Full Time Discipleship

(Jesus speaking:) In the early days of the Family, your movement was wild, hot, and radical! The hippies were eager to throw off the chains of conformity that bound them, and they embraced the wild life of a disciple. They had motivation to sacrifice, forsake all, and live for Me fully, because they were coming out of the System and into eternal life. They walked the walk and talked the talk of a disciple.

Times have now changed. The world is different and the talk and walk that were once accepted are no longer acceptable. My Family has had to adjust and change and put on a new look in order to relate and minister to others. However, something else has changed that I'm not happy with, and this is the notion that many people have that today's discipleship standard is not the same as it was in the days when I formed My Endtime Family.

It's true that the world has changed and that times wax worse and worse. There are greater battles, greater fears, greater illnesses, greater temptations. The Enemy is pulling new tricks out of his bag and attacking much more than he did before. All these things the Enemy has rained down on your heads, and some of you have faltered and become weak. Others of you have looked at your second generation and your growing children and have felt that they can't be expected to uphold the same standard as was once expected and required of all, because things are "so different now."

It is true that times have changed and that the war is a completely different one. The world is a completely different world to reach. The people are different, the mentalities are different, the methods to reach them by are different, and even your second generation and children are different than you were. But that does not change the discipleship standard--the code of Endtime Christians that I've called you to uphold.

The standard of discipleship is defined in the Bible. The Words of David built on that definition, adding more explanation and application to the times you're now living in, but the basics have not changed. Rather, they should not have changed. In the Family they have been watered down and are now almost unrecognizable. But the standard as I see it, as you should see it, is the same.

Discipleship is discipleship! I require the same of the Family today as I did of the first disciples in the Family.

I've given you sufficient power and strength to combat all the forces of the Enemy, all the increased attacks and hindrances. I've given you supernatural power to stay abreast of the times, to change, to revolute, to discern, to understand. For every attack that comes your way, for every sinister and evil attack, I've given you a greater power.

I've given you the new weapons. I have given you the gift of greater understanding of intercessory prayer. I've given you the ability to rise above. I've given you the keys of the Kingdom--and with these things, nothing is impossible to you. Nothing can overcome you. Nothing can quench your fire. Nothing can stop you.

The Enemy has come in and spread a great lie throughout the Family, and many have bought it and swallowed it. This lie says: "Family members today aren't expected to uphold the same level of dedication and conviction that was expected in years past, because times have changed. The world is different, the battle is different, and we just have to accept that people are going to be weaker, more worldly, tolerate more worldly influences, compromise in certain areas, and even take back some of the System garments that they threw off when they joined the Revolution."

This is the Enemy's lie! It's not true, and believing this lie and allowing it to come into your Home and life will ruin the Family. My spiritual requirements for you as Christians and full-time disciples remain the same. The required level of dedication or conviction has not dropped any down through the ages. It remains the same--a high goal and standard to reach, but one that, when reached, can turn the world around and light the hearts of many, igniting a revolution!

Over the years, the Family has been weakened by many who have accepted a little of this System influence, a little of that System temptation. People felt the stronger spiritual attacks, and after fighting for a while, gave up and let the Enemy gain some strongholds in their lives and in the lives of their children. They then figured that with the increased intensity of the battle, they were only expected to win 80% of the fight now, rather than the 100% of victory that they used to hold tenaciously to.

The Enemy has tricked many into believing that now the spiritual playing field is no longer level, therefore they can't be expected to keep up with everything, and they quit trying and quit expecting to maintain on all

fronts. But this is not true. Even though the spiritual ante has been upped, and the Enemy has pulled out his big guns, and the fight is definitely hotter, harder, and more vicious, your weapons have been upgraded also. You have at your disposal all the power that you need to fight against the Enemy and combat his attacks.

The spiritual standard has remained the same since the days of My early disciples and the birth of the Family, and will remain the same. It should not have changed in your eyes, and if it has, ask Me to help give you the renewed vision to once again charge and attack and reclaim the land that you have given to the Enemy. Raise the standard in your personal life! Don't let the spiritual standard slide! Don't let the dedication level remain where it is--make sure it's up to the top of the charts, fully hitting the mark and helping to propel you forward!

This is a challenge to throw off your present mindsets. Don't limit Me with your thoughts or ideas of how I can change you. My abilities are limitless. If you're willing to put your will on My side and stretch yourself and become hot and on-fire again, I can make you into a wild and radical disciple just like before. Or if you've never experienced that in your life, just give Me a chance, and you'll see what a thrill it is to be in My Endtime Family. You'll finally see what it's all about, and why it's worth living and dying for Me.

