



QUESTIONS FOR DISCIPLES

We have discussed many things that past several weeks concerning discipleship. We want to help you dig deeper into your relationship with Christ as His disciples. Take time to think through these questions and write down your answers. Then, consider where you are spiritually and where you want to be. Write down some of your goals and ways in which you might achieve them through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We pray this sheet will help you begin to move into a more intimate and active relationship with Christ. This is between you and God only.

I. WHAT ARE YOU SEEKING? (John 1:35-51)

- a. **Rabbi (teacher)/Prophet?** (John 1:38; 9:17; Luke 24:19)
 - i. There is no record of Judas ever calling Jesus "Lord" (Matthew 26:20-25)
 - ii. Think of this, most people in the world regard Jesus at this level (even Muslims)
- b. **Messiah** ("anointed one," King/Savior)/**Lord?** (John 1:41; 9:38; Luke 24:34)
 - i. At this level, one is willing to allow Jesus to be Messiah or Lord. That means that they are willing to allow Him to be their ruler or master because they believe He will lead them to where they want to go. Not unlike a boss. You'll follow a boss as long as you think he will get you where you want to go and help you get what you want to have.
 - ii. Many Christians fall in this category. Just like Andrew, they have come to confess Him as Lord of their lives. Why? Because He can save them and that's what it takes to be saved.
 - iii. At this level, you will "mostly" do what Jesus asks of you unless it is counter to where you want to go or what you want to do. Then you will fudge on it with full assurance that you've been saved and Jesus washes over sins. So, I'm still good and He's still Lord.
- c. **God?** (John 6:66-68; 20:28)
 - i. When God is God, that's all there is. He is the "I AM". It's not a recognition of a title or role, it is a confession of who He is and who you are NOT.
 - ii. Our confession does not reflect our actions (*Think of Peter. Shortly after his confession of Jesus as Lord/Christ he denies him*). Our actions reflect our true confession.
- d. So, what are you seeking? (Share honestly where you are with God right now spiritually and where you want to be. How might you get there?) _____

II. TWO TRUTHS – D²

- a. There are two irrefutable facts regarding every human being: (1) We are always being disciplined, and (2) we are always discipling someone. So...
 - i. Who (or even what; i.e., media, friend, family, job, etc.) is discipling me? _____

 - ii. Who am I discipling? _____



III. WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST?

- a. The answer to that question determines what one makes their god. Whatever we love most is seen in where we spend most of our time; where we spend most of our resources; and whatever most of our thoughts and affections are directed toward. Since the beginning, God has wanted us to love Him more than anything else. Why? Because He knew that what we love most ***is our god***.
- b. So, what do you love most? (Write down what god or gods you have in your life that get in the way of your relationship with the only TRUE GOD) _____

IV. DO YOU LOVE ME? – DO YOU LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, SOUL, MIND, STRENGTH?

- a. John 21:15-19, 22 – “Do we love Jesus more than _____ (“these”, fill in the blank with your “these”)? If so, how are you...

- i. **Feeding His Lambs (SEEKING THE LOST)?** – Help the helpless by sharing God’s love with those who do not know Him. It is our role to share the gospel message to the lost and helpless. _____

- ii. **Tending His Sheep (BRINGING BACK THE STRAYS/BINDING UP THE INJURED)?** – Tend to the hurting children of God. The walk of faith is difficult and we must care for each other so that Satan does not get a foothold in any believers’ life. We must guard against the attacks of Satan on the family of God. _____

- iii. **Feeding His Sheep (STRENGTHENING THE WEAK)?** – Feed the hungry. Those who hunger after God’s Word and His love need constant feeding. As fellow children of God, we must be diligent with our soul feeding so that our love and attention are constantly directed back toward Jesus. When we are hungry and are not fed with the right food, we will find anything else out there that will provide us momentary sustenance. When we fail here, we begin to allow our brothers and sisters to become malnourished and they will find themselves feeding on the refuse of the world. _____



A BIBLICAL PROFILE OF A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

What does the Lord require of us? WHAT DOES A DISCIPLE LOOK LIKE? Have you seen one lately? What distinguished him or her from everyone else? What would be evidence of someone being a disciple of Christ? Most of us would say we knew what a disciple of Christ looked like, but we often don't know quite how to express it in words. The following is an examination of God's Word to discover the description, or profile, of a disciple of Jesus Christ (one who truly follows Jesus) and how that informs our expectations of our family members here at FXCC.

