

Discipleship: A Worshiper, Servant, and Representative.

To follow Jesus means to worship Him exclusively. This is at the heart of Jesus' ministry on earth. As He told the woman at the well, the Father is seeking true worshipers "those who worship him in spirit and truth" (John 4:23–24). Which means, if we will follow Jesus, we must worship God through Jesus, because He is our Mediator (John 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5).

This is the basic perspective of a disciple. It is a perfect picture of who Jesus is and who we should become. We look to Him in the radiance of His worth. Be prepared because nothing today will irritate our pluralistic society more than being an exclusive worshiper of Jesus. Many people are ok with Christ as long as it is not offensive. They want the exclusivity part left out. Jesus, the Moral Teacher, motivational speaker, that Jesus is acceptable. But that is not the full picture. To follow Jesus, to be his disciple, means first and central is to worship Him with joy at the heart.

Jesus is the ultimate servant! In The gospel of John, He is serving- kneeling before his disciples to wash their feet (John 13:5). To many today this doesn't sound right, especially when we think of Him as God's Son (John 13:8). But Jesus is a servant. He came to earth not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as the rescuer for sinners (Mark 10:45).

And as a servant, Jesus says to his disciples, "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example," (John 13:14–15). As a servant Jesus has a particular focus on disciples serving disciples. "Let us do good to everyone," Paul said, "and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10).

To be a disciple of Jesus means to serve: To inconvenience yourself, even when it upsets the world's social order. What's love got to do with it? Everything!

John gives us a great description of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. This time it comes in the commission of Jesus, when He says of His disciples, to His disciples, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you" (John 20:21; John 17:18). It means, in the broadest sense, that we are missionaries, empowered to step into this world. As Jesus was sent to reveal God and redeem sinners (John 1:14, 12). We too, as His disciples, filled by His Spirit, are sent to tell His good news (Romans 10:14–17).

To be a disciple of Jesus means to point people to Him and worship Him. It means, that we gladly seek more worshipers-servants-disciples. A disciple of Jesus makes more disciples of Jesus. A Disciple of Christ will reflect His sweet fragrance!

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