Follower & Disciple Jesus' Requirements

'Follower'

Matthew 4:18-20

1) Agree to be made Fishers of Men.

Matthew 10:32-39

- 2) In the following stage, he expects us to become more committed to him and vocal about him. (v. 32)
- 3) This is the stage we begin to learn that choices will need to be made to put Jesus (Our Lord) before people. (v. 33)
- 4) This is the stage that we learn taking a stand for God first, will cause conflict in relationships (specifically family, (v. 34) and that this conflict is his will. (v. 34)
- 5) (v. 37-38) Putting Jesus first in our lives ("Loving others more" specifically family is mentioned), dying to self

("take his cross") and doing his will ("following him") are basic components of this stage of growth.

a. If we are unwilling we are not worthy of him (said 3x).

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"Worthy" - (G514)
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probably from 71; deserving, comparable or suitable (as if drawing praise):--due reward, meet, (un-)worthy.

- > He's not talking our salvation here (that's believer stage)
- > He's talking about receiving of his praise and rewards.

(Matt. 25:21 - "Well done thou good and faithful servant)

(Matt. 16:27 - 'Reward everyone according to their (2 Cor. 5:10) works for what they had done while they were in their body')

Matthew 19:16-3

- 6) To follow we need to be willing to give up whatever possessions necessary to do what he's asking. (v. 21)
- 7) (v. 27-30) Jesus states that as we learn to Follow and do what he asks, there will be many spiritual, physical, and financial rewards. With the final outcome of Eternal Life.

Luke 12:35-53

- 8) Followers Watch and Wait for their master's return. (v. 37)
- 9) In this stage we learn to become a Faithful, and Wise Stewart / Manager, and Ruler. This is achieved by 'doing' or living our life in a Watching and Waiting way. (v. 42-44)
- 10) Knowing what Jesus wants and didn't do it, will bring punishment. (v. 47-48)
- 11) Followers learn that there is a responsibility, accountability, and action that is required when we are given something by the Lord. (v. 35-48, specifically v. 48b)

***** v. 49-53 - Jesus repeats the principle given in point #5.

'Disciple'

Most of the requirements are very similar to that of being a 'Follower'. The main difference is that they are more intense.

Luke 14:16-35

- 1) Any excuses we come up with that will keep us from doing what God has asked us to do will disqualify us from being a Disciple. (v. 16-24)
- 2) Jesus repeats the relationship obstacles he talked about when he was talking about becoming a Follower. But he intensifies a couple of his points. (v. 26-27)
 - a. For a Follower: "Turn Against / Set at Variance / Foes / Enemies"

For Disciple: "Hate" the relationships.
(Please listen to the message for the definition of Hate)

b. For a Follower: "Take his cross". For a Disciple: "Carry his cross".

- 3) He adds different family members than under Follower. He still seems to be describing family. However it grows more intense by his adding:
 - a. Wife. (v. 26)
 - b. His own life. (v. 26)
- 4) Here Jesus says we must be willing to give up 'everything' to be a Disciple. (v. 33) That is an enlargement on the list of things Jesus referred to in becoming a Follower.
 - a. It is another step higher than Follower.
 - Follower: Give up "Relationships, Property, Money".
 - Disciple: Give up "Everything".
- 5) This is not an easy thing to be a Disciple. Jesus says 'Count the Cost' on this. (Luke 14:26-27, 33)