



ACCM

Bible Study: Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

Topic: Discipleship Part 3

INTRODUCTION: Jesus was the smartest character in leadership that ever lived. Naturally if any leader is conducting a selection interview, i.e. looking for people who will run his business and eventually succeed him, he will most probably look for the most intelligent set of people who has about the most impressive resume. With these, the leader would feel assured that he will conquer the world whether he is there or not.

In Jesus time we had the likes of Gamaliel, Paul, Luke etc. Jesus looked beyond them, at least initially when He was starting the ministry and went for ordinary fishermen but men with passion and teachable minds. The one with unteachable mind crashed out. John 6:70 (Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?") Bible scholars will tell you that all of them were probably in their twenties.

Having been trained by Jesus and having received the backing of the Holy Spirit, they took up their assignments with the passion like the strength of a stallion. They perplexed the educated, mesmerized leaders and eventually turned the world upside down.

SESSION 1

THE MAKING OF A DISCIPLE:

Texts: Acts 3:11-26, 4:1-22

Compare the words of Peter in Acts 4:9-12 with the words of the three Hebrew children in Daniel 3:16-17. These statements by Peter will tell you that **(A DISCIPLE WHO IS A WORSHIPPER IS UNSTOPPABLE)**

OUTLINE:

WHO WERE JESUS CORE DISCIPLES?

Simon Peter was a fisherman/businessman. His brother Andrew, was also a fisherman. So was John and James. Philip, Nathaniel, Thomas were most probably fishermen while Matthew was a tax collector. Others like James (Jesus cousin), Thaddeus (Jude), Simon, the zealot and Judas Iscariot we are not sure of their vocations before they were called by Jesus. With the exception of John, and Judas Iscariot these were all martyred.

These were ordinary people with little or no education but how did they end up changing the world when Jesus only spent three years or less with them. How did they sustain the teachings of the Jesus till today with extra ordinary results? The answer to this question lies in proper discipleship.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A PROPER DISCIPLE?

1. **What is THE MUST HAVE quality?**
 - a. The passion: Matt 14:27-29, John 13:6-9,
 - b. The Spirit Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4, 8, John 14:16-17, 26.
 - c. The knowledge. (Inner and outer training): II Peter 1:16, Mark 5:36-41, Matthew 17:1-2, 14-21, Matt 13:36-37, Mark 4: 10-11. Luke 10:1-11, 17-21, Luke 22:35-36, I John 1:1 II Peter 1:16.

SESSION II

Introduction: In our Sunday message we have been discussing the Heart of a Worshipper. There is a strong relationship between a worshipper and a disciple. We defined a disciple as he or she who loves Jesus above all else. From this definition therefore, every disciple is a worshipper. Also one of the definitions which we agreed on as we started this study was that a disciple is an ardent, disciplined and obedient follower of the teaching of Jesus Christ and should be a fruit bearer. One major function therefore of a disciple is to continue the work of His Master the Lord Jesus Christ which is bearing fruits for the kingdom.

Two weeks ago, in the first section of the making of a disciple, we discussed the must haves of a disciple as the passion, the Spirit and the knowledge. These will be useless qualities if there are not used to bear fruits. I believe the Bible did not record for us all the disciples but it is clear that that Jesus had many more disciples during His time on earth and after His ascension. For instance, do you consider Cornelius a disciple? **Acts 10:23-27, 44-46.**

Cornelius was the gateway into the gentile conversion and before the arrival of Peter He has gathered the people preparing them for an evangelistic crusade. The Bible records that the Holy Spirit fell on all who were present. This was a breakdown of any form of prejudice. To complete the passion of Cornelius, God had to send Peter while the Holy Spirit confirmed it.

Today as we continue this discussion, we are going to be discussing the good to have qualities of a disciple. May the Lord grant us wisdom to understand His word?

2. **What do you consider THE GOOD TO HAVE quality for a disciple?**

a. **Educational knowledge and abilities:** Luke 1:1-2, Acts 9:15, Acts 23:6-10, Acts 17:22-25, 32-34. Acts 26:1-8, 24-29, II Peter 3:15-16 (**When you lose the touch of the Holy Spirit you become unstable and when you lose the teaching of Jesus, you are spiritually ignorant.**)

b. **Influence and Worldly good.** The Bible talks about Joseph of Arimathea. Other persons were Nicodemus, the Centurion, Barnabas, Lydia, John 7:45-52, Mark 15:43 (taking courage), Luke 23:50-53, John 19: 38-42, Acts 10:23-27, 44-46, Acts 4:36-37, 16:13-15,40

CONCLUSION:

No man takes the role of the disciple upon himself otherwise he will crash out. He needs to be touched by the Master and the Holy Spirit. Also, he has to be trained by the words of the Master to be able to carry out the work of a disciple effectively. The Master and the Holy Spirit may do their works of training but without the passion to do the Master's bidding, the training will not achieve its aim. There must be a willing trainee if the training is going to achieve the set goal. Anything different is most likely going to fail. Are we surprised at the quality of disciples which we have today? Many have not been touched by the Master but they believe they are doing the Master's work. Many also claim to stand for the Master but with little or no passion. Therefore at every challenge, they fold and fall out. The Master said if any one comes after Him, he should deny himself and take up his cross and follow Him. Anything different is not worth the effort.