It's really not worth living in the Family or dying for Me if you're half-hearted or have lost the vision. If your dedication has waned to the point that you figure, "Well, the Family's a great place, but people just aren't like they used to be … the fire has gone out … something is missing," then you need to ask Me to light your fire. I can and will, but you must be willing to forsake all your personal trips and give Me a solid chance at your heart. Let Me have full control and see if I won't make you into a new person--a happier, fulfilled, on-fire individual--moving forward and 100% sure that the Family is where you want to spend the rest of your life.

What do you think? Do you look around and see people who need a little more fire and umph in their lives? Look in the mirror. Are you one of them? If so, start right there with the person in the mirror and let's give you a makeover. Let's get back to discipleship and forget all these lies that the Enemy has put in your mind. Let them go and ask Me what step number one is to rewiring you and getting you back to the basics! Once you've taken that step, I'll show you what step number two is, and then three and four. And before you know it, you'll be making great leaps of progress! *(End of message from Jesus.)* (1)

(Jesus speaking:) Decisions, decisions, decisions--there are so many decisions, but each one is so very important. Life is made up of little decisions, little choices to yield, little decisions to obey, little steps of progress.

I'm proud of you for every good choice you've made--allowing Me to break you, to humble you, to spank you, and to challenge you. But it's not over, My loves, because you'll need to continue to make many decisions--today and in the days that follow. And the outcome of your decisions today and in the days to come will determine your future. It's really a matter of knowing in your heart what you want for your future, and then striving for that goal with everything you possess--all your willpower, all your strength, and every ounce of courage you can muster.

If you look ahead and you know that in your heart you want to be a disciple, and there's nothing else on Earth that you want more than that--no person, no position, no job, no possession, no other ideal or goal--then if you fight for it with all of your heart, you will make the grade. You'll be willing to yield to the humbling today, and in the days that will follow. You'll fight for your spiritual life and your place of service, because it will be the "pearl of great price," something you'll be willing to give everything you have to possess.

You'll want to forsake your pride, your problems, your bitterness, your sins, and anything else that holds you back, because you'll know your future depends on it, and in your heart, you'll know that your privileged place of service is worth whatever it costs you--and it will cost you a lot. You'll know it's worth dying for, forsaking all for, and then nothing will hold you back. You'll want all, so you'll give all.

However, if you look forward into the future, to the greater dedication of spirit that I'm requiring of My disciples, and in your heart you know you don't really want it or you're not willing to pay the full price, then it really won't be worth it to you. It won't be worth the forsakings, the humblings, the desperate prayer, and all that will follow. If you aren't sure you want to be a disciple and if the cost is too great, then don't force yourself to follow through on something you know deep down in your heart you don't want or can't live.

You can step aside, and I don't condemn you. I know that the discipleship standard and the heightened call to arms isn't an easy place of service. It's privileged and it will yield great rewards both in this life and the next, but it isn't a bed of roses or a cushy life. It's going to take hard work and it costs--personally. So if you don't want such a life, if your future goals are different than that of being a full-time professional disciple, then go ahead and pursue those goals.

The goal here is honesty. Don't you be guilty of causing someone else to make a decision to be a disciple just because they're afraid of what you'll think of them, or that you'll look down on them. Those who are honest with themselves and others should be respected, even if they're choosing a different lifestyle than you. I don't condemn them, so neither should you. I love them unconditionally, and so should you.

If you do want to live the life of a disciple, if you feel in your heart that it wouldn't matter if you lost the whole world in order to gain Me fully in your life and be a disciple for Me, then take the stand! Get cleansed, humble yourself before others, get down on your hands and knees and cry out to Me with strong tears and tongues and arms raised, calling out to Me, and I will deliver you, cleanse you, and heal you, and set you on the path that leads to discipleship, the path that leads you to where you want to go, the life you're willing to die for. You won't die in the flesh, but you'll sure have to die in spirit--and not just once, but daily. You'll have to keep fighting, keep forsaking your "old man," keep refusing the proud way and keep actively seeking the humble way, keep reading and living and following the Word.

For those of you who view your life as a disciple as a pearl of priceless value, you're going to fight for it with all of the strength in your heart, mind, soul and spirit. You will take hold of the keys and put them into action, and you will make it. The sacrifices and humblings of today and the days that follow will be insignificant in comparison to what you're going to gain as a result--the deliverance, the progress in spirit, the cleansing and renewal that will keep you on the path to a new, wonderful, beautiful, and awesome life for Me!

