

"How To Connect With God" Knowing God Series Pastor Mark

1.31.21

How do we become an actual disciple?

"He (Jesus) said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19

3 important attributes of a disciple:

1) "FOLLOW ME"

Jesus' definition of a disciple is someone who KNOWS & FOLLOWS Him!

- "Anyone who loves me will <u>obey my teaching</u>. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Anyone who does not love me will <u>not obey my teaching</u>." John 14:23-24
- "If anyone would come after me, he <u>must deny himself</u> and <u>take up his cross</u> and <u>follow me</u>. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?" Matthew 16:24-26
- This 1st attribute of a disciple is at the **HEAD** level.

2) "AND I WILL MAKE YOU"

- "He (Jesus) said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19
- A disciple of Jesus is **CHANGED** by Jesus.
 - "And we are being <u>transformed into His likeness</u> with ever-increasing glory, which comes <u>from the Lord</u>, who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18
 - *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit <u>He prunes</u> so that it will be even more fruitful." John 15:1-2*
 - This 2nd attribute of a disciple is at the **HEART** level.

3) "FISHERS OF MEN"

- "He (Jesus) said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you <u>fishers of men</u>." Matthew 4:19
- A disciple of Jesus is saved for a <u>PURPOSE</u>!
 - "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore <u>Christ's ambassadors</u>, as though God were making his appeal <u>through us</u>." 2 Corinthians 5:17-20
 - The 3rd attribute of a disciple, being "*fishers of people*", is a <u>CALL TO ACTION</u>! If our acceptance of Jesus begins in the <u>head</u> & extends to the <u>heart</u>, then it leads to a change in what we do with our <u>HANDS</u>.

A disciple is a person who:

- 1) Is following Christ (CALL TO ACTION)
- 2) Is being changed by Christ (HEART)
- 3) Is committed to the mission of Christ (HANDS)