Discipleship

First half of this is a breakdown of the 12 disciples

Second half is discipleship and how it applies to us.

When you hear the word disciple, what do you think about?

People that followed Jesus

12 people from the Bible

Devoted followers

Ect.

Now follow up with are any of us a disciple? We all are, whether we know it or not we’re all disciples, or followers of something. The question is, what are we following?

**What is a disciple**

A disciple is a follower, a student of a mentor, teacher, or other figure. Why would you want to be a follower of a student? Because we want to learn, right? Albert Einstein said “Education is not the learning of facts, rather it’s the training of the mind to think.” We need to learn and grow. There is no plateauing. You’re either growing or dying. When you think you know it all, you’re one of two things. Dead or a fool. We are being taught by someone, a mentor, teacher, friend, social trends. We are following something.

**What does discipleship look like?**

If you’re a disciple of let’s say sports, baseball, football, basketball, cheerleading or volleyball, then it looks a lot like practicing, working out, focusing on techniques and repetition to build skills. You’ll eat, sleep, drink and live sports. You talk about sports, watch sports, read sports articles, think sports, make time in your life for nothing but sports.

If you’re a disciple of music then it looks like learning the theory of music, notes, rhythm, reading sheet music, learning how to build chords and arrange music. You practice your instrument over and over. To quote the great Bon Jovi “got my first real 6 string, bought it at the 5 and dime, played it till my fingers bled”. You’ll practice till your hands hurt, sing till your voice strains and cracks. You live in music stores, and be constantly listening to music. You feel the music in your soul.

You can be a disciple of literature, studying books, attending book clubs even writing your own.

**What does a disciple of Jesus look like**

Sacrifice-Jesus gave us a good example of this

Matthew 8:18-22

The cost of following Jesus

**18**When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. **19**Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.”

**20**Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

**21**Another disciple said to him, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

**22**But Jesus told him, “Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead.”

[Matthew 16:24](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%2016%3A24&version=NIV)

Then Jesus said to his **disciple**s, “Whoever wants to be my **disciple** must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

Mark 10:17-27

New International Version

The Rich and the Kingdom of God

**17**As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

**18**“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. **19**You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=MARK%2010:17-27&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24608a)]”

**20**“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

**21**Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

**22**At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

There’s no clear outline for what a follower of Jesus looks like with the exception of our lives should resemble the life of Jesus. How he treated people, how he spoke with people, and the love he gave. There’s not a dress code but there are ways we’ll be able to tell.

By the fruit we produce

Matthew 7:15-19**15**“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. **16**By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? **17**Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. **18**A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. **19**Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20**Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

The way we dress

Colossians 3:12-14

**12**Therefore, as chosen[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A12-14&version=DLNT#fen-DLNT-6385a)] *ones of* God, holy and having been loved, put-on[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A12-14&version=DLNT#fen-DLNT-6385b)] deep-feelings[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A12-14&version=DLNT#fen-DLNT-6385c)] *of* compassion, kindness, humblemindedness, gentleness, patience, **13**bearing-with one another, and forgiving each other— if anyone has *a* complaint against anyone. Just as indeed the Lord forgave you, so also you *forgive.* **14**And over[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A12-14&version=DLNT#fen-DLNT-6387d)] all these *things put on* love, which is *the* bond[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A12-14&version=DLNT#fen-DLNT-6387e)] *of* [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=col+3%3A12-14&version=DLNT#fen-DLNT-6387f)] perfection.

**Why is discipleship so important**

With sports its about the thrill of the game, the fun, the competitiveness, bragging rights. With music it’s about expressing yourself, the drive of the beat, the harmonies. With literature it’s about knowledge, history, unbelievable tales. But all this is fleeting, it doesn’t last.

But being a disciple of Jesus is much more important. It’s about showing the world what the people of God look like. Showing the world that despite all the evil and wrong in the world there is hope. It’s important to display the glory of God and invite everyone to be part of it.

Being a disciple of Jesus gives us life. It sustains our life. Following him means follow his ways Practicing loving God with all your heart, soul and mind and loving your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37-40

It’s so important because it’s our job to be the hands and feet. Sharing and baptizing. Bringing people to a close relationship with God.

### Matthew 28 The Great Commission

**16**Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. **17**When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. **18**Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20**and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”