

SERMON SERIES: For Everyone

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DATE: March 9, 2025

Sermon Title

“We Follow Jesus Daily”

Introduction

This week, we started a new series called “For Everyone”. Over the next six weeks, we are going to be focusing on the different values of Calvary, rooted in Scripture, that are essential for us to continue in the work of our mission: To Make Disciples Who Live and Love Like Jesus. This value that we are going to talk about this week, one that we embrace here, is “We Follow Jesus Daily”. Our lives are determined and dictated by the one we choose to follow, Jesus. As we journey through our lives as disciples, we seek after Christ in all things and allow ourselves to be transformed daily by his grace and truth. To get started this week, answer this icebreaker question with your group:

- Share a time when you made a daily commitment to something (exercise, learning a new skill, reading a certain amount of books, etc). What motivated you to keep going and push through?

Seek the Word

Read Luke 9:23 aloud, then answer the questions below:

- What does it mean to deny yourself and take up your cross daily?
- Why is this command from Jesus a significant part of the daily life of a disciple?

Read Matthew 11:29-30 aloud, then answer the questions below:

- What does Jesus mean when He says “my yoke is easy and my burden is light”?
- Jesus tells us that when we take up his yoke, we will find rest for our souls. Do you believe that to be true, and if you have experienced this to be true already, what did that look like for you?

Read Luke 5:1-11 aloud, then answer the questions below:

- Look at the discipleship journey that Peter went through in just this short interaction with Jesus. How does your story with Jesus relate to what Peter experienced?
- What does this interaction teach us about the significance of faith in Jesus and obedience to His commands?

Go Deeper

For believers and non-believers alike, it is common to view Jesus’ rules and commands as a burden on our lives. It is a struggle to adhere to each and every one when we are focused on trying to be perfect towards the rule, and not focused on following Jesus with our lives. Do you usually see following Jesus’ rules and commands as a burden or as worship/an act of love? How does our walk with Jesus change when we choose to obey and follow out of love and relationship and not just trying to do everything right?

Talk About It

- We talked a lot this week about the “cost” of following Jesus and the “cost” of not following Jesus. What do you think these “costs” are, and how are they evident in people’s lives?
- There are many times in the Gospels, including when Jesus called His disciples, where Jesus’ only ask is “Follow me”. When the people said yes, they left behind their old lives and committed to living with and like Jesus. What does it look like for you to say “yes” to Jesus’ ask in your life right now?
- Looking at Peter’s interaction with Jesus in Luke 5, Scott laid out the 4 phases of following Jesus that are on display. It is important to remember that these phases, while distinct and unique, are not isolated. They are compounding, adding onto each other as one moves through their walk with Jesus. As you read through these steps, identify which phase you find yourself to be in, and talk with your group about what God is doing in your life now to prepare you for the next phase.
 - Phase 1: Listening
 - Being open and receptive to hearing what God has to say to you right now. That can come through sermons, worship, reading your Bible, or through the people around you pointing you to Christ.
 - Phase 2: Being Inconvenienced
 - Stepping out in faith, out of your comfort zone, and surrendering to what God is prompting/calling you to do.
 - Phase 3: Taking Jesus at His Word
 - Asking yourself, “Do I trust Jesus and take him at His word always?” Being willing to allow Jesus into your world (when you leave church, go home, go to work, hang out with friends, spend time with family, etc)
 - Phase 4: Surrender All Your Life to Jesus
 - Taking Jesus out of a “time-block” and having Him be a part of all of your hours and activities as you represent Him. You follow Jesus as you bring Jesus to others.

Wrap Up

*Reminder: **We Follow Jesus Daily.*** This is a core value here at Calvary and for the lives of a Christian. Submitting to the call from Christ, we are meant to take up our cross, deny ourselves, and follow Jesus with all our life so we can bring Him to the rest of the world. There is a cost to following Jesus, but it is worth it each and every day.

Challenge for the Week: This week, choose one area of your life where you will invite Jesus in to lead. Whether that is relationships, finances, or daily decisions, commit to taking one step of action each day that aligns with His teachings and commands.

Prayer: As you close, ask God for His wisdom and guidance in your lives. Thank Him for being trustworthy and consistent, for His yoke being easy and His burden light, and for ultimately paying the cost that we could never pay, allowing us to live lives in His love and light each and every day.