Discipleship Series 3 & 4: Disciples are Imitators of Jesus

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1



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10:31-11:1
Whether, then,
you eat or drink
or whatever you
do, do all to the
glory of God. 32
Give no offense
either to Jews or
to Greeks or to

the church of God; 33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit but the profit of the many, so that they may be saved. 1 Be imitators of me, just as I am also of Christ.

In Matthew 28, Jesus gives us the mission of our lives: to be disciples of Him. In Luke 6, Jesus gives us the goal of our lives: to become like Him. These things answer the "what" and the "why" of our lives as followers of Christ, but do not answer the question of "how": How do we become like Christ? How do we walk as His disciples? Paul gives us the answer to that question in 1 Corinthians 11: imitate Jesus. It is through a careful examination of Jesus's life that we can find the spiritual disciplines He modeled for us to know how we can be a follower and a learner of Him in life.

1) A Disciple of Jesus Practice Inward Disciplines. There were things that Jesus did as part of His regular walk that were just between Him and God the Father. These things defined His inward disciplines. Jesus was known for prayer, mastery of Scripture, meditation, and practicing silence and solitude before the Father. A disciple of Jesus then practices these same things. We pray regularly, we learn God's word, we meditate or reflect on how well we keep God's word, and we practice silence and solitude to hear a fresh word from God in our lives. By practicing these

things we strengthen our relational intimacy with God and we start to experience God's presence in our thoughts and our actions.

2) A Disciple of Jesus Practice Outward Disciplines. There were also things that Jesus did as part of His walk that directly impacted the world and the people around Him. These things defined His outward disciplines. Jesus was seen as one who served, witnessed, and practiced fellowship in His life. All these things are what we are to practice in our lives. We show God's grace through our service, we make known God's love through our witness, and we experience God's blessing in our fellowship. By practicing these things as disciples of Jesus we make known to the world the glory of God by how we live our lives.