

## **Five 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. <sup>19</sup> "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, <sup>20</sup> "*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**

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

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

**a. Reading God's Word**

**b. Memorizing God's Word**

**c. Meditating on God's Word**

**d. Learning God's Word**

**e. Obeying God's Word**

### **2. Regularly Praying to God**

Col 1:9-12 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; <sup>10</sup> that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup> strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.

**a. For Praise**

**b. For Provision**

**c. For People**

**d. For Progress**

### **3. Consistently Gathering with God's People**

Heb 10:24-25 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Heb 3:12-13 <sup>12</sup> Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; <sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

**a. To Prompt Others**

**b. To Be Prompted by Others**

**c. For Mutual Protection**

**d. For Nutritional Preaching**

### **4. Selflessly Serving God's People**

**a. Ministry Work**

Eph 4:11-16 And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ ...the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

**b. One Another Work**

Gal 5:13-14 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

**c. Gifted Work**

Rom 12:6-8 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup> or ministry, *let us use it* in *our* ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

### **5. Generously Giving to God's Work**

2Co 9:7 *So let each one give* as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

**a. To Support Pastors**

Gal 6:6 Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

**b. To Assist the Poor**

1Jo 3:17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

**c. To Send Proclaimers**

Phi 4:15-17 Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. <sup>16</sup> For even in Thessalonica you sent *aid* once and again for my necessities. <sup>17</sup> Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

**d. To Enable Programs**

**e. To Provide a Place to Meet**