



COMMUNITY GUIDE

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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: The goal of following Jesus is to be with Him, to be like Him, and to do what Jesus did.

HEAD CHANGE: Following Jesus is a lifelong journey.

HEART CHANGE: Following Jesus begins with resting & abiding in an awareness of God's presence.

LIFE CHANGE: To slow down often enough to simply ask, "What's my next step?"

OVERVIEW

"The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heart-breaking needs, is whether those who are identified as Christians will become disciples – students, apprentices, practitioners – of Jesus Christ. Steadily learning from Him how to live the life of the Kingdom of Heaven into every corner of human existence." – Dallas Willard

We hear the language, "follower of Jesus" all the time, but what does it really mean? Put simply, it means we reorganize our life around three goals; to be with Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to do what Jesus did. That's it. But that's an entire life's pursuit. It doesn't happen overnight, it's not about trying, it's about training, and it's not just an event on a Sunday, but a "way" of life in community around the teachings of Jesus. To live this way means we need to be transformed, from the inside out. Through teaching, practice, community, and the Holy Spirit, we learn what it means to be a follower of Jesus, not simply a Christian.

"Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

-Mark 8:34 (NIV)-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How has your understanding of following Jesus changed over the course of your life?
2. As we conclude our series, "Your Best Year Yet" what is your next step from here?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for your grace and patience as I learn more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus. I invite the Holy Spirit to guide me in my walk with you. Throughout this week, I asked that you give me an increased awareness of your presence and greater wisdom, that I may be with you, to become like you, and to do what Jesus did. Amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!