

# Biblical Discipleship: Session 1

## By: Bob Moorehead

Speaker 1: Okay we're just about getting everybody in here. Why don't we go ahead and start open up with a word of prayer? So if you guys could just find a seat and we'll get started, you don't just close your eyes with me, Lord. We just thank you so much for the opportunity to come together. And for Torrey Conference, just for Ken Ulmer and Ken Medema, Lord and their just incredible ministries. We just asked that we would just continue throughout this day to praise you continually, that your words would be the first to come forth out of our mouth.

I ask right now that you would just bless Dr. Moorehead as he prepares to come, that you would speak through him, that our hearts would be prepared to and open to listen and to hear. We just give you this time and we pray in Jesus name Amen. Alright. Come on in. Everybody else is sitting here. Our Speaker, Dr. Bob Moorehead. He comes from Kirkland, Washington. How many people know where Kirkland is? All right. Well, there's a lot I could say about this man. He took over a Church in 1970 that had a handful of people.

And today they have just under seven thousand people. They've started six other churches that are all thriving. He's written numerous books. But as I had the chance to pick him up last night from the airport and spend a little bit of time with him, the thing that impressed me the most about this man is he has a heart for people. He has a heart to see people come to know Jesus.

And as he prepares to come, I want you guys to get out your pens, get out your papers, prepared to take notes. And I'd like you to put your hands together and give him a very warm welcome to Dr. Moorehead.

Bob: Moorehead: That is great. Now, before we start, I want everybody to get on your feet, everybody to stand up with me. This is my first time ever to be on the campus of Biola University. I want to tell you, and it's a great place. But I hear up north that you guys have a reputation down here that you really love the Lord. And I just want to find out. Give me a J. Give me E give me S give me a U give me a S who is King of Kings, Jesus?

Who's coming again? Jesus! Who do we love? Jesus! Who do we please? Jesus! Let's give him a clap offer. Hallelujah. All right, man, would you turn to somebody and say, Could you pay me back the money you owe me right now? Just so you can sit down. You'll let you sit down. Now, our time is really going to go by real quickly. So how many of you brought your Bibles along? Just slip them up. Come on, hold in my pie. All right. If you see anybody who doesn't have a Bible, have them stand up, please.

And that's okay. That's all. Yeah. Yes. Yes. Amen. Don't you love Chris? Isn't he a neat guy? I just think he's a neatest guy. He picked me up at the airport and and just drove 80 miles an hour. I never saw anybody drive like that. I want to tell you. He said that's okay. The Lord is in the car. I said no he got out of this car a long time ago. But I just love this man. A lot of you don't know how many of you have met him.

Let me see your hands. You've met him? Wow. You know a lot of people here. Some of you may not know something about him. I just want to tell you quickly. He's taken up horseback riding. I didn't know if you knew that goes out a couple afternoons a week. And last week he was

on a Steed that was just absolutely going wild. I mean, the thing was bucking up and back to throw him off. It was all he could do to hold on. He was holding onto the reins and and pretty soon that wasn't enough.

So he just grabbed the horse around the throat and was holding on for dear life and was about to fall off when a guy came by and unplugged it at Kmart. And I just want to let you know that he well, Amen.

Well I tell you, I'm so glad to be down here because in order to go to a place like this, of course, you have to fly. And I don't know about you, but I hate being in an airplane. I'm nervous about it makes me nervous. I don't even like their terminology. They use terminal and you know final call and all of this stuff. It just makes me kind of nervous. I was glad when that puppy landed in Los Angeles and I got picked up. But it was just just a joy to be here.

I don't have to tell you, young people, this is a very, very unbelievably confusing generation. You know that. And you've been told that. Hard for you to have a perspective of any generation except your own. But it's a very confused, people are absolutely confused. And have you noticed how intimidated people get it and how terse and rude they get on buses or anywhere? You just ask somebody something. They're very jumpy and they come out at you and they're kind of cynical. I was reading about this guy that caught a Metro bus in our town to the University of Washington the other day.

