

Expectations of a Disciple

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What is a Disciple?

In Christianity, disciple primarily refers to a dedicated follower of Jesus.

1. Follow Jesus

¹⁸ As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter), and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Follow me,” he told them, “and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father, preparing their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Matthew 4:18-22 CSB

¹⁶ As he passed alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, Simon’s brother, casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ “Follow me,” Jesus told them, “and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ Going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat putting their nets in order. ²⁰ Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Mark 1:16-20 CSB

⁹ As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, “Follow me,” and he got up and followed him.

Matthew 9:9 CSB

2. Forsake Everything

⁵⁷ As they were traveling on the road someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸ Jesus told him, “Foxes have dens, and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ Then he said to another, “Follow me.” “Lord,” he said, “first let me go bury my father.” ⁶⁰ But he told him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and spread the news of the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹ Another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but first let me go and say good-bye to those at my house.” ⁶² But Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Luke 9:57-62 CSB

²³ Jesus said to all of his followers, “If you truly desire to be my disciple, you must disown your life completely, embrace my ‘cross’ as your own, and surrender to my ways. ²⁴ For if you choose self-sacrifice, giving up your lives for my glory, you will discover true life. But if you choose to keep your lives for yourselves, you will lose what you try to keep. ²⁵ Even if you gained all the wealth and power of this world, and all the things it could offer you, yet lost your soul in the process, what good is that? ²⁶ So why then are you ashamed of being my disciple? Are you ashamed of the revelation-truth I give to you? “I, the Son of Man, will one day return in my radiant brightness, with the holy angels and in the splendor and majesty of my Father. On that day I will be ashamed of everyone who has been ashamed of me.”

Luke 9:23-26 TPT

“The cost of discipleship is not measured by what we feel ok about giving up, but what the Lord demands from us.”

-Pastor Mark

- Count the Cost of Following

²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple... ³³ In the same way, therefore, every one of you who does not renounce (relinquish, surrender, reject, abandon) all his possessions cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:26-27, 33 CSB

²⁷ Then Peter chimed in, “We left everything and followed you. What do we get out of it?” ²⁸⁻³⁰ Jesus replied, “Yes, you have followed me. In the re-creation of the world, when the Son of Man will rule gloriously, you who have followed me will also rule, starting with the twelve tribes of Israel. And not only you, but anyone who sacrifices home, family, fields—whatever—because of me will get it all back a hundred times over, not to mention the considerable bonus of eternal life. This is the Great Reversal: many of the first ending up last, and the last first.”

Matthew 19:27-30 MSG

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose”

-Jim Elliot

- Endure Suffering

¹⁶ “Look, I’m sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as serpents and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of them, because they will hand you over to local courts and flog you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ You will even be brought

before governors and kings because of me, to bear witness to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they hand you over, don't worry about how or what you are to speak. For you will be given what to say at that hour, ²⁰ because it isn't you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father is speaking through you."

Matthew 10:16-20 CSB

³¹ "Jesus responded to them, "Do you now believe? ³² Indeed, an hour is coming, and has come, when each of you will be scattered to his own home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. ³³ I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world."

John 16:31-33 CSB

²¹ For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

1 Peter 2:21 CSB

3. Bear Lasting Fruit

⁴ "Remain in me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without me...⁸ My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be my disciples."

John 15:4-5, 8 CSB

¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you."

John 15:16 CSB

- Love One Another

³⁴ "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13:34-35 CSB

- Forgive One Another

²¹ "Then Peter approached him and asked, "Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? As many as seven times?" ²² "I tell you, not as many as seven," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven."

Matthew 18:21-22 CSB

³ “Be on your guard. If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. ⁴ And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and comes back to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

Luke 17:3-4 CSB

- Serve One Another

²⁵ Jesus called them over and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in high positions act as tyrants over them. ²⁶ It must not be like that among you. On the contrary, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave; ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:25-28 CSB

¹³ When Jesus heard about it, he withdrew from there by boat to a remote place to be alone. When the crowds heard this, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a large crowd, had compassion on them, and healed their sick. ¹⁵ When evening came, the disciples approached him and said, “This place is deserted, and it is already late. Send the crowds away so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ “They don’t need to go away,” Jesus told them. “You give them something to eat.”

Matthew 14:13-16 CSB

“Discipleship by its very definition is based on the standard of the Master, not the disciple.”

-Pastor Mark

- Demonstrate Humility

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “So who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ² He called a small child and had him stand among them. ³ “Truly I tell you,” he said, “unless you turn and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child — this one is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:1-4 CSB

- Be Alert, Be Ready, Be on Your Assignment

³ While he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached him privately and said, “Tell us, when will these things happen? And what is the sign of your

coming and of the end of the age?" ⁴ Jesus replied to them, "Watch out that no one deceives you." ⁵ For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and they will deceive many.

³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

⁴² Therefore be alert, since you don't know what day your Lord is coming.

⁴⁴ This is why you are also to be ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant whom the master finds doing his job when he comes.

Matthew 24:3-5, 35, 42, 44, 46 CSB

- Bringing Others to Jesus

⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed him. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated "the Christ"), ⁴² and he brought Simon to Jesus.

⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the law (and so did the prophets): Jesus the son of Joseph, from Nazareth."

John 1:40-42, 44-45 CSB

- Teaching Others What Jesus Taught

¹⁹ Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Matthew 28:19-20a CSB

"What makes authentic disciples is not visions, ecstasies, biblical mastery of chapter and verse, or spectacular success in the ministry, but a capacity for faithfulness. Buffeted by the fickle winds of failure, battered by their own unruly emotions, and bruised by rejection and ridicule, authentic disciples may have stumbled and frequently fallen, endured lapses and relapses, gotten handcuffed to the fleshpots and wandered into a far county. Yet, they kept coming back to Jesus."

-Brennan Manning

Am I...

- Following Jesus
- Forsaking Everything
- Abandoning My Comforts
- Enduring Suffering
- Bearing Fruit that Will Last
- Loving Others
- Forgiving Others

- Serving Others
- Demonstrate Humility
- Remaining Ready, Alert and on Task
- Bringing People to Jesus