

## Following

Danger: Identity in Gifts - Performance vs Relationship (Lk 10:18-20)

Cain's & Abel's offering (Gen 4:2-7) - Produce vs Covenant Partnership

(Mt 28:18-20) <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Disciple = Follower

I have authority; get them in Me, teach them to follow Me, I'll do stuff.

Make Followers of Him; not believers, church members, followers of doctrine, followers of pastors (1 Cor 3:1-7) - ex: school play story

(doesn't negate authority, nor allow you to blame authority)

### Disciples Follow Him

(Mt 10:38) <sup>38</sup>"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

(Mt 16:24) <sup>24</sup>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.

(Lk 14:27) <sup>27</sup>"And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

(Lk 14:33) <sup>33</sup>"So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.

(Jn 10:27) <sup>27</sup>"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

(Jn 12:26) <sup>26</sup>"If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

Reckless Love - #1 Christian song 2018

straying sheep (Mt 18:10-14), lost sheep (Lk 15:1-7)

safe to leave 99 because they're Disciples - only needs to call them ("follow me")

Decide to be a Disciple of Jesus! Don't wait for someone to come find you.

Making Disciples... which model are we following?

Pharisees (Mt 23)

outward appearance

religious duty (rules)

act righteous (self)

leaders exalted

disciples controlled (doctrine)

avoid sinners (judgement)

~ right knowledge in us

Jesus

heart issues

relational duty (abide)

imputed righteousness (Jesus)

leaders serve

disciples released (action)

reconcile sinners (love)

~ new life in Him

(two trees in the garden - Gen 2:9)

(Jn 5:39-40) <sup>39</sup>"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. <sup>40</sup>But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life."

(Jn 6:60, 66-69) <sup>60</sup>Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”

<sup>66</sup>From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. <sup>67</sup>Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?” <sup>68</sup>But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>“Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Knowledge based disciples back off when they don't understand.

This will cause problems pursuing Spiritual Gifts

(1Co 2:14) <sup>14</sup>But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Relationship based disciples keep following, usually eventually understand.

deacons (Acts 6:2-4): good reputation, full of Holy Spirit and wisdom

- not trained, not directed

India Pastor story

(Isa 66:2) “But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word.

If you're Humble and Honor His Word, you qualify for Ministry (Trust)

You don't need permission to follow Him with your gifts.

Ministry at COTR (ex: healing room)