, his works, and deeds.****

Memory Verse: Col 3:23-25 “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart ...”

FIVE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DISCIPLESHIP

1. A disciple is a person who commits his life completely to the Master.
2. A disciple is a person who lives continually by the Word of Jesus.
3. A disciple is one who lives in a fruit-bearing relationship with Jesus (John 15:4-5).
4. A disciple is one who is committed to unconditional sacrificial love for others (John 13:34-35).

A disciple is one who is dedicated to the fulfilment of Christ's commission (Matthew 28:18-20).