**A Disciple of Christ**

**Text**

**John 8:31 - 31**So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly My disciples;

**John 13:35 35**Now the slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever.

**Overview**

A disciple is a pupil-one who learns from another's teachings. As Christians, we are disciples of Christ and have an important relationship with the Master Teacher.

**Lesson Theme**

As disciples, we must be ready to fulfill our three-fold purpose: to answer the call to be a follower of Jesus Christ, to accept criticism joyfully, and to relay the Good News to others.

**Lesson Objectives**

At the conclusion of the lesson, each student should:

* Understand the relationship that Christ desires to have with His disciples.
* Know that criticism for Christ's sake is part of what makes us distinctive followers of Christ.
* Execute the disciple's prime responsibility to go and tell the world about the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**Teaching Outline**

* Disciple Is Called
  + To be with Him
  + To be like Him
* A Disciple Is Criticized
  + Corporately
  + Individually
* A Disciple Is Commissioned
  + To learn
  + To tell

**Matthew 4:18-22 18** Now as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. 19 And He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of people.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. 21 Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets; and He called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

**Romans 8:9-11** 9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. 10 If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Enoch "walked with God" (Genesis 5:22, 24).

Noah "walked with God" (Genesis 6:9).

Old Testament kings "did that which was right in the sight of the Lord" (2 Kings 18:3, 22:2; 2 Chronicles 24:2).

**Matthew 26:69-74 69**Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a slave woman came to him and said, “You too were with Jesus the Galilean.” **70**But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” **71**When he had gone out to the gateway, another slave woman saw him and said to those who were there, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” **72**And again he denied it, with an oath: “I do not know the man.” **73**A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “You really are one of them as well, since even the way you talk gives you away.” **74**Then he began to curse and swear, “I do not know the man!” And immediately a rooster crowed.

**Luke 6:40** " A student is not above the teacher; but everyone, when he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.

**Romans 8:29 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 brothers and sisters;

**1 Corinthians 15:4949**Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

**Colossians 3:9-10 9**Do not lie to one another, since you stripped off the old self with its evil practices, **10**and have put on the new self, which is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created it

**Matthew 5:11-12 11**“Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. **12**Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in this same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Acts 8:1 8**Now Saul approved of putting Stephen to death. And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except for the apostles.

**Acts 12:1** Now about that time Herod the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church, to do them harm.

**Luke 5:30 30**The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling to His disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?”

**Mark 4:33-34 33**And with many such parables He was speaking the word to them, so far as they were able to understand it; **34**and He did not speak to them without a parable; but He was explaining everything privately to His own disciples.

**Matthew13:16** "But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear."

**Luke 9:1-6** Now He called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all the demons, and the power to heal diseases. **2**And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing. **3**And He said to them, “Take nothing for your journey, neither a staff, nor a bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not even have two tunics. **4**And whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that city. **5**And as for all who do not receive you, when you leave that city, shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.” **6**And as they were leaving, they began going throughout the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

The woman at the well-John 4:28-29

The maniac of Gadara-Mark 5:19

The men on the road to Emmaus-Luke 24:32-35

**Study Questions**

1. What does the word disciple mean?

2. When did Peter's denial of Jesus Christ actually begin?

3. What characteristic of Peter did those at the fire recognize that identified him with Jesus?

4. In what two ways may Christians be criticized for Christ?

5. Christ wants us to be continually aware of His presence and to open every area of our lives to Him. Has He convicted you of areas you have closed off to Him? If so, what areas?

6. How can you respond to both corporate and individual criticism in a godly way?

7. A disciple has been commissioned by Christ to learn. What is something you are learning/have learned over the past month?

8. With whom did you share the Gospel this past week? Who will you share it with this week?

**Memory Verse**

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

(John 13:35)