Making Life Count Ministries P.O. Box 680174 Prattville, Alabama 36068 www.makinglifecount.net

## What Does it Mean to be a Disciple?

A disciple means "a learner, one who imitates his teacher, a trained one." The goal of discipleship is not to become a disciple but to be like Jesus.

## What is the difference between being a Christian and a disciple?

It might surprise you that the word *Christian* is used only 3 times in the New Testament (Acts 11:26, 26:28, and 1 Peter 4:16). Two of these verses were spoken by non-Christians. The word *disciple* is used nearly 300 times and Jesus always taught about becoming a disciple, not about becoming a Christian.

**Read Luke 14:26-33.** (Note: "hate" in verse 26 does not mean "to stop loving" but to prefer Him above all others.)

Why did Jesus say to be a disciple you must decide to follow Him over the wishes of family members?

Jesus compared deciding to build a tower with deciding to follow Him. In verse 28, what two things should we do before building a tower? Why must we do these same things before following Him?

In verse 33, what did Jesus mean by giving up all our possessions?

Read John 8:31-32. Why is it important for a disciple to study and live God's Word?

Jesus said that when we know the truth, it will make us free. What are some indications that we are spiritually free?

Read John 13:34-35. How did Jesus say we should love one another?

If we truly love someone, how will behave toward that person? What will we say about that person in private?

In verse 35, what will others know when they observe this?

Read John 15:8. What does it mean to "bear much fruit"?

What does John 15:5 teach us about the importance of our dependency upon Jesus?

Read Luke 6:40. What is the mark of a full-trained disciple?

Is it possible to say you are following the Lord but are not doing what He asks? (see Luke 6:46)