



A Second Look at Discipleship

John 1:43-51
December 18, 2016

I. Discipleship Starts When You Follow Jesus (v. 43)

- A. Beware of _____ the experience of other believers the measure of your own
- B. Beware of _____ another's faith because they are struggling in their walk
- C. Beware of _____ everyone who claims Christ but clearly denies God's Word

II. Discipleship Continues as You Bring Others to Jesus (vv. 44-45)

- A. Young disciples often make the _____ evangelists
- B. Young disciples are _____ to tell you what they know
- C. Young disciples sometimes don't _____ things just right

III. Discipleship Focuses on Experiencing the Person of Christ (v. 46)

- A. Be careful not to be _____ with the details
- B. Be ready to _____ people to Christ for themselves

IV. Discipleship Reflects the Sovereignty of God (vv. 47-48)

- A. Jesus knows who you _____ (v. 47)
- B. Jesus knows what you have _____ (v. 48)

V. Discipleship Displays the Divinity of Christ (vv. 49-51)

- A. A true disciple proclaims the truth about Christ (v. 49)
 - 1. He confesses Christ's _____ office
 - 2. He confesses Christ's _____ nature
 - 3. He confesses Christ's _____ role
- B. A true disciple will grow in his knowledge of Christ (v. 50)
 - 1. To him who _____, more will be given to him
 - 2. To him who _____, the conviction of the gospel will grow in him
 - 3. To him who has _____, the revelations of Christ will burst forth until glory
- C. A true disciple will see Jesus as the link to heaven (v. 51)
 - 1. Followers of Christ have their faith strengthened by the angel's _____
 - 2. Students of God's Word would well remember the account of _____
 - 3. Disciples of Jesus know Jesus as the only _____ which links earth to heaven

TAKE HOME

- Are you a true disciple of Christ who _____ His every word?
- Are you a Christian indeed, in whom there is no _____?
- Are you going to see _____ things as you experience greater growth?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read John 1:43. Have you ever compared your conversion to Christ with someone else’s and it caused you to have great doubt? Discuss with the group how you worked through this. Do you struggle giving grace to others who are struggling in their walk with Christ? Why?

2. Read John 1:44-45. Do you agree with the statement that young disciples often make the best evangelists? Why or why not? What are some mistakes young disciples can make? What can we do to help them?

3. Read John 1:46. Why didn’t Nathanael think anything good could come out of Nazareth? What was Philip’s response? What can we learn from this?

4. Read John 1:47-48. What does it mean to have no deceit or guile? What are some areas in your life where you are tempted to be deceitful? How does Heb. 4:13 fit in here? Ps. 32:2?

5. Read John 1:49. What does Nathanael’s confession teach us about the person of Christ?

6. Read John 1:50. What are the “greater things than these” that Nathanael might see?

7. Read John 1:51. Now read Gen. 28:12-17. How are these two passages connected? What is the main point?

8. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? How can you apply what you’ve learned in this passage into your life this week?

“Let us pray that we may be of the same spirit as Nathanael. An honest, un-prejudiced mind—a child-like willingness to follow the truth, wherever the truth may lead us—a simple, hearty desire to be guided, taught, and led by the Spirit—a thorough determination to use every spark of light which we have—are a possession of priceless value.”

- J.C. Ryle, *Expository Thoughts on the Gospels*, Vol. 3