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SERMON

BY

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Text, Chapter 10 Matthew

Subject, Discipleship
Matthew 10.
Discipleship - its meaning.
We have, in the 10th chapter
of Matthew, a portrayal of
Christian discipleship.
Christ calls men, charges
them and sends them
forth. The disciple was
called to a person, Christ.
It is even so today. We
are not called to a church
however worthy that
church may be. Our
years of service directed
forward the attainment
of a worthy end will stand
firmly or become dis-
verted just in propor-
tion to our early real-
ization of this fact—
that we are working
primarily not for a
church, nor for a mission
board or any other insti-
tution and much less
for our own selves, but
for a person, our Lord
Jesus. The disciple who
keeps close to his teacher
will be helped to overcome
all difficulties. We
find disciples of Christ
abandoning their work
and shifting to something
else—leaving their work
half finished. What tremen-
dous accomplishments would stand out
If all the good work begun were carried out, it was not finished either because it was not undertaken for Christ or else the worker forgot Christ in his work and came gradually to see not Christ but only the work. One of the easiest things to do in a factory is to be caught in the hands or wheels of the machinery and to be destroyed by that which we built up. The world is not Christ.
Today because Christians, in their zeal to push their work, have forgotten their teacher, the Christ, Jesus called the 12 to Him. The disciples, like the great majority of Christians today, accepted Christianity expecting to find an easy life. They talked about preeminence. They argued about who would have the highest position in the new kingdom which Jesus, His king, was about to set up. They placed their usefulness and happiness upon their position in the new kingdom.
Are we very much better than the first disciples? Don't we place our happiness on things. People are not usually happy unless they have the best for themselves.

Do not misunderstand me to say that you should strive for anything but the best. No man should aspire to anything but the best. And yet—no one should stake his happiness on things, his life to you a place of external things or eternal realities?
to home, a home to you because of the nice furniture and beautiful house? As is it a home to you first and foremost because of the touch of personality found there. And that of a loving heart that beats there? Is life pleasant to you because the breezes are cool, the scenery charming and your needs are supplied? As is it pleasant to you because of the conscious presence of your Teacher, Jesus, as He walks along the way with you? Are you
happy because of circumstances or in spite of circumstances? Are you happy and because you are away from home and loved ones, or are you glad in the fact that you have a home and loved ones even though you are not with them? There are two ways of looking at everything. One way is on the gloomy, dark side, the other the bright and cheerful side. You, as disciples, have to learn by practice. The disciples had
to learn it by experience. They could not conceive of a King without a great palace, a gorgeous throne and surrounded by wealthy friends. They understood not when Jesus tried to teach them of the splendor of His Kingdom in their hearts. He dewdrop on a tiny blade of grass is a thousand times more beautiful when it receives into its bosom and reflects the myriad rays of the sun. The life of the disciple is made wonderfully beautiful
When it receives and
reflects the unobstructed
rays of the Sun of
Righteousness.

A butterfly is beautiful.
When it comes between
the dew glistening dew
drop and the sun, its
shadow leaves the
dew drop a mere drop
of water on the blades of
grass. Anything
however beautiful it
may be, that comes
between the Master
and the disciple,
leaves the disciple.
a mere man with
the glory of Heaven all
gone, Discipleship means
the acceptance of the
character of Christ into
our life and reflected
out to the world
in good works
Discipleship also
means fellowship.
Fellowship with your
friend means a par-
ticipation in his
sorrows and joys, in
the defeats and victories
of your friend. There
could be no true fellowship
that has not been welded
together by adversity.
You should remember
that the Christian life is to be deepened, developed and strengthened by trials, hardships and suffering. Yet suffering is only incident to the life with Christ. Suffering for the sake of suffering drags us down. Suffering for the sake of Christ ennobles and lifts us up.

Christ was very careful to tell his disciples what to do and to expect. They were to go, heal the
sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils, freely ye received freely give.

