153 Mount Edward Road
Charlottetown, PE C1A 5T1
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Churchy Words 7: Disciple

Sunday, November 1, 2026

KEY PASSAGES

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16 (NIV)

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

FIVE KEY POINTS

1. **A disciple is anyone following Jesus.** The word covers far more than the twelve. In Matthew 8 two nameless followers appear for one moment and are still called disciples.
2. **It starts with God's call.** Jesus called fishermen in the middle of their work, and it is the Holy Spirit who moves people to follow.
3. **Discipleship takes discipline.** A disciple learns from Jesus and then changes to look like him, which means dying to self over and over, and that is hard.
4. **Church discipline is a mark of the true church.** Belgic Confession Article 29 lists it with right preaching and the sacraments. The church has used it to hurt people, and he said that should be owned without throwing accountability out.
5. **Healthy accountability is invited.** Like a team that agrees on its goals, it grows out of equal, honest relationships, with less pride, more humility and a careful balance of grace and truth.

STORIES & ILLUSTRATIONS

Michael Phelps. The most decorated Olympian ever, with 28 medals, reportedly ate about 8,000 calories a day to fuel his training. We admire that kind of discipline.

Asking around. He asked a few people in the church what church discipline brings to mind. Most of what he heard was judgment, punishment and control.

A healthier version. He pictured someone who sees their phone crowding out time with Jesus and puts a limit in place so they can grow.

Listen to the sermon again on Spotify · **Re-watch the sermon on YouTube**

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