

Series: The Disciples of Christ

# FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

JOHN 19:25-27

Text:

Introduction:

In the past few weeks we have seen several examples of what not to do! We have witnessed the errors of Judas, Joseph & Peter. Today we do not have a perfect example of a disciple of Christ, but we do have a positive one. John along with his brother James were the “Sons of Thunder” John was a fisherman by trade. John was influenced by the ministry of John The Baptist. John was sought out and called by Jesus Christ to be a disciple.

This evening we will consider some of the highlights from John’s life and consider the subject of Faithful Disciples of Christ.

Note:

# 1. FAITHFUL DISCIPLES ARE SURRENDERED

## **Matthew 4:21-22**

*<sup>21</sup> And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. <sup>22</sup> And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.*

Note:

- A. He Left His Job
- B. He Left His Family
- C. He Left His Home

Becoming a faithful disciple begins with SURRENDER! I believe that this is why we see so few “faithful disciples of Christ” You must understand that there is more involved in the Christian walk than simply “accepting Jesus as Savior”

We, like John must fully surrender ourself to Jesus!

Being a faithful disciple will require us to step out of our comfort zone.

- It may require you to leave some things behind - “Deny yourself”

- It may require you to lift some things up - “Take up your cross daily”
- It may require you to live some things out - “Follow Jesus”

Note not only the Faithful Disciples are Surrendered but also:

## **2. FAITHFUL DISCIPLES MAY FAIL AT TIMES**

### ***Matthew 26:37-41***

*<sup>37</sup> And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.*

*<sup>38</sup> Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. <sup>39</sup> And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. <sup>40</sup> And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

John did not betray Christ as Judas did. John did not deny Christ like Peter. But John was not perfect, In this moment, he failed!

Jesus came to them, and found them sleeping. He said

“What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak”

Your spirit may be willing, but your flesh is weak.  
You may be here and you have failed  
You have given in to the limits of this flesh  
You have been tempted and failed.

You are not without hope! Jesus didn't write John off after he failed! Jesus didn't even write Peter off after he betrayed him!

If you have failed, there is still hope for you to be faithful disciple of Christ!

This leads the third thing:

### **3. FAITHFUL DISCIPLES REMAIN WHEN OTHERS LEAVE**

#### ***John 19:25-27***

<sup>25</sup> *Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!*

<sup>27</sup> *Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.*

John went deeper and further in his relationship with God.

He was never satisfied just to be a disciple. He was the one leaning on the Lord's breast at the Last Supper.

Judas betrayed Christ, John was faithful

Peter denied Christ, John was faithful

When others watched from afar, John was at the cross

When the others were hiding for fear, John was at the cross

All who had proclaimed that they would never leave Him left, JOHN REMAINED!

I would like to point out something. Many would point out the fact that John was bold in his faithfulness to be at the cross. There was a great risk involved in being identified as a follower of Christ. But consider also the fact that John had a front row seat to the agony of the Cross. His Master, Savior, Teacher & Friend was being brutally crucified as John watched. Jesus was suffering because of John's sins and mine and John had to watch.

It would have been easy to turn away; He may have been tempted to leave But John suffered through the

pain of watching his friend facing the torture, agony and pain of the crucifixion. Folks, there are times when the Christian life isn't easy.

There are times when the easiest thing you can do is remain silent. There are times when we would like to be as Joseph and become "secret disciples" But these are the times when "faithful disciples" must be "bold & courageous."

We have seen that "Faithful Disciples Are Surrendered To Christ, they may Fail, They will remain when others leave but finally I would like to see that:

Close:

The great need for the day is for faithful disciples.

May we like John remain faithful and true to our Saviour and His cause.