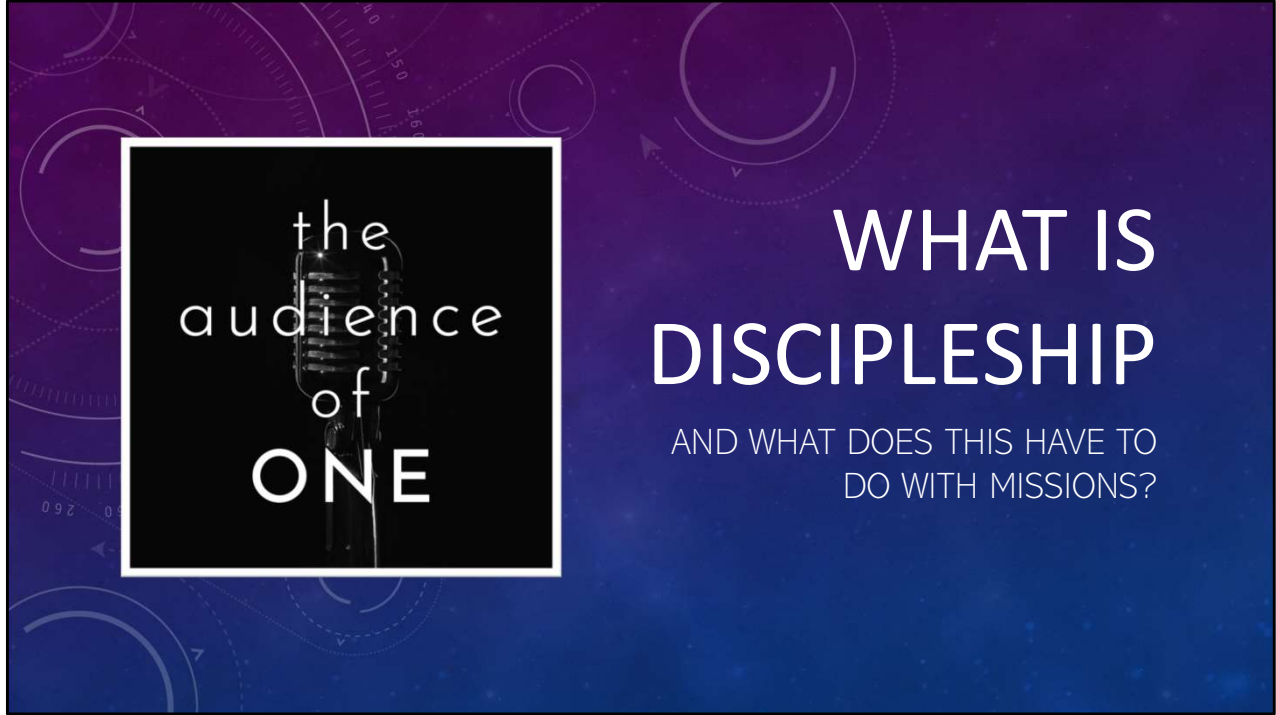


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LIST OF TOPICS

1. What is Discipleship
2. What is Missions
3. Discerning God's Will
4. His Mission, not ours
5. Helping the poor
6. Money, prayer and support
7. Spiritual Readiness
8. Relationships and conflicts

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- understand what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ
- understand the link between missions and discipleship
- engage in your own discipleship (aka follow Jesus)

DISCUSSION

*What is a disciple of
Jesus Christ?*

DEFINITION

It was a discipleship of loving obedience based on gratitude for Christ's work as the Messiah, service that was made possible by the strength and motivation that come from union with Christ in his death and resurrection secured by faith and by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Helm, P. (1988). Disciple. In Baker encyclopedia of the Bible (Vol. 1, p. 630). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

DEFINITION

Discipleship not only involves the process of becoming a disciple but of making other disciples through teaching and evangelism.

Byrley, C. (2014). Discipleship. D. Mangum, D. R. Brown, R. Klippenstein, & R. Hurst (Eds.), Lexham Theological Wordbook. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

Common misconceptions about disciples

- Going to church does not make you a Christian
- Going to a Sunday school class/course does not make you a disciple of Jesus

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSIONS?

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." - Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

JESUS TAUGHT TO HIS DISCIPLES...

- *By this everyone will know that you are my **disciples**, if you love one another.” (John 13:35)*
- *To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, **you are really my disciples**. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31-32)*
- *“**Whoever wants to be my disciple** must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. (Mark 8:34)*
- *“If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—**such a person cannot be my disciple**. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. (Luke 14:26 – 27)*

DISCUSSION

Who is the real disciple?