1. **A Disciple is Committed:** A disciple of Christ is one who has devoted themselves to the Lordship of Jesus. They deny self and put Christ first in every aspect of their life. This is an eternal commitment.
(Matthew 6:9-13, 24, 33; Luke 9:23; John 13:13; 2 Corinthians 5:15)
2. **A Disciple is Obedient:** A disciple is committed to a life of obedience.
(Deuteronomy 13:3-4; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 4:22-5:5; 1 John 5:1-5)
3. **A Disciple is a Life-long Learner:** A disciple of Christ is open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and is teachable. He or she is not a "know it all," but is instead growing spiritually over a lifetime.
(Proverbs 9:8-10; Matthew 4:19; John 6:60-66)
4. **A Disciple is a Fruit Bearer:** A disciple practices spirituality in order to be transformed by the Holy Spirit and demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit in his or her life.
(Galatians 5:22-23)
5. **A Disciple is Devoted to Prayer and Practices:** A disciple spends time in daily devotion and is constantly developing his or her prayer life.
(Psalm 27:4; 42:1-2; Mark 1:35; Luke 11:1-4)
6. **A Disciple is Shaped by the Word:** A disciple longs to learn and apply the Word of God to his or her life. They do this through hearing it preached and taught, reading it regularly, group Bible studies, Scripture memorization, and meditation on the Scriptures.
(John 8:31; Acts 17:11; Colossians 3:16; 2 Timothy 2:15)
7. **A Disciple is a Servant:** A disciple is God's servant who actively engages in helping others in practical ways.
(Act 6:1-4)
8. **A Disciple is a Witness:** A disciple wants to be a witness for God and share His message of salvation. A disciple intentionally presents the Gospel regularly with increasing skill.
(Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:4)
9. **A Disciple is a Cheerful Giver:** A disciple honors God through his or her time, possessions, and finances.
(1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:7)
10. **A Disciple is Faithful:** A disciple faithfully meets and fellowships with other members of God's family (through church services, Bible studies, discipleship groups, prayer groups, etc.). In these contexts, his or her spiritual needs are met and they in turn can make a contribution to the body of Christ.
(Psalm 122:1; Acts 16:5; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 John 1:3)



EXPECTATIONS OF DISCIPLES AT FAIRFAX CHURCH OF CHRIST

What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ at Fairfax Church of Christ?

In any family, there is a set of expectations that family members observe (whether spoken or often unspoken). These expectations guide how the relationships between family members work. In church families, expectations are often not discussed and are shied away from. We are afraid that in sharing them we will run people off. We believe that the lack of impact for Christ in our nation (and perhaps the world) is evident because there are little to no expectations placed on church members. As we see in the New Testament, members of the Lord's family must be committed to ministry through their local church (fellowship, family).

We do not want to shy away from expectations as disciples of Christ. Instead, we would like each member to understand how our family works and what is expected of each family member. We desire each member to be an active participant in the kingdom work that is going on here. The following is our best attempt to be faithful to what Scripture outlines as "family expectations" in the Lord's church.

