

Mark of a Disciple

*“The righteousness of God
is revealed from faith to faith;
as it is written,
“The just shall live by faith.”
Romans 1:17*

What does scripture teach us about living by faith in God through Christ?

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Isaiah 26:3-4: “You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the LORD always, for the LORD GOD is the eternal Rock.”

Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

Joshua 1:9: “This is my command, be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

1John 5:4: “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world, our faith.”

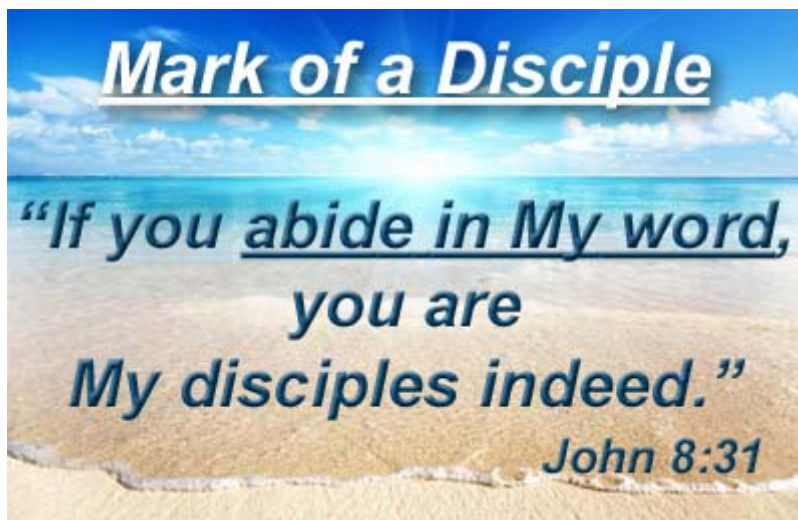
1Timothy 6:12: “Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you.”

Why are we commanded to walk by faith?

Hebrews 11:6: “Without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”

How strong is my faith to stand by and with God, through living to follow Christ right now?

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What does the Word of God teach us about abiding in Christ?

John 15:4: “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”

2John 9: “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”

1John 3:24: “Whoever keeps His commandments abides in God, and God in him.”

How must we abide in Christ?

Gal 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

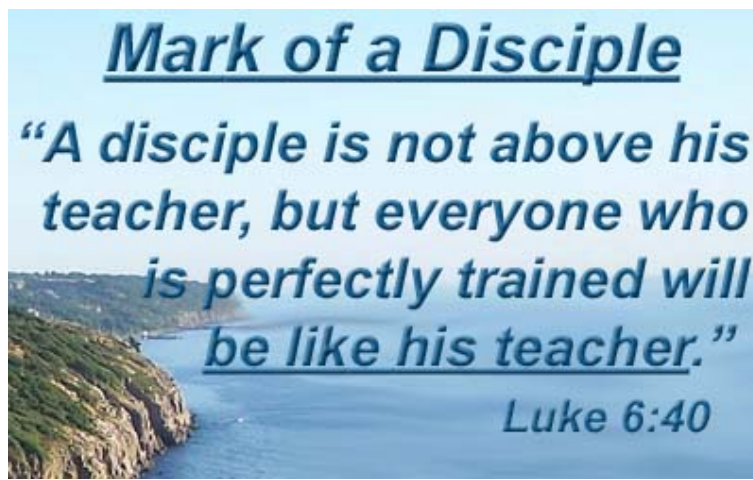
Col 2:6: “Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”

Romans 12:2: “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Col 3:1-2: “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.”

Do I wholeheartedly abide in Christ, so that my heart is set on things above rather than the world’s lusts?

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What does scripture tell us about being obedient to Christ and follow His teachings?

1John 2:3-6: "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His Word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

Romans 6:4: "Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

Our only secure source of knowledge being:

2Tim 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

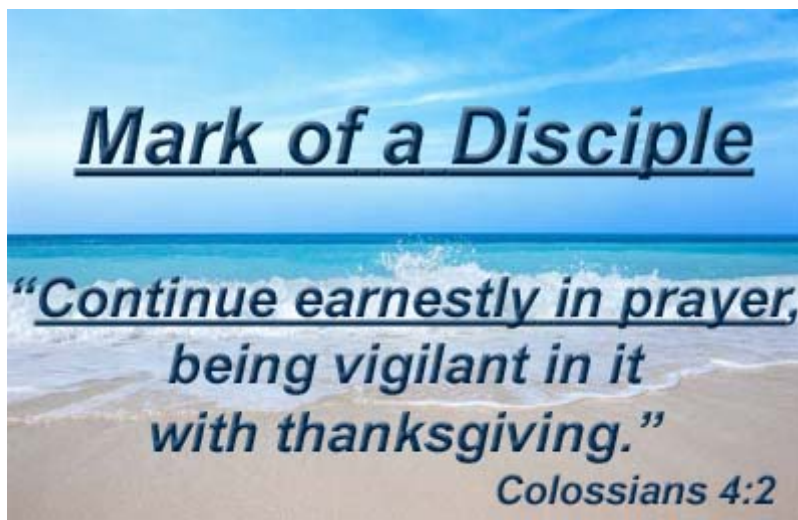
Therefore:

2Tim 2:15: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth."