So make your decisions today, right now, about how far you're willing to go for Me and what price you're willing to pay. If you're willing to give all, which is what it costs to be My disciple, then go for it with all of your heart, because I'm with you and am supporting you each step of the way. If you're not so sure you're willing to give all, then be honest with yourself and others and choose another path that's more suited to your goals and desires. And wherever you go and whatever you choose to do, remember that I'll be with you, helping and caring for and guiding you as much as you will allow Me to.

Today is not the day to just go through the motions because everyone around you is having prayer and getting desperate. Praying the prayer and going through the motions just to "go with the flow" isn't what today is all about. Today is about personal honest commitments, personal decisions, and looking deep into your heart of hearts and determining where you stand and what life you want to lead.

Don't let anyone else influence your decision, because it's a personal decision, between you and Me alone. And at the same time, don't be the cause of influencing someone else's decision through looking at them self-righteously and critically or in a demeaning way. You should respect those who are making tough decisions, even if it's not the same decision I'm leading you to make. Everyone needs unconditional love and support at this time--even those who are choosing a life outside the Family.

I know your heart, and will answer you this day according to your sincerity, honesty, and desperation in spirit. Please don't confess and have prayer just because you think it's what others expect of you. Do it because it's what you expect of yourself, because discipleship is what you want more than anything, and you're willing to pay the full price. Do it because you want to be a disciple, and you expect it of yourself, and you know I expect it of you.

You've got to have the conviction that you would do what I'm asking of you even if you were the only one, even if everyone around you decided against it. That's the kind of conviction you need in your heart right now--not the feeling that you're never going to have any problems from now on or that everything is going to be perfect--but the conviction that you're going to give Me your very best, that you're going to fight for your place as My disciple with every last drop of your willpower, determination and strength, even if you're the only one.

Though you're here as a group, every one of you stands alone before Me. There can be no excuses, no reservations, no half-hearted decisions. Today you've got to shake yourself up and let every excuse or justification fall to the ground. Throw everything at My feet. And then if you are standing before Me, naked and unashamed in spirit, bowing before Me in humble surrender, I will take you and cleanse you, and you will be renewed and clothed with My newness of spirit, and a crown of no-nonsense 100% discipleship will be placed on your head.

If this is what you want, make the decision, take the steps I'm asking of you, and it will be more than worth it for you, and you will have the desires of your heart. You will go on to be a disciple who is ready and prepared for what lies ahead. And that, I promise you, is a decision worth making, and one that if you want it with all your heart, you will never regret. *(End of message from Jesus.)* (2)

Full-time discipleship is much more than it might seem. Full-time discipleship is the gateway to the greatest blessings of My Spirit. Yes, there are great sacrifices. Yes, I require your all. But in giving all, you receive all. (3)

(Jesus:) Those who choose the life of full-time discipleship, with time, begin to receive rewards and blessings. There will be more benefits of unity, because the power of unity will be poured forth on those who are living communally, living the Law of Love fully, and being My sample of Acts 2:44 and 45 to the world. This is a benefit that will be seen, and with it will be more joy and happiness, more freedom of the spirit, more Holy Ghost power, and stronger bonds of love.

In time there will definitely be a glow and brilliance to discipleship. It will become a small core of disciples who are there with no strings attached and for no benefits or bonuses other than knowing they are in My will. It will be as a small Gideon's band that you will start with, that you will train, and that will grow to be a strong team for Me.

Right now, there are no obvious visible perks. It's going to take faith for those who choose to be disciples, because the benefits will not be clearly seen until the Family has been strengthened. But as the Family discipleship tier is strengthened, the benefits will become clearer. And they won't necessarily be physical benefits--as in more Word or more pubs. There will be benefits of happier Homes, more fulfilling witnessing ministries, deeper spiritual freedoms, more joy and inspiration, more support and camaraderie with your mates and brothers and sisters, and much more.

The level of blessings will simply be determined by the choices of each individual--how much they choose to live the Word, how closely they follow. And the closer each Family member follows, the more blessings they will receive. The more each Family member gives to Me, the more I will give to them. Those who give more will receive more from My hand. And at any point, any Family member can choose to give more to Me. There is nothing stopping anyone who wants My full blessings; it's their personal choices that will make the call.

This handful of willing and dedicated full-time disciples that will make up the full discipleship tier will be transformed into a special cadre of troops who will then lead others through their sample. They won't be elite as far as being on a pedestal; the goal is humble disciples who will at all times welcome new blood who will want the radical freedom of the spirit that they will possess. Full time discipleship will become more and more fruitful and radiant as they become strengthened, and as the anointing of full obedience becomes more apparent and the power of My Spirit abounds in full. *(End of message.)* (4)

(Jesus:) Being human, it's easy for some of you to look at following Me by balancing the quantity of sacrifices with the quantity of blessings, much like you might make the decision to purchase a new piece of equipment by balancing cost with features. This might seem like the logical way to go about it, but it's just not the way it works with the spiritual principle of following Me. You must understand that you'll receive the greatest amount of blessings and will be the happiest simply by being in the very center of My will. There are no exceptions to this rule.

