

ALL !N WITH JORDAN EASLEY

Why Do You Call Me Lord?

Questions Jesus Asked | Part 2 | Luke 6:46

INTRODUCTION

Every year, people dress up in costumes and pretend to be someone they're not. As a kid, my favorite was Superman — the red cape, the blue suit, the big "S." For one night I was convinced I could fly, leaping off the couch and running through the yard saving imaginary people from imaginary danger. But when the night ended and the costume came off, I was just me again — no cape, no powers. On the inside, I wasn't who I was pretending to be on the outside. And, sad as it is, that's how a lot of people live spiritually. We grow up knowing how to wear a "Sunday costume" — how to smile, sing, quote verses, and say all the right things — and then, when the service ends and the music fades, we go right back to our Monday-through-Saturday lives. Many of us have learned to look the part without living it.

That's not new. In the ancient world, entertainment came through Greek theatre, where actors wore huge masks so the crowd could tell which character they were playing. The Greek word for those actors was *hypokritēs* — "one who wears a mask" — and it's where we get the word "hypocrite." So when Jesus called people hypocrites, His audience pictured someone performing a public character that wasn't real in private. In Luke 6, after the Sermon on the Plain, with thousands tracking His every move, Jesus stopped, looked straight into their hearts, and asked one of the most penetrating questions in all of Scripture: "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and don't do the things I say?" Because not everyone who listens to Jesus is truly following Him — just because you're present doesn't mean you're devoted.

KEY POINTS

1. Don't Just Say It — Live It

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and don't do the things I say?" (Luke 6:46). Jesus wasn't condemning — He was confronting, calling His followers to look honestly in the mirror and ask: do my words line up with my walk? The word "Lord" is the Greek *kurios* — master, ruler, one with complete authority. So to call Jesus "Lord" is to hand Him control: the right to lead, to direct, and to define what's right and wrong in our lives. As someone put it, "If Jesus isn't Lord of all, He isn't Lord at all."

But let's be honest — that's hard to live out. We want His blessings without His boundaries, His forgiveness without His commands; we want to trust Him while still gripping the steering wheel. It's the old bumper-sticker problem — the right stickers on the outside, the wrong spirit on the inside. Many of us love Jesus as Savior but resist Him as Lord, yet true Lordship means surrender: His way takes priority over ours, and His voice outranks our feelings. And this isn't about perfection — it's about alignment. When Jesus is Lord, you'll still mess up, but now you respond to the Spirit's conviction, turn from the sin, and realign your heart with His will. Faith isn't proven by what you claim; it's revealed by what you choose.

2. Don't Just Hear It — Build On It

Right after the question, Jesus told a story to show what He meant: "Everyone who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them... is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. When the flood came, the river crashed against that house and couldn't shake it, because it was well built" (Luke 6:47-48). Following Jesus isn't a feeling — it's a foundation. Everyone in that crowd knew the picture: the surface looked solid, but a wise builder grabbed his shovel and dug until he hit rock, while a lazy builder threw up a quick house on shallow ground. Obedience is digging deep — through pride, through fear, through comfort — until your life rests on Him.

We have more access to Scripture than any generation in history, but Jesus says hearing isn't enough. A sermon can inspire you, but only obedience will stabilize you — it isn't what you know that anchors you, it's what you obey. Like a living-room blanket fort that looks amazing for ten minutes until the dog

runs through it, you can build fast and easy or strong and steady, but you can't do both. The Greek behind "dug deep" means to dig with effort and persistence — it's not glamorous, but it's worth it, because storms are coming: the rains of loss, the floods of temptation, the winds of disappointment. When your life is built on obedience, you might bend but you won't break — "when the flood came, that house couldn't be shaken, because it was well built."

3. Don't Just Look Strong — Stand Strong

Then Jesus gives the contrast: "The one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The river crashed against it, and immediately it collapsed — and the destruction of that house was great" (Luke 6:49). Same house, same river, same storm — a completely different outcome. This isn't really about construction; it's about commitment. Both builders heard the same message and had the same opportunity, but one responded and one resisted — and the one who refused to act collapsed suddenly, completely, beyond recovery. "The destruction was great" isn't anger in Jesus' voice; it's heartbreak. He isn't trying to scare His listeners — He's trying to spare them.

It's like assembling furniture while ignoring the instruction booklet: it looks fine for a while, until you sit on it and it wobbles and collapses. You cannot ignore the instructions of the Builder and expect the structure to stand. So in verse 46, Jesus is really saying, "If I'm Lord, let Me lead" — your marriage, your priorities, your decisions, your family, your business, your responses when life gets hard. And when you stop merely calling Him "Lord" and actually let Him lead, He brings order where there's been chaos, peace where there's been pressure, and strength where there's been instability. Surrender isn't weakness — it's wisdom; obedience isn't about control — it's the confidence that says, "My life is built on something stronger than me." The moment you stop just saying "Jesus is Lord" and start trusting, obeying, and following Him as Lord, the question that once convicted you becomes the one that defines you — because from then on, your life is the answer.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Where are you wearing a "Sunday costume" — saying the right words or looking the part while your Monday-through-Saturday life tells a different story?
2. Jesus says obedience means "digging deep" to build on the rock. In what area have you been *hearing* His Word without acting on it, and what would it look like to build on it this week?
3. "If I'm Lord, let Me lead." Which room of your life — marriage, money, priorities, reactions — have you been holding back from His leadership, and are you willing to hand Him the controls?
