



Ask my Disciples
“Life in His Name” Series
John 18:13-27, p.904
September 8, 2019
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God explains and exhorts the characteristics of a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

The Text: John 18:13-27

- 1) The contrast between Peter and Jesus serves as a mirror for our commitment to Jesus (vv. 13-27).

A¹ – Peter denies being a disciple (vv. 15-18)

B – Jesus points to his disciples (vv. 19-24)

A² – Peter denies being a disciple (vv. 25-27)

John 13:37-38: ³⁷ Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” ³⁸ Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

- 2) True disciples of Jesus will persevere through temptation, trial, and time (Mark 4:1-20).

a) Unbelief 1 – Birds/Satan: People hear the gospel but do not accept it (2 Cor. 4:4).

b) Unbelief 2 – Rocks/Trials: People respond to the gospel for a time but reject it when trials come.

c) Unbelief 3 – Thorns/World: People appreciate the gospel but choose this world over God.

d) True Belief – Good Soil: People hear the gospel, accept it, and bear fruit.

- 3) Pastoral Reflection – Five characteristics of a true disciple of Jesus Christ:

(a) A Christian confesses Christ as Savior and Lord.

(b) A Christian has a growing delight in God.

(c) A Christian practices repentance and righteousness.

(d) A Christian has a commitment to the church.

(e) A Christian reflects a life of mission and love.

Response

Are you a true disciple of Jesus?

Small Group Questions

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- 1) Starter Question: How would you describe what a real disciple of Jesus looks like?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) Who is this “other disciple” with Peter in vv. 15-16, and what is his role in this scene?
- 4) Read John 13:36-38. How could Peter say in 13:37 that he would lay his life down for Jesus, and yet deny him three times just hours later?
- 5) Are Christians today ashamed to admit they are disciples of Jesus, and if so, why?
- 6) What does Jesus mean in v. 20 as he responds to the high priest’s questions?
- 7) Why does Jesus point to his disciples in v. 21 as the evidence of his ministry?
- 8) In light of v. 21, how are Christians (the church) still the primary witnesses to Jesus in the world today?
- 9) What does this text want to teach us about being a bold and brave witness for Christ?
- 10) How does suffering or persecution help a person know if their faith and commitment to Christ is real?

Further study this week: Mark 4:1-20 on belief versus unbelief (Mon); 2 Corinthians 4 on seeing the light of the gospel (Tues); Philippians 3 on our response to suffering as a mark of a true disciple (Wed); Romans 12:9-21 on our love as a mark of a true disciple (Thurs); James 2:14-26 on our action as a mark of a true disciple (Fri).