

Luke 9:23

- ✓ We've spent a couple of weeks looking at what a disciple is, so, now will spend a couple of weeks looking at what a disciple does.
- ✓ Today we will see that a disciple learns, loves, and lives the Word of God.

1. Jesus calls His disciples to The Word John 8:31-36

- 1) Disciples Abide in the Word, Another Big "if": "If you abide in My Word".
 - ✓ Abide → to dwell, to remain, to live. You're not a guest, this is your home
 - ✓ **John 14:23; I Thessalonians. 2:13; John 15:7**
 - ✓ If you want to be a disciple, you have move into the Word!
 - ✓ Every disciple should have as their goal to be an expert in the Word of God.
- 2) Disciples know the truth – It's a natural outcome of abiding Jesus' Word.
 - ✓ The Bible is not a great source to cut through the fog of lies and deception and turmoil of our day. The Bible is the only source.
 - ✓ The Bible is the only source of truth and what is truth will either quote from it or agree with it.
 - ✓ **John 17:17 --**
 - ✓ Jesus doesn't call it **a** source of truth but **the** source of truth: "You will know the truth"
 - ✓ Notice: "If you abide...then you will know the truth" not, "If you are a Christian you will know the truth."
 - ✓ Sheep are dumb; knowing Jesus as Savior doesn't make you anything other than a saved, dumb sheep.
 - ✓ Sheep get smart when they abide in the Shepherds Word.
 - ✓ "You will know the truth" – Ultimately the truth isn't just some principles or philosophies or platform, the truth is a Person.

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- ✓ I don't know what's right, I just know that the Shepherd is right!
 - ✓ **John 14:6** – We get so caught up in knowing and accumulating knowledge about all sorts of things, but the real truth is a Person.
 - ✓ Quite literally, your relationship with Him will steer you into the right paths, right thinking and right acting.
 - ✓ The Truth Himself will be your truth. Again, discipleship is more than being saved; it's following the Shepherd.
- 3) Disciples walk in Freedom, No one else does! There are plenty of believers living in bondage on some level or another because they do not abide in Jesus' Word.
 - ✓ If you abide, then you will know the truth, and you will be free; but not until these conditions are met.
 - ✓ One of the best ways that we show we are in bondage is to think that there is some other way out of it aside from what Jesus clearly lays out.
 - ✓ Can we agree that you're in bondage in your thinking and believing when you effectively say that Jesus isn't correct in evaluation of your life?
 - ✓ A similar bondage that we see in those questioning Jesus: **Verse 34.**
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2. We need to take action.

- 1) Develop a plan to soak in the Scriptures
 - ✓ You have to be proactive in order to be correctly reactive. taking it in proactively so that when something comes up or something happens we can react with Scripture.
 - ✓ Jesus reacted with Scripture – a great study would be studying how Jesus viewed Scripture — **Matthew 5:18.**
- 2) Be involved in Bible study, here and in small groups, small groups give you accountability and will push you to do more than you would by yourself.
