

TEACHING SESSION

**MARKS OF A
FOLLOWER OF CHRIST**

REVIEW DEFINITION OF A FAN

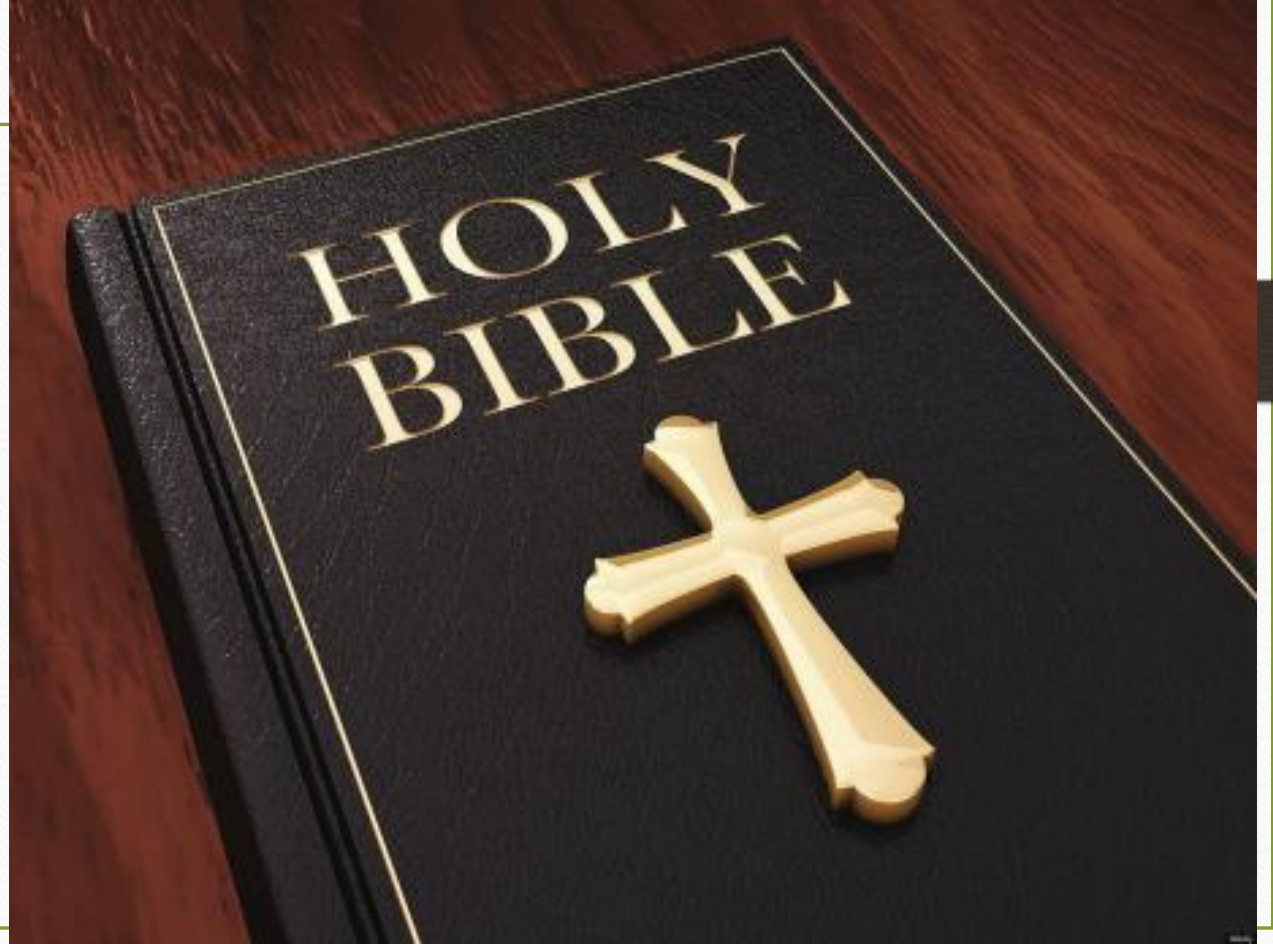
- A FAN IS "AN ENTHUSIASTIC ADMIRER". SOME ONE WHO CHEERS, BUT IS NEVER IN THE GAME. IT IS LIKE SOME ONE AT A GAME WHOM SUPPORTS A TEAM, BUT WHEN THEY BEGIN TO FAIL, JUMP SHIP.
- FANS CONFUSE ADMIRATION WITH DEVOTION
- MISTAKE KNOWLEDGE WITH INTIMACY.
- CONFUSE FEELINGS WITH FAITH (JAMES 1:7)

