

Discipleship in Jesus Christ

Matthew 28: 19 - 24

Introduction

Bible is a story of discipleship. Scripture is given for the very purpose of discipleship. Therefore, discipleship is an unavoidable fact of Christian who believes in Bible.

Discipleship in Jesus Christ is not an Option but it is the Commission of his/her Master.

1. Discipleship of Jesus Christ is 'to be *in Christ*' (John 3)

Discipleship in Jesus cannot be understood apart from 'to be in Christ'. It is because unlike other discipleship, becoming a disciple of Jesus is different requires not just following His teachings and life, but first and foremost it demands to be born in Christ, i.e. *to be in Christ*. Unless some is **in Christ** he/ she cannot be His disciple.

Thus, to be a disciple of Jesus is not *becoming* it but to be *born again* in Jesus and so discipleship cannot be separated from Christian life. Discipleship is not an extra curriculum of a Christian but it is the life of him/her.

"A person cannot be a saved Christian and not be a disciple of Jesus Christ."

2. Discipleship in Jesus does not practice / perform to be a disciple but lives in it. (Mathew 6: 1)

Discipleship in Jesus is always a fact of God's grace alone. Bible says we are not saved by doing / practicing any good / righteous things, but by the Grace of God alone. (Eph 2: 6 – 8). Our life in Jesus is a result of God's grace and work. Thus, it cannot be practice or performed better. Discipleship always needs

to trust in God's grace for its stand and growth.

Practicing something is always task oriented. But discipleship is not at all task oriented. Jesus only said Follow Me, Go and make disciples of all nations. No one can ever achieve his task and goal with his well practice attitude, talents and gifts without His grace.

Practicing discipleship in Jesus is a kind of Legalism – 'how to' do manuals. Love, kind, good communication, gifts, talents, etc does not make a person **qualified** disciple. These are the **evidences** of a disciple in Jesus.

Practicing discipleship is Phariseesism. (Matt 7: 1-3)/ Pharisee does all his rituals in order to please his God. But scripture declares the good works never please God, and only *faith* pleases God and God rewards it. In this way, discipleship that is

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practiced, is a *self-relying attitude* and not trusting God's grace nor following the footsteps of the Master.

3. Discipleship in Jesus Christ Costs Everything of a Disciple (Luke 14:33)

Following the Lord always requires sacrifices, denial of self and world. *It costs a disciples' own life.* Jesus said any one follows Me and loves his/her life shall lose it and any one who loses it shall find it.

Son of Man, Jesus came to this world to seek and find the lost. He came and fulfilled the life of a Disciple and gave His life. *Discipleship Costs the life of the Son of God on the Cross.*

It costs life of a son of man. Discipleship saves a person's life in Jesus and makes him/her another

disciples making disciple. (Ezek, 3:8, Luke 14:39).

Conclusion

Every Christian = Follower of Christ
= Disciple of Christ
Every Christian is DMD (Disciples Making Disciple) (2 Tim 2:2)
Every Christian is his/her brother's keeper (Gen. 4)

Simon Peter, if you Love Me, Feed My sheep.... Tend My Sheep... Lead My sheep

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An Sermon by

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