

CONNECT: With God and Others

January 24, 2021 Matthew 22:37-40 by Bob Branch
What is a Disciple, part 1 of 3

“It is enough for a disciple to become like his teacher”

Matthew 10:25 CSB

A community of disciples, connecting in **House Churches**

CONNECT, FORM, EXPRESS

BIG IDEA: The heartbeat of discipleship is the kind and quality of your connection with God and others. Connection with God. Connection with others.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.” **Matthew 22:37-40** CSB (Dt. 6:5)

**1. A Disciple of Jesus is one who _____
the way he does.**

“Take up my yoke and learn from me” **Matthew 11:29**

What kind of connection did Jesus and the Father share?

¹ **An Affectionate, Trusting, INTIMATE Connection!**

“Abba.” **Mark 14:36**

“Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts... who calls out, “Abba, Father.” **Gal. 4:6**

“Now we call him, Abba, Father.” **Rom. 8:15** (Jn. 20:17)

² **A JOYOUS connection**

“You are my son, my dear son! I’m delighted with you.”
Luke 3:22 NTE

“At that time he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I praise you, Father... because this was your good pleasure.” **Luke 10:21** CSB

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.” **John 15:11** (17:13)

³ **Jesus joyously and intimately SERVED his Father and his purposes.**

“My Father is always working, and so am I... the Son can do nothing by himself... Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.” **John 5:17, 19** NLT

“I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them.” **John 17:26** NLT

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.” **John 15:9** ESV

**2. A Disciple of Jesus is one who _____
_____—the way Jesus did.**

As our intimacy with others increases and deepens, so does our depth and intimacy with him!

Love God with all you are. Love your neighbor as yourself. (Mt. 11:29). For God, loving others well IS LOVING HIM.

“No one has seen God, ever. But if we love one another, God dwells deeply within us, and his love becomes complete in us—perfect love!” **1 John 4:12** TM

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.” **1 John 4:16**