

“The Call To Discipleship According to the Words of Jesus”

Matthew 16:24-28 Pastor Tim Atkins

INTRODUCTION READ Matthew 16:13-28

Purpose Statement of New Life Fellowship “making disciples”

Discipleship means being disciples making disciples

mandate of Christ, mission of the church, ministry of Christians
intentional . . . personal . . . transformational . . . relational

I. This Invitation for Being A Disciple of Jesus 16:24a

Decision of What Discipleship Means CALL

“Then Jesus said to His disciples . . .”

“If anyone [sing] wills after Me to come . . .”

Being a disciple of Jesus on His terms not your own terms

Demands thinking thoughts of God and not the thoughts of men cf. 16:23

Means Jesus is leading, teaching, & directing while I am coming to Him

II. These Instructions for Being A Disciple of Jesus 16:24b

Description of What Discipleship Demands COSTS

“He must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.”

A. The Place of Self-Denial in the Life of A Disciple of Jesus

“as choosing to live in a selfless way”

“means refusing to make my own pleasure the aim of life and my own will the

law of life” Alfred Plummer

Illustration: “yet not as I will, but as You will” Matthew 26:39

B. The Obedience of Self-Sacrifice in the Life of A Disciple of Jesus

C. The Evidence of Self-Commitment in The Life of A Disciple of Jesus

How have you responded to His call upon your life? Are you following Jesus?
4:18-22, 8:18-22, 9:9-13, 10:37-39

III. Those Questions for Being A Disciple of Jesus 16:25-28

Direction of What Discipleship Understands CONSEQUENCES

A. What One Values & Loses in This Life for the Sake of Jesus 16:25

“For whoever wills his life to save . . .”

pursuit of personal happiness in what is easiest but costs the most . . .

pursuit of personal blessedness in what is greatest which values Jesus most

B. What One Gains & Forfeits in This World As A Person With A Soul

16:26 “For what will it profit a man . . .”

C. What One Believes & Receives in the Judgment That is Coming

16:27-28 “For the Son of Man is going to come . . .”

“how is your preparation for the great examination” Sinclair Ferguson

day of accounting of these matters because the Judge is coming

day of reckoning because of His words that judgment will be happening

Matthew 13:36-43 Matthew 19:27-30 Matthew 24-25

Hear the words of Jesus . . . Listen to the Questions from Jesus . . .

CONCLUSION Purpose Statement of New Life Fellowship

• The value of these words of Jesus does determine what is valuable in

your life and whether or not you are His disciple

• The place of Jesus in your life does decide what will remain in your life

looking to the day of accounting of your life before God

• *Who is discipling you in these matters of the words of Jesus? Matthew 28*

• *Who are you discipling in these words of Jesus in the matters of their life?*

• “Let these sayings of our Lord sink deep into our hearts. Words are

inadequate to express their importance. May we remember them in our

hour of temptation, when the soul seems a small and unimportant thing,

and the world seems very bright and great. May we remember them in

our hour of persecution, when we are tried by the fear of man, and half

inclined to forsake Christ. In hours like these, let us call to mind this

mighty question of our Lord, and repeat it ourselves, “What shall it profit a

man if he gains the whole world, and lose his own soul?” J.C. Ryle