THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP
Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. A disciple of Christ is one who is not only a learner of the teachings of Christ, he is one who is committed to the practice of what he taught -- John 8:31; Luke 6:46; Luke 9:23
2. We who have obeyed the gospel are disciples of Christ -- Acts 11:26
3. Christ is our teacher, and we are His followers -- Heb. 1:2; Luke 9:23
4. Christ make certain DEMANDS of His followers.
5. DEMAND means: to ask or call for with authority; to claim as due.
6. Christ has a right to DEMAND duty of us -- I Cor. 6:19-20
7. When we have met all His DEMANDS we have simply done our duty -- Lk. 17:10
8. Let us study these DEMANDS.

I. DEMANDS WITH REFERENCE TO SELF
1. The disciple must be HOLY.
   (1) I Pet. 1:16; Rom. 12:1-2; I Thess. 4:7
   (2) The body is not to be used for sin, but for the Lord -- I Cor. 6:13
   (3) The disciple must not let sin reign in his mortal body -- Rom. 6:12
2. The disciple must be humble in spirit -- Rom. 12:3; Col. 3:12; Phil. 2:3; I Pet. 5:5-6
3. He must abide in the Word -- John 8:31; 2 John 9; John 15:7; I Cor. 4:6
4. He must grow in KNOWLEDGE -- I Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 5:12-14
5. He must deny himself and take up his cross daily -- Luke 9:23
6. He must bear fruit -- John 15:8; Rom. 7:4
7. He must attend all the services of the church -- Heb. 10:25; John 4:23-24
8. He must avoid idolatry -- I John 5:21; Eph. 5:5; Matt. 6:24

II. THE DEMANDS WITH REFERENCE TO OTHERS
1. He must take the gospel to others -- Mk. 16:15-16; Rom 1:14-15
2. He must help those in need -- I John 3:17; I Tim. 5:4; Matt. 25:34-40
3. He must try to restore the fallen -- Gal. 6:1; James 5:19-20
4. He must love his brethren -- John 13:34-35; I John 4:20-21
5. He must be forgiving -- Matt. 6:14-15
6. He must be an example -- I Tim. 4:12; Matt. 5:13-16

III. THE DEMANDS WITH REFERENCE TO THE LOCAL CHURCH
1. Must be identified with the local church.
   (1) Members of the church cannot be "members-at-large", floating from one congregation to another.
   (2) It is in the local congregation that we enjoy the fellowship together in the Lord's Work -- Acts 2:42
   (3) Paul is an example of identifying with a local church -- Acts 9:26; 11:26
2. Christians are obligated to attend the services -- Heb. 10:25; Acts 20:7
3. Disciples have a financial obligation to the church -- I Cor. 16:1-2; II Cor. 9:6-7
4. Every disciple is obligated to preserve the purity of the church -- II Cor. 6:17; 2 Tim. 2:22; I Pet. 2:11; I Tim. 2:9
5. Disciples are obligated to keep the peace of the church by doing only what is taught and following after things that make for peace -- Eph. 4:1-7; Rom. 14:19

IV. THE DEMANDS WITH REFERENCE TO GOD
   1. He must love God with all his heart -- Matt. 22:37-38; John 14:15
   2. He must worship God in Spirit and in truth -- John 4:23-24
   3. He must be faithful to God -- Rev. 2:10; I Cor. 4:2; 2 Tim. 4:7
   4. He must reverence God -- Heb. 12:28
   5. He must believe God is the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him -- Heb. 11:6

CONCLUSION
   1. Are you meeting the DEMANDS of discipleship?
   2. Are you a disciple of Christ?
   3. Won’t you become one?

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