

## **Are you a true disciple or are you a Christian?**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, <sup>2</sup> not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition,

**A disciple is a person who is laid down their life to follow Jesus.**

**A disciple is more than a learner or a student.**

They have made up their mind to follow Christ and serve him with all of their heart

and all of their might and with all their strength.

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

When I lay down my dreams and my aspirations and my goals and I submit everything to God, that’s when I become a true disciple.

Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

**Discipleship is all about a generational increase.**

We are looking for generational increase.

If we disciple well, the next generation will go further faster.

1 Kings 19:19 So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him. 20 And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah, and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" 21 So Elisha turned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen and slaughtered them and boiled their flesh, using the oxen's equipment, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

## **4 Behaviors Of A True Disciple.**

### **1. Disciples respond to a personal that invitation that initiates a journey.**

There is something about the invitation of Christ that requires a journey.

It is a lifelong journey.

### **2. Disciples make inevitable and permanent lifetime adjustments.**

If you want to follow Christ you have to step into the unknown and trust him.

God's plans are better than your plans.

### **3. True Disciples eliminate the options.**

1 Kings 19:21 So Elisha turned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen and

slaughtered them and boiled their flesh, using the oxen's equipment, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

Elisha went back and killed his oxen and burned his plow.

Elisha eliminated the options!

It's a life of total surrender.

**It's called lordship.**

Lordship is an end of life on your terms.

It's letting Jesus become master controller.

Philippians 3:7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for

the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.

Elisha kills the oxen burns the plow and starts on the journey with Elijah.

The first place they stop is a place called Gilgal.

**Gilgal Represents the place where guilt and shame is rolled away.**

It's the place of a clean conscious.

The next town they go to is Bethel. Bethel means house of God.

**Bethel represents the place of his presence.**

The 3rd city was Jericho.

**Jericho demands we put on the full armor of God.**

It's the place of resistance, delay or even personal loss.

Jericho demands that we will stand strong and fight for what has been promised.

This is the journey of a true disciple.

It's a progressive journey and it's a determination to get all God has for you.

There is a version of your life you haven't seen yet.

If you are willing to be a true disciple there is more in you than you know.

You have more capacity than you can ever imagine.

But for those who are fully committed and are willing to burn the plow you will see a progressive revelation of what God has for you.

Pick up the mantle and cross the Jordan.

The best is yet to come.