

The Way: part 1 “Following is a Verb”

Who are you becoming?

What I hope to do, is give you over the next few months not only information but “practices” that can not only transform your life/relationship but continue to reshape our church and our church culture from the inside out...

Rabbi – “teacher”

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus?

Mark 1:16-19

Mark 2:13-14

Mark 3:13-19

Mark 8:34-37

Notice the pattern?

The call was to “Follow Jesus.”

“*Akoloutheo*”

Talmid

A talmid of Jesus’ day would give up his entire life in order to be with his rabbi.

It was not enough just to know what the rabbi said, but the foremost goal of any talmid was “to be with” his rabbi, then “become like” his rabbi and then “do what” his rabbi did.

“Apprentice”

This term and concept of discipleship/apprenticeship in the church has been ripped out of its 1st century context.

1. Be with Jesus

John 15:4-5

2. Become like Jesus

“Spiritual Formation”

Spiritual Formation in the Christian tradition is a process of increasingly being possessed by and permeated by the character traits of Jesus

We are all disciplined/formed by someone of something

Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7

3. Doing more of what Jesus did!

The goal of apprenticing is not to know all about the subject, it is to become one yourself

if you are apprenticing under Jesus it is not about knowing all about Jesus, it's about living like Jesus.

So, what does it mean to follow Jesus?

1. *Be with Him*
2. *Become like Him*
3. *Do what Jesus did*

Mark 8:34-37

The call is to be a disciple/apprentice, not a Christian.

This invite is open to anybody!

This kind of life that is offered to you, to me to anyone, but this kind of life won't just happen.

Sermon on the Mount

But If you look at the Sermon on the Mount, you will notice that Jesus starts and finishes with this idea or practice... of "doing"...

Matthew 7:24-27

"Practice"

One of the most important ideas and foundations when it comes to spiritual formation is this: "It's not about trying harder, it's about training better."

- Read the Sermon on the Mount a few times this week
- Read Galatians 5:22-26
- When you read these passages how are you doing?
- In what ways would you like more of these qualities in your life?