

"Bible teachers should stress that a personal, self-denying, costly, and persistent following of Christ is necessary if a person is to be acknowledged by Jesus at the final day. In the absence of this teaching millions drift on, assuming that because they have made verbal acknowledgment of Christ ten, twenty, or even thirty years ago and have done nothing terribly bad since, they are Christians, when actually they may be far from Christ, devoid of grace, and in danger of perishing forever." from Christ's Call to Discipleship by James Boice

Marks of a Disciple (a learner on the way)

Symptomatic of his new nature, a disciple of Jesus Christ joyfully strives to:

1. surrender his identity to Christ and conform to His likeness (Phil 3:4-8; Rom 8:29)
2. know and obey God's Word, the Bible [*loves God; hates sin*] (Jn 14:21; 1 Jn 2:3-4)
3. embrace a life of prayer and meditation (Mk 11:22-25; James 5:16)
4. love fellow believers and voluntarily submit to them (Jn 13:34-35; Eph 5:21)
5. die to himself [*bears his cross and doesn't become offended*] (Matt 10:32-39; Gal 2:20)
6. live by faith [*doesn't become worried*] (Eph 2:8; Heb 11:1-6)
7. share the Gospel with the lost (1 Cor 9:19-23; Col 1:28-29)
8. bear the burdens of others [*the heart of a bonds slave*] (Mk 10:35-45; Gal 6:2)
9. own nothing (Matt 8:20; Luke 12:15-21)
10. remember that apart from Christ he can do nothing [*humility*] (Jn 15:5; Eph 2:8-9)

"I will be most useful and most content when I grasp the truth that my life is not about me but about God."

