

I. Disciples of Jesus love him above all

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5)

A. We are to love Jesus more than our families

B. We are to love Jesus more than ourselves

II. Disciples of Jesus carry his cross

A. We openly identify with Jesus

“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.” (Romans 1:16)

B. We must die out to self will

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.” (Galatians 2:20)

C. We daily surrender to his will

D. We live obedient to Jesus

III. Disciples of Jesus count the cost

A. We must understand the cost of discipleship

B. We are committed to finishing well

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” (2 Timothy 4:7)

IV. Disciples of Jesus surrender all to him

A. We surrender all that we are to Jesus

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.” (Romans 12:1)

“For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.” (Matthew 16:25)

B. We surrender all that we own to Jesus

“What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish that I may gain Christ.” (Philippians 3:8)

V. Disciples of Jesus are powerful influencers

A. False disciples have no influence for Jesus

B. True disciples are a powerful influence for Jesus

“You are the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13)