

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?

- Time
- Money
- Relationships

Part 4: What gives us the ability to do this

- This is the work of God, not of men

Colossians 1.29

29 For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

Supernatural Power

We Can't Change the World

So We Don't Change the World

Does He Ask the Impossible?

Main Idea: God's Spirit Equips His Children to Be World-Changers

Strange and Mystical

The Key

Who is He?

He's God

Genesis 1.1-2

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

1 John 5.6-8

6 This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it's the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

He's Very Real and Powerful

Luke 24.49

49 I'm going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you've been clothed with power from on high."

What's the Connection?

The Promise

Acts 1.4-9

4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them: "It isn't for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and

you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Acts 2.1-4

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 2.17-18

17 "In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.

18 Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

Acts 2.38-39

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Inside Each Follower

John 7.37-39

37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit hadn't been given, since Jesus hadn't yet been glorified.

John 14.16-17

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world can't accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

What Does the Holy Spirit Do?

Empowers

Luke 3.21-22

21 When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I'm well pleased."

Luke 4.1-2

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

Luke 4.14-15

14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

Luke 4.18-19

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he's anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Guides

John 14.26

26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I've said to you.

John 16.13-15

13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He won't speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

Luke 12.11-12

11 When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, 12 for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.

Gives Skills

1 Corinthians 12.1, 4-11

1 Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I don't want you to be ignorant. 4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

Gives Capacity

John 14.12

12 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I'm going to the Father.

Living Full of the Spirit

Follow His Guidance

Romans 8.14

14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Ask For More

Luke 11.13

13 If you then, though you're evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

1 Corinthians 14.1

1 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

Filled with Power