

Introduction

For many years I considered visiting those in prison. In Matthew 25, Jesus told about the separation of the sheep from the goats. In there, He mentioned that the sheep had visited those in prison. In Hebrews 13:3, we are exhorted to visit those in prison, as if in prison with them. These two verses weighed on my mind for many years.

(Matt 25:36) “naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.”

(Heb 13:3) “Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, *and* those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.”

In 1997 our church took out an ad in the Marietta Journal. One of the responses we got was from a man named Steve who was in the Cobb County Adult Detention Center. He asked our church to help his wife and children out, which we did. When I went to visit Steve, I shared the gospel with him, and he received Christ. Because he was now a new believer, I went back the following week to begin discipling him. He brought his bunkmate, John, out to see me in the visitation room. John also prayed to receive Christ, and so now there were two baby Christians that needed to be discipled. I began going every week to the prison to pour into these men, and every week more men were getting saved. The prison chaplain, Doc Frady, saw the things that were happening in L-4, and they asked me to come on staff, which I did. There were so many people being saved that I had to limit my new appointments to about three a day, so that I would have time to disciple men in the various pods that had already come to Christ. It was not as though the gospel was not being shared. One day when I went to work with a man named Rickie, he told me that during the Super Bowl the Lord had prompted him to begin preaching. Men in his Pod, O-6, stopped watching the game and started listening to him preach out of Psalm 91:1-2. Ten men committed their lives to Christ during the Super Bowl. There was great fruit in the evangelism and in the discipleship that I was doing in the prison.

One of my life verses is Colossians 1:28-29. Paul said, “we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. For this purpose also, I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.” Notice that Paul proclaimed Christ; that is the preaching of the gospel. However, that is not all that Paul did. Paul also admonished and taught every man. Paul’s goal was to present every man complete in Christ. The church has many people today that are not complete in Christ. Most of them have never been discipled. Our churches focus on gathering people to listen to some good music and a good sermon, but very little discipleship is taking place. The Scriptures teach us to preach the gospel and make disciples. Both are important.

(Col 1:28-29) “We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. {29} For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.”

In March of 2018, Barna released a survey about the Great Commission. He found that 51% of church members do not know about the Great Commission. He also found that it was particularly true with the Millennials, where only 10% of them knew the Great Commission. There is an obvious need in the church today to teach people about the Great Commission. Before people

can be expected to fulfill the Great Commission, they need to be taught and trained in sharing the gospel.

I mentioned that churches today gather people for some music and a message, but very little discipleship is actually taking place. I believe that the bulk of discipleship takes place in one-on-one meetings, and in small groups. Corporate gatherings are great, but that is not where most of the discipleship takes place. This morning we are not going to discuss small group ministry or one-on-one meetings; but we are going to focus on what it means to be a disciple. It is difficult for someone to carry out the Great Commission and go make disciples unless you have a clear picture of what you are trying to make. A writer needs an outline of what he is going to say before he writes. Before a painter draws a picture; he must have a clear picture in mind of what he is going draw. My goal is to leave you with a picture of a disciple.

Two weeks ago we covered the Great Commission out of Mark 16:15. Usually when people talk about the Great commission, they are speaking of Matthew 28:18-20. In Mark, the focus is on preaching the gospel, but in Matthew the focus is on making disciples. Both of these messages are vitally important if we are going to fulfill the Great Commission. This morning, I am going to preach about the Great Commission again, but this time I am going to do it out of Matthew 28:16-20, and our focus will be strictly on what it is that Jesus is telling His disciples to do. We are going to look at six characteristics of what it means to be a disciple.

(Matt 28:16-20) “But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. {17} When they saw Him, they worshiped *Him*; but some were doubtful. {18} And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. {19} "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, {20} teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

1. Disciples are learners. (Matt 28:16-20)

Our passage begins with Jesus meeting with His disciples in Galilee at a designated place on a mountain. When they saw Him, they worshiped Him. These disciples would not have worshiped Jesus if they did not believe that He was God. They knew that Jesus and the Father were One, and they had no problem worshiping Him. Matthew adds that some were doubtful. These are the eleven apostles that Jesus has just spent three years discipling, and some had doubts. These are the eleven apostles of the Lamb that are in Revelation. It is incredible that after Jesus had performed all the miracles, had been crucified and is now meeting them in His resurrected body that any of them would have doubts. Matthew does not focus on this; he simply lets us know that some had doubts.

