

BECOMING A GENUINE CHRIST-FOLLOWER

Pastor Rick Reager - October 25, 2020

“³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. ⁴ If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. ⁵ But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.” 1 John 2:3-6

PREMISE FOR THIS MESSAGE: IN ORDER TO BE A CHRIST-FOLLOWER, I MUST DEVELOP JESUS’:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

WHICH WILL LEAD TO CHRIST’S: _____

I. HOW CAN WE DEVELOP CHRIST’S ATTITUDE?

1. KEY ELEMENTS OF CHRIST'S ATTITUDE:

i. HE WAS _____

“³ Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross.” Philippians 2:3-8

ii. HE WAS _____

“¹⁹ Then one of the teachers of religious law said to him, ‘Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.’ ²⁰ But Jesus replied, ‘Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.’” Matthew 8:19-20

iii. HE WAS _____

“⁴⁵ 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.” Mark 10:45

iv. HE WAS _____

“⁴⁹ While he was still speaking to her, a messenger arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. He told him, “Your daughter is dead. There’s no use troubling the Teacher now.” ⁵⁰ But when Jesus heard what had happened, he said to Jairus, “Don’t be afraid. Just have faith, and she will be healed.” ⁵¹ When they arrived at the house, Jesus wouldn’t let anyone go in with him except Peter, John, James, and the little girl’s father and mother. ⁵² The house was filled with people weeping and wailing, but he said, “Stop the weeping! She isn’t dead; she’s only asleep.” ⁵³ But the crowd laughed at him because they all knew she had died. ⁵⁴ Then Jesus took her by the hand and said in a loud voice, “My child, get up!” ⁵⁵ And at that moment her life returned, and she immediately stood up!” Luke 8:49-55

v. HE WAS _____

“¹⁵ Then the Pharisees met together to plot how to trap Jesus into saying something for which he

could be arrested. ¹⁶ They sent some of their disciples, along with the supporters of Herod, to meet with him. “Teacher,” they said, “we know how honest you are. You teach the way of God truthfully. You are impartial and don’t play favorites. ¹⁷ Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus knew their evil motives. “You hypocrites!” he said. “Why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹ Here, show me the coin used for the tax.” When they handed him a Roman coin, ²⁰ he asked, “Whose picture and title are stamped on it?” ²¹ “Caesar’s,” they replied. “Well, then,” he said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.” ²² His reply amazed them, and they went away.” Matthew 22:15-22

vi. **HE WAS _____ & _____**

³ As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. ⁴ “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?” ⁶ They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. ⁷ They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” ⁸ Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. ⁹ When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. ¹⁰ Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?” ¹¹ “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.” John 8:3-11

³⁴ Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they don’t know what they are doing.’” Luke 23:34

2. WHAT DROVE THESE ATTITUDES?

i. **HE WORRIED ABOUT _____ & PRAYED ABOUT _____**

⁴² “Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.” Luke 22:42

ii. **HE KNEW _____**

⁴⁵ When they couldn’t find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. ⁴⁶ Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. ⁴⁷ All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.” Luke 2:45-47

iii. **HE _____ THE FATHER**

¹⁶ But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.” Luke 5:16

iv. **HE UNDERSTOOD _____**

²⁷ “My Father has entrusted everything to me. No one truly knows the Son except the Father, and no one truly knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” Matthew 11:27

²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing. In fact, the Father will show him how to do even greater works than healing this man. Then you will truly be astonished. ²¹ For just as the Father gives life to those he raises from the dead, so the Son gives life to anyone he wants. ²² In addition, the Father judges no one. Instead, he has given the Son absolute authority to judge, ²³ so that everyone will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son is certainly not honoring the Father who sent him.” John 5:20-23

v. **HE REGULARLY TESTED** _____

“³⁰ The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.” John 20:30-31

vi. **HE DIDN'T TRY TO** _____!

“³⁸ For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will.” John 6:38

“⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.” Philippians 2:6-7

vii. **HE DIDN'T TRY TO** _____

“²⁸ So Jesus said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man on the cross, then you will understand that I Am he. I do nothing on my own but say only what the Father taught me. ²⁹ And the one who sent me is with me—he has not deserted me. For I always do what pleases him.” John 8:28-29

II. HOW CAN WE DEVELOP CHRIST'S CHARACTER?

1. KEY ELEMENTS OF CHRIST'S CHARACTER:

i. **HE WAS** _____

ii. **HE WAS** _____

iii. **HE WAS** _____

2. WHAT DROVE THESE TRAITS?

i. **HE** _____

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ² For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. ³ During that time the devil came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread.” 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.’” ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶ and said, “If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, ‘He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won’t even hurt your foot on a stone.’” ⁷ Jesus responded, “The Scriptures also say, ‘You must not test the LORD your God.’” ⁸ Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ “I will give it all to you,” he said, “if you will kneel down and worship me.” ¹⁰ “Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say, ‘You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.’” ¹¹ Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.” Matthew 4:1-11

ii. **HE** _____

“³¹ I will do what the Father requires of me, so that the world will know that I love the Father.” John 14:31

iii. **HE** _____

“³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸ So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.” Matthew 9:36-38

iv. HE MAINTAINED AN _____

“³⁹ Then, accompanied by the disciples, Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives. ⁴⁰ There he told them, “Pray that you will not give in to temptation.” ⁴¹ He walked away, about a stone’s throw, and knelt down and prayed.” Luke 22:39-41

III. HOW CAN WE DEVELOP CHRIST’S FOCUS?

1. WHAT WAS CHRIST'S FOCUS?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

2. WHAT DROVE THIS FOCUS?

i. **HE HAD A _____**

“⁴⁵ 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.” Mark 10:45

“¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.” Luke 19:10

ii. **HE WAS OBEDIENT TO _____**

“³⁸ For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will.” John 6:38

iii. **HE DID NOT ALLOW HIMSELF TO _____**

He Was Not Distracted By:

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

“²² The seed that fell among the thorns represents those who hear God’s word, but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life and the lure of wealth, so no fruit is produced.

²³ The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God’s word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!” Matthew 13:22-23