The Hallmarks of Discipleship, Part 3 John MacArthur

I. Introduction

- A. Text: Matthew 10:24-32.
- B. The mark of a true disciple is being willing to confess Christ at any cost.

C. Jesus gives instruction for how to be a disciple.

II. The disciple is not above his teacher. The basic hallmark is Christ-likeness. (1 John 2:6)

A. If one says he is a Christian, he ought to behave like Christ.

B. We are called to be like Jesus.

III. The second hallmark of discipleship is to be treated as Christ is treated.

A. One cannot survive the way that the world expects us to live.

B. We will be identified with Christ and his suffering. (Philippians 3)

III. There are five marks of a true disciple.

A. He fears not the world because of promise, power and protection.

B. He fears the Lord.

1. If we know that God will have the victory, we should be willing to confess Jesus as Lord before men.

2. To confess is a verbal identification with Christ as Lord and a life that is consistent with it. (Romans 10)

3. The character of the confession must be public. There is no secret Christian. (Romans 10, 1 John 4:1, Revelation 21:35)

4. There are many ways of denying Christ short of facing a firing squad. Christ will deny us if we deny him. The Lord was concerned constantly about people who were in the flock who were not saved.

IV. Conclusion. (Matthew 25)

Application Questions:

1. Why is a public confession necessary (why are there no private Christians)?

2. What are some ways that people can deny Christ?

3. How can you develop character that is more like Christ's? Explain.