He's just a young guy, about 20 years old on his way to school and he was sitting there and kind of running late. And he asked, kind of a middle aged guy sitting next to him. He said, sir, could you tell me what time it is? And the man didn't even notice him just was reading his newspaper. Sir, could you tell me what time it is? The guy didn't say a word. And this student just said, sir, is it too much to ask you for the time of the day?

The man put the newspaper down and says, I'm not going to tell you what time it is. But if I tell you what time it is, you're going to want to talk about sports. And if we talk about sports, you're going to want to talk about politics. If we talk about politics, you're going to want to talk about the world situation. You talk about that. You're gonna want to know my name, you're gonna want know where live, and you're going to come over to my house and you're going to meet my 20 year old daughter.

And you're going to fall in love with her and marry her. And I don't want my daughter marrying and anybody that can't afford to watch. I mean, that's just kind of how touchy people are today. I read a little article in the paper the other day about a woman that was so confused. In Seattle the other day that she got up to go to work and she sprayed Hairspray under her arm and deodorant and her hair. And she couldn't get her hair up, her arms down.

And that's kind of the way the generation is. How many of you know, people are confused today? Let me see your hands. It's that kind of generation though praise God that God has called us to move in on and conquer for Jesus Christ. But I want to tell you something. We're not going to conquer this world for Christ unless we really come on as real, true, authentic disciples of

Jesus Christ. And I don't know about you, but I'm burning up up here. I'm going to tell you, is it okay to take this jacket off?

I guess it is. You know, somebody told me that gonna to take my shirt off. Somebody told me that the reason women live longer than men is they don't choke to death with neckties. Can somebody say amen? Yes, I believe that. Well, anyway, it may come off next, but it's a mixed up generation. And I believe with all of my heart, I'm not a Prophet of doom, you know, everybody's saying, oh, look what the world's coming to. Look what the world's coming to. You know what I say?

Hey, let's look what's come to the world. His name is Jesus Christ. And we're going to talk about that today. But we're also going to talk about the fact of discipleship. And every time I got up to speak, you're going to hear me come back to discipleship, to discipleship. We're going to be talking about what it takes to be a disciple. We're going to talk about the disciplines of discipleship, the power for discipleship. Right now. I want you just to think a few minutes with me.

What is it going to take? What kind of disciple is it going to take to take this world for Jesus Christ. I think we've got the answer in Luke 14. I never hear this preached or nobody ever teaches on it and talks about it. But let's just read the whole section if we can. Just a minute. Verse 25, it says large crowds were traveling with Jesus and turning to them he said, if anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he can't be my disciple.

And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. Now we're in verse 28, suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying this fellow began to build and was not able to finish. Or suppose the King is about to go to war against another King.

Will he not first sit down and consider whether he's abled with 10,000 to oppose the one coming against him with 20,000. If he's not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. Salt is good. But if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for soil nor for the manure pile it is thrown out.

He who has ears. Let him hear. Jesus laid down for us. I believe in outline form. And you know, I came to preach and I hope you came to listen. And if you get through before I do, you hang in and I'll catch up with you. But get a note pad right now because I want you to write these things down in a little bit of time we've got. What's it going to take, number one: it's going to take people who love Jesus above everything else.

It's going to take people who love Jesus above everything else. And would you write these verses down just next to it? Verse 25 and 26. And I want you to go back and look at it. Now listen to this large crowds. We don't know how big, maybe ten thousand people, maybe 20,000. Large crowds were traveling with Jesus and turning to them, he said. And aren't you surprised what he

said? Today a preacher would say, did anybody get a count? How's our attendance today? Did we break a record today?

Looks like we got a good crowd today. But I want to tell you Jesus was not interested in crowds. Jesus was interested in people. Jesus was interested in the individual making a difference in this world. And this is what he said, if anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother's, wife and children, his brothers and sisters, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. That's scary. I think most of you know, if you've been to any Bible studies and you have that Jesus was not advocating you hate your mom and dad and your brothers and sisters.

Sometimes we do that without being told to do it by somebody. But he wasn't advocating that you show disrespect or hate your parents. This is sort of a metaphor that he's using to describe comparison he's using because in Matthew 10:37, you might want to write that verse down.

