

## “How Well Are You Following Jesus?”

John 13:1-17

For God So Loved the World – John, Part 2

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**If you grew up in America...** as a kid, you probably played “\_\_\_\_\_ the Leader” in kindergarten class. I’ll never forget when one of the kids messed up and was “out.” Thinking he didn’t mess up, he threw a tantrum. Wouldn’t stop crying!

- This child’s game serves as a great metaphor for the game of \_\_\_\_\_.

**As we’re walking through life, we’re all following somebody.** As that ol’ Bob Dylan song goes, “Well, it may be the devil or it may be the Lord...” (2 Cor 11:12-15; 1 Jn 2:3-6)

- Who we follow, as well as how well we are following that who, determines how blessed or cursed our lives will be. We get to \_\_\_\_\_ blessing or cursing, life or death! (Deut 30)

**I’m trusting that you chose to have a \_\_\_\_\_ life!** That said, let’s get into our main passage for more insight.

### John 13:1-17

- **VV 3-5...** \_\_\_\_\_ things were put under Jesus’s power. So, what did He do? *He prepared to \_\_\_\_\_*. (Phil 2:5-8)
- **VV 12-17...** The point is in v 15. As the *Ultimate Servant*, Jesus set an example for us to \_\_\_\_\_. (Mt 20:20-28; Lk 14:7-11) After all, you’re walking in *an upside-down kingdom*.



**“Awesome stuff. But so what? In other words, how do I apply this?”** Great question. In response, the topic of following our Leader, \_\_\_\_\_, reminds me of the following verses:

- 1 Jn 2:5-6 (NLV, NKJV) - Whoever \_\_\_\_\_ His Word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he belongs to Christ ought himself also to \_\_\_\_\_ just as He walked.

### Here’s how to “Follow The Leader” and walk just as Jesus walked:

1. Walk throughout your life with a \_\_\_\_\_ for God. (Lk 5:16; Mk 3:14-15)
  - a. But how? Regarding your Bible: DAILY read it, believe it, and obey it. (1 Jn 1:5-7; Psa 119:105; Rom 12:2)
2. Follow Jesus’s example by having \_\_\_\_\_ for others. (Mt 14:14)
  - a. But how? Speak kindly, listen carefully, forgive quickly, be likable, put yourself in others’ shoes, don’t be “judgy”...
3. Rely on supernatural \_\_\_\_\_ to be good and do good. (Mk 7:37; 2 Pet 1:3; Ac 10:38; 1:8)
  - a. But how? Develop the following habits DAILY: 1) Pray for an infilling of the Holy Spirit! 2) Sing a worship song or recite a chapter in Psalms out loud the moment you are attacked! 3) Acknowledge your utter dependence on Him!

***By taking action, you are choosing blessing over cursing!***

**TURN OVER FOR THE GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS**

## GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS FOR "HOW WELL ARE YOU FOLLOWING JESUS?" – 04/14/24

Go through this note sheet and discuss with your growth group and/or your family at the dinner table. Seek opportunities to also share this with your friends, relatives, coworkers, neighbors, and/or school mates. Bring this note sheet to your work and discuss it with your workmate over lunch. Bring it to school and discuss it with your schoolmate over lunch. Read the main passage and look up all of the supporting verses on the other side of this note sheet. Pray with one another.

1. Do you have any memories, either as a child or a parent, of the game, "Follow the Leader?" Y/N If yes, describe your experience and how it relates to real life. \_\_\_\_\_
2. In a myriad of ways we live in a binary world. One of the main points of the message is binary in nature. We either follow the devil or the Lord.
  - a. One way I can support this statement is with the words of Jesus when He said in Matt 12, "Whoever is not with Me is against Me."
  - b. Because Satan is a deceiver and a liar... and also because he can disguise himself as an angel of light, one can come up with 101 different disguises he can wear. For example, he can work through a boyfriend or girlfriend who is not saved, to get you to fall into sexual sin. He can work through a boss who coerced you to perform an unethical task at work. He can work through your teachers and professors and have you adopt a worldview that clashes with a Biblical Christian worldview. A worldview that is designed to destroy you because Satan came to "steal, kill, and destroy." (Jn 10:10) He can work through false religions/belief systems/philosophies as well.
  - c. What disguises of Satan are you personally familiar with? Can you come up with other examples besides the ones mentioned above? \_\_\_\_\_
3. In our B.C. days (our days prior to being wholly devoted to Jesus), it's clear to see in the Scriptures that we were *following* the ways of this world (Eph 2:2), who Satan is the god of. (2 Cor 4:4)
  - a. Be encouraged to share your testimony with the group of what your life was like not following Jesus. You don't need to get into all of the sordid details; just share in the context of this message. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Also, be encouraged to share how you can personally relate to whatever degree the enemy "stole, killed, and destroyed" your life. Perhaps you ended up clinically depressed or maybe it was something else much more dramatic. THEN, share how Jesus rescued you and what your life is like now! To what degree of restoration have you experienced by no longer following the ways of this world and rather following Jesus with passion? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. In what ways specifically has your life been blessed by following Jesus passionately? \_\_\_\_\_
5. When you became a disciple of Jesus, you began *walking* as a citizen of the heavenly kingdom, which is also called an *upside-down kingdom*.
  - a. It's called an upside-down kingdom because it operates completely different than the kingdom of darkness. For example, we are commanded to be merciful rather than vengeful. To be pure in heart rather than commit adultery in our minds. To make a stand for our faith even if it invites persecution. To seek to meet others' needs before our own. To give generously. To reconcile with those who have something against us. To forgive freely. To love our enemies and pray for them, asking God to forgive them... so that you may be children of your father in heaven. (Matt 5)
  - b. Quite a few characteristics of the upside-down kingdom was just mentioned. Which one is the most difficult for you to *walk* through and why? \_\_\_\_\_
6. The bottom of the note sheet mentioned three different practical ways that we can "walk just as Jesus walked." (1 Jn 2:6) Spark up some conversation about these. How specifically will you follow through with them? \_\_\_\_\_