For example, if you assume you'll receive greater blessings by forcing yourself to remain a full time disciple, even if that's not really where you feel called, then you are very wrong. You'll never be truly happy and fulfilled, because that's not exactly where your heart is.

Dwight L. Moody never endured the hardships of Africa, but spent his discipleship career witnessing in a more comfortable Western environment, winning thousands and thousands of souls. He definitely enjoyed a more physically comfortable place of service than someone like Dr. Livingstone, who lived in rough and primitive conditions amongst the African natives. But did their circumstances have anything to do with their rewards? When I handed out rewards to both of these men, it had nothing to do with who made more physical or obvious sacrifices, and everything to do with the fact that both men obeyed My call and did exactly what I had told them to do. Both had made many sacrifices and both had obeyed My will, and there was no need to compare.

Had Moody gone to live in Africa for the sake of enduring greater hardships, I would not have given him more rewards; in fact, he would have been rewarded less, because he would not have been in My will. In addition, he would have missed the blessings of perfect peace and fulfillment that comes from obeying My call by faith. Conversely, Dr. Livingstone would have missed out on blessings if he had decided it was easier to witness in Europe or America. It's all about being in My will.

It's the highs of My Spirit that will enable you to find fulfillment in whatever I call you to put your hand to.

It's My blessings on your life that will enable you to never feel bored or dissatisfied with your place of service. My excellence--compared to that of the world--depends a lot on the position of the heart, on the place of service you choose because you yield to Me and give Me your all. Titles, jobs of influence--none of these matter to Me, save the portion of your heart you yield to Me. Then, when you have truly given yourself over wholly--holding nothing back--you can be ready to be counted among My greats and receive your life's anointing. *(End of message.)* (5)

(Jesus speaking:) Believing and living the Word isn't always easy, but it's a prerequisite for being My disciple. If you're not going to be a believer and a doer of My Word, then you cannot be My disciple. It's that simple! You must believe and obey the Word. If you don't or can't or won't, then there's no point being a disciple, because without that sound foundation--belief and obedience--you don't have the wherewithal to be a true disciple. Without obedience to the Word, you're a half-hearted disciple at best, or a bad sample and reproach to My work at worst.

Things will not continue on as they have in the past, with disobedience and disbelief tolerated, lived with, and accepted within the ranks of discipleship. Those who wish to be disciples will be held more accountable to the standard, and that standard will be believing and obeying the Word. What was tolerated in the past will no longer be accepted, because without this fundamental principle upheld, the Family will fall back into its old habits, ruts, and sins.

A disciple's fuel is the Word. That's what provides the power to live the life of a disciple--the principles for serving Me and winning others. It's the Word that sets you apart from the world. Without the Word being lived and obeyed, you're not really a disciple. Sadly, you have strayed from being believers and doers of the Word, and the fruit has been evident--sin, problems, a crumbling of the work. That's because it's impossible to be a disciple without the standard of the Word being upheld, lived, and respected.

The Word that I will pour forth in the future for My disciples will not be toned down or easier to drink in. Much of it will be strong meat, and new revelations will continue to be the norm. So if you have a problem with My Word, and if you can't have the faith of a little babe, sucking to receive My Words as a baby sucks to receive the milk from his mother's breast, then I'm sorry to say that you won't have what it takes.

Cafeteria-style obedience will no longer be acceptable when it comes to My Word. I will set out full course meals, with hearty meat and great variety, because My disciples will need every bit of spiritual nourishment I will pour forth--to strengthen them, to give them the power to obey. The catering of My Word, its delivery and consumption in My Family restaurant, will change, and it will no longer be okay to pick and choose according to your personal preference.

So if you're a picky eater when it comes to the Word and don't want the full course, hearty meals of the spirit, then you'd better either work up an appetite real quick and change your habits, or else choose another restaurant or food chain to be fed from. There are plenty of church cafeterias you could choose from, who specialize in allowing their customers to eat whatever suits their fancy. But in My restaurant that serves full-time disciples you can expect full course meals, and you will need every last bite to make it.

Belief in and obedience to the Word will be at the forefront of the requirements for full-time discipleship. It's always been fundamental according to My rules of the spirit, but since many have fallen away from believing and obeying, and have lost sight of this important tenet of discipleship, there will be a renewing of this standard. That's what you can expect if you want to recommit to a life of discipleship, and what you can even now be working toward in spirit.