Matthew 10:37, Jesus said, Whoever loves mother or father or sister or brother more than me is not worthy of me. In other words, guys, if we're going to make an impact on this world for Jesus Christ, it's going to be because there's a burning, fiery love in our hearts for the Lord that transcends our love for everything else.

The Psalmist, whom have I in heaven? But you? And there's nothing on Earth I desire more than you. I believe we need a fresh baptism of passion and love for the Lord Jesus Christ that causes the world to stop and take a second look. In the early centuries, the Bible said, how they love one another today. They say, wow, what a Church fight they had. You know, some of you have been

in churches that had fights and splits. And God wants a demonstration of not only love Jesus but love one another.

The Bible says, over in first Peter, it says love one another deeply from the heart. And we need to learn to love Jesus more than we love food, more than we love fashion and clothes and sex and everything else that our burning passion is for him. Love him deeply. We got some dental students in our Church. And now one was telling me about the guy that graduated from dental College and went out for his first practice and first patient he had. I mean, this guy was nervous.

First patient he had was a guy, and he had to extract the tooth. So he told the guy to open his mouth. He gave him a shot of Novocaine, taped it, and he said, I think we're ready. He put the pliers on the tooth and squeezed the pliers real hard. And then just as he began to pull, the man clamped his teeth down on the pliers and he couldn't do a thing. It's all, he said, serve with jolt in your mouth again. So the gap in his mouth.

And so the dentist put the pliers back on the tooth, squeeze the pliers. And then he said, okay, I'm gonna pull now. So he began to pull and the guy clamped down again. So he got an idea? He asked. His dental assistant said, Would you go back with me to the room? They went back in there. He opened his desk drawer, and he had a hat pin in there that was about this long. I mean, it was a big, big pin. And he gave it to the dental assistant.

And he says, now, when we go back in there and I wink at you like that, I want you to stick him, you know where right in the back. So guy went back in and said, sir, would you open your

mouth? And the guy said, sure, and open his mouth? Put the pliers on, squeezed. And then he winked at the guy at the gal. The guy went, Ahhhhh. And then while he was yelling, he pulled his tooth. And the dentist said to the man, sir, did it hurt?

And the guy said, no, but I didn't know the roots went that low. I mean, sometimes. Hey, we're talking about a deep love, deep, deep, deep love. Love one another deeply from the heart. Love the Lord, your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength with all of the passion that we have. St. Augustine said, Love God. And then do what you please.

That's right. Love God. And then do what you please. Because if you really love God, the way God has called you to love Him, your love for Him will cause you to do what God wants you to do. Let me give you the second one. Number two: real disciples are prepared to suffer. Real disciples are prepared to suffer. This is a tough verse, and I want you just to look at verse 27. I know you've heard this all your life. I'm not sure any of us really understand the depth of it, Jesus said.

And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. Wow. What does that mean? About six years ago, there was a guy who had a cross that was carrying it all over the country, preaching and teaching. And. And that was fun. I mean, God used him in a great way. But really, that's not what Jesus is talking about. When Jesus talks about carrying a cross. It's kind of interesting in Rome, when somebody who was sentenced to execution, they were required to take the cross and march through the city of Jerusalem up to an execution Hill.

And the purpose of that march was to announce silently to the whole population of Israel that Rome was right in its sentence of death. In other words, it was a public announcement. I agree with Rome. And I think what Jesus was doing here, he's saying, when you carry my cross, you are doing two things. Number one, you are announcing that I am right and that you're willing to go to your death believing that I am right. Young people, I want to tell you now, this is not easy.

You know something? The lands are drawn today. It's about time. I mean, there are no ifs ands or buts about it. The lines are drawn. The battle lines are drawn. The battle is joined today, the powers of evil on one side, the Kingdom of God on the other. And we've read the end of the book and we know how it's going to turn out. But meanwhile, is going to be a scuffle and they're going to be some suffering. And Jesus never taught the gospel of health and wealth.

