

MARKED FOR LIFE

The Invitation

Mt. 11:28-30

²⁸"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰"For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

The Process

Mark 3:14

¹⁴And He appointed twelve, so that they would be with Him and that He could send them out to preach,

- 1.
- 2.
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Precepts of Discipleship *taken from 'Personal Discipleship' by Christopher Adsit*

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| 1: Develop a Heart for God | 11: Involve Your Disciple in All Three Group Dynamics |
| 2: Develop a Heart for Your Disciple | 12: Excel in Observation, Discernment, Critique |
| 3: Live a Godly Life | 13: Be a Humble Servant to Your Disciple |
| 4: Be a Friend | 14: Be Open and Honest |
| 5: Meet Your Disciple's Needs Individually | 15: Hold Your Disciple Accountable |
| 6: Realize That God Is in Charge | 16: Be Encouraging |
| 7: Pray for Your Disciple | 17: Don't try to "Back-stroke" Disciplemaking |
| 8: Be Patient | 18: Don't Waste Your Time with the Uncommitted |
| 9: Be Persistent | 19: Do Your Paperwork! |
| 10: Don't Push Too Hard | 20: Be Willing to Be Made Usable |

The Imperative

Mt. 28:18-20

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

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The Term

Disciple - A student or learner of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ who not only learns what he thought but who lives what he taught.

The Marks

1. A relationship of supreme and incomparable love for Jesus Christ (Matthew 10:37; Luke 14:26).
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2. A regularity of study and devotion to God's Word (John 8:31-32).
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A. Characteristics of God's Word

1. Joshua 23:14 –
2. Psalm 12:6; Proverbs 30:5-
3. Psalm 18:30-
4. Psalm 19:7-10-
5. Psalm 119:105; 130-

6. Psalm 119:160-
7. Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:17-19; Mark 13:31 –
8. Isaiah 55:10, 11-
9. 2 Timothy 3:16-
10. Hebrews 4:12-
11. 1 Peter 1:23-25-
12. 2 Peter 1:20, 21-

B. Benefits of Reading God's Word

1. Joshua 1:8-
2. Psalm 19:7-
3. Psalm 19:8-
4. Psalm 19:11-
5. Psalm 37:31
6. Psalm 119:9, 11-
7. Psalm 119:24-
8. Psalm 119:50-
9. Psalm 119:98; 2 Timothy 3:15-
10. Proverbs 6:22-
11. Matthew 4:4-
12. John 15:3; 17:17-
13. John 20:30, 31-
14. Romans 15:4-

15. 2 Timothy 3:16-17-

16. 1 Peter 2:2-

C. What we do with God's Word

1. Joshua 1:8-

2. Psalm 119:11-

3. Proverbs 6:20-22-

4. Mark 4:3-20-

5. Luke 24:25

6. John 8:31-

7. John 14:21-

8. Acts 17:11-

9. Colossians 3:16-

10. 2 Timothy 3:15-

3. A renunciation of self as the authority and focus of attention in one's life (Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23).

4. A realization of a life of sacrifice and separation to the cross (Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23).

5. A response of allegiance to Christ's compelling leadership (Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23).

A SCRIPTURAL CHECKLIST CONCERNING "DOUBTFUL THINGS"

1. Is there any specific scriptural command prohibiting it? (I Sam. 15:22; John 14:15).
2. Can I do it with a clear conscience, without any misgivings, and having no guilt feelings from within? [If in doubt--don't!] (Romans 14:22, 23).
3. Will it cause a weaker brother in Christ to stumble or will it impair his growth? (Romans 13-15).
4. Will it hinder my testimony to the unsaved? (I Cor. 10:23-33).
5. Will it give any of my three enemies (the world, the flesh or the devil) any hold on me to hinder my zeal or service to the Lord? Will it cater to my basic selfish interest? (Rom. 13:14; I Cor. 9:27).
6. Will it harm or cut down on my physical well-being? (I Cor. 6:19, 20).
7. Will it become a hindering weight or an enslaving habit? (Hebrews 12:1; I Cor. 6:12).
8. Does it drag me through the gutter mentally? (II Cor. 10:5).
9. Does it serve to draw me closer to the Lord? (I John 2:15).
10. Can I imagine Christ doing this? (I John 2:6).
11. Would I like to be doing this when Jesus returns? (I John 2:28).
12. Can I ask God's blessing on it wholeheartedly? (Col. 3:17).
13. Does it give a consistent appearance, that is, does it have the appearance of evil? (I Thess. 5:22).
14. Does it help me become more like the image of Jesus Christ? (Rom. 8:29).
15. Does it bring glory to God, that is, does it show God off for who He is? (I Cor. 10:31).
16. If the "doubtful thing" passes these tests, and you have taken into account the other "road signs" directing you toward God's will, then you are free to "love God and do as you please." (Psalm 37:4).

