

Introduction

Follow Me: The true, radical call of Jesus

In this series, we will answer the question: what is Jesus's true call to his followers?

Luke 9.23-24

23 And he said to them all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."

Part 1: What is his call?

To give our life to change the world with him.

How do we change the world? We change the world by changing others' eternities

Part 2: Why so radical?

His glory is our goal

His grace motivates us

Part 3: How do we live like this?

Key areas

Total sacrifice

The "crazy filter"

Romans 12.1

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

1 Corinthians 15.19

19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

Radical Money

A Tough Subject

Jesus and Money

A Requirement for Following

Luke 18.18-23

18 A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 19 "Why do you call me good?" Jesús answered. "No one is good—except God alone. 20 You know the commandments: 'don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'" 21 "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said. 22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you'll have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." 23 When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.

Luke 14.25-27, 33

25 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: 26 "If anyone comes to me and doesn't hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. 27 And anyone who doesn't carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

33 In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

A Result of Following

Luke 19.8-9

8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." 9 Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham."

What Will We Do?

“Not for Me”

Impossible to Ignore

Luke 18.27-30

28 And Peter said, "See, we have left our homes and followed you." 29 And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there's no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, 30 who won't receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come eternal life."

Why Does He Say That?

Transformation

Luke 18.22

22 When Jesús heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you'll have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

Luke 12.33

33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that won't wear out, a treasure in heaven that won't be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

1 Timothy 6.17-19

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they'll lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that's truly life.

Temporary Riches to Eternal Treasure

Main idea: Our Generosity Helps Others Come to Know God

Luke 16.8-9

8 The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. 9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it's gone you'll be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

People and Projects

Projects with a Purpose

Generous Friends

Not Manipulation

They'll Come to Know God

Matthew 5.16

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.