

Influence Ministries

FOLLOW

LESSON 3

TITLE: THE GOAL IS OVERWHELMING FAITH.

The premises of this series is, that when Jesus came 2000yrs ago, He invited people to “follow” Him.

Jesus said to bring your unbelief, your troubles, your hurts, and sin and follow Me.

Question:

What’s the end game?

What’s the payoff?

What’s the result?

What’s the reward?

If you decide to follow Jesus whole heartily and completely... these questions may come to mind.

I want you to be able to look back on your life when you old and say, “I’m so glad I followed Jesus because _____”

You may discover the payoff isn’t you’ll be a better person, although you may.

You’ll forgive quicker. You’ll be nicer.

When you read the gospels, you don’t find Jesus going around saying. “follow Me and I’ll make you a better person”.

The result may not be all this... better father, better wife, better neighbor. Although, followers of Christ are some of the most complete people I know.

Jesus didn’t say follow me, so you’ll be a better person, Jesus didn’t say follow me, so you’ll have a pain-free, problem-free life.

Following Jesus is a result of your faith overshadowing your fear.

The payoff is, when following Jesus, you can have faith that He has already preceded you.

Any situation you go through. Any storm you encounter. Any heartache you feel.

Just know that if you’re following Jesus, He will always be there during those times.

12 times in the gospels He says... “fear not”.

Deuteronomy. 31 :8

And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.”

You see, you can’t find that assurance or promise outside God.

This is a huge result of following Him.

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You can't build ahead in life without faith in yourself. Your fear usually takes over when left alone without faith.

By following, you can be in terrifying circumstances and still not fear. That's the beauty of following.

Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which passes all understanding...

This principal is throughout the gospels. Having faith in the one you're following.

Why would this be the reward of following?

Because overwhelming faith honors God.

There is a faith that overwhelms fear and that's where following the Lord will take you.

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Paul is writing to Christians in Romans that needed some reassurance in their ability to keep following.

Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

Here's a few I added:

Joblessness

Prodigal children

Diminishing health

Unfaithful spouse

Dishonest bosses

God is saying... Fear not.

Maybe you don't have overwhelming faith that overshadows your fear... that's OK. That is just another reason to follow Him.

The longer you follow, your faith begins to expand and overlap your fears and circumstances.

In the midst of all that, Jesus is saying, follow me and fear not. I am with you.

In the midst of your stuff... just follow.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

If you follow Me, I will lead you to that place where your faith overshadows all your fear.

SO, FOLLOW, BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE HE WANTS TO TAKE YOU.