

## SERMON STARTER

## DISCIPLESHIP, ANYONE?

**“These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes.” (Rev.14:4)**

What do you call one who “follows the Lamb?” Answer: A Disciple! A dozen times Jesus said, “follow me.” Wouldn’t it be wonderful if all who claim to be Christians would “follow the Lamb wherever He goes?”

***What does the life of discipleship look like?***

***Christian discipleship is life with purpose.***

“By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.” (John 15:8) There is no higher purpose for human life than to bring glory to God! That is a staggering and humbling thought that I, a saved-by-grace-sinner, can glorify our Father in Heaven! How can my little candle augment the brilliance of the sun? Yet, God says it brings Him glory when we are faithful, fruit-bearing disciples.

***Christian discipleship is a life of partnership.***

Jesus said, “Without me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5) But with Him “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Phil.4:13) This is the divine-human cooperative: He leads, I follow. “For we are God’s fellow workers.” (I Cor.3:9)

***Christian discipleship is a patterned life.***

Jesus invites us to “follow.” He is not asking us to nonchalantly saunter carelessly along behind Him just to keep Him company. The entire purpose of becoming a disciple of another is to pattern one’s life after the Model whom we follow. The duplicated characteristics of the One we follow are authentic marks of genuine discipleship.

***Christian discipleship is a productive life.***

Jesus said, “I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.” (John 15:16) Many are just interested in escaping Hell and reaching Heaven. God, however, has an additional purpose in mind for His followers. He wants us to be productive branches in the True Vine. “This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.” (John 15:8) So, go on in discipleship, to service, and “much fruit” bearing.

***Christian discipleship is a progressive life.***

The call of The Christ is, “Follow me.” He is ever leading His followers onward and upward. What an adventure it is to walk into the future hand in hand with God. So, put your best foot forward, step out in faith and go with God. Those who walk with God always get to their destination! Discipleship, anyone?

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