

Discipleship

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I. Introduction.

- A. To be a disciple is to be a learner broadly.
- B. To be a disciple also means total commitment narrowly. (Luke 9:23)
- C. Our redemption is a gift. (Romans 3:23-24)
- D. Text: John 6:56-57.

II. Many follow to a point, but they turn back.

- A. Christians that are just busy are not acceptable to Jesus. (Revelation 3:14, I Corinthians 3)
- B. Because the Holy Spirit loves us, He will point out what is wrong with our lives.
- C. We are to be zealous in the right way. We are either zealous or disobedient. (Luke 9:23)

III. The chief competitor of Christ is self in a person's life. (John 12:48; Luke 9; 14; 16)

- A. The only people who follow Christ are "dead men."
- B. Discipleship is a career—we must forsake ourselves. (Ecclesiastes 8:8)
- C. We must forsake all that we care about for Christ. (Philippians 3:10)
- D. The one who is faithful in the least will be faithful in the most.
- E. God knows our hearts.
- F. There is a price to pay in discipleship. (I Samuel 15, II Samuel 1)

Application questions:

1. What does it look like to be zealous?

2. What stories have you heard of people turning back?

3. How will you commit to denying yourself in order to follow Christ more this week? Explain.