REVIEW DEFINITION OF A FOLLOWER

- ACCEPTS THE INVITATION (MAT. 16: 24)
- DENIES THEMSELVES (MAT 19: 16 – 21)
- HAS “COME-AFTER” (HAVE A PASSIONATE PURSUIT)
- LOVES JESUS MORE THAN OTHER THINGS IN LIFE (JN. 21: 15-17)
- COMMITTED (JN. 6: 66 – 69)
- PREPARED TO MAKE SACRIFICE (MAT. 13: 44 - 45)

BIBLICAL TEXT

- **MATT. 16: 24-26**
- **ACTS 3: 19-21**
- **MARK 8:34-38**
- **JOHN 4:23-24**
- **2 PETER 1:5-7; 10b-11**



MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

- **CONVERSION**
- **SANCTIFICATION**
- **WORSHIP**
- **OBEDIENCE**
- **SUBMISSION**
- **PURSUING AND DOING GOD'S WILL**

Reflection



REFLECTION

- **A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST IS ONE WHO FOCUSES ON CHRIST AND UTILIZES THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES AS THE VEHICLE TO TAKE THEM CLOSER TO HIS HEART.**
- **THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES LEAD THE FOLLOWER OF CHRIST TO THE ANSWER, JESUS CHRIST.**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

CONVERSION

- **ACCEPTS THE INVITATION. (MT. 16:24)**
- **AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE, RIGHTEOUSNESS AND OF SIN IN OUR LIVES. (CONVINCING GRACE)**
- **CONVERSION OF THE MIND (REPENTANCE), WILLINGNESS TO ENCOUNTER THE WISDOM AND TEACHING OF CHRISTIANITY.**
- **JUSTIFYING GRACE (CONVERSION OF THE HEART), MADE RIGHT WITH GOD, RESTORED TO GOD'S FAVOR.**
- **TRANSFORMING OF THE WILL**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST



CONVERSION (CONT'D)

- **REQUIRES THE IMMERSION OF OUR ENTIRE LIFE, BODY, BEHAVIORS INTO THE VALUES OF CHRIST.
(MT. 5:1-12; Gal.5:22-23)**
- **CONVERSION DOES NOT MEAN THAT ALL SIN IS TOTALLY ERADICATED.**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

SANCTIFICATION (CONVERSION OF THE SPIRIT)

- **SANCTIFYING GRACE: GOD'S IMAGE IS RESTORED IN THE FOLLOWER OF CHRIST. SAVED FROM THE ROOT AND POWER OF SIN.**
- **ENACTED BY GOD AND NOT BY OURSELVES.**
- **RECEIVING THE FULLNESS OF UNION WITH GOD**
- **SANCTIFICATION IS INITIATED AT CONVERSION. IT IS GOD'S WAY OF HEALING OUR SOULS AND CLEANSING THE CORRUPT NATURE.**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST



SANCTIFICATION (CONT'D)

- **AT THE POINT OF SANCTIFICATION, THE FOLLOWER OF CHRIST IS MADE PURE AND THEN CONTINUES TO THE STAGE OF MATURITY, A CONTINUOUS PROCESS IN CHRISTIAN PERFECTION.**
 - **PURITY IS RECEIVED FROM GOD, (GOD PURIFIES)**
 - **MATURITY IS ACQUIRED, IT IS DEPENDENT ON MAN.**
- **MATURITY COMES OUT OF A LIFESTYLE CONSISTING OF:**
- **WORSHIP, DEVOTIONAL TIME WITH GOD. STUDY OF THE WORD**
- **FASTING AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS**
- **BEING INTENTIONAL ABOUT OUR FAITH.**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

SANCTIFICATION (Cont'd)

- **MATURITY MEANS THAT JESUS CHRIST PERFECTLY CONTROLS OUR WHOLE LIFE, WORDS, THOUGHTS, ACTIONS, ATTITUDES, DISPOSITION.**
- **FOR SANCTIFICATION TO OCCUR AFTER CONVERSION THERE MUST BE GROWTH. (2 PETER 1:5-7; 10B-11)**
- **MATURITY AND GROWTH ALSO DIFFER. GROWTH INVOLVES TRAINING, EDUCATION, DISCIPLINES, INSTRUCTION IN SPIRITUAL THINGS. (1 COR. 9:24-27)**
- **A SANCTIFIED PERSON IS ALWAYS DEPENDENT ON CHRIST. (John 15)**
- **A SANCTIFIED PERSON CAN FALL FROM SANCTIFICATION. 1 Cor.10:12.**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