But if you don't want to believe and obey the Word, then it's pretty clear that discipleship won't be your "cup of tea" and you'd be happier doing something else, and should start making steps in that direction. Disciples will be believing and living the Word. Those are the criteria. *(End of message from Jesus.)* (6)

(Jesus speaking:) There's nothing I will not do for the children of David! There are gold mines of financial supply and gold mines of spiritual blessings that are there waiting for someone to reach out with the hand of faith and grasp them, to take hold of My promises, to avail themselves of My promises.

These things are available to you! Are you reaching for them? Are you striking out by faith to follow My Words? Or have you sunk down into a comfortable life, even a Systemite life, with Systemite standards? I challenge each of you to search your hearts, to see if your beliefs and your principles are in line with My Word, and I promise that I will not fail each one who commits himself to Me!

I challenge you to become My full-time disciples! Each of you must ask Me what it is that I require of you, for I do not require the same of all. But I do require the same dedication, the same commitment, the same love for Me and others, the same spirit of sacrifice. And once you've committed all this to Me, then ask Me what I require of you, and I will show you.

As you take that first step, I'll bring you through, and it will not be as difficult as the Enemy would have you believe it to be. I will help you to delight to do My will, to find a joy in doing My will. For as you do My will, I will bless you! I will pour down My blessings upon you, and you will find happiness. Through these sacrifices and through the forsaking of yourselves, you will be rewarded one hundredfold in this life, and in the life to come!

Don't let the Enemy come in and discourage you, hold you back, or hold you down! Make a conscious effort to fight him, to fight his voice that so many of you have given in to. When you let go of these things that are holding you down, you'll feel as if you have wings, and that you could fly higher than you've ever flown before! Don't be afraid and don't fear this, but reach out and take My hand, and I will carry you.

Lo, I am there! I am standing outside the boat, on the water. If you'll only step out of the boat, I'll help you to walk on the water. You won't sink, for I will hold you up. But it's difficult, and there are many who say, "We cannot walk on the water! We cannot live by faith! We cannot forsake all! What will we have to eat? What will we have to wear? Wherewithal will we pay our rent?" I say that My promises are true, and not one word will fail of all the good Words that I have spoken unto you.

You can't look to circumstances. You can't even look to other Family members and judge by their standards. Even some of the older generation have sunk down into a more System standard of living, depending on the arm of the flesh, so you can't even look to them.

You must look to Me afresh, and look to My Word. You must challenge My Word! You must strike out and stand upon it and see if it will work for you, and I promise you, it will work for you! As I say these words to you I'm smiling, because I know that many of you will accept this challenge and will find such great joy. You're so worried now, and you're so challenged, but I know what wonderful pleasures, joys and rewards await each of you who will merely step out. Take the first step and I will meet you!

I'll be there holding you, to fight with you, to help you, to sustain you. For I know your burdens. I know the worries that you have, and the cares that you have in your heart. I know you. I made you. I have brought you to this time to let go of these things, so that only Me and My Word and My Spirit will be in your life, and then I can finally use you.

When you look at it like this, doesn't it seem like a good trade to you--to trade in these petty things for Me and My Spirit and My freedom and My life and My love? Just take one small step at a time--this is how it's all done. I don't expect you to change drastically overnight, but I do expect you to take that small step in My direction.

I sure do love you, and I have very high hopes and great plans for each of you! If you only knew what joys and rewards are awaiting those of you who serve Me in spirit and in truth, who remain faithful and dropped out of the Devil's worldly princedom and free from his pollution! If you only knew, you would not be so easily led astray. I can't tell you everything now, for the just shall live by faith. But I've told you enough in My written Word already. All you have to do is believe what I've already spoken, and act on it.

So go, for there isn't a whole lot of time left for you to do the job I've called you to do! It's a big job and a lot of work, but there's an exceeding great reward awaiting those who finish the course and stay close to Me. I will never leave you nor forsake you--ever! That's a promise. I love you! *(End of message from Jesus.)* (7)

(1) Are You a Disciple? #3365:28-43
(2) Brazil National Prayer Day 2003 #3456:23-38
(3) Family Discipleship Or Missionary Membership? #3488:110
(4) Family Discipleship Or Missionary Membership? #3488:114-116,118,119
(5) Family Discipleship Or Missionary Membership? #3488:122,126,127,129
(6) Brazil National Prayer Day 2003 #3456:159-165,167
(7) Lord's Plea: Be a Missionary for Me!, The #3178:27-38