

What Does It Mean to Be a Follower of Jesus?

I. Introduction

- A. "Transforming ordinary people into extraordinary followers of Christ."
- B. *Matthew 28:18-20 (NAS) ¹⁸And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

II. False Assumptions About Discipleship

A. Church attendance

- 1. *Hebrews 10:25 (LB) "Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near."*

B. Tithing and giving

- 1. *Malachi 3:10 (NAS) "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows."*
- 2. *Proverbs 3:9-10 (NAS) ⁹Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; ¹⁰so your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will overflow with new wine.*
- 3. *John 14:15 (NAS) "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."*
- 4. *Proverbs 11:24-25 (NAS) ²⁴There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more, and there is one who withholds what is justly due, and yet it results only in want. ²⁵The generous man will be prosperous, and he who waters will himself be watered.*

C. Doing good works

- 1. *Ephesians 2:10 (NAS) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*
- 2. *Galatians 5:13c (NAS) Through love serve one another.*
- 3. *1 Peter 4:10a (NAS) As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another.*

D. Being right about the Bible all the time

- 1. *John 13:35 (NAS) "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

E. Doing and not doing certain things

III. Biblical Discipleship

A. Salvation

1. *John 3:3 (NAS) Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

B. To be with Jesus

C. To obey Jesus

1. *John 14:15 (NAS) "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."*

D. To love His Body

1. *John 13:35 (NAS) "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

E. To do His works

1. *John 14:12 (NAS) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father."*

IV. Conclusion