

HOW CAN I LIVE AND LOVE LIKE JESUS?

John 1:35-51

Developing disciples who live and love like Jesus is a time-consuming process. However, the Eternal One has given us enough time to do His will, so we must be about His business. Recent tragic events have reminded us all that life as we know it can end abruptly. We must not waste another day of this precious gift called life. We need to commit to discipleship, and live and love each day as the Lord Jesus would have us to.

I. RECOGNIZE WHAT IS REALLY IMPORTANT

[35] Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. [36] And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" [37] The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. [38] Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), "where are You staying?"

- A. Meditate upon the Lamb of God every day
- B. Identify what or who you are "chasing" in life. Is the pursuit worthwhile?

II. RESPOND TO HIS PERSONAL INVITATIONS

[39] He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).

- A. Jesus wants to fellowship with you (Psalm 15:1-5; Psalm 24: 3-6; Psalm 91: 1-16; Isaiah. 57:15)
- B. Jesus wants to feast with you (John 6: 48-58; Psalm 23: 5)
- C. Jesus wants to refresh you (John 4: 10- 14; John 7: 37-39; Isaiah 58: 10-11)

III. TELL OTHERS ABOUT GOD'S PROVISION FOR LIFE

[40] One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. [41] He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). [42] And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone).

- A. Tell others about the Lord. Only God can change their nature, not you!

IV. NEVER STOP FOLLOWING HIS LEAD

[43] The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." [44] Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. [45] Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." [46] And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." [47] Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" [48] Nathanael said to Him, "How

do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." [49] Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" [50] Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." [51] And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

- A. God is a great leader. There is no acceptable reason to not follow Him (v.43)
- B. Jesus wants to lead you from skepticism to amazement. Keep your eyes open!

GOD WANTS YOU TO LEARN IT, LIVE IT, AND LOVE IT!

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Psalm 15:1-5

A Psalm of David.

*Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill?
[2] He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart;
[3] He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend;
[4] In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honors those who fear the Lord;
He who swears to his own hurt and does not change;
[5] He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things shall never be moved.*

Psalm 23:5

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil My cup runs over.*

Psalm 24:3-6

*Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place?
[4] He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol,
Nor sworn deceitfully.
[5] He shall receive blessing from the Lord, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.
[6] This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face.*

Psalm 91:1-2

*He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
[2] I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."*

Isaiah 57:15

*For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
"I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit,
To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*

Isaiah 58:10-11

*If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul,
Then your light shall dawn in the darkness And your darkness shall be as the noonday.
[11] The Lord will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones
You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.*