1Peter 5:8: "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

How steadfast am I to study the Word and obey Christ?

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Why is steadfast prayer required for a true disciple of Christ?

1Thess. 5:16-18: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.”

Mat. 26:41: “Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.”

What attitude must we have when we pray?

Mat 6:6: “When you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”

Eph. 6:18: “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.”

Philippians 4:6-7: “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

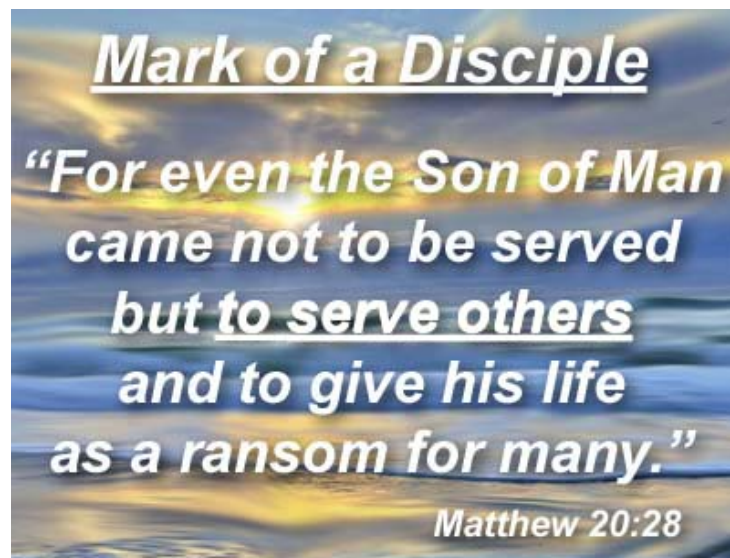
Therefore:

Hebrews 4:16: “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

1Peter 4:7: “The end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.”

Is prayer a daily commitment in my life so as to honor and worship God in Christ Jesus?

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A true disciple is indeed a servant for Christ. How does the Word of God instruct us on servanthood?

John 12:26: “Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.”

Mark 9:35: “Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

Col. 3:23-24: “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”

Romans 12:10-11: “Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

1Samuel 12:24: “Be sure to fear the LORD and faithfully serve him.”

Gal. 5:13: “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

Why must a believer in Christ be a servant?

1Peter 2:9: “You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would I rate my service to the Lord?

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Mark of a Disciple

**“By this My Father is glorified,
that you bear much fruit;
so you will be My disciples.”**

John 15:8

What did Jesus teach us about bearing fruit as His disciples?

John 15:4-5: “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

John 15:16: “You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.”

The purpose being:

Colossians 1:10: “That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”

Romans 7:4: “So that you may belong to another, to Him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.”

Galatians 5:16: “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Bearing fruit embodies:

Galatians 5:22-23: “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

1John 2:6: “Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did.”

How plenty is the harvest of fruit in my life to honor God as a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ?

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Mark of a Disciple

*“If we walk in the light
as He is in the light,
we have fellowship
with one another.”*

1John 1:7

As the Body of Christ, we as believers must grow, thus requiring that each and every member of the Body work together to grow into the knowledge of God in Christ Jesus.

How does the Word of God define this?

1Corinthians 12:12: “Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”

Hebrews 10:24-25: “Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

1Thessalonians 5:11: “Therefore comfort each other and edify one another.”

Why must we fellowship with believers?

Matthew 18:20: “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

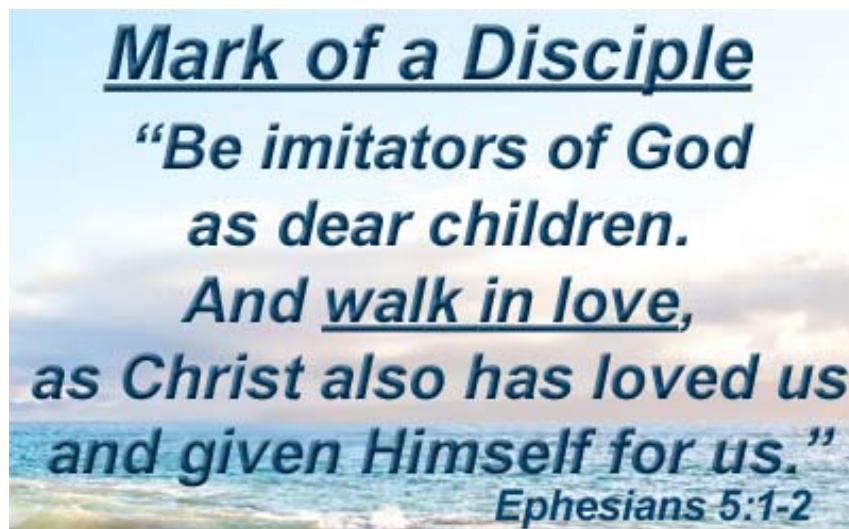
1John 1:7: “If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

