

Marks of a Disciple

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I. Introduction.

II. Continuing in a teacher's teaching. (John 8:31-32)

- A. The disciples were long term and continuing. Anna and Simeon were models of this endurance.
- B. The disciples learned to obey and had a will to do it. (Mark 4:24, John 7:17)
- C. We must be born again of the Spirit to do His will. (Romans 8, John 3)
- D. To continue, we have to start. Continue reading the Bible. Continue in your quiet time.
- E. Continue in faith attached to the Word of God. (Hebrews 4:2)
 - 1. There are penalties to the things we do in this life.
 - 2. The Word is food and we need it daily. (John 15:3, 1 John 1:9, 1 John 1:7)
 - 3. The Word is a light for our paths.
 - 4. We need help after conversion and that help is the Bible.
 - 5. When we are saved we give up our wrongs, and as we grow we give up our rights.
 - 6. One gets good in his heart through the Word of God. (Proverbs 30:5, Psalm 12:6, Mark 7:21-23, Luke 6:45, Matthew 6:34)
 - 8. Quantity of the Word matters - we are to seek it like silver. (Proverbs 6)

III. Love. (John 13:34-35)

- A. The commandment of love is new because we are to love like Jesus did in giving His life. (1 Peter 3:18)
- B. Jesus also forgave us. (1 Corinthians 13)
- C. Jesus served.
 - 1. Through serving we learn character.
 - 2. It is easy to serve because all we need to do is the obvious.
- D. Love is a matter of the will. (Luke 6:27)
- E. Love by asking what you would want done to you.

IV. Bearing fruit. (John 15:38)

A. This is the fruit of reproduction. (Genesis 1:11, John 15:16)

B. Fruit should remain. (John 12:24)

C. What we plant God grows. (John 12:26)

D. A kernel of wheat has to die first to bear fruit.

1. Our part is to die to self and the Lord's part is to bear fruit.

2. He died that we might live. We die that he might live. (Galatians 2:20)

Application questions

1. What does it mean to have faith attached to the Word of God?

2. How can Jesus' command to love be considered a "new commandment"?

3. What is your plan for getting into God's Word? Write it down and share with someone who can keep you accountable.
