

Week 9: Portrait of a Follower of Christ

Joshua 24:15¹⁵.....Choose today whom you will serve.as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD.”

Luke 9:23²³ Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.

Proverbs 3:5-6 ⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 ^[a]We use God’s mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.

Romans 12 And so, dear brothers and sisters,^[a] I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.^[b] ²Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.³ Because of the privilege and authority^[c] God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don’t think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.^[d] ⁴Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.⁹ Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. ¹⁰Love each other with genuine affection,^[e] and take delight in honoring each other. ¹¹Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.^[f] ¹²Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. ¹³When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Don’t curse them; pray that God will bless them. ¹⁵Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with each other. Don’t be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don’t think you know it all!¹⁷ Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. ¹⁸Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.¹⁹ Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, “I will take revenge; I will pay them back,”^[g] says the LORD.²⁰ Instead, “If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.”^[h]²¹ Don’t let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

Philippians 3:12-14 ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Game Changers!

“It Starts IN Me”

EXPECTATIONS OF YOU.... ALL IN!

Attend and participate in all weekly gatherings
Incorporate and/or accomplish the weekly “Hard Things”
Honesty, Confidentiality, Integrity, Participation, Respect
Effectively work with group and personal partner

THE HARD THINGS Week 9:

Minimum 15 Minute MORNING Daily Devotional Time

Bible Reading – (Suggested “Portrait of a Follower of Christ” Scriptures)

Review each week’s topic and begin to develop a “life style” training program that incorporates each critical component.

1. Who is God to me? = Identity, Protection and Provision
2. What’s my purpose? = To bring God glory
3. What does it mean to be “all in”?
4. What/who are the enemies I’m facing?
5. What “rocks” am I carrying that need to be dropped?
6. Do I have toxic relationships I need to sever?
7. Am I walking in sexual purity?
8. Am I out-honoring those around me?
9. Is my life a portrait of a true follower of Christ?

Discuss action step ideas with your partner.

Make minimum 3 Personal Contacts with your Partner

Discuss the weekly hard things
Relationship building