

WE HAVE NO WHERE TO GO EXCEPT TO JESUS!

John 6:60-71

How do you know what is authentic or true and what is false? How do we know if we are truly following Jesus? Most of us know people who once claimed to be Christians, but today walk no more with Jesus. How and why does this happen? How do we know who is really a true disciple of Jesus?

1.FALSE DISCIPLES FALL AWAY FROM JESUS AND HIS WORD – John 6:60-66

- False disciples are attracted to Jesus for what they want Him to do for them. People want health, wealth, success, etc. In Jesus' day many seem to follow Him for the miracles, food, and excitement. But when Jesus challenged them with hard sayings they fell away and "walked no more with Him"- verse 66. What is this hard saying? – verse 60. The word "hard" does not mean hard to understand, but hard to accept or swallow. It includes what Jesus just said about eating His flesh and drinking His blood, but also about Him coming down from Heaven and eternal life only through faith in Him – John 6:38,40. For those who emphasized doing works for God, it was hard to accept that they could do nothing to merit salvation. For those who believed in human efforts, it was a bitter pill to swallow that believing in Jesus Himself was the only way to eternal life.
- False disciples are offended if they don't like the teachings or doctrine presented. Jesus uses the word "offend" in verse 61, which is the Greek word from which we get the word "scandalize." This word means to stumble over and fall. Jesus further challenges them by saying if they are shocked and stumble over His claims on earth, what would they think if they saw Him ascending to His glory in Heaven? Would they still be offended in His Holy presence? - verse 62. Jesus does not soften His message or make it more "user-friendly." Like the crowd listening to Jesus in John 6, many today stumble over teachings they don't like: including Jesus is the Only Way to God and the Cross is how Jesus saves us – 1 Corinthians 1:23; 2 Timothy 4:3,4. Others today reject eternal hell and the wrath of God. Many false disciples make up their own beliefs, rejecting God's clear truths – 1 Timothy 4:1-3; 1 John 4:1-6. Doctrine matters, especially about Jesus, the Cross, and salvation.
- False disciples rely on the flesh and their own human opinions. But Jesus says only the Spirit gives life and His Word is life-giving – verse 63. The flesh here is our fallen human nature or condition. The flesh does nothing in bringing us to Jesus and eternal life – John 3:6; Romans 8:7,8. We are saved by grace alone. Only the Holy Spirit applying the Word can bring life to our dead hearts. No one can come to Jesus unless it is granted or given by God – verse 65; John 6:44. This is a hard teaching.
- False disciples leave Jesus and fall away – verse 66; Luke 9:62. But Jesus knows all along who really does not believe in Him and who does – verse 64; John 2:23-25.

2.TRUE DISCIPLES KEEP FOLLOWING JESUS AND HIS WORD – John 6:66-71

- True disciples are committed to follow Jesus Christ. Christians are disciples. A disciple is a student or follower of Jesus. All true Christians are true disciples. *Some people claim that we can be Christians without necessarily becoming disciples. I wonder, then, why the last thing Jesus told us was to go to into the world, making disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey all that He commanded? You'll notice that He didn't add, 'But, hey, if that's too much to ask, tell*

them to just become Christians – you know, the people who get to go to heaven without having to commit to anything.” – Francis Chan, Crazy Love.

- True disciples of Jesus continue with Jesus and continue in His Word – John 8:31,32. The Word of Jesus by the Holy Spirit brings eternal life. As we trust Jesus His Word becomes more wonderful.
- True disciples know they have found the Truth in Jesus. True disciples make a confession of faith in Jesus. They know there is no other Savior or way to eternal life. When Jesus asks the twelve if they will also leave, Peter speaks for all true followers of Jesus. Peter makes a great confession of faith. Peter first calls Jesus Lord. True faith begins by acknowledging Jesus is Lord - 1 Corinthians 12:3; Philippians 2:9-11. Then Peter says, “to whom shall we go? Only YOU have the words of eternal life.” His confession continues when he says we have to come to believe and still know that Jesus is the Holy One of God – see Isaiah 6:1-3; 40:25; 41:14; John 12:38-41. True disciples know who Jesus is and completely trust Him. Peter stumbles later, but there is a big difference between Peter and Judas – Luke 22:31,32; 2 Corinthians 7:10. Judas never was one of Christ’s people. Judas was still under the domain and authority of the devil – John 13:26,27. Judas stands as a warning for all time that some may seem to be in the “true fellowship”, but really are not – 1 John 2:19.
- True disciples may struggle, but God holds them and there is no place else for us to go except to Jesus! – John 6:37, 39,40. *“Are you ever tempted to leave? I certainly have been many times, and I don’t know how many times these words of Peter have echoed through my mind. Where can I go? Should I go to Mohammed and join the Jihad? I’m not going to find words of eternal life there. I won’t find them with Immanuel Kant or Jean-Paul Sartre. I won’t find them in the lyrics of contemporary music. If I want the words of eternal life, there’s only one place I can go to get them – to the One who gave His life that we might live.” – R.C. Sproul, John.*

Concluding Applications:

- Will you also go away? There is nowhere to go but to the Lord Jesus!
- Do you live daily as one who is believing and knowing Jesus is the Holy One?
- Do you believe Jesus and the Bible even when the truth is hard and against worldly wisdom?
- How are you growing and continuing in the Word?