1. **I will believe.** I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I believe that He died on a cross to set me free from sin. I believe that He rose from the grave with the promise to raise me from the grave (both physical and spiritual) to live with Him for eternity in heaven. (*Mark 16:16; John 11:25-26; 20:29, 31; Acts 16:31; Romans 5:1-2; 10:4, 9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:3-11*)
2. **I will commit.** I will commit my life to Christ and become His disciple (follower or apprentice of Jesus). I understand that part of my commitment is to repent of my past life of sin, to confess Jesus as my Lord and Savior, and to be baptized into His name and thus added to His family. (If you have any questions about God's plan of salvation, please don't hesitate to ask. We will be happy to explain what we believe the Bible teaches on the subject. Ultimately, it is your decision.) (*Repent – Luke 24:45-47; Acts 3:19; 17:30; 2 Peter 3:9*) (*Confess – Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:9-13; Philippians 2:11; 1 John 4:15*) (*Baptism – Acts 2:38; Romans 6:1-7; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21*)
3. **I will worship.** I understand that being a member of the Lord's church means that I will meet regularly with other members of God's family to worship Him with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength in Spirit and in truth. (*2 Kings 17:28-39; Psalms 29:2; 95:6; 99:5, 9; 100:2; Matthew 4:10; John 4:20-24; Romans 12:1; Hebrews 12:28; Revelation 7:11; 14:7; 22:8-9*)
4. **I will grow.** I understand that part of my commitment to Christ is to grow spiritually as His disciple. I know that growth takes place not only individually, but also with other brothers and sisters in Christ. So, I will work to foster my spiritual growth through Bible studies, participating in a Growth Group, practicing spiritual disciplines, and by any other means that may help me grow and be transformed into the image of Christ. (*Ephesians 4:11-16; Philippians 1:6; 3:12-15; Colossians 1:9-10; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 5:12-14; 6:1-2; 1 Peter 2:1-3; 2 Peter 3:17-18*)



5. **I will serve.** Like Christ, I understand that I did not become a disciple of Christ to be served, but to serve others and give my life for the sake of Christ. I recognize that I am a part of the body of Christ and have been given gifts by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of building up the body of Christ and those in need. I understand that to serve is to sacrifice. To sacrifice is to give up what may be best for me for the good of others and for the glory of God. Therefore, I will work each day to be a living sacrifice to God. *(Acts 2:45; 1 Corinthians 9:19; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 4:8-11)*
6. **I will share.** I commit to living out the Great Commission by going out and sharing my faith to those who do not know the Lord. I want to share the love and grace of God (given through Christ) that has been freely given to me so that others may know and share in it with me. *(Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 4:18-20; 5:27-32, 40-42)*
7. **I will give.** I understand that God loves a cheerful, generous spirit. I know that in giving to the family at Fairfax Church of Christ, I am giving to the work of God by giving my time, talents, and treasures. I know that all I have is His and that giving back to Him is just a small portion of what He has given me. I understand that through giving, I am helping fund and promote ministries and missions that support the expansion of God's kingdom and helping those in need. *(Matthew 6:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-15; 9:6-15)*
8. **I will seek unity.** I understand that others will know I am a Christian by how I love my brothers and sisters in Christ. Therefore, I will seek to bring unity rather than division in our family at FXCC. I commit to seeking out my brother or sister when I know I have wronged them or I know they have sinned against me. I will model the reconciliation of God to those around me by loving others as Christ has loved me. *(John 13:34-35; 15:12; 17:20-23; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Colossians 3:12-14)*
9. **I will pray.** I know that God listens to me and longs for me to talk with Him. So, I will commit to being a person of prayer. I will regularly kneel before my God on behalf of others and myself and will seek to grow in my relationship with God through continual conversations with Him. *(Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-13; 18:1; 21:36; Romans 12:12; Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)*
10. **I will honor and respect.** I understand and respect the commitments outlined in the FXCC "What Our Family Believes" Statements (SEE: fxcc.org/what-we-believe). I also recognize and know the *Vision, Mission, and Values of FXCC* (SEE: fxcc.org/vision) and commit to honoring the direction that God and my spiritual leaders at FXCC have laid out before me. I understand that as a member at FXCC, I put myself under the oversight of the elders and will work to honor them as my spiritual leaders as they commit to shepherd me in my walk with Christ. *(Acts 20:28; Philippians 1:1; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4)*

We hope these "family expectations" demonstrate our desire to honor God and His will and purpose for our lives as His disciples. We hope they demonstrate the deep love we have for God and His people and how we want to intentionally live out His mission in our lives. We hope this will be a church family in which you, too, can use your God-given gifts in faithful, humble service to Him.