

# Discipleship Versus Membership

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Membership denotes belonging to an organization or group.

Discipleship applies to one who follows a special discipline or way of life or person.

This paper compares the actions of members of the Church to those of disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Temple worship instead of temple attendance.
2. Living the Word of Wisdom vs. not using tobacco, alcohol, coffee, and tea.
3. Search the scriptures vs. read the scriptures.
4. Greater follower of righteousness vs. follower of righteousness. (Abr 1:2)
5. Works of Abraham vs. church activity.
6. Worship vs. attendance.
7. Neat and comely vs. costly apparel.
8. Sufficient for our needs vs. consumption.
9. Necessities vs. luxuries.
10. Healthy lifestyle vs. medical care and sorcery (drugs).
11. Seeking and living after the manner of Zion vs. seeking and living after the manner of our neighbors.
12. Showing mercy and forgiveness vs. seeking justice.
13. Doing vs. not doing bad.
14. Offering the best or maximum possible vs. good enough or minimum required.
15. Seeking Christ vs. obeying the commandments.
16. Continuous learning and serving vs. retirement.
17. Learning to talk with heavenly Father vs. praying to God.
18. Hearing and doing the commandments of the Lord given through his prophets vs. what is accepted or done by other members.
19. Accepting ridicule of others, even members, for following the Lord's guidance vs. seeking their acceptance.
20. Learning to live with as little as possible vs. as much as possible.
21. Living the law of sacrifice vs. the law of gratification.
22. Learning to live the law of consecration now vs. putting it off until the future.
23. Loving your spouse with all your heart vs. loving career, hobby, or anything else more than spouse.
24. Serving a mission vs. pursuing education or marriage.
25. Preparing for a missionary vs. waiting for a missionary.
26. Striving to make an eternal marriage vs. a temple marriage.
27. Fasting vs. not eating.
28. Offering more vs. asking less.
29. Pressing forward to the tree of life vs. enduring to the end.
30. Seeking God's will in all things vs. our will.
31. Counseling with the Lord in all our doings vs. seeking answers to the big questions.
32. Feasting on the words of Christ vs. reaching our goals for scripture reading.
33. Humility in all things vs. pride in anything.
34. Going where, doing what the Lord desires vs. asking his blessing in doing what you desire.
35. Giving the Lord first choice with your time and efforts vs. giving him the leftovers.
36. Plant and reap vs. reap.
37. Keep the Sabbath holy vs. not breaking the Sabbath.
38. Thou shalt vs. thou shalt not.
39. Seeking every good gift of the spirit vs. things which you cannot take with you.
40. Seek the Kingdom of heaven first vs. second, third, etc.

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41. Follow the thirteenth article of faith AND touch not the unclean thing.
42. Choose this day to serve the Lord vs. any other god.
43. Seek to magnify your calling and God's glory vs. a more magnified calling and your glory.
44. When you pray wait for the Lord's answer vs. just telling him your side.
45. When you walk, run, or drive listen for the voice of the Spirit and let him direct your meditations vs. listening to the noise of the world with its spirit and ideas.
46. Pray throughout the day vs. only at prayer times.
47. Let your television and computer be a terrestrial Urim and Thummim vs. a celestial Urim and Thummim.
48. Seek to know the mysteries of God and his kingdom vs. saying we have enough.
49. Give your life to your spouse and children vs. your time and money.
50. Look forward with joy and anticipation to the coming of the Lord vs. dread.
51. Eat to live vs. live to eat.
52. Treat the body as a gift vs. a toy, a slave, or an ornament.
53. Make your house a temple for the Holy Ghost vs. a showcase for idols of the world or Mormon pop culture.
54. Make your body a temple for the Holy Ghost vs. a motel where he sometimes visits.
55. Drink fresh water from the spring vs. polluted water downstream.