

# Your story matters.





MYRC.CHURCH



## "LOVE FOLLOWING JESUS (Part 2)"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

#### **MESSAGE NOTES**

a road trip that Jesus has told us that every person (including you and me), whether we it or not, are all on a road trip; and the road we choose to travel on will make all the difference in this and eternity (note Matthew 7:13-14).
Note Luke 9:23
One of the most invitations/challenges Jesus gave was, Follow Me (note Matthew 4:19; 9:9; John 1:43; John 8:22; 19:21; John 8:12; 10:27; 12:26; 21:19-22).
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In Jesus' day, to follow someone meant that you them  Obedience = making better choices that make me look more like
Obedience = simply living up to what I
The ability to what's good/bad and right/wrong and make choices is what makes us different from all other living beings God created.  Note Deuteronomy 30:19; Joshua 24:15; Psalm 25:12; Ecclesiastes 10:2
2. How Can I Make MoreChoices? (note John 14:15)
Note <u>Galatians 3:3</u> ; <u>Romans 8:5</u> ; <u>Galatians 5:16, 24</u>
Our responsibility is to sincerely want to make better choices thatwith Jesus' heart, mission and will; believe that Jesus is% supportive of you making better choices; and yield daily and ask daily to be filled with the

	We experience a of shame/regret—Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the more our choices will align us with Jesus' Word an, and that will actually put more shame and regret in our rearview mirror, in the depths of His forgiveness and love. Making more Jesus-loving choices = greater in life.
	We start to Jesus more—(note <u>Philippians 2:5-9a;</u> <u>Hebrews 5:8; John 5:19, 30</u> ) - God's entire plan of came down to Jesus' choice in a garden in the middle of the night
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0	So what do your tell you about you?  Are your choices helping you to Jesus more and His path as your path every day?  It's about leaning more into the power of the Holy Spirit and God's grace.

know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or in person).

\*MyRC.link/connect or text riverside to 94000





## **DISCUSSION GUIDE**

Icebreaker: With temps like we've had lately, who needs an icebreaker?! But seriously, how have you made the most of your summer despite our latest heat wave?

- **1.** How do you think you would have responded to Jesus saying to you in person "Come follow me."? Read Matthew 4:18-22.
- **2.** When did you respond to Jesus' call to follow Him? Tell the group a bit about it.
- **3.** Being a follower of someone in Jesus' day meant that you obeyed them. What are some of the choices you've had to make to obey Jesus instead of acting like everyone else?
- 4. Pastor Tom asked "How can I make more Jesus-loving choices?" You must choose yourself or the Holy Spirit as your source of strength; what's the right answer? Which do you usually default to? What do you need to do to rewire your response? Read <u>Galatians 3:3</u>, <u>Romans 8:5</u> and <u>Galatians 5:16, 24</u>.
- **5.** Jesus-loving choices lead to greater joy in life and resembling Jesus more. How does Jesus' example in Mark 14:32-41 show us the way to make good choices?
- 6. "What better Jesus-loving choice is God encouraging you to make today?"

Day One: Matthew 7

Day Two: Genesis 7

Day Three: Romans 7

Day Four: 2 Thessalonians 2

Day Five: Job 7

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

**PERSONAL GUIDE** 



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#### **MESSAGE NOTES**

...a road trip that Jesus has told us that every person (including you and me), whether we <u>know</u> it or not, are all on a road trip; and the road we choose to travel on will make all the difference in this <u>life</u> and eternity (note <u>Matthew</u> 7:13-14).

#### Note Luke 9:23

One of the most <u>common</u> invitations/challenges Jesus gave was, *Follow Me* (note <u>Matthew 4:19; 9:9; John 1:43; John 8:22; 19:21; John 8:12; 10:27; 12:26; 21:19-22</u>).

### 1. Following...

In Jesus' day, to follow someone meant that you <u>obey</u> them...

Obedience = making better choices that make me look more like <u>Jesus</u>.

Obedience = simply living up to what I <u>already know</u>.

The ability to <u>discern</u> what's good/bad and right/wrong and make choices is what makes us different from all other living beings God created.

Note Deuteronomy 30:19; Joshua 24:15; Psalm 25:12; Ecclesiastes 10:2

## 2. How Can I Make More <u>Jesus-Loving</u> Choices? (note <u>John 14:15</u>)

#### Note Galatians 3:3; Romans 8:5; Galatians 5:16, 24

Our responsibility is to sincerely want to make better choices that <u>align</u> with Jesus' heart, mission and will; believe that Jesus is <u>100</u>% supportive of you making better choices; and yield daily and ask daily to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

#### 3. When We Make More Jesus-Loving Choices...

- A. We experience a <u>reduction</u> of shame/regret—Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the more our choices will align us with Jesus' Word and <u>will</u>, and that will actually put more shame and regret in our rearview mirror, <u>buried</u> in the depths of His forgiveness and love. Making more Jesus-loving choices = greater <u>joy</u> in life.
- B. We start to <u>resemble</u> Jesus more—(note <u>Philippians 2:5-9a</u>; <u>Hebrews 5:8</u>; <u>John 5:19</u>, <u>30</u>) God's entire plan of <u>salvation</u> came down to Jesus' choice in a garden in the middle of the night (note <u>Mark 14: 32-41a, b</u>).

#### Am I on the road less traveled?:

- So what do your <u>choices</u> tell you about you?
- Are your choices helping you to <u>love</u> Jesus more and <u>embrace</u> His path as your path every day?
- It's about leaning more into the power of the Holy Spirit and God's grace.
- It's experiencing less shame and <u>regret</u> and more joy.
- And it <u>shapes</u> us more into Jesus' image.
- What better Jesus-loving choice is God encouraging you to make today?

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or in person).

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