



What Did Jesus Teach?

To be a disciple of Christ we must first learn from the Master teacher himself.

1. The first thing Jesus did was ask them to follow him.
2. There first had to be a willingness to follow him.

Question: what did they do when he ask them to come follow me?

Answer: Matt 4:20 - **and they straightway left their nets, and followed him.**

21 And going on from thence he saw other two brethren James the son of Zebedee and John his brother in a ship with Zebedee their father mending their nets and he called them.

22 And they immediately left the ship and their father and followed him.

He made his selection of Apostles by their willingness to forsake everything and follow him. **{How many people today are willing to forsake it all to follow him?}**

As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

He said to another man, "Follow me." But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." **{How many would do that?}**

Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family." Jesus replied, **"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." [Luke 9:57-62]**

A lot of people followed Jesus for healing and other things but they weren't following him to be his servant but what they could receive from Him.

☒ **Still today there are some who are even willing to die to be his disciples.**

☒ There are people all over the world taking up the cross and following him.

What keeps us from following Jesus wholeheartedly?

- We want security: home, job, marriage, family.
- We want personal pleasure and comfort: an easy life, no conflict, to get along with everyone ([compromise](#)).
- We want earthly rewards: popularity, friendships, leisure time.
- Some follow only with 'conditions'. Jesus, however, wants complete loyalty with no conditions. Total dedication, not halfhearted commitment.
- We can't pick and choose among Jesus' ideas and follow him selectively.

Jesus did not appoint us to be editors who select the portions of Jesus' teaching which we "think" are irrelevant.

This man said in Luke 9:57-62, he first wanted to bury his father. It's likely the father was not yet dead and the man wanted to wait until he died.

- o **Our priorities do not place Jesus at the top.**
- o **Some have one foot in heaven and one foot in this life.**
- o **They cannot let go of the things of this earth.**
- o **They say, "Let me take care of important family matters first."**
- o **"Let me take care of my financial situation first." "Show me a miracle"**
- o **"Heal me."**

We must be willing to abandon everything else that has given us security and not allow anything to distract us from the calling He has made in our lives.

This is a very important scripture: Rev 3:13-17 **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**

14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

We learn here from the Master Teacher. When Jesus sent the disciples out they needed to know what to teach and how to do it.

Teaching always comes before sending. We must learn before we can fulfill the Lord's command to go. **If you can't follow you will never lead.**

I think one of the mistakes that are often made in the Church is to put a young convert in a teaching position before they have had a chance to learn.

You choose good teachers by the way they have received teachings.



If a person cannot be taught to follow they will never be able to lead.

If I say this is how I want you to do in your Sunday school class or bible study and I believe this will help you then that is what you are supposed to do.

Once again Jesus went out beside the lake. A large crowd came to him and he began to teach them. As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.

If you tell me you don't think that will work then you haven't learned to receive instructions so therefore you don't need to be teaching.

Jesus said "follow me" not lead me. Jesus taught to forsake the world and follow God.

Why did he teach you cannot serve to masters? Matt 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

What is the cause of most people refusing to take up their cross and following God?

Answer: The things of the world. We are hard set on having things to make us comfortable. So we strive hard to obtain earthly things and forsake heavenly things.

Nothing wrong with having nice things but heavenly things is more important. Jesus couldn't use a lot of people simply because they weren't willing to sacrifice.

A rich man ask Jesus “Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?” Matt: 19-16

Matt 19:17-21 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one that is God: but if thou wilt enter into life **keep the commandments.**

18 He saith unto him which? Jesus said Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery Thou shalt not steal Thou shalt not bear false witness

19 Honor thy father and thy mother and Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Which of these categories was he willing to keep? He said he had kept them all. Listen to the answer of Jesus

20 The young man saith unto him All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21 Jesus said unto him “If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast and give to the poor and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.”

He was unwilling to separate from his worldly possessions.

This is where he lost him, it was too much of a sacrifice for him to make.

But listen to Jesus Response to this: Matt 19:22-24 **But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.**

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you that a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24 And again I say unto you it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And that is impossible:

But you may ask the same question his disciples ask him. Matt 19:25 **When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, who then can be saved?**

Jesus gave them this answer: Matt 19:26-30 **But Jesus beheld them and said unto them, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”**

27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, **we have forsaken all** and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?

28 And Jesus said unto them “Verily I say unto you that ye which have followed me in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands for my name's sake shall receive a hundredfold and shall inherit everlasting life.

1. You have to be willing to lose it all to gain it all.

2. Who here is willing to forsake all these things to be a follower of Jesus?

Everyone that has the Holy Ghost is called to be a witness. But not everyone that is called is chosen.

I want to tell you a story: Matt 21:28-31 Think about this: **A certain man had two sons and he came to the first and said Son go work today in my vineyard.**

29 He answered and said I will not: but afterward he repented and went.

30 And he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said I will go and went not.

31 Whether of the two did the will of his father? They say unto him, the first.

The vineyard is the world and we are commanded by the Lord himself to go ye into all the world. Have you gone?

Jesus said unto them “Verily I say unto you that the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.”

You mean that if we refuse to follow him and to go when we are told to according to the teachings of Jesus we won't make it to heaven?

Do and Illustration: Ask someone to do something and see if it gets done.

Reward the faithful as Christ rewards us.

1 Sam 15:22-23 **Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams.**

23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee.

Matt 10:37-39 **He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.**

That is coming from the mouth of the Lord Jesus Himself.

38 And he that taketh not his cross and followeth after me is not worthy of me.

Is anyone here willing to follow Christ? There is a cross to bear.

1. We have to bear one another burdens. Be willing to go the extra mile to help someone.
2. Some put burdens on you that they aren't willing to bear themselves.
3. They are always on the receiving end and never on the giving end.

Luke 10:30-37 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place came and looked on him and passed by on the other side.

33 But a certain Samaritan as he journeyed came where he was: and when he saw him he had compassion on him

34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds pouring in oil and wine and set

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence and gave them to the host and said unto him Take care of him and whatsoever thou spendest more when I come again I will repay thee.

36 Which now of these three thinkest thou was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves?

37 And he said He that shewed mercy on him. **"Then said Jesus unto him Go and do thou likewise."**

These are the things that Jesus taught his disciples. Are we willing to do all this to go to heaven?

The teachings of Christ wasn't about us, but it was about us reaching out to others in time of need.

Compassion and love and mercy and grace and giving not doing any evil to anyone, this is what Christ is about.

1. Can you turn the other cheek?
2. Can you forgive men of their trespasses?
3. If someone ask for your cloak could you give them your coat also.

Christ is not about his will but the will of him who sent him.

What is it we want? Our will or his will.

Matt 5:43-46

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said; Thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate thine enemy.

44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to

them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? Do not even the publicans the same.

Example: If I left the church to go away for a month or so and I ask someone will you mow the yard? And they say yes but didn't. When I return what shape would it be in?

Jesus was training people he could depend onto take over when he was gone. They learned through their failures and they continued with him and did what he did.

They preached the gospel.

They healed the sick

They raised the dead and cast out devils.

And they did so much more then what I have listed. How did ordinary men do the supernatural?

They followed the instructions of the teacher himself and he told them this:

“John 14:12-14’

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

He taught them to pray, to fast, to give, to love and he taught them how to die for Christ sake.