



## Discipleship Marks: Characteristics of a Disciple of Jesus

**Love of Scripture: We meet the living God in the word of God.** Disciples recognize the importance of regularly studying scripture, both publicly and privately. Overtime, disciples of Christ obtain a working knowledge of the story of scripture and Biblical doctrine. In addition, disciples recognize the relevance of scripture to life and know how to articulate the truths of the Gospel to others. (Psalm 19:7-11, Psalm 119:97-105, 1 Timothy 3:15-16, Hebrews 4:12)

**Posture of Prayer: We know that apart from God, we can do nothing.** Disciples have a conversational relationship with the God they follow; they speak to God and respond to what He says. They pray boldly with expectation because prayer is powerful and effective. For disciples, prayer is a normal response to life's circumstances, whether good or bad. (2 Chronicles 7:14, Luke 5:16, Philippians 4:6-7, James 5:17-18)

**Holistic Worship: We offer God all of who we are and all of what we have.** Disciples recognize the magnitude of who God is and what He has done; as a result, they regularly express gratitude and praise. This expression includes giving time, talents, and treasure back to God for use in His Kingdom. As disciples turn over more and more of their lives to Christ, they look more and more like Him in all they do. (Psalm 100:1-5, Psalm 115, Colossians 1:12, Romans 12:1)

**Authentic Community: We love each other in spite of our flaws.** Disciples of Christ knowingly risk rejection by embracing vulnerability with others. They recognize that they are sinners who are friends of sinners. Rather than being divided by their differences, they are unified by their love for Christ, each other, and the values of the Kingdom (i.e., generosity, compassion, humility, faithfulness, etc.) (Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 4:1-3, Philippians 2:2, Colossians 3:12-14)

**Intentional Discipleship: We are called not only to be disciples but to make disciples.** Disciples' love for and devotion to Christ results in a desire to reproduce in others what God has done in them. They coach others to be disciples by recognizing and nurturing potential and giving certain people access to their lives. (Matthew 28:16-20, 1 Corinthians 11:1, 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7, 2 Timothy 2:2)

**Sacrificial Service: We disadvantage ourselves for the sake of others.** Disciples possess a joyful willingness to do anything needed for the Kingdom and see the entirety of their lives as a service to Christ. As disciples grow in their knowledge of God, they grow in their knowledge of their gifts and how to use them in the body of Christ. (Matthew 20:26-28, Matthew 23:11, Philippians 2:5-8, 1 Peter 4:10)

**Missional Mindset: We are sent by God to help redeem the world.** Disciples of Christ understand and participate in God's larger mission to redeem the world. They are deeply concerned for the lost and seek to spread the Gospel of Jesus. As a result, disciples engage in personal evangelism and see all of life as a mission field. (Genesis 12:1-3, John 20:21-23, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, 1 Peter 3:15)