

To Be a Disciple

Read Mark 1:16–20

- What do you think it was about Jesus that allowed these men to act so spontaneously?
- What qualities do you think Peter, Andrew, James, and John needed in order to accept Jesus' discipleship call so instantaneously?

Read Luke 9:60

- What does Jesus say must be the first concern of his disciples?

Read Mark 10:45 (See page 248.)

- Whom do you know who is or was great by being a servant?
- In what way(s) do Jesus' words challenge you as his disciple? Be specific.

Read Luke 9:23–24

- What does Jesus say is the cost of being his disciple?

Read the following account from a third-century writer describing the radical discipleship of the early Christians.

Christians are not distinguished from the rest of humankind by country or speech or customs; the fact is, they nowhere settle in cities of their own; they use no peculiar language; they cultivate no eccentric mode of life. . . . Yet, while they settle in both Greek and non-Greek cities, as each one's lot is cast, and conform to the customs of the country in dress, diet, and mode of life in general, the whole tenor of their way of living stamps it as worthy of admiration and contrary to expectation. . . . They dwell in their own countries, but only as sojourners; they bear their share in all things as citizens, and they endure all hardships as strangers. Every foreign country is a fatherland to them, and every fatherland is foreign. They marry like all other men and they beget children; but they do not cast away their offspring. They have their meals in common, but not their wives. . . . They spend their days on earth, but hold citizenship in heaven. They obey the established laws, but in their private lives go beyond the law. They are reviled, and they bless; they are insulted, and they respect. They love all and are persecuted by all. . . . They are poor and enrich many. . . . In a word, what the soul is in the body, the Christians are in the world. . . . Such is the important post which God has assigned them, and it is not lawful for them to desert it.

Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetus

- Do you think you could live like the disciples this epistle describes? Why or why not?
- Why would Jesus ask *you* to follow him?
- What attributes of your life demonstrate that you are a disciple of Jesus like the people described in this epistle?

Name _____

Measuring Up to Jesus

How well do you measure up to Jesus? Read each statement, then circle how well you believe you measure up to Jesus.

I am willing to stand up for what I believe.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I am willing to go out of my way to help others.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I readily forgive those who treat me poorly.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I champion the underdog.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I believe in a God who is love clear through.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I believe that I am loveable and that God loves me wildly.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I am eager to share my faith with others.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I work hard at being a peacemaker.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I demonstrate my love for God by regular worship.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I keep in contact with God through daily prayer.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly

I'm not embarrassed to let others know I am a Catholic.

Not at all Not so well Well More than Well Perfectly