Jesus commanded His disciples to go make disciples of all the nations. Disciples are made. The work of making disciples is what Jesus commanded the church to do. In fact, Jesus said that all authority had been given to Him in heaven and on earth. Then, He commands us to go and make disciples. When we make disciples, we are operating under the full authority of Christ.

(Matt 28:18-20) "And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to

observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.""

This task of making disciples is hard work. In fact, Paul said in Colossians 1:28-29 that he was laboring and striving according to God's power within him to present every man complete in Christ, i.e. make disciples. In fact, the word for striving that he uses is agonizomai (Strong's G75), which literally means to struggle, contend, or fight with an opponent. These fights were sometimes unto death. People were fighting for their life. Paul was putting everything he had into making disciples of people.

(Col 1:28-29) "And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. {29} And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me."

You can also see in Paul's statement to the Colossians that it is a process. Paul proclaimed or preached the gospel. He admonished or warned people. He taught them with all wisdom. This was not a one-time occasion. Paul generally stayed several years in a place preaching, teaching, and making disciples. Sometimes when we read Scripture, we do not put an accurate time line on the passage. For example, in Acts 14:20-22, Luke records that Paul and Barnabas had preached the gospel and had made many disciples in Derbe. It goes on to say that they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and to Antioch. It sounds like this was just a few days. The truth is that this may have been a couple of years, not days. (Historians believe this took place between 45 AD and 50 AD.)

(Acts 14:20-22) "But while the disciples stood around him, he arose and entered the city. And the next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. {21} And after they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, {22} strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.""

Now, let's look at the definition of disciple. The word disciple(s) is used 271 times in the Bible, twice in the Old Testament in the book of Isaiah, and 269 times in the New Testament. The word Christian is used only three times in all of Scripture. The word believer(s) is used 12 times. The word saint(s) is used 69 times. The word in the Old Testament is limmuwd (Strong's H3928), which comes from the root word, lamad. Lamad means to goad or prod. Limmuwd means one who is taught or learned. The Greek word used in the New Testament is mathetes (Strong's G3101), which means a learner or pupil. It comes from the root word manthano, which means to learn or to understand. So, we see that in both the Old and New Testament, a disciple is a learner.

My wife is a disciple in the truest meaning. She is a learner. She loves to learn. She studied in college and she has continued to study throughout her life. She listened to a fifty-cassette series on intercession. She took several classes in prophetic ministry at Life Center. She takes classes from Billy Humphrey, the director of the IHOP of Atlanta. She continually takes classes from Mike Bickle on the end times. She is constantly learning and growing in her knowledge; she is a disciple in the truest sense of the word.

What is a disciple learning? He is learning to be like his teacher. In Matthew 10:24-25, Jesus told His disciples that a disciple is to become like his teacher and a slave his master. John the Baptist had disciples, and they spent time with him, and were learning from him. When Jesus began His earthly ministry, He gathered a group of men and they became His disciples. They went

everywhere with Him and He taught them. Jesus preached to the multitudes, but he explained everything privately to His disciples. The word model comes to my mind. The Greek word is *tupos*, which is translated as example most of the time. If we are going to disciple others, we must be a model or example to others, and Jesus is our model that we pattern our lives after.

(Matt 10:24-25a) "'A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. {25} "It is enough for the disciple that he become as his teacher, and the slave as his master...."

(Mark 4:34) "and He did not speak to them without a parable; but He was explaining everything privately to His own disciples."

One of the qualities that helps us to be learners is humility. In the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon writes that a poor, yet wise lad is better than an old foolish king who no longer knows how to receive instruction. As disciples, we want to be the poor, wise lads, who continue to receive instruction. We want to be learners, even when we are old. In Proverbs 25:9, we find that God leads the humble in justice and teaches the humble His way. If we are going to be learners, we must have a humble spirit.

(Eccl 4:13) "A poor, yet wise lad is better than an old and foolish king who no longer knows how to receive instruction."

