



*And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself
and take up his cross daily and follow me."*

Luke 9:23

Follow – We “follow all kinds of things – Facebook, Instagram, Blogs, etc. – for fun – list different SM sites

- We follow a favorite sports team, political candidate, hobby
- Follow implies that we have a love for something/someone or at the very least an interest in it/them.

DISCUSSION: What have you chose to learn/become a student of? (Music, Hobbies)

- Example: Rubik Cube, Astronomy (Stars, constellations, meteors)
 - * As Believers, it’s easy to be a “casual” type believer
 - * God calls us to much more than that, He calls us to be a disciple!

A disciple is another word for a follower of Christ, one who is learning to be like Him.

Disciple = follower, student, learner

OUR INQUIRY IS NOT WHAT IS FOLLOWING BUT WHAT A LIFE LOOKS LIKE IF IT IS TRULY FOLLOWING CHRIST?

The Foundation of being a disciple – a relationship

1. Before we can even consider being a disciple of Jesus and follow Him, we must first know Him. Sheep are used as an example.

Without a Relationship with God

Isaiah 53:6 - All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

- We have a problem that does not allow us to be followers of Jesus – Sin (iniquity) – **In fact, the word “enemy” is used to describe us before we have a relationship with God!**

Romans 5:10 - For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

- **Contrast** Isaiah 53:6 with the following. Note the distinct difference in the two passages in light of the Sheep/Shepherd relationship

John 10:3-4, 10, 14 – “To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.” 10 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,

| Shepherd and Sheep Relationship |
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| *The sheep know and hear Their Shepherd’s voice - Familiar with the Shepherd’s voice, The Shepherd knows each sheep by name individually |
| *The Shepherd leads the sheep and they willingly follow his lead – fully trusted by the sheep and is followed with full confidence |
| *The Shepherd will sacrifice His own life for his sheep – The sheep have rest and peace, knowing the Shepherd is protecting them |
| *They know each other - “Know” means to understand, get to know, become acquainted with – written in the original language of Greek to be understood to be an ongoing activity! |

2. How do we get to know the Good Shepherd? – Simple as ABC

A – Acknowledge that I have fallen short of God’s perfect standard for life

– Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23a

B – Believe that God made a way for forgiveness for our failure and to have a relationship with Him

– Romans 5:8, John 3:16, Romans 6:23b Romans 10:9-10

C – Call on Jesus to accept His gift of forgiveness and peace

– Romans 10:13

Goal of this study: To challenge us to be active disciples of Christ by understanding what it means to follow Him.

During this study, we will look at:

- a. My Decision - Counting the Cost of following Christ
- b. My Identity – My View vs. God’s View
- c. My Priorities – God’s or Mine?
- d. My Directions - Source of knowledge of a disciple
- e. My Testimony - Loving One Another
- f. My Job - Introducing others to a relationship with God

Benefit of Following Christ: We are part of a family, community –

General Welcome and Announcements

(HAVE WELCOME GIFTS AVAILABLE FOR ANY WHO HAVE NOT REVIEWED ONE)

1. Intro – Paul Jewell, Tim and Beth Tanner – Advisors for CBF
2. Glad you are here!
3. Let's introduce ourselves: Name, Year in school, One highlight from this past summer
4. Website and App – great ways to keep up to date with what's going on, resources for personal growth, contact us, Prayer requests (HAVE CARDS AVAILABLE)
5. Instagram
6. Begin Lesson: The plan will be to have some notes to follow, If you miss a week and would like to get those notes, just ask!