



Only one thing concerns me: Be sure that you live in a way that brings honor to the Good News of Christ. Then whether I come and visit you or am away from you, I will hear that you are standing strong with one purpose that you work together as one for the faith of the Good News. Philippians 1:27 NCV

I. When You Know There Has To Be More

People are searching for a life that is not ordinary, there is something within each of us that wants to reach higher, live deeper and realize our greater potential, our true purpose.

His highest commission; our highest purpose. Matthew 28:18-20

The outcome Christ commanded is a person called a disciple.

Christ commanded His church to make disciples, not just followers.

Christians are born, Disciples are made.

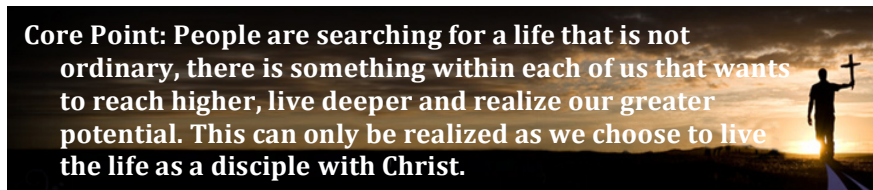
Until this principal is understood, applied and producing, the church of God will by and large be ineffective because it labors outside of the command of Christ. Luke 6:46 Matthew 7:21

Obedience to the great commission hinges on an intentional plan that defines and trains disciples and causes a reproduction and multiplication of themselves.

Disciples change their normal routine of life as a result of their following Christ. Disciples make sacrifices to adjust their lifestyles to obey Christ.

A disciple is a person of concrete action and commitment and obedience who is willing to be held responsible for making **impartations** into others. 2 Timothy 2:1-3

A disciple makes Biblical principals and commands their first **priority** in all they do.



A defect in our message is our tendency to keep the terms of discipleship hidden until a decision has been made for Jesus. Our Lord never did this. The message He preached included the cross as well as the crown. He never hid His scars to win disciples. He revealed the worst along with the best, and then He told His listeners to count the cost.

II. Key Components to a Life of Discipleship

A. What Jesus said about His disciples. Luke 14: 25-33

Commitment is the big key to discipleship. If a person is not willing to make such commitments, Jesus states emphatically three times, "**He cannot be my disciple**".

1. The commitment to live a life of devotion to God, forsaking all else in a desire to fully follow Him in all aspects of life.
2. The commitment to reaching, teaching and mentoring others into a life of devotion to Jesus Christ.

B. Discipleship is inseparable from good stewardship.

Matthew 25:1-30 The lessons in this chapter is to be watchful, but also be full of oil and purpose. We are to be **using and investing** the things God has made you stewards of.

C. A Disciple has a heart after God's own heart.

To be people with a heart after God, we must adjust our lives to reflect the priorities **God calls precious**.

*Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for **the precious fruit of the earth**, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. You also be patient.*

Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. James 5:7-8

*Then the master said to the servant, '**go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.*** Luke 14:23

D. The Reward of the disciple. (What's in it for me?)

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. Matthew 19:29-30

When God has all of you, He has everything you have, and that is the most secure place anyone can be!

