

**The Great Divide Of Life**  
**Matthew 10:34-39**

**Russell Cook**  
**West End Church of Christ**  
**Knoxville, TN**

1. What is “discipleship?” We hear this term quite often in Christian circles today.
2. The word “disciple” literally means “learner.” In Jesus’ day, a disciple was one who attached himself to a teacher.
3. In a very practical sense, being Jesus’ disciple means not just adding Jesus to your life, but Jesus becomes your life!

**I. The Cross Divides Our Paths (Matthew 7:13-14).**  
**Jesus spoke of two paths.**

- A. Jesus describes the wide path. (v. 13).
- B. Jesus describes the narrow path. (v. 14).

**II. The Cross Divides Our Thinking (1 Corinthians 1:18-25).**

- A. Unbelievers see the message of the cross as foolishness and a stumbling block.
  1. Paul says in v. 18, **“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.”**
  2. He says in v. 23, **“But we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles.”**
- B. Believers follow a message of power and wisdom.
  1. In contrast, Paul says in verse 24, **“but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”**

**III. The Cross Divides Our Relationships (Matthew 10:34-37).**

- A. The cross brings a sword, not peace (v. 34).
- B. The cross will even divide families (vv. 35-37).

**IV. The Cross Divides Our Priorities (Matthew 10:38).**

- A. Unbelievers have self-centered priorities.
- B. Believers have Christ-centered priorities.

**V. The Cross Divides Our Eternity (Matthew 10:39).**

- A. Jesus said, **“Whoever finds his life will lose it,..”**
- B. Jesus also said, **“whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”**