

THE LIFE OF JESUS

Am I A Convert Or A Disciple?

Matthew 28:16-20 - The eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted. ¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

When you convert to Christianity you becomes a convert. But a convert is not the same as a disciple of Christ.

A convert is a person who has gone from:

- Slave to sin to forgiven
- Enemy of God to child of God
- Bound for hell to eternity in heaven

Colossians 1:19-22 - For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, ²⁰ and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross. ²¹ This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. ²² Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.

Romans 10:9-13 - If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. ¹¹ As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” ¹² Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. ¹³ For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

What Defines A Disciple Of Christ?

The word “disciple” in Matthew 28 refers to a person who has placed their trust in Jesus Christ and follow Him in lives of continual learning and obedience.

- 1) Know Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior
- 2) Show your faith through water baptism
- 3) Grow in your faith by learning and doing what Jesus commands

What Demonstrates That Your Are A Disciple Of Christ?

- 1) Obey what Jesus teaches.

John 8:31-32 - To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

- 2) Love like Jesus loved.

John 13:34-35 – Jesus said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

- 3) Live like Jesus lived.

“Bearing fruit” is a phrase that describes the outward actions that result from the inward condition of a person’s heart.

John 15:5-8 – Jesus said, “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

Galatians 5:19-24 - The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.