The reason why we are warned:

2Corinthians 6:14: “Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?”

Am I steadfastly in fellowship with other disciples of Christ?

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What did Jesus teach us about loving God and our neighbor?

Matthew 22:37-39: “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is *the* first and great commandment. And *the* second *is* like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

John 13:34-35: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Matthew 5:44-45: “But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.”

Why must we walk in love?

1John 4:7: “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

How is this accomplished?

Ephesians 4:1-3: “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

Galatians 6:2: “Share each other’s burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.”

Am I committed to walk in love just as Christ did for me?

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Mark of a Disciple

“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” Eph 4:32

While we always desire that people forgive us whenever we have offended them, we, as well, must forgive those who offend us.

What does the Word of God teach us on forgiveness?

Matthew 6:14-15: “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

Luke 6:37: “Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.”

Colossians 3:12-13: “Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

Luke 6:36: “Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.”

Why?

Matthew 7:2: “For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

What’s more?

Mark 11:25: “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.”

How willing am I to forgive those who have offended me?

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Mark of a Disciple

“Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

Acts 20:35

Why should a true disciple of Christ be a cheerful giver to honor God? Deuteronomy 16:17: “Every man *shall give* as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you.”

Luke 6:38: “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

2Corinthians 9:6-7: “He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. *So let each one give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.”

Hebrews 13:16: “Don’t forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.”

Proverbs 3:27: “Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do so.”

Proverbs 19:17: “Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will reward them for what they have done.”

A thought to ponder:

1John 3:17: “But whoever has this world’s goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?”

Do I have a giving heart in obedience to Christ, as a true disciple should?

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Mark of a Disciple

*“You will be my witnesses
in Jerusalem, and in all
Judea and Samaria, and
to the ends of the earth.”*

Acts 1:8

Why must we be witnesses for Christ?

1Peter 2:9: “You *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

Matthew 5:14-16: “You are the light of the world, like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”

Acts 10:42: “He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that He is the One whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.”

Romans 1:16: “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.”

How is that achieved?

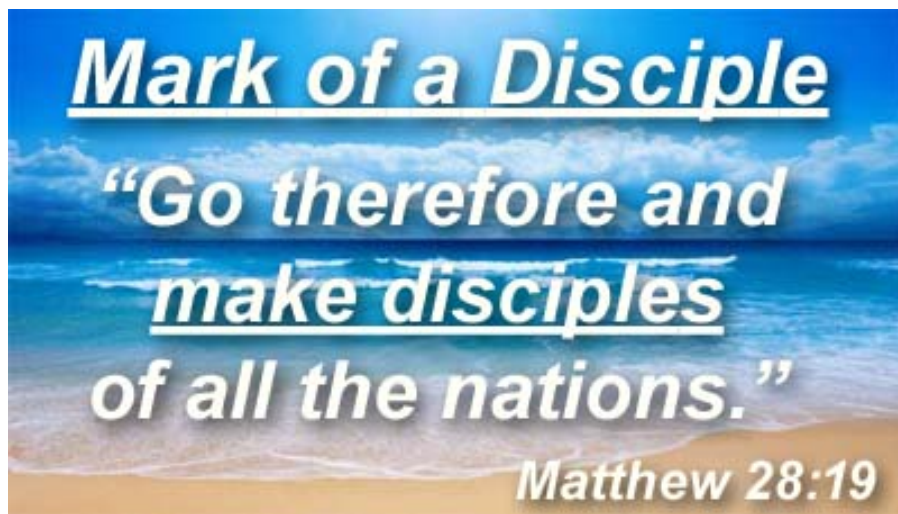
1Peter 3:15-16: “You must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way.”

The reason Jesus commanded us:

Mark 16:15: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”

When is the last time I shared the gospel with anyone?

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Is it the mission of every believer to make disciples?

John 13:15-17: "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

Col 1:28: "Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."

Romans 10:13-14: "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved. But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?"

Why is it our mission to make disciples?

1Peter 2:21: "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps."

Eph 2:10: "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

2Corinthians 5:20: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us."

Am I committed to encourage believers to become His disciples?

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