

Five More Practices of a Mature and Obedient Follower of Jesus

Mt 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ "Go therefore and *make disciples* of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ "*teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you*; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

If I am a Mature and Obedient Follower of Jesus, I Am:

1. Continually Dwelling on God's Word

Col 3:16a Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom...

Reading | Memorizing | Meditating | Learning | Obeying

2. Regularly Praying to God

For Praise | For Provision | For People | For Progress

3. Consistently Gathering with God's People

Heb 10:24ff...let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works...

To Prompt | To Be Prompted | For Protection | For Preaching

4. Selflessly Serving God's People

Ministry Work | One Another Work | Gifted Work

5. Generously Giving to God's Work

Pastors | Poor | Proclaimers | Programs | Place to Meet

6. Diligently Seeking God

a. Seeking His Person

Heb 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

b. Seeking His Plan & Process

Matt 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

c. Seeking His Approval

2 Cor 5:9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. (cf. Col 1:10)

7. Willingly Submitting to God's Leaders

Rom 13:1-7 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

a. Obeying Parents

Eph 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

b. Trusting Pastors

Heb 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Pastor Kevin Subra – Northridge Baptist Church – January 19, 2014

c. Honoring Government Leaders

Rom 13:1-7

d. Helping Employers

Col 3:22 Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.

8. Faithfully Sharing God's Salvation Message

2 Cor 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

a. Confident in Our Mission

Mt 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

b. Clear in Our Message

John 3:16-18 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ...¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already... (cf. 1 Cor 15:1-4)

c. Confirming in Our Conduct

Mt 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

9. Carefully Discerning the Truth

Heb 5:14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

10. Thoughtfully Choosing What Is Eternal

a. To live according to God's plan

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

b. To be spiritually effective through our actions

Luke 8:14 Now the ones *that* fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

c. To be focused on that which lasts forever

1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that *is* in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. (cf. 1 John 3:1-3)