Introduction

Introduction to 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?

Introduction to Part 1: A radical call

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."

• Introduction to Message 1: A radical idea

What Does it Mean to Follow Jesus?

Lost Meaning

Saved, Well-Behaved, and Normal

- Saved
- Well-Behaved
- Normal

The True Call

- A Radical Call
- We'll Listen to Jesus
- Forget Tradition

Main Idea: Truly Following Jesus Means Giving Your Life to Change the World with Him

• Sacrificing Your Life

Luke 14.25-27, 33

25 Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. 27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."

33 So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple."

• World-Changers

John 14.12

12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

John 15.5, 8

5 I am the vine; you're the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

The Same Call

Luke 9.23-25

23 And he said to 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. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?"

God's Purpose

John 3.16-17

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Jesus's Purpose

Luke 19.10

10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

The First Followers

Mark 1.16-18

16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

All His Followers

Matthew 28.18-20

18 And Jesús came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded

you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

John 17.18

18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

John 20.21

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

Acts 1.8

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

This Includes Us

Ephesians 2.10

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesús for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

An Empty Life

- Leaving Bad Things Behind
- Going to Church
- Enjoying Life
- An Empty House

Matthew 12.43-45

43 When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. 44 Then it says, "I will return to the house I left." When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. 45 Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation.

From Empty to Radical

- You Have to Decide: What Does it Mean to Follow?
- He'll Use You