Rich Young ruler



Zacchaeus (the chief tax collector)

- Rich Young Ruler (Lk 18:18-30) and Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-10) (*Bible Study*)
- Who's the real disciple?
- Lesson learned
 - from the outside, everyone thinks the Rich Young Ruler is going to be saved
 - he followed all the laws
 - but Jesus hit on one part where is an idol in his heart, money!
 - the disciples were shocked he wasn't saved
 - Lk 18:26 - *Who then can be saved?*
 - from the outside, everyone thinks Zacchaeus is not going to be saved
 - he betrayed his own people, Jews, to work for the Roman Empire

- why be a tax collector? love of money!
- the crowd was shocked Jesus wanted to go to his house
 - Lk 19:8 - *He has gone to be the guest of a sinner*
- question - What's the diff between Zacchaeus and Rich Young Ruler?
 - RYR - follow all the laws, rich and young
 - Zacchaeus - tax collector and very wealthy (short!)
 - respond to Jesus
 - RYR - left in sadness bc he loves riches (Lk 18:23)
 - Zacchaeus - gave his money away
 - Lk 19:8 - give half to the poor and if cheated anyone, 4 times
 - question - who's the real disciple?
 - Jesus didn't even give a 'law' or 'rule' to Zacchaeus
 - Zacchaeus had a heart changed!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

I am not into religion. I have a relationship with Jesus.

Talk about WJ and marriage

Relationship and religion!

- relationship, not religion
 - Question: what does that mean?

- relationship with Jesus = what type of relationship
 - disciples = teacher/student (rabbi)
 - can go to church and still don't have relationship with Jesus
 - Jesus and His 12
 - he cared for them - feed them with bread and calm the waves
 - equipped - Lk 10:17 - *even the demons submit to us in your name*

- taught - parables
- sent them out - Luke 10:1-7



David and Saul

David seek God for help

- David defeated the Philistines twice by seeking the Lord
 - o 2 Sam 5:19, 22
- Other times
 - o 1 Sam 23:2, 4 – David saves Keilah
 - o 1 Sam 30:8
- Psalm 2, 23, 63 – ~73 Psalms are attributed to David
 - This shows how much David loved God
 - What about Saul?

Saul does his own thing

- 1 Chron 10:13-14 - *Saul died because he was unfaithful to the Lord; he did not keep the word of the Lord and even consulted a medium for guidance, 14 and did not inquire of the Lord. So the Lord put him to death and turned the kingdom over to David son of Jesse.*

- Inquired of the Lord (1 Sam 28:6) but too late bc the Lord already rejected him for his disobedience



- disciples are not based on skills, merits or talents, but rather a sole desire to seek Him and His Kingdom
 - the 12 - what qualifications?
 - fishermen, tax collector
 - only one 'wise' is Paul - Pharisee of Pharisees
 - if you are going to share Gospel to the world, you will get the one who speak the most eloquent, the most charismatic, smartest person
 - God did not use them
 - God can and does use anyone
 - even you and me
 - a lot of people will say, oh you are a great speaker or good looking, you can be of use to God

- wrong mindset - this is the way the world works
- God chose those who's heart only seek Him and depend on Him
- this is how Beatitude makes sense
 - Blessed are you when you are poor in Spirit
- God chose those who are willing to follow Him
 - there are disciples who left along the way
 - Disciples left Jesus
 - John 6:66 - *From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him*
 - Paul and Demas
 - Col 4:14 - *Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and **Demas** send greetings.*
 - 2 Tim 4:10 - *for **Demas**, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica.*
 - happen today in church too - someone will leave the faith

AM I A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST?

How can you tell you are a disciple of Jesus Christ?

- His will is more important than mine (Matt 6:33)
- I start to apply what Jesus teaches in my life
 - forgive those who hurts us (ref)
 - develop fruits of the Spirit - Gal 5:22-23
 - ask God and listen to Him on what to do (ref)
- suffer for Christ (with joy!)
 - anyone who follow Jesus will lose something (money, prestige, relationships, life!) but they do it with joy (aka carry your cross)
 - Carry your own cross – Matt 16:24, Luke 9:23, Mark 8:34
 - Not be surprised by fiery ordeals (1 Pet 4:12-19)
- as you mature, you start to depend on more God and less on yourself

- John 21:18-19 – path to maturity is a path to dependence

NOT PERFECTION BUT A PERFECTING ATTITUDE

*He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that **we may present everyone fully mature in Christ**. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. – Colossians 1:28-29 (NIV)*

- Goal is to be fully mature in Christ
 - *Col 1:28 - 29 - He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. 29 To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.*
-
- how does discipleship relate to missions?
 - missions = making other disciples (Matt 28:18-20)
 - I cannot make disciples unless I am a disciple myself
 - there is no perfect disciple
 - not about perfection but a longing heart to continue to seek Him and His Righteousness (Matt 6:33)

A DISCIPLE IS...

- ✓ A person who follows Jesus Christ and His teachings
- ✓ A person who seeks to do the will of God by having a relationship with Christ (through the Holy Spirit)
- ✓ A person who believed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God
- ✓ A person who disciple others to follow Jesus (missions!)

- What is a disciple of Jesus Christ?
 - A person who follows Jesus Christ and His teachings
 - Fruits of the Spirit
 - A person who seeks to do the will of God by having a relationship with Christ (through the HS)
 - Seek Him and His righteousness - Matt 6:33
 - A person who believed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God
 - Eunuch believed Jesus is the Son of God – Acts 8:37
 - A person who disciple others to follow Jesus (missions!)
 - Woman at the well
 - John 4:39 - *Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did."*

NEXT WEEK: MISSIONS!

- Need to do some reading before hand
- Write to cliff.tam@gmail.com for any questions, suggestions, and thoughts!
- Feedback at bit.ly/audienceofonefeedback