

# ***The Gospel of John Part 33: Jesus as Our Example of a Disciple of God***

## **John 7:2-10**



*John 7:2-10 Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near. 3 Therefore His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You*

*are doing. 4 For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself publicly to the world." 5 For not even His brothers were believing in Him. 6 So Jesus said to them, "My time is not yet here, but your time is always here. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I bear witness about it, that its deeds are evil. 8 Go up to the feast yourselves; I am not yet going up to this feast because My time has not yet been fulfilled." 9 Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee. 10 But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as in secret.*

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Jesus issues His great commission in Matthew 28 and calls His followers to go and make disciples. A Christian is fundamentally a disciple of Jesus. Jesus defines what a disciple is by being a follower and learner of Him. It is in Jesus's own life on earth that He gives us an example of what a true disciple of God looks like, and this can be seen through the WILL that He follows and the WORD that He has in His heart. Everyone in the world is a disciple of something, either they are a disciple of the world or a disciple of Jesus. And these two groups should stand in sharp contrast to one another.

**1) A Disciple of the World Rejects the Will and the Word of God.** Jesus's brothers challenge Him to reveal Himself publicly in Jerusalem to settle

the debate concerning who He is. Jesus's brothers had yet to believe in Him, they were disciples of the world. Jesus characterizes their will as one that does whatever it wants whenever it wants with no restraints. It is a will bent on selfish desires. Jesus also reveals they have a word that the world loves. It is a word that speaks well of the evil deeds of the world. A disciple of the world has the wrong will and the wrong word in their life. This is why the Bible calls the lost to repentance. Repentance means we change the direction of our will and change our mind about the word, away from that of the world and towards that of God.

### **2) A Disciple of Jesus Follows the Will and Learns the Word of God.**

Jesus tells His brothers that He has a will and a word that is not of this world. Throughout the Gospel of John, Jesus consistently demonstrates two essential characteristics in His life: His will is the will of the Father, and His words are the words of the Father. Jesus's walk of faith as a man is a perfect example of what a disciple of God looks like in all ways. His will is bound by the will of God, and He has learned and shares the very words of God. This is one of the reasons why Jesus will later say, "if you have seen Me, you have seen the Father." So also, the Christian should be seen in the world as a direct reflection of Jesus. A disciple represents and is known by the one they learn from and the one they follow. From the beginning, the Christian experience was always intended to bring forth a people in the world that thought differently, talked differently, and walked differently than the ways of the world. And this is what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus today.