



Part 18: The Power to Live as a Disciple
Matthew 4:18-22

The power to live as a disciple of Jesus flows from our union with
Jesus by the Holy Spirit.

I. Review Last Week

The gospel is the good news that God has kept His promises to Israel to rescue and renew His groaning creation from Satan, sin, and death through King Jesus (his life, death, resurrection, and ascension). Life in God's beautiful kingdom is available now and forever to all who entrust themselves to King Jesus and follow him as Lord.

A Christian is a disciple of Jesus.

Being a disciple of Jesus includes three commitments:

- Being with Jesus
- Becoming like Jesus
- Living on mission with Jesus

II. Living in Union with Jesus

A. The Necessity of the Holy Spirit (John 3:1-8; 14: 14:15-20; 15:3-4)

“...no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”
John 3:5-6

“If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you...Because I live, you also

will live. ...you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.” John 14:15-20

“Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:4-5

The power to live as a disciple of Jesus flows from our union with Jesus by the Holy Spirit.

A disciple lives in union with Jesus to learn to live joyfully in God’s beautiful kingdom.

B. Paying Attention to Jesus’ Presence with Us

The way we are “with Jesus” now is through the Holy Spirit, who unites us to Jesus.

“The first and primary goal of discipleship to Jesus is learning to live in constant state of oneness, of connection to the Holy Spirit. This is the baseline for all things following Jesus.”

– John Mark Comer

C. Obeying Jesus’ Word and Way

“The Jesus way wedded to the Jesus truth brings about the Jesus life.”

– Eugene Peterson, *The Jesus Way*

III. The Greatest Invitation Ever

“We are invited to make a pilgrimage – into the heart and life of God...God’s desire for us is that we should live in Him. He sends us the Way to Himself...God makes Himself and His kingdom available to us...Jesus offers himself as God’s doorway into the life that is truly life. Confidence in him leads us today, as in other times, to become his apprentices in eternal living.” – Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy*

“Come, follow me.”

Discussion Questions:

1. How was living as a Christian described to you? Was it connected to living as a disciple of Jesus?
2. What has been your experience with trying to relate to the resurrected Jesus? How about the Holy Spirit?
3. What is most helpful or encouraging to you in this sermon?
4. What questions do you have?

