

What is a Disciple?

What Will a Man Give in
Exchange for His Soul?

Peter had a revelation from the Father

Mat 16:15-16 ESV He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but *my Father who is in heaven.*

Peter was influenced by Satan (the adversary)

Mat 16:22-23 ESV And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." 23 But he turned and said to Peter, "**Get behind me, Satan!** You are a **hindrance** to me. For you are **not setting your mind on the things of God**, but on the things of man."

What does it mean to follow Jesus as His disciple?

Mat 16:24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

- An invitation to Anyone
- Deny Himself
- Take up his cross
- Follow me

An invitation to ANYONE

How to become a disciple in 1st Century Judaism

- Bet Sefer (6-12) memorize the Torah
- Bet Midrash (13-15) memorize Tanakh
- Bet Talmud (15-30) begin to follow a rabbi, take his yoke (interpretation of scripture) and eventually make disciples himself

To DENY HIMSELF

We live in a culture that is averse to dying to self

- we want to FIND ourselves
- we want to PAMPER ourselves
- we are self-absorbed
- we want to pursue what is important to us

Take up his cross

- Taking up a cross leads to one outcome - death
- It is humility leading to obedience (in Jesus' case it meant death on the cross - what does it mean to us?)

Php 2:8 ESV And being found in human form, he *humbled* himself by becoming *obedient* to the point of death, even *death* on a cross.

The call to FOLLOW HIM - What does it mean?

When a rabbi called someone to follow him, it was a relationship with expectations

- To be WITH Him
- to become LIKE Him
- To DO the things he does
- To go and do likewise - (i.e. make disciples)

To be WITH Him

Mar 3:14 ESV And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) **so that they might be with him** and he might send them out to preach

To become LIKE Him

Luk 6:40 ESV A disciple is not above his teacher, but *everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.*

To DO the things He does

Joh 14:12 ESV "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me *will also do the works that I do*; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.

To go and make disciples

Mat 28:18-19 ESV And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 **Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,**

A Promise that flies in the face of the philosophy of our day

Mat 16:25-26 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

What will a man give in exchange for his soul?

We can't give anything in exchange for our soul, only the blood of Jesus can provide that...

But...we do EXCHANGE OUR SOUL for something

→ our soul is our life - our time, our energy

→ every day I exchange my life for something

Will it be the THINGS OF GOD or the THINGS OF MAN

To Lose Our Life, We Must Value Something More

Mar 8:35 ESV For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

To lose our life, we must value something more

Php 3:7-8 ESV But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

What are you exchanging your life for?

- Is it more valuable than your life?
- Is it for the things of men?
- Is it for the things of God?