# No Middle Ground Matthew 28:18-20

While every Disciple is a Believer, NOT every Believer is a Disciple.

<u>Anything Short</u> of Discipleship for the Christian is <u>Settling</u> for <u>LESS</u> than what God desires...there is <u>NO MIDDLE GROUND!</u>

<u>Four</u> Bible <u>Passages</u> that <u>Explain</u> what it <u>Means</u> to truly be a <u>Disciple</u> of Jesus & <u>What</u> it is we're Called to <u>Make</u>.

## 1. DISCIPLES <u>TAKE UP</u> THEIR CROSS & <u>FOLLOW</u> JESUS.

- Being a disciple takes **Work** & **Commitment**. (Luke 9:23-25)
- 1.) YOUR Desires take a BACKSEAT to HIS Desires for your life.
- 2.) You TAKE UP your Cross DAILY.
- 3.) You **LOSE Yourself** to **SAVE Yourself**. (Galatians 2:20)
- A Surrendered Life holds the KEY to a Fulfilling Walk.

#### 2. DISCIPLES COUNT THE COST

- Disciples will give up <u>Everything</u> to follow Jesus. (Luke 14:25-33)
- 1.) Do you Love Jesus MORE than anyone or anything else in your life?
- 2.) Do you Love Jesus & desire His will for your life Over your own will?
- 3.) Are you willing to accept ridicule & sacrifice for the cause of Christ?
- 4.) Will you **Commit to following Jesus**, even when it's **Not Popular** or **Self-Serving?**

### 3. DISCIPLES ABIDE IN CHRIST

- Four Primary Characteristics of Growing Disciples (John 15:1-17)
- 1.) A Disciple **STAYS CLOSE To His Master** (vv.4-5)
- 2.) A Disciple is also FRUITFUL (vv.6,16)
- 3.) A Disciple also **OBEYS** His Master (v.10)
- 4.) A Disciple LOVES OTHERS (v.11)
- If you Prioritize your life as Jesus laid out "your JOY will BE FULL."

#### 4. DISCIPLES ALSO <u>WALK</u> AS JESUS WALKED

- Disciples **Pattern their Lives** after Jesus. (1 John 2:3-6)
- "Walking" Implies a steady motion...One Foot in Front of the Other.
- Practically speaking, <u>HOW</u> do you <u>WALK</u> as Jesus Walked?
- 1.) Make Time for God & His Word EVERY single day.
- 2.) Spend Time in <u>Prayer</u> with the Lord all <u>Throughout</u> the day.
- 3.) Take Time to be with God's People.
- One the GREATEST <u>Identifying Marks</u> of a disciple is that his or her Walk <u>Resembles</u> the Master's walk.
- LORD'S SUPPER