

Discipleship Commitment and Accountability

Written in truth and instruction by John, servant and disciple of Christ, Zion's Roar Holy Spirit Ministry

Brothers and sisters,

When we accepted the call to follow Christ, we accepted more than forgiveness. We accepted a covenant of commitment. True discipleship is not simply believing in Him; it is belonging entirely to Him. It is surrendering our rights, our comforts, and even our attachments, and living as those who are fully available to His will.

Christ said, **“If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” (Matthew 16:24)** The cross is not a symbol of convenience. It is a choice of death to self. To follow Christ is to choose obedience even when it costs something. It is to say no to the flesh, no to comfort, and yes to the will of the Father.

Many are drawn to Christ's teachings, but few remain when the cost becomes personal. He warned that before calling ourselves His disciples, we must count the cost. He said that whoever builds a tower must first see if he has enough to finish it. In the same way, we must examine whether our lives are truly yielded to Him or only partially given. Those who hold tightly to their attachments will always hesitate when obedience requires sacrifice.

True disciples live detached from the world. We must hold everything lightly, our possessions, our plans, our reputation, and even relationships, so that at any moment we can say to the Lord, “It is Yours.” What matters is not how much we have, but how much of us He has. The question for every disciple is this: If He asked me to give it all up today, would I obey without hesitation?

Commitment reaches every part of our walk. It is not limited to church, prayer, or service. It touches how we speak, how we react, how we treat others, and how we handle correction. Disobedience and disrespect are not minor flaws. They reveal how much of our heart still belongs to self. A disciple who cannot obey authority on earth will struggle to obey the authority of Heaven.

Disobedience is not a moment of weakness. It is the rejection of God's authority. When we choose our will over His Word, we repeat the same rebellion that began in Eden. "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." (**Romans 5:19**) Disobedience says, "I know better." It replaces surrender with self and turns God's commands into suggestions.

Christ said, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." (**John 14:15**) and again, "He that hath My commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me." (**John 14:21**) True love is not proven by words or emotion but by obedience. Heaven's language for love is obedience. When obedience weakens, relationship with God suffers. "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God." (**Isaiah 59:2**) It is not that God withdraws His presence, but that rebellion closes the heart's door to Him.

Disrespect begins where Honor ends. It treats what is holy as common and questions what God has already made clear. "Why call ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (**Luke 6:46**) Disrespect says, "I will honor You in word but not in submission." Holiness is not a tone of voice or an outward appearance. It is a posture of the heart that yields before correction. We cannot claim to honor God while resisting the Word that shapes us.

What we are toward God will also show in how we respond to authority on earth. If we resist the Father in Heaven, we will resist the parents, elders, and leaders He placed over us. The same heart that questions God's ways will question a parent's instruction. The same pride that refuses divine correction will refuse human correction.

A son becomes disobedient when he refuses what is right or rejects the authority God placed over him. A son becomes disrespectful when his tone or attitude dishonors that authority.

Disobedience says, "I will not do what you ask."

Disrespect says, "You have no weight or value to me."

Even if someone obeys outwardly, a prideful tone exposes inward rebellion. The same is true before God. Partial obedience is not obedience at all.

Questioning often reveals the state of the heart. Most questioning is not curiosity but resistance in disguise. When God's answer does not lease the flesh, the heart begins to wrestle. Job questioned, but God corrected him; not for asking, but for assuming he understood better. There is a difference between asking to learn and questioning to justify self-will. When questioning becomes defiance, it no longer seeks understanding; it seeks control.

“Honor your father and your mother.” (Exodus 20:12) This command is about more than agreement. It is about attitude. Whether toward parents or toward God, the issue is not whether we understand everything, but whether we remain humble through what we do not understand. Questioning with humility draws us closer to God. Questioning with pride distances us from Him.

Honor does not always mean silence, but it always means humility. It is calmness when the heart is troubled. It is peace when answers seem delayed. When a child speaks with gentleness, it is not disrespect. When a child refuses sinful instruction, it is not disobedience. But when the heart questions with pride, both sins are present.

Scripture says, **“To obey is better than sacrifice.” (1 Samuel 15:22)** and **“This is love that we walk after His commandments.” (2 John 1:6)** Obedience and respect reveal spiritual maturity. They are the fruit of love perfected by trust.

Disciples, our calling is not casual belief; it is full surrender. Christ never invited spectators, only followers. Commitment is not a word; it is a life laid down. If you find yourself questioning God, let it be with faith and humility, not pride and resistance. If you cannot submit to Him, you will not honor those He placed over you. And if you cannot honor authority on earth, you are not yet walking rightly with the One who gave it.

He that loves God will submit to His Word. He that despises instruction, whether divine or parental, cannot claim to love God. So, guard your tone, your thoughts, and your responses. Let every question be asked from faith, not pride. Let every act of obedience prove your love.

For the Son Himself said, “[As the Father gave Me commandment, even so I do.](#)” (**John 14:31**)

To love is to obey.

To obey is to honor.

To honor is to walk as Christ walked.

With love and truth,

John, a servant called to be an apostle of Christ

For a deeper study on John’s message see: B3-C03-S01-Letter - Discipleship Commitment accountability”