He never said, if you follow me, you'll have an easy life and you'll have two Mercedes in the garage. You know, Jesus never said you'll have a neat sports car with four on the floor and the fifth under the seat. And that type of thing never said that. He never said you'd never get sick. He never said you wouldn't die. He never said you wouldn't suffer. In fact, he said the opposite. And all through the Scriptures, Jesus said, Listen, blessed of those who are persecuted for righteous and sake for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven, blessed are you when men revalue and curse you and speak all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

But if the truth were known, most of us have not been slapped for Jesus. Most of us have no no lacerations because we believe in Jesus. And thank God we still live in a country today, praise God where we can still speak at least in most places. That window is quickly closing right now.

It's an interesting passage of scripture and I want you to take your Bibles and look with me at first Peter four just real quickly. First Peter four first Peter four. Everybody turned with me.

I want you to see this as we read it first Peter four, verse twelve. You got it. Just get with it quick. If you've got it, say I'm hungry. All right. We're gonna be through in a minute. Hold on. First Peter 4:12 dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you're suffering as though something strange were happening to you, but rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ so that you may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. If you're insulted because of the name of Christ, you're blessed for the spirit of glory and God rest on you.

Let me tell you something, young people. Jesus said, if the world hates you know that it hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. But because you're not of the world. Therefore the world hates you. There's going to be friction, there's going to be flack, there's going to be opposition, there's going to be cursing, there's goin to be put down, there's going to be discrimination, there's going to be all kinds of opposition because we name the name Jesus Christ.

I was in a convenience store just not long ago, a couple of weeks ago and there was only one guy in the store. I love to witness to people. So I walked over to this guy and I said, I mean, besides, the clerk, I walked to this guy and I said, Hi, how you doing? He said, Fine, I said, having a good day off mediocre. I said, Can I ask you a question? He said, sure. I said, do you know for sure you're going to heaven when you die?

He said, It's none of your blankety blankety and blank damn business. And I said, oh, yes, it is. And he said, you want to settle this outside? I said, no, we can settle the whole thing inside. Let me tell you something. Jesus Christ, died on the cross for your sins. You were born with sin. And if you put your faith and trust in him, he'll forgive you of all your past and give you hope for the future. It's settled. Would you accept it?

You got to say it fast folks, before they hit you. And this man said, you want a fist in the face.? And I said, no, I really don't. But I have a desire to tell you this because I don't want to stand before God someday and have the Lord say to me, you missed somebody in a convenience store. You say that sounds weird. You really are weird, aren't you? I am weird, that's for sure. But I want to tell you this. I have a burning desire in my heart to see every man, woman, boy and girl come to faith in Jesus Christ.

And I believe God plans some divine appointments. No, he didn't accept Christ and no nearly, yes he nearly knocked my head off in the store. And yes, I gave him a little track and he wadded it up and threw it in my face. But that's okay. The seed is planted, and God says my word will not return empty. And someday that man's gonna confess Jesus Christ. Because when I walked out of the store, I said, sir, you're a done deal. I even forgot what I went the store for.

Now I said, You're a done deal because I'm gonna pray for you. I'm gonna start a whole prayer conspiracy for you. And I know your name is Carl because it's written on your shirt. Glory to God. Now, folks, I came that close. I mean, I don't like getting flacked for Jesus and putting in a

word for him. But Jesus said, on account of my name, you're going to get flack, you're going to suffer. And you know what? It's going to take courage, isn't it real courage?

We got a bunch of flight attendants in our Church. Let me give you an example of courage. One gal flew for Northwest, and she said a couple of two or three months ago, early in the summer actually, she was coming back from Seoul Korea on a trip. And it was kind of interesting one of her, one of her traveling mates, that works as a flight attendant, had worked two nights because they were sort of help. Tourist was up. Worked two nights. She was exhausted and she was in first class coming from Seoul to Seattle and she got up to do her thing at the front.

Please you're required to bring your seat backs up and fasten your seat belts and so forth and so on. Guess who was in the first class section. Mohammed Ali. Interesting. And so right in the middle of her speech. After she said, Fasten your seat belt. He raised his fist and said, Superman don't need no seatbelt. She walked over to him and she put her finger in his face and she said, Superman don't need no airplane. Now shut up and fasten your seat now. I love it, folks.