6. A recognition of the true ownership of one's possessions (Luke 14:33).

7. A reflection of Christ's love in attitude and action toward other believers (John 13:34-35)

ONE ANOTHER STATEMENTS

Mark 9:50 Be at peace with *one another*
John 13:14 Wash *one another's* feet
John 13:34 Love *one another* (Cf. John 15:12, 17; Rom 13:8; 1 Thess 3:12; 4:9; 1 Peter 1:22, 4:8; 1 John 3:11; 4:7, 11)
Rom 1:12 Be encouraged in *one another's* faith
Rom 12:10 Be devoted to *one another* in brother love
Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind toward *one another* (Cf. Romans 15:5)
Rom 13:8 Owe nothing to anyone except to love *one another*
Rom 14:13 Let us not judge *one another*
Rom 14:19 Pursue...the building up of *one another*

Rom 15:7 Accept *one another*
Rom 15:14 Admonish *one another*
Rom 16:16 Greet *one another* with a holy kiss (Cf. 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12; 1 Peter 3:14)
1 Cor 7:5 Stop depriving *one another* (your spouse only!)
1 Cor 12:25 Have the same care for *one another*
Gal 5:13 Through love serve *one another*
Gal 5:15 Take care lest you be consumed by *one another*
Gal 5:26 Let us not become boastful challenging *one another*
Gal 5:26 Let us not be envying *one another*
Gal 6:2 Bear *one another's* burdens (Cf. Colossians 3:12)
Eph 4:2 Show forbearance to *one another* in love
Eph 4:25 Speak truth...for we are members of *one another*
Eph 4:32 Be kind to *one another* (Cf. Colossians 3:13)
Eph 4:32 Forgive *one another* (Cf. Colossians 3:13)
Eph 5:21 Submit to *one another* in the fear of Christ
Phil 2:3 Regard *one another* as more important than yourself
Col 3:9 Do not lie to *one another*
1 Thess 4:18 Comfort *one another* (Cf. 1 Thess 5:11)
1 Thess 5:15 Seek after that which is good for *one another*
Heb 3:13 Encourage *one another* (Cf. Hebrews 13:3)
Heb 10:24 Consider how to stimulate *one another* to love and good works
James 4:11 Do not speak against *one another*, brethren
James 5:9 Do not complain brethren against *one another*
James 5:16 Confess your sins to *one another*
James 5:16 Pray for *one another*
1 Peter 4:9 Be hospitable to *one another* without complaint
1 Peter 4:10 Serve *one another* (with your spiritual gift)
1 Peter 5:5 Clothe yourselves with humility toward *one another*
1 Peter 5:14 Greet *one another* with a holy kiss

DISCIPLE:

A student or learner of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ who not only learns what he thought but who lives what he taught.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A DISCIPLE

1. A relationship of supreme and incomparable love for Jesus Christ (Matthew 10:37, Luke 14:26).
2. A regularity of study and devotion to God's Word (John 8:31).
3. A renunciation of self as the authority and focus of attention in one's life (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23).
4. A realization of a life of sacrifice and separation to the cross (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23).
5. A response of allegiance to Christ's compelling leadership (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23).
6. A recognition of the true ownership of one's possessions (Luke 14:33).
7. A reflection of Christ's love in attitude and action toward other believers (John 13:34-35).

THE MARKS OF A DISCIPLE

1. Love Christ Best. (Matthew 10:37, Luke 14:26)
2. Read That Book. (John 8:31)
3. Just Say No. (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23)
4. As You Wish. (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23)
5. In His Steps. (Matthew 16:24, Mark 8:34, Luke 9:23)
6. Take Good Care/It's All Yours. (Luke 14:33)
7. Where's the Love? (John 13:34-35)

The Fellowship Of The Unashamed

Written by Dr. Bob Moorehead, excerpt from his book, "Words Aptly Spoken." According to Dr. Moorehead's son, a man in Africa who was murdered for his faith had a copy of this prayer on him when he was martyred.

I'm part of the Fellowship of the Unashamed. The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I'm a disciple of His and I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still.

My past is redeemed. My present makes sense. My future is secure. I'm done and finished with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, mundane talking, cheap living, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, lavish wealth, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, or first, or tops, or recognized, or praised, or rewarded. I live by faith, lean on His presence, walk by patience, lift by prayer, and labor by Holy Spirit power.

My face is set. My gait is fast. My goal is Heaven. My road may be narrow, my way rough, my companions few, but my Guide is reliable and my mission is clear.

I will not be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice or hesitate in the presence of the adversary. I will not negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, or let up until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and preached up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus. I must give until I drop, preach until all know, and work until He comes. And when He does come for His own, He'll have no problems recognizing me. My colors will be clear.