WORSHIP

- **GOD REQUIRES TRUE WORSHIPPERS (JOHN 4:23)**
- **WORSHIP MUST BE A PRIORITY IN EVERY FOLLOWER'S LIFE, IF THE LORD IS TO BE LORD. (MARK 12:30)**
- **THE DIVINE PRIORITY IS WORSHIP FIRST AND SERVICE SECOND, OUR LIVES ARE TO BE PUNCTUATED WITH PRAISE, THANKSGIVING AND ADORATION. (LUKE 10:38-42)**
- **SERVICE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR WORSHIP IS IDOLTRY. (HEB.13:15; 1 PETER 2:4-5,9; ACTS. 16:25)**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

OBEDIENCE

- **OBEY GOD REGARDLESS OF THE PERSONAL CONSEQUENCES WE MAY ENCOUNTER.**
- **WITHOUT BEING OBEDIENT, A FOLLOWER'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD WILL BE FRUITLESS.**
- **A FOLLOWER MUST BE PREPARED AND WILLING TO GO AND SERVE WHEN GOD REQUIRES US TO.**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

OBEDIENCE (CONT'D)

- REFLECT ON SAUL'S ACTION (1 SAM. 15:9)
- GOD'S RESPONSE (1 SAM. 15:20-23)
- WE MUST OBEY GOD BY DOING HIS WILL AND FOLLOWING HIS COMMANDMENTS.
- HOW WE LIVE OUR LIVES, DEVOTE TIME IN HIS WORD, STAND UP FOR CHRIST,

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

SUBMISSION

- **REFLECT ON (MARK 8:34-38)**
- **A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST FINDS THEIR IDENTITY IN THE ACT OF SELF DENIAL. (JOHN 21:19; ACTS 9:16)**
- **SELF DENIAL IS THE ONLY SURE WAY TO LOVE OURSELVES. (MT. 10:39)**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

FELLOWSHIP

- **THE COMMON PURPOSE AND DEVOTION THAT BINDS FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST TO EACH OTHER AND TO CHRIST.**
- **FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST PARTICIPATE TOGETHER IN THE SAVING POWER AND MESSAGE OF THE GOOD NEWS**
- **FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST SHARE A FELLOWSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. (2 COR. 13:14)**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

SERVICE

- REFLECT ON JESUS' EXAMPLE OF SERVICE. (JOHN 13:14-15)
- SERVICE IS ABOUT FUNCTION AND NOT STATUS. (MATT. 20:25-28), RADICAL SELF DENIAL.
- SERVICE IS ALL INCLUSIVE (MARK 9:35)
- A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST SERVES BECAUSE THERE IS A NEED

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

SERVICE (CONT'D)

- **FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST GUARDS THE REPUTATION OF OTHERS AND DEMONSTRATE COMMON COURTESY (TITUS 3:2)**
- **HOSPITALITY (1 PETER 4:9; 1 Tim. 3:2)**
- **BEAR EACH OTHER'S BURDENS (GAL.6:2; JAMES 2:8)**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

THE CROSS

- **THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL (1 COR. 15:3)**
- **GOD'S CONCERN FOR ALL (1 TIM. 2:4)**
- **MOTIVATES THE FOLLOWER TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS (2 COR. 5:14-15)**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

THE CROSS (CONT'D)

- **TEACHES THE FOLLOWER OF CHRIST TO GIVE (2 COR. 8:5; JOHN 3:16)**
- **CENTRAL IN THE LIFE OF A FOLLOWER**
- **PROTECTS FROM THE MANY WINDS OF FALSE DOCTRINE. (1 PETER 2:24-25)**

MARKS OF A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

PURSUING AND DOING GOD'S WILL

- **GOD'S KINGDOM IS A PRIORITY (MATT. 6:33)**
- **A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST DEPENDS ON THE LORD (Prov. 3:5-6)**
- **REFLECT ON (PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9)**

CONCLUSION

- REVIEW
- QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

THE END