That's courage. Don't you like that? That's courage. I believe God's calling us to be courageous, not from the source of our own strength. But Paul said, My sufficiency is in Jesus Christ. That's where the power comes from. Now just keep going with me here because it's going to get better. Look at number three: a real disciple counts the cost and pays the cost. A real disciple counts the cost and pays the cost. And there is a cost. Somebody says I had a lady in Northern California.

You know, California people are strange. I'm telling you in Washington, how many are from California? Wow. It is a nice place though sometimes, I mean it's a shewiz. How many from Oregon? Wow. How many from Washington State? Wow. Look at this. Yes, that's great. Idaho. How about Nevada? Wow. God bless both of you. Yes. Minnesota? Yes, one from Minnesota. Yes. Timberwolf. What do I miss? Montana? Yes. Yell it out if you're from somewhere, yell it out. Come on. Alright. Alright. I missed a bunch of them, but I had a woman come up to me in a conference center in California and she said, I beg to differ with you.

And I said, lady, cool your jets. I said, What's your problem? I don't do much counseling for that very reason. People only come once. But this lady said to me, she said you said it costs. She said, I thought Salvation was free. I said it is free. But once you got it, it costs you like crazy. Look at this. Look at these verses, please. In verse 28, suppose one of you wants to build a tower, will you not first sit down, estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it for if he lays a foundation is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him saying this fellow began to build and was not able to finish what a zero.

And the Bible doesn't say that, but I just stuck it in. Or suppose let's stop there just a minute. In other words, it's costly. Nobody required him to build a tower, but the building of the tower is the symbolic thing of deciding to follow Jesus. When Matthew left the tax office and follow Jesus, he began the tower building. And Jesus is not looking for sprinters. Today he's looking for long distance runners who are willing to pay the cost and pay the price.

Believe me, the price is high. You know, several years ago I sat down in my study and I wrote this because I was meditating that day on what is the price of following Jesus? What is the cost? Listen to this: I've seen the light, counted the cost, made the choice, settle the question, resolved the conflict, stepped over the line forsaken the self. I've rendered the decision and I've become a follower of Jesus Christ. I've renounced all ownership, claimed all promises and met all conditions. I've opted for life, not death, innocence, not guilt, light, not darkness in heaven, not hell.

I've signed the Covenant, agreed to the terms. Read the fine print, met the author, joined the ranks and burned the bridges behind me. The choices made the direction is determine. I've become a disciple. That combat has been entered. The weapons are readied. The ear is tuned in the eye said I've become a soldier of the cross and my term is life. I'm ready to go or stay. Wait or move, walk or run, laugh, cry, lift or be lifted. Be first or last, now or later. Be whatever. Whenever for however long for Jesus.

I'm a Christian and I'm not my own anymore. I've sold out, turned out, been bought out and will burn out. If need be, I will go work. Praise, sit, stand, crawl, limp, trot, run, speak or wait. Whatever he wants. I'm now at his disposal. I won't retreat, return or reconsider. I've entered the race in the future belongs to Christ and I'm now at his disposal. Amen I believe we all ought to be able to say that I've become a disciple after you've read it once. You know what I mean.

Yes. Now let me give you a fourth one. You say, how many do you have? 30. No, I'm just joking. We don't have that many number four. This is probably the most important one we'll talk

about and maybe the only one we're going to have time for today. A real disciple acknowledges the enemy and prepares. A real disciple. Acknowledges the enemy and prepares. Now hold on to your seats. Get your Bible with one hand and hold on to your seats with the other. This was the most life changing thing to me I ever read.

And the entire gospel account of Jesus and I just want you to look at it. Look at verse 31. Our supposed King is about to go to war against another King. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he's able with 10,000 men to oppose the one coming against him with 20,000. If he's not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. Now, you know, when I first read that when I first got saved as an 18-19 year old kid, I first got saved.

I read that and I thought, man, that sounds like compromise. That sounds like this man's acquiescent throwing in the towel, waving the white flag. No, let's look at this one part again. If he is not able, watch this, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off. And we'll ask for terms of peace. You know what Jesus is teaching us in the midst of evil? You better have a battle plan. That's what he's talking about.

