

April 13, 2014

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT JESUS  
**Following the Same Path as Jesus**  
**Luke 18:31-19:10**

Jesus spoke many words that give cause for serious reflection. In **Luke 9:23** we read His invitation to all who would follow Him:

***“If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”***

Jesus invites everyone who is willing to place their faith in Him and embark on a journey of discovering the only way to real life. It is a serious call to a life of discipleship, to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus. It means we need to walk in the same pattern as Jesus. Let's discover what that looks like.

**1. Jesus embraced God's will with joy and conviction.**

*“Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, ‘We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. On the third day He will rise again.’”* **Luke 18:31-33 (NIV)**

*“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”*  
**Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)**

*“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.”* **Romans 12:2 (NIV)**

**2. Jesus viewed life's distraction as opportunities.**

*“As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, ‘Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.’ He called out, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to Him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ ‘Lord, I want to see,’ he replied. Jesus said to him, ‘Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.’”* **Luke 18:35-42 (NIV)**

*“Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”* **Colossians 4:5-6 (NIV)**

**3. Jesus glorified God in His actions.**

*“Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.”*  
**Luke 18:43 (NIV)**

*“I have brought You glory on earth by completing the work You gave Me to do.”* **John 17:4 (NIV)**

*“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”*

**Matthew 5:16 (NIV)**

**4. Jesus invested His life into people.**

*“When Jesus reached the spot, He looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.’ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.”*

**Luke 19:5-6 (NIV)**

*“Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave-- just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”*

**Matthew 20:26-28 (NIV)**

**5. Jesus was driven by His life’s mission.**

*“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”*

**Luke 19:10 (NIV)**

*“My purpose is to give life in all its fullness.”*

**John 10:10 (NLT)**

*“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

**Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)**

Our mission is to

***“Help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus.”***