

Who do you follow?

The indispensable task of showing people how to follow Jesus:

I. Jesus called people to be His disciples – “Follow me.”

A. A disciple is one who is being trained to be like his master –

Luke 6:40 — ⁴⁰ “A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.”

1. The goal of Christian discipleship is to be like Jesus Christ.

B. Phillip had already believed in Jesus, but Jesus wanted Him to follow Him.

John 1:43 — ⁴³ The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him, “Follow Me.””

1. Jesus also called Peter and John as they washed their nets by the sea.

C. Sometimes the call is implied as in the case of Nathanael.

John 1:49–50 — ⁴⁹ Nathanael answered Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel.” ⁵⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these.””

II. What was Jesus’ strategy for making disciples?

A. Jesus was intentional.

1. Jesus went to the tax booth where Levi sat.

Matthew 9:9 — “As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax collector’s booth; and He said to him, “Follow Me!” And he got up and followed Him.”

2. He trained people to walk with God.

B. How do we know they are discipleship material?

1. Those that are Jesus’ sheep will hear His voice.

John 10:27–28 — ²⁷ “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.”

C. Jesus was relational. -Matthew 9:10

1. He invested in a few men (twelve).

2 Timothy 2:2 — ² The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

2. God wants to lead us to the person He wants to save next.
3. **Application:** Who do you strongly suspect in your circle of influence could be a person who will believe and follow Jesus.

D. Jesus was missional – He trained men to reach the world with gospel.

Mark 16:15–16 — ¹⁵ And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶ “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”

1. **Missional** - The understanding that all Christians are called to participate in God’s mission by sharing the gospel and engaging with their communities.

III. How to get clarity when following Jesus.

A. Draw near to God in undistracted prayer.

1. Jesus began his ministry by seeking the direction of His father in prayerful fast.
2. **Observation:** Discipleship sometimes means doing things that are unpleasant.
3. Jesus returned in the power of Holy Spirit preaching the gospel. **Matthew 4:17**

B. Each disciple needs to follow the path God has given him.

John 21:21–22 — ²¹ So Peter seeing him said to Jesus, “Lord, and what about this man?” ²² Jesus said to him, “If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!””

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