And, folks, we've only got one plan. We are not going to defeat the enemy with committees. God so loved the world. He didn't send a committee. We're not going to defeat the enemy with human innovation. We're not going to defeat the enemy with parapsychology. We're not going to defeat the enemy with any kind of humanism. There's only one way we're going to defeat the enemy is

to match power with power. We are. We are in the midst today of the most incredible power encounter that this universe has ever seen.

It is a power encounter that's going on between the forces of the devil and all of the orchestration that he's brought up and bounced up from hell and the Kingdom of God and the power that Jesus generated by his resurrection from the dead. And these are at loggerheads today. And the lines are drawn. Believe me, what are we going to do? And, you know, I travel all over the country and I go from Church to Church and and I ask these people. I get so I'm only asked once, usually because after I tell them what I'm telling them, they don't ask me to come back because I'm too radical. But I ask them, what are your plans to conquer this county for Jesus?

Guess what? 95% of them don't have any plans. Another 95% of them don't want any plans. It's just kind of moving along business as usual. And I hear the same at all. You don't know our community, man we've got 35 taverns in this community. It's like up in the Seattle area, it's kind of a hot bed for new age and homosexuals. It's a hot bed for liberalism. And the key word up there is toleration. I mean, you got to tolerate and you're gonna be politically correct. If you're gonna be politically correct, you got to dance to their tune and all of this stuff.

This is why Rush Limbaugh has never come up there. Tell you they'd run him out on a rail. But I want to tell you something. These churches are not going to make an impact in their communities by sitting back and saying, well, you know, there's just so much evil here, and there's just so many of us and so much money. We can't do anything. Baloney. We're part of a

Kingdom that can't be shaken. The scripture says, how are we going to do it. Take your Bibles and turn to second Corinthians ten.

Everybody. Second Corinthians ten. If you see anybody not turn in, I want you to push them up. Make them stand. Second Corinthians chapter ten. What are we going to fight with? What's our Arsenal? Second Corinthians ten, verse four, Paul tells us right here. Second Corinthians ten, verse four, it says the weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. Wow. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God.

And we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. We're moving our campus down into Redmond were found 28-29 acres of land. We're going to build us a beautiful 6000 seat auditorium just so we can hold the saints. And somebody said, you're gonna change your name? You know what? I love to change the name of our Church, too? I'd love to change it to the First Demolition Church of Redmond because that's what we're in the business of doing. We're the demolition fellowship. We're the demolition crew.

We're the demolition boys. And we've come to serve notice on Satan. You've gone too far. We're serving notice on all the powers of evil in our community. You're not going to run the show anymore. You're not going to run the city Council. You're not going to run the rules and regulations of our county in our state. You're not going to run the press in the media anymore. It's time for the Kingdom of God to come and express itself. And let me tell you what happened, folks, we just opened, in fact, Sunday night, I'm preaching the first anniversary.

After three long years, we opened an inner city Church downtown. You know what the name of it is? New Light Church. And they've got Koreans and Chinese, Blacks, Indians, Persians, Europeans, a lot of people from the Soviet Union. It is a Dukes mixture. But you know where we started the Church right down in the midst of the pit of the Sunniest part of Seattle. And for two and a half years, on Tuesday nights, we used to take a little van down with about 20 or 30 people in it, several buckets of soup and we set them up on the sidewalk and feed people.

And and then we'd go door to door and the big housing projects down there. There are thousands and thousands of people who live down there. But we were in the part of town that had been run for years by the devil in his agents, pimps and prostitutes and homosexual, prostitutes and drug dealers and gangs. I'm telling you, it was a dangerous place to go. And about an eight block area, this particular area. As we were going door to door, we were confronted by some of these people.

They would pull their knives out on occasion, brandish a gun and say, you're not wanted in here. You're bad for our business. I remember one of the pimps stopping in a long car and rolling down his windows and saying to me, are you part of that crew on the other side of the lake? And I said, yeah, he says, I want to give you a warning. You people better not be down here when we're down here next Tuesday night, if you know what's good for you.

