



IDENTITY

DISCIPLES

IDENTITY - DISCIPLES PART 1

The first question we must ask ourselves is, “What is a disciple”, because we are called and chosen to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. We are called to be disciples of the kingdom of heaven.

The word disciple is the word mathēteuō, (math-ayt-yoo'-o); intransitively, to become a pupil; transitively, to disciple, i.e. enrol as scholar: —be disciple, instruct, teach.

If we are a follower of Jesus, then we are to be a pupil of Jesus and a pupil who wholeheartedly sets the direction of their life to become fully trained or equipped by their teacher.

Luke 6:40 A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.

Man is not above Christ and is not to be placed above Christ and yet so often we can look to man and not God to be our Teacher. The natural or flesh will always look to man first because this is what it sees. A disciple of Jesus Christ will look to the Spirit to be their Teacher, as He has been commissioned to guide each disciple into all the Truth that is concealed in Christ.

John 16:12-15 “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore, I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Disciples of Jesus are to be fully trained like their Teacher. Disciples of Jesus are to be empowered and equipped to not only become like their Teacher in nature, character and power, but they are also to accomplish the spirit centred, inspired and empowered righteous works that God has prepared beforehand for them to walk in by faith.

A disciple of Jesus is to be conformed into the image of the son Jesus Christ on the inside, while seeing His divine righteous works being accomplished through them on the outside.

Romans 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

This reality of being and becoming a transformed person or pupil of Christ, is extremely different and opposite from just praying a prayer of repentance for your iniquity and sin, and living as you always have with everything staying the same.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is becoming a fully trained pupil or a disciple of Christ so essential for not only our own lives but for all those around us?
2. What is the difference between someone who enters into this disciple making process and someone who

A close-up photograph of a New Zealand passport cover. The text 'NEW ZEALAND PASSPORT' and 'URUWHENUA AOTEAROA' is visible in gold lettering. A hand is partially visible at the bottom right, holding the passport.

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doesn't?

3. Why must it be the Holy Spirit who is our Teacher as a disciple of Christ and not man?
4. What kind of life can we expect to see being formed and built in us and through us if we are becoming like our Teacher?

ACTION POINT: What action point do we need to take away from tonight?