

Matthew 28:19-20

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always**, to the end of the age.”*

As you go...make disciples...

A disciple is one who:

1. Always with the Master
2. Becoming like the Master
3. Serves like the Master

Last week we said... Always with the master meant to be abiding with Him meant to stay with Him, to remain as one with Him. Jesus prayed that we would one like He and the Father were one. An invitation and a prayer to share in a sacred intimacy, an oneness with the Godhead.

This week... A disciple is one who is Becoming like the Master

The need to become like the Master is huge... because some people “just hang” with Jesus... which means that that just spending time with Jesus is not enough, IF it doesn’t make you more like Him. The 12 men who followed Jesus spent 3 years with Him and on the night of their biggest discipleship moment... they bailed on Jesus... they ran, they deserted Him!

It wasn’t until they were Baptized with the Holy Spirit that they received the power to be fully functioning disciples. I think the essence of being baptized with the Holy Spirit is when a person, who is already a believer, receives extraordinary spiritual power for Kingdom building.

Now in Luke 24:49 Jesus says this. *“And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are **clothed with power** from on high.”*

Becoming like Jesus... what does that look like? What does it mean to be clothed in power?

I remember way back when I had long hair and a beard I would mess with people when they took the Lord’s name in vain... whenever they said the name Jesus Christ in a offensive way... I would say, no... I just look like Him! Of course they would do a double take...and look at me like I wasn’t normal.

Jesus is not normal, becoming like Jesus is not normal... the life of a disciple is not a normal life. Discipleship is the process of moving from unbelief to belief in every area of life... from moving from doubt to trust... it’s an absolute surrender of my life to Him

Again...in this world... this discipleship life is not normal.

A disciple is one who lives like Jesus, loves like Jesus and sees the world like Jesus. Their worldview... how they see family, others, neighbors, death, life, good and evil is seen through the lens of the Gospel. The way we see the world affects how we live in the world. The question that needs to be asked is simple...

“How would my life be different (and my world) if I consistently saw people the way Jesus sees them?”

John 14:6

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Jesus didn't just teach truth, He is truth. He didn't just show the way, He is the Way. He didn't just talk about light, He is the light. He didn't just show how life was meant to be lived... He is life.

So if Jesus is the way, the truth and the life... if He is the light of the world. Then as followers, as disciples, as sons and daughters... His way must be our way, His truth must be our truth, His way must be our way... and we must walk in His light.

How is this done?

Let's look at Romans 13:14

*“But **put on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.”*

Put on = Sink into, enter into, invest in, surrounded by, and in this case, **it means to assume the identity**

The Greek words for **Put On** is also translated ... **clothe your selves**...both are commands not suggestions. The theme is repeated...

Galatians 3:27

*“For all of you who were baptized into Christ have **clothed yourselves with Christ.**”*

Ephesians 4:24

*“and to **put on the new self**, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”*

Colossians 3:10

*“and have **put on the new self**, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.”*

Colossians 3:12

*“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **clothe yourselves** with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”*

Again in Luke 24:49 Jesus says this. *“And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are **clothed with power** from on high.”*

So put on the things that make you look like Jesus. Love, faith, kindness, humility, generosity.... Holiness... these are the marks of a disciple of Jesus. We put on... we sink deep into them; we invest in them with (surprise) prayer, through His Word, by worship and by serving like Him.

When I assume His identity... I find mine! His image saturates me and defines who I am... discipleship is discovering my identity, hidden in Christ, and living in freedom... because I know who I am. I take on my new self, my new man, my new identity and the freedom that provides.

That freedom enables me (as His disciple) to walk in complete confidence and power, knowing my Master has empowered me.

2 Peter 1:3

“His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.”

We have power to be like Jesus. Living like Him is more than elimination of the things that hold me back... pruning is good but it doesn't get at the roots. It's more than mere imitation, we don't mimic Jesus... we're changed to be like Him. It's even more than determination... gritting our teeth only wears them down... we can't MAKE ourselves look like Jesus.

John 15:15

“No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends (dear friend), for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.”

It's receiving the gift of our identity from Him... then we can obey and PUT ON all we need to live like Him.

Luke 6:40

“A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.”

Jesus is saying when you are fully trained (KJV, perfect) a change is going to overtake you. The phrase fully trained means... when you are prepared, when you are mended, when you are fully equipped... when you become who you ought to be...watch out!

The promise here is... When you immerse yourself in me, sink into the garments of discipleship... when you assume my identity... You will become like me!

A disciple is one who becomes like the Master!