

## What Are the Marks of a Disciple?

A disciple is a student, learner and follower. Furthermore, a disciple conforms all of his mind, words and actions to that of his Teacher – Jesus (Luke 6:40). Jesus lives in His disciples who conform to Him (Galatians 2:20). It is the responsibility and privilege of the disciple to be like Jesus. So we ask, “What are the marks of a disciple?”

First, a disciple of Christ must abide in the Word (John 8:31; 14:14, 23). There are three things involved in abiding in the Word. (1) One **must** receive it (Psalm 1:2). (2) One **must** meditate on it (Galatians 2:20). (3) One **must** apply it (James 1:22).

Secondly, disciples of Christ must love one another (John 13:34-35). Why is it a new commandment? (1) It is new in object (John 4:20). (2) It is new in measure (Matthew 5:43-45). (3) It is new in purpose (John 13:35). It is this love one for another that attracts others to become disciples of Jesus also.

Thirdly, disciples of Christ must bear fruit (John 15:5-10; 1 Corinthians 3:6-9). There are three things taught in John 15. (1) One must abide in the Father’s love (John 15:10). (2) One must keep the Father’s commandments (John 15:16). (3) A disciple must bear fruit (John 15:16). These three are like a three legged stool. **They all help support each other!**

In conclusion, we ask, “Do you bear the marks of a disciple?” “Is Jesus living in you so that you will make other disciples for Him?” “Are you truly a disciple of Jesus?”

*By Therman Hodge*