



PURSUIT 24

In Pursuit of Christ Part 2

Php 3:12-14 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. (13) Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, (14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

In Review

- What does it mean to Pursue?
- God's Pursuit of Man.
- Man's Pursuit of Sin.
- In Pursuit of Christ

Today





In Pursuit of Christ Part 2

1Co 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also *am* of Christ.

To Be Christ Like

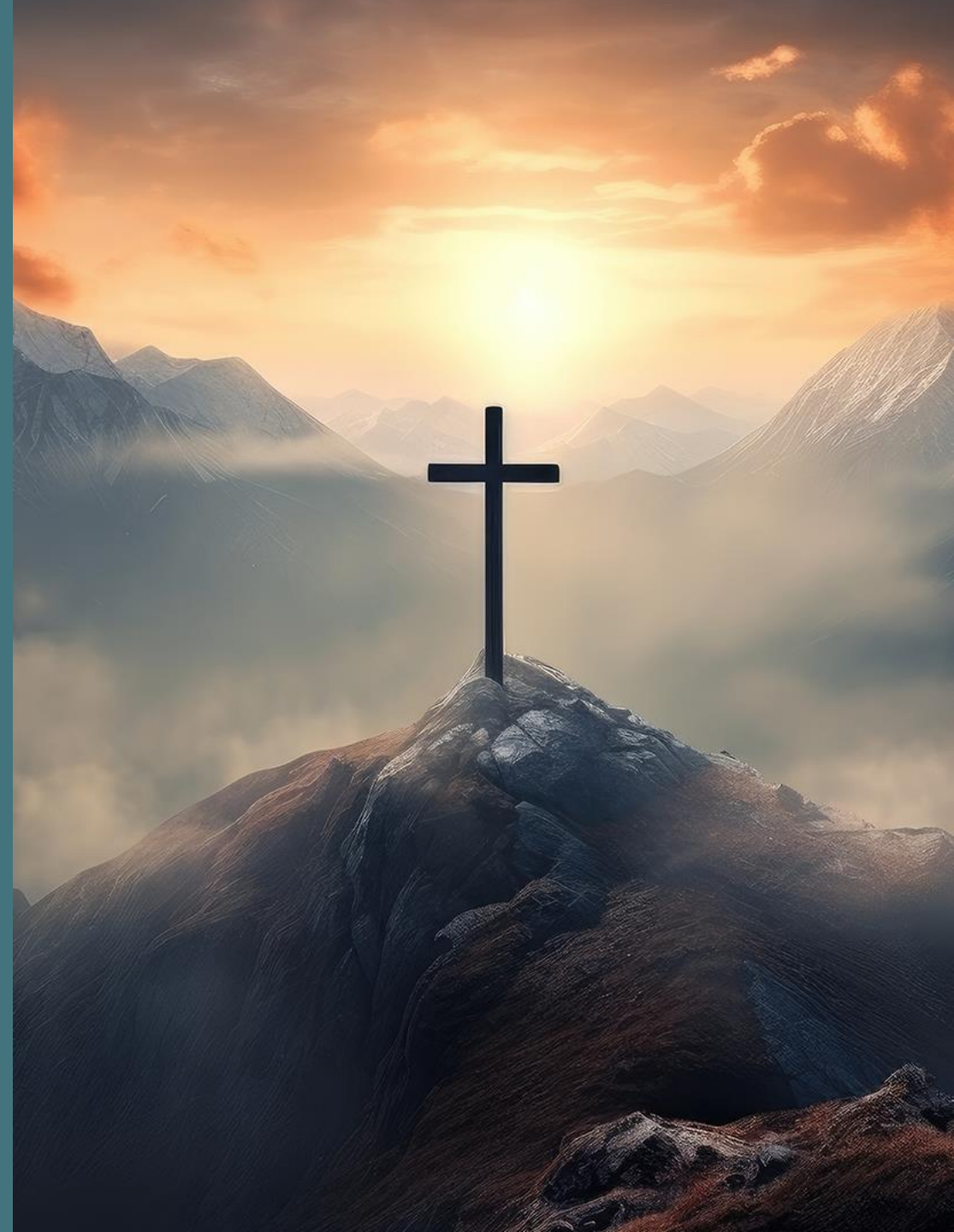
One must know enough about the character and person of Christ to be able to determine what the best “What Would Jesus Do?” solution might be in any given circumstance.

Christ as a Person and Christ as an Ideal.

What do we mean by an ideal.

As defined by the Cambridge dictionary:

1. (adj) Perfect or the best possible, synonymous with perfect, faultless, flawless, immaculate.
 - “Jesus the Christ is the ideal person to model myself after.”
2. (n-countable) A principle or a way of behaving that is of a very high standard.
 - “I desire to share the same high ideals as Jesus the Christ.”
3. (n- superlative) A perfect thing or situation.
 - “The Ideal would be to live my life in such a way as to be like Jesus the Christ.”



The Kingdom of God is Real

Mat 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

What exactly was the Gospel of the Kingdom?

Gospel- εὐαγγέλιον (euaggelion) *yoo-ang-ghel'-ee-on*, the glad tidings of the kingdom of God soon to be set up, and subsequently also of Jesus the Messiah, the founder of this kingdom. After the death of Christ, the term comprises also the preaching of (concerning) Jesus Christ as having suffered death on the cross to procure eternal salvation for the men in the kingdom of God, but as restored to life and exalted to the right hand of God in heaven, thence to return in majesty to consummate the kingdom of God.

Kingdom- βασιλεία (basileia) *bas-il-i'-ah*, royal power, kingship, dominion, rule, not to be confused with an actual kingdom but rather the right or authority to rule over a kingdom.





A coming kingdom

Joh 18:36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

Mat 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

This is important because of the message. What was that message?

1. Repent- Mar 1:15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.
 1. Μετανοέω (metanoēō) *met-an-o-eh'-o*, To change one's mind for the better.
2. Believe- πιστεύω (pisteuō) *pist-yoo'-o*, to think to be true, to be persuaded of, to credit, place confidence in.

Jesus Christ is King

Col 1:15-17 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: (16) **For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:** (17) And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Rev 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, **KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.**





So if he is the King and our Ideal...

Live as though we are members of that kingdom. That is the ideal we espouse to in Christ.

- No hard and fast established codex of rules and ethics.
 - Commandments for sure, the law which in part is done away with.
 - But also Love your neighbor as yourself, this is the Law and the Prophets.
 - It is a principled lifestyle that transcends a codified rule book.
- Living as a citizen of Christ's Kingdom requires:

- A new attitude and heart that is only attainable through Repentance and Belief.
 - **Mat 15:17-20** Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? (18) But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. (19) For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: (20) These are *the things* which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.
- To love God (as an action not merely affection) with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength.
 - To love your neighbor as yourself so to complete the Law and the Prophets.
- It takes effort and practice and is impossible with a born-again repentant spirit.





Things Jesus held in esteem

- Love (Sacrifice)
- Life
- Truth (Knowledge and Wisdom)
- Peace
- Relationships (With the Father)
- Faith
- Prayer (Gratitude)
- Fasting
- Righteousness
- Service

**Let's put it all together.
Starting from the...
Beginning.**

*From
Creation*



*Man has
Pursued
Death*



*But God
sought to
Redeem*



*So that man
might choose
Life.*



Repent and Believe



*King and the
Kingdom*



*Follow Him, The
Ideal*



*Follow Him, The
Person*







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God's Pursuit of Man