

BECOMING A GENUINE CHRIST-FOLLOWER – PART 3

BECOMING A CHRIST-FOLLOWER BY FOLLOWING CHRIST

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I. COMMON TYPES OF “FOLLOWERS” OF JESUS CHRIST

1. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]¹ After this, Jesus traveled around Galilee. He wanted to stay out of Judea, where the Jewish leaders were plotting his death. ² But soon it was time for the Jewish Festival of Shelters, ³ and Jesus’ brothers said to him, “Leave here and go to Judea, where your followers can see your miracles! ⁴ You can’t become famous if you hide like this! If you can do such wonderful things, show yourself to the world!” ⁵ For even his brothers didn’t believe in him.” John 7:1-5

2. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]¹⁴ When the people saw him do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, “Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!” ¹⁵ When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself.” John 6:14-15

3. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]⁸ These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.” Matthew 15:8

4. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]¹³ The seeds on the rocky soil represent those who hear the message and receive it with joy. But since they don’t have deep roots, they believe for a while, then they fall away when they face temptation.” Luke 8:13

5. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]²² But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.” James 1:22

6. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]³ For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will reject the truth and chase after myths. ⁵ But you should keep a clear mind in every situation.” 2 Timothy 4:3-5

7. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]¹⁴ The seeds that fell among the thorns represent those who hear the message, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the cares and riches and pleasures of this life. And so they never grow into maturity.” Luke 8:14

[“]¹⁸ Once a religious leader asked Jesus this question: “Good Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁹ ‘Why do you call me good?’ Jesus asked him. ‘Only God is truly good. ²⁰ But to answer your question, you know the commandments: You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honor your father and mother.’ ²¹ The man replied, ‘I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.’ ²² When Jesus heard his answer, he said, ‘There is still one thing you haven’t done. Sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.’ ²³ But when the man heard this he became very sad, for he was very rich.” Luke 18:18-23

8. THE _____ FOLLOWER

[“]⁹ A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. ¹⁰ Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as “the Great One—the Power of God.”

[“]¹¹ They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic.... ¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. ¹⁹ “Let me have this power, too,” he exclaimed, “so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!” Acts 8:9-11 & 18-19

II. WHAT DO ALL THESE “FOLLOWERS” HAVE IN COMMON?

1. NONE ARE REALLY _____ (THEY MERELY _____)

A GENUINE CHRIST-FOLLOWER, _____

^{“23} 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.” Luke 9:23

THEY ARE:

I. FULLY _____

II. FULLY _____

III. FULLY _____

III. HOW TO BE A SOLD-OUT FOLLOWER OF CHRIST

1. I MUST CHOOSE TO _____

^{“25} A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, ²⁶ “If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple... ³³ So you cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own.” Luke 14:25-27 & 33

^{“25} If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. ²⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? ³⁴ Is anything worth more than your soul?” Matthew 16:25-26

2. I MUST FOCUS MY LIFE ON 5 THINGS:

i. I MUST PRIORITIZE _____

^{“6} You have endowed him with eternal blessings and given him the joy of your presence. ⁷ For the king trusts in the Lord. The unfailing love of the Most High will keep him from stumbling.” Psalm 21:6-7

^{“4} There I will go to the altar of God, to God—the source of all my joy.” Psalm 43:4

^{“4} Take delight in the LORD and he will give you your heart’s desires.” Psalm 37:4

SEEK TO _____ GOD

^{“25} A large crowd was following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, ²⁶ “If you want to be my disciple, you must, by comparison, hate everyone else—your father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple.” Luke 14:25-26

^{“37} ‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment.” Matthew 22:37-38

ii. I MUST PRIORITIZE _____

^{“4} But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Matthew 4:4

^{“8} Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.” Joshua 1:8

^{“18} Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.” Ephesians 6:18

SEEK TO _____

iii. I MUST PRIORITIZE TIME WITH _____

^{“25} And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Hebrews 10:25

SEEK TO _____

^{“20} If someone says, “I love God,” but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don’t love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? ²¹ And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.” 1 John 4:20-21

iv. I MUST PRIORITIZE _____

^{“28} For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28

^{“7} A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.” 1 Corinthians 12:7

^{“24} Think of ways to encourage one another to outbursts of love and good deeds.” Hebrews 10:24

SEEK TO _____

^{“11} Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-13

v. I MUST PRIORITIZE _____

^{“18} One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁹ Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!” ²⁰ And they left their nets at once and followed him.” Matthew 4:18-20

^{“18} Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:18-20

SEEK TO _____

3. AS I DO WHAT I KNOW TO DO, I MUST _____ **ALONG THE WAY**

^{“24} Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. ²⁵ Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.” Galatians 5:24-25