I mean, we were threatened. And so we went back and prayed, Lord, what do you want us to do? This didn't just happen once. It happened again and again. But we had prayed. And we believe God wanted a Lighthouse in the midst of a dark city. And we went back and prayed. And God

led us to this passage second of scripture second Corinthians ten. And we got on our knees and on our faces before God. And we heard the voice of God saying to us, Go back down there and walk around that eight block area and pull down every strong hold that you can find.

And so we went down one day in daylight when all the pimps and the bunch weren't out. And we walked around with our hands on buildings. The cops couldn't feel out what we were doing. They thought we'd really flipped our lid and we were just doing this like you're pulling the left, pulling this pulling. This guy was coming out of office. He said, Excuse me, what are these people doing? I said, We're pulling down strongholds. He said, thank you very much and just kept walking. And we went all around.

We pulled down the spirit of bondage and we pulled down the spirit of prostitution and the spirit of whoredom and the spirit of pornography. There's a bunch of that down there and the spirit of gangs and the spirit of anarchy and all of the spirits. We went all around the eight block area. And then we had a prayer meeting in a little park. And we said, Lord, we are claiming this turf for Jesus Christ. We went back the next Tuesday night down there, twelve people gave their lives to Christ, including a pimp.

You know why? Because we decided to operate in the power of the Holy Spirit, not in our own power. And I believe if we're going to take this world for Christ, we better know there's a war going on. It's so easy for all of us sometimes to live in such a protected shell and not realize that there's a war going on. And Satan is trying to conquer. Satan is trying to win the points. Well, kind of interesting. It's going to take courage, isn't it? It's going to take courage.

I went to a barber shop about three or four months ago, and barber shops are horrible. I just hate going to a barber shop. And I went in there and four or five men came in and one of the, I had to go to a barber sitting in a chair I'd never been before. And I didn't even know this guy. He was swearing and cussing. He said, What's your racket? What do you do for a living? I said, I'm a preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Dead silence went throughout the barbershop.

I mean, I thought he was going to really give me one of those wacko haircuts. And so he said, oh, and there was dead silence. And the other barber said, What's wrong, Sam? Did he get you? No, he didn't get me. I'm a good man. I'm a religious man. I said, how good are you? Have you kept all the Ten Commandments? Well, nobody's kept the Ten Commandments. I said, Well, the Bible says in Galatians three, if you don't keep all the Ten Commandments you're condemned and damned for the rest of your life.

He says, I don't believe that junk. And so I began sharing one by one customers started leaving out that we're waiting to get a haircut. Folks, the gospel is not always good for business, you know? And I could feel tension building. I wasn't trying to be obnoxious. I wasn't trying to be cute. I wasn't trying to cause a riot in the place. I was just trying to stand up for Jesus Christ. And it really did take a little courage to do that. But I didn't want my own courage showing.

We've got a couple of guys, two or three guys in our Church drive those big 1822 wheelers. One was sharing about a buddy of his from the St. Louis area that they go back and forth. And pulled into a truck stop and real like 2:30 in the morning. Weren't many people in there, and the trucker

walked in and sat down and ordered a hamburger and a cup of coffee and a piece of pie. Waitress brought the hamburger, brought the coffee, brought the pie. Man started eat the hamburger.

About that time. Four leather jacketed, motorcycle gang looking thugs walked in. Big, huge, burly, bearded guys walked in, grabbed the hamburger, threw it on the floor, and stepped and smeared it in the floor, took the pie and threw it across the room, pour the coffee all over the man's lap, and the man just sat there and didn't do anything, walked over to the edge of the room and finally that the man got up, paid his bill and left. And after he left, these big old motorcyclists said to the cashier, ain't much of a man, is he?

And the cashier said, no, he ain't much of a driver either. He just flattened for Harley Davidson with his truck. You know something, folks, that took a lot of courage. But the courage I'm talking about, the courage I'm talking about. It doesn't come from us. It doesn't come from a committee. It comes from the power to pull down strongholds that God has given us as disciples of Jesus Christ. And before this week is over. Listen, to me. Every one of you in this room, I'll give you a written guarantee.

Every one of you may not know when it happens. Exactly. But you're going to be in a power encounter where the power of evil is going to pull you in one direction. And the power of God is waiting for a voice to be willing to have the courage to speak for Jesus Christ. What will it be?

