



MIGHTY MEN OF GOD

Week Two: “The Definition of a Disciple”

Ken Miller

I. “To be or not to be?”

- That *really* is the question
 - Are we going to be disciples of Christ or not?
 - If we are, then what does a disciple look like?

*Go therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ... – Matthew 28:19*

- Are we accomplishing this command?
- Are we making disciples of all the nations? Including THIS one?

*“Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ.” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Cost of Discipleship**

II. So what exactly IS a disciple?

- In Matthew 28:19, the phrase is “make disciples”

<p><u>make disciples</u>: <i>matheteuo</i> {math-ayt-yoo'-o} 1) to be a disciple of one<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) to follow his precepts and instructions</p> <p>2) to make a disciple<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) to teach, instruct</p>

Matheteuo means not only to learn, but to become attached to one’s teacher and to become his follower in doctrine and conduct of life. – *The Complete Word Study Dictionary*

- A. A disciple is a follower (Luke 5:27-28; Matthew 4:18-20; 21-22)
- To follow Christ requires that you make a decision
 - To follow Christ involves a cost

And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny Himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.” – Luke 9:23

- To follow Christ is to make a commitment

- B. A disciple is a learner (Matthew 10:24; Luke 6:40)
- To follow Christ involves training
 - To follow Christ is to be teachable
 - To follow Christ is to acknowledge our ignorance

What can we learn from Jesus?

1. The reason we live and why we do the things we do
 - Only Jesus can tell us the truth about who we are
 - Only Jesus can explain the mystery as to why we exist
 - Only Jesus can instruct us in the hidden secrets of the heart
2. A new internal character
 - Only Jesus can teach us about our “new self” (Colossians 3:9-10)
 - Only Jesus can expose the truth about our heart (Mark 7:20-23)
 - Only Jesus can replace our deceitful heart with a pure one (Matthew 5:8)
 - Only Jesus can replace our impure habits with righteous ones
 - Solitude
 - Silence
 - Study
 - Service
 - Worship
 - Prayer
3. His positive interactions and involvements with us in our day-to-day lives
 - Only Jesus can involve Himself in every area of our lives
 - Your job is to expect it, watch for it, and give thanks when you see it

THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES!

- C. A disciple is committed (Luke 14:26-27; 33)
- This isn't some half-hearted kind of commitment
 - A disciple considers the cost and commits anyway
 - A disciple loves Jesus more than any other relationship