

Eight Primary Marks of Disciples Who Live on God's Agenda

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*“For those God foreknew he also predestined
to be conformed to the likeness of his Son.”*
Romans 8:29

Sometimes it is hard to set “goals” for our personal growth process. Here are eight marks that the Bible highlights as important characteristics of Christ-followers. Use these to track your progress and establish personal growth goals.

1. They choose to follow Christ as their Forgiver and Leader.
2. They make every decision of their life according to biblical standards.
3. They routinely experience intimacy with God.
4. They habitually practice the disciplines leading to holiness.
5. They possess a burden for the lost and fervently share the gospel with them.
6. They impact their society with Christian values.
7. They are deeply committed to having a healthy Christian family.
8. They regularly minister through Spirit-empowered service.

*“Train yourself to be godly.
For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things,
holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.”*
1 Timothy 4:7b-8

“Jesus is seeking people who are absolutely serious about becoming new creations in Him.... We might define discipleship as *becoming a complete and competent follower of Jesus Christ*. It is about the intentional training of people who voluntarily submit to the lordship of Christ and who want to become imitators of Him in every thought, word, and deed. On the basis of teaching, training, experiences, relationships, and accountability, a disciple becomes transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ. Discipleship, in other words, is about being and reproducing spiritually mature zealots for Christ.” (George Barna, *Growing True Disciples: New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ* [Colorado Springs, Co.: WaterBrook Press, 2001], 17-18)