(Ps 25:9 "He leads the humble in justice, And He teaches the humble His way.")

2. Disciples have prioritized Christ.

In Luke 14:25-35, Jesus gave three very challenging demands for discipleship. These demands can also be seen as priorities. Here are three priorities of a disciple.

(Luke 14:26-33) "If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. {27} "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple... {33} "So therefore, no one of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions."

Priority # 1 – Put God above every other relationship. It must come before your mother, father, brother, sister, children, and wife. There is nothing so challenging as putting Christ above your family, and particularly your wife. Paul made this clear when he speaks about remaining single as he was so that people could be unrestrained in their devotion to Christ.

Priority # 2 – Put God above your own life. This is reiterated in Luke 9:23, Matthew 16:24-25, and Colossians 3:5. This means our own fleshly desires, goals, pursuits, and pleasures. After I became a Christian, the Lord gave me a choice between following Him or golf. Golf was everything to me at that time, and the Lord was dealing with an idol in my life. For me to be a disciple of Christ, I had to choose to put Christ on the throne of my life. A disciple must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Jesus.

(Luke 9:23) "And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

(Matt 16:24-25) "Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. {25} "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it."

(Col 3:5) "Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry."

Priority # 3 – Put God above possessions. The truth is that we are stewards, not owners of what we have. But to become a disciple means that we truly have to put Christ before all of our possessions that we are entrusted with. Jesus said in the parable of the soils that the thorns would choke out the plant. The thorns were the anxieties and worries about possessions. John said that you cannot love God and love money. Disciples have made a choice to put God above all possessions.

(1 John 2:15-17) "Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. {16} For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. {17} And the world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever."

One of the best ways to check a person's priorities is to look at his daytimer and his check book. How do we invest our time and money? Do we prioritize our time with the Lord? Do we spend time in His word? Do we spend time in prayer? Do we spend time in fellowship with other believers? Do we spend time serving?

Do we tithe? Do we give offerings above and beyond the tithe? Does our giving reflect a generous heart or a stingy heart? Do we freely give to those in need? Do we worry and fret over finances or do we trust God with our finances? Take an inventory of how you invest your time and your money and you will see if you have prioritized Christ in your life.

3. Disciples are obedient.

They do the will of the Father. When Jesus is told that His mother and brothers are there to see Him, He said to His disciples, "whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother. The family of disciples is made up of those who do the will of the Father. Obedience to the Lord is a third characteristic of a disciple of Christ.

(Matt 12:47-50) "And someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You." {48} But He answered the one who was telling Him and said, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" {49} And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold, My mother and My brothers! {50} "For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.""

James said that the person who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin. There are many people that profess Christ today that know the right things to do, but are walking in sin. The statistics about Christian behavior are not pretty. If we look at financial stewardship, most of the church is not being obedient in their giving of tithes and offerings. If we look at submission to authorities, Christians have a difficult time with obeying authorities, spiritual or

secular. If we look at sexual immorality, it is estimated that 30% of the church is living in immoral relationships. An estimated 60-70% of the church is involved in pornography. People know that pornography is wrong, but they are doing it. A true disciple is obedient. In our worship today, we sang Pat Barrett's song, "Build My Life," and we ended with, "We live for You, we live for You." A disciple is living for the Lord, and obediently does whatever the Lord says.

(James 4:17) "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin."

Much of the fear of the Lord is missing today. People feel like God is irrelevant and that there are no consequences for their actions. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are all going to give an account one day. Disciples of Christ are obedient and are doing the will of God.

4. Disciples Abide in God's word.

In John 8:31-32, Jesus said if we abide in His word, then we are truly disciples of His. Abide means to stay, abide, remain, or continue. We must live and abide in His word. We must spend time in His word. When I became a Christian I did not know about reading the word and my life was not changing. A fellow student by the name of Jim, who was involved in Campus Crusade, told me that I needed to read the Bible every day. That was new to me, but I began to read God's word every day. I fell in love with God's word, especially the Proverbs. I could not get enough of them. When I began to abide in God's word, my life began to change.

(John 8:31-32) "Jesus therefore was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; {32} and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.""

