



DISCIPLE

With Jesus | In Community | On Mission

SERMON TITLE: "With Jesus: Led by the Spirit"

DATE: June 21, 2020

SCRIPTURE: Selected Scriptures

PASTOR: Charlie Boyd

The earliest followers of Jesus didn't call themselves Christians. They didn't think of themselves as members of a religion. They considered themselves disciples – students and apprentices of Rabbi Jesus. So if this is who we're supposed to be, how do we begin to define 'disciple'?

Is being a disciple about knowing certain things? Doing certain things? Saying, believing, or rejecting certain things? If so, what? Is there a manual for this? How long does it take? And what's the point of it all? Or simply, what does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?

Here are the main points from today's message and the call-outs that were on the screen.

We are continuing our study in what it means to be a disciple of Jesus today. We are saying that "Discipleship is doing life *with Jesus, in community, and on mission*. Last week, Jim helped us to see that "being a disciple means to be shaped by the Book." It means being a "Scripture-saturated" person. This week we are looking at a second way we do life *with Jesus* today. "Being a disciple of Jesus means to be led by the Spirit." ...Be in the Word and led by the Spirit. Let's look at three pictures of being with Jesus by being led by the Spirit and then we will focus on one response.

Picture #1 — John 14:15-23 ...*The Holy Spirit is Jesus living in us. He is the way we live with Jesus today.*

Picture #2 — Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:16-18; ...*The Holy Spirit is the empowering presence of Jesus living in us. He is the way we are transformed to be more and more like Jesus day by day.*

Picture #3 — John 15:4-5,8; Galatians 5:22-25 ...*The Holy Spirit is the one who produces Jesus-like fruit in our lives. He is the way we put Jesus on display.*

Three pictures, now one response—*Make it your aim to be led by the Holy Spirit.* ...How do you do that? ...Build your life on the rock, solid Bible truth that your relationship with God, your ability to live as a disciple of Jesus, is only possible through the Person of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is Christ in you.

#1 Invite the Spirit into every area of your life. ...Your Bible reading, your prayer life, into all your decision-making.

#2 Create the conditions in your life to allow the Spirit to do his transforming work in you.

And remember this... The Holy Spirit transforms you over time—that is, life-change is harder than we want and takes longer than we expect. ...It takes a long time and it takes a lot of time. It's labor-intensive—not in trying harder to change but creating the space in your life for the Spirit to do his work in you. So, be patient—be patient with God and be patient with yourself.

And also remember... The Holy Spirit is always present and working in you to transform you in the hard times of life. The very times we want to avoid like that plague have the most potential to shape you into the image of Jesus.

Now think, what would have to change in your life if you make it your aim to be led by the Holy Spirit in all the moments of all your days?

Discussion Starters — Discuss each picture above by reading the passages that are listed for each one. Then read the description of the picture in the notes above. ..Then ask:

- What “aha’s” did you have with Picture #1? ...If the being led by the Spirit is the way we are “with Jesus” today, how much emphasis/focus/attention do you put on your relationship with the Spirit?
- What “aha’s” did you have with Picture #2? ...If being led by the Spirit is how we change to become more like Jesus, how are you allowing the Spirit to lead you on a daily basis?
- What “aha” did you have with Picture #3? ...If being led by the Spirit is the way we put Jesus on display, what kind of fruit is the Holy Spirit working to develop in you? ...Remember, the “fruit of the Spirit” in Gal5 is not a list of commands—“be more loving, be more joyful, be more peaceful, be more patient...” But the absence of this Jesus-like fruit in our lives may be a way to how well we are being led by the Spirit.
- What would have to change in your life if you really do make it your aim to be led by the Holy Spirit in all the moments or all your days?