**3/12/23 Are Jesus’ Disciples Our Best Examples to Follow? Acts 1:7-11**

* Jesus is the only perfect one to walk in this old sinful world.
* All others biblical characters showed themselves to be imperfect and were sometimes swayed by their circumstances.
* Many figures were great examples of faith and strength, then others were selfish, cowards and unfaithful.

**1. Should we model the Disciples behavior?**

* The disciples were jockeying for positions for when Jesus established His Kingdom.
* Jesus told them that whoever wants to be a leader you must be a servant.
* Jesus also told them not to leave Jerusalem until the Father sends the Comforter.
* Jesus says when the Comforter comes, He will convince the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.

**Mark 10:35-45; Matt 18:4; Acts 1:3-4; John 14:26,15:26,16:7-8**

**2. Selfish tendencies come out even when trying to follow Jesus.**

* We should never under estimate the power of our sinful nature! That’s why your daily routine of prayer, studying and meditation on God’s Word is so important!
* The apostles kept asking him, “Lord, are You going to free Israel now and restore our kingdom?”
* Jesus did not answer their question directly, but instead reminded them of 3 truths.
* Let's refuse to be distracted by those things that remain a mystery to us and focus on doing the work Jesus has called us to do!
* **Ephesians 6:12; Acts 1:5-8; Acts 2; Matthew 6:30, 8:26; Luke 17:20-26, 24:46-49**

**3. Clouds generally indicated the presence of God.**

* The cloud that took Jesus up was a prepared, supernatural cloud that was a sign of the presence of God.
* The cloud was like the one on the Mount of Transfiguration.
* We which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air!
* The angels ask why are they still gazing at the sky? They still had work to prepare for! Pentecost was coming and they needed tochoose a replacement for Judas.
* The angels told them that someday, just as you saw Jesus go, He will return!”

**Acts 1:9-11,13, 21-26; Luke 9:33-35, 21:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:17; Revelation 1:7;** [**2 Kings 2:16–18**](https://classic.app.logos.com/references/bible%2Bkjv.12.2.16-12.2.18)