

Being a Disciple

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I. Introduction.

A. The speaker's favorite message on discipleship is Luke 14.

1. Jesus teaches to love Him more than family, career or things.
2. The speaker now faces this challenge with a new career - a mission to Europe.

B. The meaning of chapel.

1. It is a place of worship.
2. It should be focused on the Word.

C. God has given us better proof of His witness than Elijah had. (I Kings)

II. The people were given the sign of Jonah (Matthew 12:38-39; 16:4)

A. God called Jonah to go to Nineveh, but he resisted. (Jonah)

1. Nineveh heard of Jonah's reluctance through communication lines.
2. Instead of going to Nineveh, Jonah got a ticket to go to Spain in the opposite direction.
3. Every hour he traveled to Tarsus, he got closer to Nineveh.

B. There was a great storm and Jonah was forced to repent after the cargo was dumped.

1. The owner of the ship rode the ship. (Acts 27:11)
2. The sailors probably went to port and they talked. Word likely got back to Nineveh.
3. The Ninevites never got the message.

C. Jonah was only delayed.

1. Jonah prayed in the belly of the fish.
2. Jonah lost oxygen and was in Hades - the place of the dead. It is in the center of the earth.

3. No wonder there was revival in Nineveh. They were a wicked people and they saw judgment. They heard that Jonah was dead. When they saw Jonah it had an effect on them - a resurrection effect.

D. The message: God loved Nineveh when Nineveh did not love God.

III. The evidence of God in the resurrection is better than the power of Elijah for testimony. There is no post-Easter season; it is always about the resurrection.

A. The resurrection of Christ is the most documented historical event.

B. The testimony of Russian Christians: "He is risen."

C. A woman who was challenged about the resurrection was asked why she still believed. She responded by saying, "Because I spent an hour with Him this morning."

IV. Conclusion. (Romans 6:4)

Application questions.

1. What was the sign of Jonah according to the speaker and how did it relate to the resurrection?

2. Why is the sign of the resurrection better than the signs performed by Elijah? How is this still a sign today?

3. Evangelism is important to being a disciple. In light of today's message what will you change about your evangelism? Write a note to yourself to remember your commitment.
