



Lesson 8
Being a Disciple of Jesus

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Key Initial Questions

1. How was being a disciple of Jesus different than being a disciple of another Rabbi in that time?
2. What was similar about being a disciple of Jesus versus a disciple of another Rabbi?
3. What has changed from what Jesus asked of His disciples and what He asks of us now?

Jesus as a Student

Luke 2:41-52

41 Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. **42** When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. **43** After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. **44** Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. **45** When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. **46** After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. **47** Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"^[a] **50** But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. **52** And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

- Jesus would have attended Bet Sefer in Nazareth
- At 12 we see him in Jerusalem asking questions and learning interpretation, the text says he went home and grew in wisdom & stature —> Bet Midrash
- From then until 30 the text is silent - where is Jesus? He is away studying under his Rabbi - he begins his ministry at the age of 30 - having completed his training and becoming a Rabbi himself
 - Process of becoming a Rabbi

The Talmidim of Jesus

Matthew 4:18-22

18 Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee. He saw two brothers. They were Simon (his other name was Peter) and Andrew, his brother. They were putting a net into the sea for they were fishermen.

19 Jesus said to them, "Follow Me. I will make you fish for men!" **20** At once they left their nets and followed Him.

21 Going from there, Jesus saw two other brothers. They were James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were sitting in a boat with their father, mending their nets. Jesus called them. **22** At once they left the boat and their father and followed Jesus.

- They didn't make the cut!
- Jesus sought them out & selected them
- Their age....13-20 at most!
- They dropped everything and lived with Him - to become Him
- They all would die because of their choice (except John)
- It was an all-in choice and their best choice



A Comparison of Talmidim

Traditional Talmidim

- Student sought out the teacher
- Highly selective (1 of a 1000)
- Everyone wanted to be in - based on merit, intelligence, and memory (and status)
- All in process - full time, your life
- Became the Rabbi & Followed his Yoke
- Would give you a place of prominence, authority, and comfort

Jesus' Talmidim

- Teacher sought out the student
- Most could be chosen (*)
- Not everyone wanted to be in - based on sacrifice, willingness, humility, and grit
- All in process - full time, your life
- Became the Rabbi & Following His Yoke
- Would give you a place of sacrifice, uncertainty, and Church

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Key Take-Aways & Assessments

- 1. How has Jesus chosen you as a disciple? How does your story connect with the story of the 12?**
- 2. How does your perspective of Jesus' disciple's age change your outlook on His interaction with them, how they learned, and how they acted?**
- 3. What can you take away about your discipleship that this lesson teaches?**
- 4. Share this with at least one other person and gain their perspective.**