



## ***A Disciple is Not Above His Teacher***

Text: Luke 6

Tony Chute, Interim Pastor

**Overview:** The teaching ministry of Jesus posed a significant challenge to the way of thinking promoted by the religious leaders of the day. To them, his actions seemed to be an abrogation of the law when in reality, his actions were a proper application of the law. It was entirely appropriate for Him, therefore, to choose disciples who were open to thinking anew about the kingdom of God. Jesus instructed them to consider their present trials in light of God's promises; to treat others as they would like to be treated; and to serve God by serving others. Thus, his followers would be known not merely by their profession of faith, but the outworking of their faith, which produces good works and withstands difficult opposition.

**01. Disciples of Jesus readily recognize His authority in all matters of life and utterly refuse to bend God's will according to their own preferences.**

**02. Disciples of Jesus come from a variety of backgrounds but willingly embrace their differences in light of the unity of the faith.**

**03. Disciples of Jesus understand that their status in this life has only an indirect bearing on their standing in the life to come.**

**04. Disciples of Jesus set aside their pride and ungodly ambitions in order to become faithful followers of Christ who have biblical assurance of their salvation.**

1. Based on the Pharisees' reaction to Jesus in Luke 6:1-11, what was the underlying concern about keeping the Sabbath? In what ways do the actions of Jesus demonstrate that they misunderstood and misapplied the purpose of the Sabbath? What is the danger of applying laws above the real needs of people? What is the danger of conforming laws simply to suit people's desires?

2. Compare the following lists of the twelve apostles: Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16; and Acts 1:13. What similarities do you find with regard to the names and the order of the names? What differences do you find regarding the names and their order? How do you account for these differences?

3. Besides the choice of Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus, what evidence do you find in this text that suggests we are capable of deceiving ourselves and others with respect to genuine faith in Christ? What evidence do you find in this text that points to a scriptural basis for assurance of salvation?

4. In what ways have you heard portions of this chapter taken out of context? For example, have you heard anyone say "We are not supposed to judge others" in light of Luke 6:37? Or have you heard anyone suggest that the teachings here should apply to institutions, such that the government is responsible for always giving to the poor? How do you respond when someone takes these passages out of context?

5. Have you been challenged by this section to address areas in your life where your actions are more like the values of non-Christians rather than the kingdom of God? Take time to pray through this text, asking the Holy Spirit to help you see the areas you may need to address.

**For Further Reading:** John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress from This World to That Which is to Come* (first published 1678; Banner of Truth edition, 2017).