If we want to grow in our faith, we must drink of the pure milk of the word. In 1 Peter 2:2-3, he exhorts us to be like newborn babies and long for the pure milk of the word so that by it we may grow in respect to salvation. That was my experience. When I began to long for the pure milk of the word, I began to grow.

(1 Pet 2:2-3) "like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, {3} if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord."

Here are some ways that we can spend time in His word.

A. **Read His Word.** I encourage everyone to have a daily reading time. Read through the Bible. I like to read, meditate, and pray His word back to the Father. There are a number of reading plans on our website under Connection Tools. For me, the best time to read is in the morning, before the busyness and distractions of the day interfere with my concentration. Find a place that is quiet, and has minimum distractions, and read. Ask God to reveal Himself and His ways to you. Jeremiah 33:3 says to call to the Lord and He will tell you great and mighty things, which we do not know. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and lead you in truth. He is called the Spirit of truth.

(Rev 1:3) "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

(Jer 33:3) "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

(John 16:13) ""But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."

- B. Meditate on His word.** There is a correlation between meditation and application. In Joshua 1:8, the Lord encourages us to meditate on His word day and night so that we may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. Reading is great for awareness, but it is not enough. We must meditate, ponder, and think about His word. Think about every word in a verse. Emphasize different words in the verse. Do some cross referencing of different words in the verse. Look up the Hebrew or Greek word that is used and think about their meanings. Think about applications of the verse. Think about how you do or do not currently apply this in your life. Think about what you can do to fully apply the verse in your life. There are numerous verses about meditation and the benefits from meditation. Here are a couple of my favorite verses.

(Josh 1:8) "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success."

(Ps 119:148) "My eyes anticipate the night watches, That I may meditate on Thy word."

(Ps 119:99) "I have more insight than all my teachers, For Thy testimonies are my meditation."

- C. Memorize God's word.** When the psalmist (probably David) anticipated the night watches so that he could meditate on God's word, he memorized portions of Scripture so that he could meditate on them. We also find that this is the way that a young man kept his way pure.

(Ps 119:9, 11) "How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Thy word.... {11} Thy word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against Thee."

- D. Study God's word.** Paul tells us to study and show ourselves as workmen who handle accurately God's word. He also exhorts us to study so that we show ourselves approved by God. The writer of Hebrews also tells us that we learn to eat meat by training our senses to discern good and evil. We learn this by studying God's word.

(2 Tim 2:15) "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth."

(Heb 5:12-14) "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. {13} For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. {14} But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil."

- E. **Sing God's word.** Singing God's word is a great way to memorize, meditate, and to listen to His word, all at the same time.
- F. **Pray God's word.** I love to pray God's word. When I pray for people, I am searching the concordance in my mind for passages about the situation. Then, I pray God's word. When I have my devotions, I pray God's word. The Bible is not just an instructional manual, it is my prayer manual.

These are all some ways that a disciple abides in God's word. Are you abiding in God's word? We must prioritize our lives if we are going to make time to abide in God's word.

5. Disciples bear much fruit.

In John 15:8, Jesus said that when we bear much fruit, we prove to be His disciples. In that passage we see the key to bearing fruit is abiding in Him, for apart from Him, we can do nothing. Scripture gives us several keys to bearing much fruit. Some of the ways that we abide or dwell in Him by spending time in His Word, prayer, worship, and fellowship.

(John 15:4-8) "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me. {5} "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing....{8} "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and *so* prove to be My disciples."

It talks about abiding and also about pruning. The more that you and I are pruned, the more fruit that we bear. Sometimes you and I wonder why we are going through these tough times, but it is because God wants to produce even more fruit in our lives. As disciples, we will bear much fruit.

(John 15:2) "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit."

Paul tells us another key in 2 Corinthians. He tells us that if we sow sparingly, we will reap sparingly. However, if we sow generously or bountifully, we will reap bountifully. If we are going to be people who bear much fruit, we must sow a lot. The context of the passage is financial sowing and reaping, but the principle applies to many other areas of our lives.

(2 Cor 9:6) "Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully."