Well, kind of interesting. Let me give you the last one. It's in verse 33. It's really not the last one, but our time is up. Verse 33, a real disciple manages everything and owns nothing. Did you hear

that? A real disciple manages everything and owns nothing. Wow. Look at these words of Scripture in the same way any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. One version says, anyone who does not renounce all that he has can't be my disciple. You say, Come on, join the [inaudible].

I mean, that's not for real. I mean, you think God wants me to give up my clothes in my car and my savings account? Well, not the savings. You're all flat busted, but God wants me to just strip everything out of my room, my stereo and everything that I own and have a garage sale and give it all to Biola University. That probably wouldn't be a bad idea. But that's not what he's calling for. He's calling for something more radical than that. He's calling for something young people that says, Listen, if you're going to be my disciple, if you're going to step over the line and walk into the Kingdom of God, you better settle something right up front.

You don't own anything. You don't own a thing. The Bible says the Earth is the Lord's and the fullest. They're out of the world. And they who dwell that you don't own a thing. God owns it all. He owns it before you came to the Kingdom, he owns it while you're in the Kingdom. And he'll own it when you go to glory, he owns it all. But what he wants you to do is acknowledge I don't own anything. I just manage what he releases for me to manage.

And so when he calls for it, you don't have any trouble releasing it. Turn the Psalm 50 let me show you something quickly. Psalm 50 I love this. I love the way it's put. I mean, it couldn't be any clearer. Psalm 50, verse eight, Psalm 50, verse eight. Just look at this with me. Psalm 50, verse eight. I do not rebuke you for your sacrifices or your burnt offerings, whichever before me,

I have no need of a Bull from your stall over. God said, don't hand me your Bull or goats from your pins.

For every animal of the forest is mine and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains and the creatures of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world is mine and all that's in it. That sort of settles it, doesn't it? He owns it all and we're called to be managers. Well, look at verse 34 and 35. We're going to be late. We may as well be good and late. There's one last kind of disciple it's going to take to take the world.

Are you ready for this? It's going to take a disciple that's willing to radically affect other people. It's going to take a disciple that's willing to radically affect other people. Notice what he said. Salt is good. But if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile. It is thrown out. God has called you salt. And what he wants you to do as salt is affect the flavor. This world for Jesus Christ.

Salt cannot affect the flavor of anything. While it's in the salt shaker. It's got to get out of the shaker and onto the meat. And there's a putrefying, chaotic, bewildered, confused world out here. And I want to tell you one thing. That world is not going to be improved by the government. That world is not going to be improved by higher education. As important as that is, that world is not going to be improved or affected by technology. As great as that is, there's only one way the world is going to be affected radically. It's when we who are living Christ, touch this world and make an eternal difference. That's what a disciple is.

About ten years ago I was on a day of prayer and fasting and I decided to take my notebook and jot down, in my own words, who I am as a follower of Jesus. I just want to close with this. I'm a part of the fellowship of the Unashamed. I have Holy Spirit power. The die has been cast. I've stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I'm a disciple of Jesus. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away or be still. My past is redeemed.

My present makes sense and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chinsey giving and dwarfed goals. I no longer need preeminence prosperity, position, promotions, audits are popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded or rewarded anymore. I now live by presence, leaned by labor, by power. My face is set. My gait is fast. My goal is heaven. My road is narrow. My way is rough, my companions fruit, a few.

My guide reliable. My mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, diluted or delayed anymore. I'm a disciple of Jesus. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity. Negotiate in the table of the enemy or ponder at the pool of popularity anymore. Nor will a meander in the maze of mediocrity. I won't give up shut up, let up, slow up till I've preached up, prayed up, paid up and stored up for our stayed up for the cause of Christ.

I'm a disciple of Jesus and I must go till he comes give till I drop preach till all know and work till he stops and when he comes to get his own he'll have no problems recognizing me because my colors will be clear. Amen. Thank you for letting me share with you this morning.

Speaker 1: If you didn't get through one of the card readers, grab one on the way out. Just make sure you they're sitting in the back. If you didn't read your card, there will be a meeting in here at 02:00. Have a good lunch.