Questions We Ask Ourselves

David Banning · John 8:31 · Series: **Belief**

INTRODUCTION

- Sometimes the questions we ask open the windows of our soul and say something to others about what's going on in there.
- Sometimes the questions we ask are saying something about our commitment to Jesus Christ or the lack of it.
- I'm fearful that one of the greatest problems in our time is that we're living in a time where people have been sold on cheap discipleship.

1 Truly Disciples: Learning From and Becoming Like Jesus

John 8:31; Matthew 11:28–29; 1 Corinthians 11:1

- Jesus said, if you abide in my word, then you are truly disciples of mine.
- The term disciple is a term that literally means a student, a learner.
- He's the teacher, and we're the students, and our job is to sit at his feet and learn from him.
- When I sign on to this great adventure to be a Christian, my passion in life is to become what Jesus is.

2 Our First Responsibility Is to Him

Luke 9:57–62

- No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back is fit for the kingdom of God.
- Jesus is trying to teach these would-be disciples a lesson about priorities.
- Even when it comes to life's most important responsibility, our first responsibility is to him.

3 Love Him Most and Give Up All Possessions

Luke 14:25–26; Luke 14:33

- If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.
- What he's saying is that we love him far more than even life's most precious relationships.
- No one of you can be my disciple who does not give up all of his own possessions.
- When we become disciples, his disciples, ownership of our possessions changes hands.

4 A Radical Commitment That Changes People's Lives

1 Corinthians 6:9–11; Ephesians 4:22; 2 Corinthians 11:23–28

- It is a radical commitment that changes people's lives.
- And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.
- Paul would describe it as the putting off of an old self and the putting on of a whole new man.

- Because he'd made a commitment to put Jesus Christ before everything else.

5 Questions That Get Answered and Never Asked Again

- There are some questions that get answered and never asked again.
- To someone whose number one priority is Jesus Christ and His kingdom, nothing else could possibly be of greater importance than those kinds of things.
- A true disciple, more than anything else, wants to be just like Jesus.
- When it's my ambition in life to be like Jesus, why would I choose a spouse who doesn't share that same passion?
- Making a real once-for-all commitment to Jesus simplifies things.

6 Choose for Yourselves Today Whom You Will Serve

Joshua 24:14–15; Joshua 24:19–23

- And if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve.
- Now therefore put away the foreign gods which are in your midst. And incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.
- It wasn't enough to speak the words. They had to live the life consistent with the choice.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **I would challenge you as we sing that song in just a moment to ponder the choice that it calls for us to make.**

MY NOTES