In the book of Galatians, Paul tells us another key to bearing fruit. He says that we will reap if we do not grow weary. We must be persistent in sowing or doing good. In our society, we want instant gratification. In the kingdom of God, it may take years of praying, cultivating, sowing, watering, and fertilizing before we bear fruit.

(Gal 6:9) "And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary."

In the natural world, when we plant a grape vine, it is usually 2-3 years before it begins to bear fruit. Usually, it is four or five years before it begins to bear much fruit. It has to establish its root

system and structure to support the fruit. With fruit trees, it is usually 5-10 years before trees begin to bear fruit. Usually the nut trees are closer to ten years, and the other fruit trees begin bearing around five years. Again, there is lots of work and care that is done the first few years before any fruit is harvested. This principle can be applied in our relationships with people. We may have to pray and reach out to someone for two to ten years before we see fruit. I have heard of people that prayed for loved ones for twenty years or longer before they saw fruit. We must be persistent and not grow weary if we want to bear fruit.

6. Disciples love one another.

In John 13:35, Jesus said that by our love for one another all men will know that we are his disciples. Disciples love one another. I have met lots of people who say they love God, but don't want anything to do with the hypocrites at church. I don't like hypocrisy either, but as a disciple I am part of the body of Christ, and I am to love others. It is the earmark of a disciple.

(John 13:34-35) ""A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. {35} "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.""

The book of 1 John tells us that we can love because we know God and He is love. John gives a number of ways to know if you are loving God. It speaks about loving your neighbor and loving those who are needy.

(1 John 4:7-8) "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. {8} The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

(1 John 4:19-21) "We love, because He first loved us. {20} If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. {21} And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also."

Conclusion and Applications

There are some common principles found in all these characteristics of a disciple. Those who bear fruit spend abide in God. They abide in prayer and in His word. Those who love God abide in His word. Jesus' disciples are obedient to God. We find God will primarily through God's word, and our specific applications through prayer. Disciples are learners. What are they learning? They are learning about God and His ways, which is found in God's word.

The Great Commission is about going and making disciples of all nations. We must be disciples of Christ ourselves so that we can make disciples that are like Christ. The Apostle Paul said that he was laboring and striving to present every man complete in Christ. Paul was making disciples; that was what he was laboring and striving for. It was hard work. God has called each of us to go and make disciples.

This morning I want to ask you a few questions. First, do you consider yourself to be a disciple of Jesus? If so, is your life characterized by the things that God's word says should characterize a

disciple? What areas of your life could be improved so that you can bear more fruit and be more like Jesus?

If your answer to the first question was no, what are the things that you need to do to become a disciple? Have you prioritized Christ in your life? Have you received Christ into your life? Have you made Him Lord of every area of your life? What specific things do you need to do to become a disciple? Do you have someone to disciple and mentor you? Who can you ask to help you learn more and grow in your relationship with the Father?

Take a minute to write down two or three things that the Holy Spirit has spoken to you about this morning.

Introduction (Matt 25:36, Heb 13:3, Col 1:28-29, Matt 28:16-20)

1. **Disciples are learners.** (Matt 28:18-20, Col 1:28-29, Acts 14:20-22, Matt 10:24-25a, Mark 4:34, Eccl 4:13, Pr 25:9)

2. **Disciples have prioritized Christ in their life.** (Luke 14:25-33, 9:23, Matt 16:24-25, Col 3:5, 1 John 2:15-17)

Priority # 1 –

Priority # 2 –

Priority # 3 –

3. **Disciples are obedient.** (Matt 12:47-50, James 4:17)

4. **Disciples abide in God's word.** (John 8:31-32, 1 Pet 2:2-3)
 - A. **Read His Word.** (Jer 33:3, John 16:13)
 - B. **Meditate on His word.** (Ps 119:148, 119:99, Josh 1:8)
 - C. **Memorize God's word.** (Ps 119:11)
 - D. **Study God's word.** (2 Tim 2:15, Heb 5:12-14)
 - E. **Sing God's word.**
 - F. **Pray God's word.**

5. **Disciples bear much fruit.** (John 15:4-8, 15:2, 2 Cor 9:6, Gal 6:9)

6. **Disciples love one another.** (John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:7-8, 4:19-21)

Conclusion and Applications