And in their giving They were to remember that They are simple and easily led astray—They are sheep; That along the way wolves wait for them; That their safety is to keep near their shepherd. During the immediate future the wolves are going to hunt for you. They will howl in joyful anticipation if they find you alone. I have had prairie wolf
to follow me, playing around me, barking at me. When I had my gun with me I never saw a wolf that would tarry long enough for me to shoot at them. Wolves are cowards. They come near, even attack you when you leave no gun. But they will run at the sight of a gun. They are quick to distinguish between a gun and a stick that you may be carrying. So
the wolves. The temptations that are going to overtake you during the coming days will easily detect your real strength. The devil knows when a man is a Christian at heart and when he is only a Christian in name. The devil will run from you if you love Jesus as your guide, your teacher. Jesus said: I send you forth in the midst of wolves, be ye wise as serpents and as harmless as doves. You recall that in the beginning it was said.
that the serpent was more subtle than all the beasts of the field. The serpent is quick to discern danger. They are also quick in fleeing from danger. They move rapidly in making their escape from danger. They do not hesitate nor play with danger. Hug hide in the thickest. Be like the serpent in time of peril. Make straightway to your safety by the side of your breast.
The dangers, the perils awaiting you will be as many as your opportunities and desires. Carelessness, neglect, inattention to danger, responsibility or duty will beset you. You are in danger of becoming indifferent to the common interest of the needy, insensible to heartaches of others and unconcerned about the consequences and dire results of your actions. Neglecting to seize every opportunity for betterment. Procrastination—putting off till tomorrow that which should be done today—is the thief of time.
The failure to realize the possibility of failure is one of your greatest perils. This is in every one, so the doctors say, a germ of every kind of a disease. It is certainly true that a germ of failure lies for every one when the gates of opportunity open to him. It is only a clear thinking, quick action, and constant endeavor that failures are turned into victories. The first disciples saw no personal dangers in
following Jesus. They boasted that they would die with Him. There was no peril present then. When the danger broke up, their midnight slumberers, they all forsook Him and fled—leaving Jesus alone with His enemies.

Discipleship has great compensations. In these we are always deeply interested. It makes a clean man, a strong man, a clear thinking brain. It makes a hero out of a weak man. It brings us into fellowship with the best people on earth.
and God in Heaven.
But I wish to remind you that discipleship is also exacting on your strength, your money and your time. It calls for the best in you and that best can only be set forth for the comfort of your fellow disciples when you pass triumphantly through hardships.

History bears me out in that statement. Peter was, for loyalty to Jesus, crucified at Rome.
Andrew, Peter's brother
was crucified in Alexandria.

James was beheaded by
Agrippa I. John the
Beloved, for his loyalty
and love to Jesus, was
banished to Patmos.

Philip was hanged in
Hierapolis, Matthew
martyred in India, and
Thomas was played alive.

From the day of the first
disciples to this the history
has been the same.

Boniface, the first-mission
of Germany, was hacked
to pieces by the nations
of Germany. John Chry-
sostom, head of the Church
at Constantinople was
twice driven out of the city and then in the country they chased him out of the desert till he fell exhausted and died. Henry Martyn died exhausted by work for India & Persia. Judson & in Burma spent years in prison for Christ. John Williams while trying to teach the people of Esromango, was killed and eaten by them. Not long ago I sat at a table with a
young man in a YMCA cafe in New York. He began telling me about how his mother and father were killed and his beautiful sister carried away by the Turks, why because they were Christians.

Obedience to God will make heroes of otherwise ordinary men and women. We need more young people today of the hero breed, who will refuse to do wrong and who will dare to do what is right. Who flee from danger but not from duty. There
There is no honorable way to avoid doing your duty.

We are to be wise like serpents but not sly;
we are to be shrewd like but not slyish. Harmless
as doves, that is, sincere,
genuinely, free from selfishness.

Christ is sending you out not to be defeated
but to win victories.

You should not question the victory that is sure
to come to you, if you
go out to do what God
asks you to do. Christ is more eager to see you overcome and win the fight for the right - He is you are.

We have this last week out of our last temporary building moved into our last new kitchen and dining room. Some day these hills will be covered with many more fine buildings. A college is not made by its fine buildings and beautiful bridges as this college will soon leave. The most important part of this, our work is the shaping of lives of our students into stu
Characters. As your college days have come to a close I trust you can look back over a four years of mental strengthening, of physical development and of spiritual enrichment with a good and deep conception of life and its meaning, its opportunities and its responsibilities.

You have been for 4 years students. This time has come for you to go out as teachers. You have been instrumental in raising the standards.
I have enjoyed the privilege of being a student in this college. I wish you all success in your work and studies. You are the future of this college, and I hope you will do your best to help make it better.

You can send us the best young people of your acquaintance. Your efforts and suggestions will be appreciated. You can pray and give.

This is your last week here as a class. You are leaving behind your teachers—all but one. Remember always that one of your teachers—the principal Jesus Christ—is always with you in your trials, disappointments, successes, joys, and hopes, with you to help you if you seek to do His will.